

Course	POLT 1070 Introduction to Political Theory	
Instructor	Name:	Mickey Dean
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Course Description	Studies the nature of the political community, with attention given to concepts of the state, justice, freedom, authority and the law. Selected classical political theories are read and discussed in the context of modern government.	
Incoming Competencies (Prerequisites)	Student should be admitted to the Webster University BA/BS program.	
Course Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This course will acquaint you with the fundamental elements of contemporary political science and the political theories underpinning each of these elements. We will also examine modern contending political ideologies. The goal is to assist students in developing the knowledge and analytical skills needed to make sense of contemporary political systems and the political processes affecting their everyday life. Upon completion of the course, students should understand: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The different forms of democracies and the differing basic processes and institutions among the modern democracies. ○ Other major political ideologies contending with democracy in today's world. ○ The process of political socialization and forms of political participation. ○ The major theoretical approaches used in explaining international behavior. 	
Course Materials	<p><u>Understanding Politics: Ideas, Institutions, and Issues</u> by Magstadt; 8th edition; Wadsworth Publishing; ISBN 053460381.</p> <p>Text is available through MBS Direct Books at 1-800-325-3252 or www.mbsdirect.net. Checks and credit cards accepted.</p>	
Course Grading	Exam #1	40%
	Exam #2	40%
	Final Exam	20%
	Total	100%
Course Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lecture and discussion 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading assignments • Exams
Policy Statements	The university is committed to high standards of academic honesty. Students will be held responsible for violations of these standards. Please refer to the university's academic honesty policies for a definition of academic dishonesty and potential disciplinary actions associated with it.
Note	This syllabus may be revised at the discretion of the instructor without prior notification or consent of the student.
Assignments to be completed prior to first meeting	Read Chapters 1 & 2 in text.

Examinations:

There will be two examinations as indicated. Each exam will cover only those chapters included in that major unit.

<u>Week</u>	<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Topic</u>
1	Text: Chapters 1 & 2	Introduction and review of syllabus; course expectations and grading requirements; The Study of Politics
2	Text: Chapters 3, 4, 5, 6	Comparative Political Systems
3	Text: Chapters 7, 8, 9	Established and Emerging Democracies
4	Text: Chapters 10, 11 Exam #1	Politics by Civil Means, Part 1
5	Text: Chapters 12, 13	Politics by Civil Means, Part 2
6	Text Chapters 14 & 15	Politics by Violent Means, Part 1
7	Text: Chapter 16	Politics by Violent Means, Part 2
8	Text: Chapters 17 & 18 Exam #2	Politics Without Government