

Marquette University  
POSC 119 and 896, Politics of Race, Ethnicity, and Gender Janet K. Boles ([Janet.Boles@mu.edu](mailto:Janet.Boles@mu.edu))  
Fall 2008, Section 1001 WW415; Phone: 288-3419  
MWF 11-11:50 p.m., WW418 Office Hours: MWF 10-11; 12-1

**REQUIRED TEXTS:**

Ford, *Women and Politics: The Pursuit of Equality*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. (Houghton-Mifflin, 2006).  
Garcia and Sanchez, *Hispanics and the U.S. Political System*. (Pearson/Prentice-Hall, 2008).  
Walton & Smith, *American Politics and the African American Quest for Universal Freedom*, 4<sup>th</sup> ed. (Longman, 2007).

**REQUIRED RESERVE READING:** Students are expected to purchase the three required textbooks. However, a copy of Ford has been placed on two-hour reserve at the Raynor Library Reserve Desk. All other required readings (see below) are on electronic reserve.

Geron, Kim et al. "Asian Pacific Americans: Social Movements and Interest Groups." *Political Science & Politics* 34 (September, 2001): 619-24.  
Katel, Peter. "American Indians: Are They Making Meaningful Progress at Last?" *The CQ Researcher* 16 (#16, April 28, 2006).  
Lai, James S. et al. "Asian Pacific-American Campaigns, Elections, and Elected Officials." *Political Science & Politics* 34 (September, 2001): 611-7.  
Lien, Pei-te et al. "Asian Pacific-American Public Opinion and Political Participation." *Political Science & Politics* 34 (September, 2001): 625-30.  
Wilkins, David E. "'Indian Political Participation: Patriotism, Suffrage, and Partisanship,'" in his *American Indian Politics and the American Political System*. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. (Rowman & Littlefield, 2007), pp. 193-209.

**SENIOR EXPERIENCE AND LEARNING OBJECTIVES:** This course has been designated as fulfilling the Senior Experience requirement for those with senior standing this semester. Any non-senior who wishes to receive Senior Experience credit for this course must petition the Dean's office and demonstrate that the curriculum he/she is pursuing prevents taking a Senior Experience course during the senior year. Because of the inclusion of this course in other programs (e.g., women's studies, urban affairs, and diversity requirements in other colleges), there are non-seniors in this course and this will not present problems. This course also fulfills the college social sciences requirement and counts for major credit in political science. Seniors fulfilling the Senior Experience requirement with this course must also attend any special events (e.g., guest speakers and related seminars) scheduled by the college. Upon completion of the Senior Experience, students should be able to: 1) integrate the methods, views, and concepts used in their major disciplines; 2) acknowledge the existence of connections between their major disciplines and others; and 3) reflect upon, in the context of their specific studies, the impact of their college education on their development as a whole person.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION AND LEARNING OBJECTIVES:** This course consists of an examination of the role of racial and ethnic minorities and women in all areas of the American political system as: voter, party activist, candidate, and public official. The process of political socialization will be considered, as will be the political attitudes and public policy opinions of these groups. The course will also consider the nature and impact of political organizations and social movements representing these groups and the socio-historical and policy context within which each group acts. Students will demonstrate the ability to use analytical, research, and writing skills in fulfilling course requirements. Students will demonstrate an understanding of how our focal groups operate within basic American political institutions and processes, guided by the major competing theories of politics. Students will reflect on and articulate the broad purposes of political life for these groups, in light of varying theoretical understandings of those purposes within each ethnic, racial, and gender group over time.

**FORMAT OF CLASS:** Classes will include lectures by the instructor; however, emphasis is also placed on student participation in class discussions. Class attendance is not optional; regular class attendance is expected. Students are expected to be on time and to remain awake and in the classroom until the class is

over. The latter is particularly important during exams; students will not be allowed to leave the room and return during exams. Absence and academic dishonesty policies conform to University and College of Arts and Sciences policies as described in the current MU Undergraduate Bulletin. Students are bound by Arts and Sciences rules.

#### COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING PROCEDURES:

**EXAMS:** The assigned work is as follows. There are the specific reading assignments drawn from the required texts. Each student is expected to read and digest this assigned material prior to the time when it is dealt with in class. Two essay exams will be based on these readings and lecture materials. One is scheduled for mid-term, the other (comprehensive) for the final exam period. Make-up exams will be given to those missing the mid-term exam due to a serious personal emergency. Others who miss the exam will also be given a make-up exam, with a 10% reduction in grade.

**TERM PAPER:** Each student must prepare a paper on a topic of his/her choosing. Students must consult with the instructor concerning topic, research questions, and sources by the deadline noted below. The paper may address the concerns of one or more of our focal groups. However, research on one of the groups that have not been selected for special attention this semester is also possible. These would include Arab-Americans, Jewish-Americans or other white ethnic groups, the LGBT coalition, and black immigrants from Africa or the West Indies. Most important, the topic must be closely linked with politics and government. (Remember this is a political science course, not one in history, sociology, or economics).

The following are the ground rules:

1. A three page (typed, double-spaced) hard-copy prospectus of your term paper, including a tentative bibliography, must be submitted by 2 p.m., October 3, 2008. The prospectus will include your statement of purpose, a thesis statement, and the proposed methodology and approach to be used. Feedback will be provided and a personal conference and/or further revisions may be requested. The prospectus will determine 10% of the paper grade. Unless an extension has been given, a late penalty of 10% of the grade for that portion of the paper grade will be assessed after October 3.
2. The term paper (in hard copy) is due by 2 p.m., November 21, 2008. This paper is worth 90% of the paper grade. Unusual research or personal problems may justify an extension of this deadline. Otherwise, a late penalty of 10% of the grade for that portion of the paper grade will be assessed after 2 p.m., November 24, 2008.
3. Papers must rely primarily upon scholarly sources (journals, books) rather than popular periodicals or newspapers. Use the *Social Science Index*, *Public Affairs Information Service Bulletin*, or an appropriate database to locate relevant scholarly journals (which may be found on-line). Do NOT rely upon required texts for this course or other college textbooks or reference books except for very limited citations. Web pages and other materials posted on the inter-net may NOT be used as sources. This prohibition does not include academic journals available on-line.
4. Appropriate scholarly form must be used in writing. The *American Political Science Review* style of embedded author-date citations may be used, and, if so, there must be an alphabetized list of complete citations at the end of the paper. Or you may use numbered notes, either at the end of the paper or at the bottom of the appropriate page.
5. The paper must be typed, double-spaced in a standard font (e.g., Times Roman 10 or 12 point) with standard (one-inch) margins. The minimum length required is 10 pages, excluding endnotes, list of references, title page, and any tables. For a paper of this length, you should use subheadings to reflect your organizational framework.
6. Your original notes (handwritten or computer-generated) on all sources must be submitted with the final paper. Do not hand in the whole article or printout. You may instead submit earlier drafts with your handwritten revisions. A short handwritten outline of your paper does not fulfill this requirement.

GRADE FORMULA:

First essay exam (mid-term)	20%
Second essay exam (final)	40%
Term paper	40%

COURSE OUTLINE:

Note: The dates listed below should be considered only as approximate goals. Some topics may require more or less time than was anticipated.

- Aug. 25            Class Orientation.
- I.        Racial and Ethnic Groups in the American Political System.
- A. African Americans.
- Aug. 27                    1. The Historic Roots. Walton and Smith, Chapters 1 and 2.
- Aug. 29, Sept. 3            2. Political Culture and Socialization. Walton and Smith, Chapters 3 and 4.
- Sept. 5                    3. Public Opinion and the Media. Walton and Smith, Chapters 5 and 6.
- Sept. 8, 10                4. Social Movements and Interest Groups. Walton and Smith, Chapters 7 and 8.
- Sept. 12, 15                5. Political Parties and Elections. Walton and Smith, Chapters 9 and 10.
- Sept. 17                    6. Congress. Walton and Smith, Chapter 11.
- Sept. 19                    7. The Presidency and the Bureaucracy. Walton and Smith, Chapters 12 and 14.
- Sept. 22                    8. The Courts. Walton and Smith, Chapter 13.
- Sept. 24                    9. Public Policy. Walton and Smith, Chapters 15 and 16.
- B. American Indians.
- Sept. 26, 29                1. History, Mobilization, and Public Policy. Katel, "American Indians."
- Oct. 1                        2. Political Participation. Wilkins, "Indian Political Participation."
- C. Asian Pacific Americans.
- Oct. 3                        1. Political Participation. Lien et al.
- Oct. 6                        2. Office-holding. Lai et al.
- Oct. 8                        3. Social Movements and Interest Groups. Geron et al.
- Oct. 10    MID-TERM EXAM
- D. Latinos.
- Oct. 13                        1. The Study of Latinos and Politics. Garcia and Sanchez, 1-77.

- Oct. 15                    2. Political Psychology. Garcia and Sanchez, 78-119.
- Oct. 20, 22                3. Voting and Elections. Garcia and Sanchez, 120-47; 198-218.
- Oct. 24, 27                4. Social Movements and Interest Groups. Garcia and Sanchez, 148-81.
- Oct. 29                    5. Political Parties. Garcia and Sanchez, 182-97.
- Oct. 31                    6. Office-holding. Garcia and Sanchez, 219-66.
- Nov. 3, 5                 7. Public Policy. Garcia and Sanchez, 267-314.

II.                    Women in the American Political System.

- Nov. 7                    A. Feminist Theory and the Study of Gender Politics. Ford, 1-30.
- Nov. 10                    B. The Suffrage Movement and the Interim. Ford, 31-55.
- Nov. 12                    C. The New Feminist Movement. Ford, 55-70.
- Nov. 14, 17                D. Political Participation. Ford, 71-109.
- Nov. 19, 21                E. Women Candidates. Ford, 110-48
- Nov. 24                    F. Women in Public Office. Ford 149-88.
- Dec. 1                    G. Gender Equity in Education. Ford, 189-223.
- Dec. 3                    H. Gender Equity in Employment. Ford, 224-83.
- Dec. 5                    I. Marriage, the Family, and the Unfinished Agenda. Ford, 284-338.
- Dec. 8 (Mon.)              FINAL EXAM 8-10 a.m.