

POLI 11D: Week One Section

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Who am I?

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Who are you?

Your name, year, major, countries that you have traveled to (or lived), reasons for taking this course, a hobby

Grades and such

- 90%: Written assignments
 - 30%: In-class midterm on Oct 30 (Monday).
 - 30%: Paper due on Nov 22 (Wednesday).
 - 30%: Final Exam on Dec 14 (Thursday).
 - If Final Exam $>$ (Midterm + Paper)/2
50% Final + 25% Paper + 25% Midterm
- 10%: Participation and section attendance.

Expectations

- Do the readings
- Come ready to participate
- Small group work
- Ask questions!

Resources

- On campus:
 1. Teaching + Learning commons:
<https://commons.ucsd.edu/>
- Online:
 1. Writing resources:
<http://writingcenter.unc.edu/tips-and-tools/>
 2. Handout specifically for writing in Political Science, which may be helpful: <http://writingcenter.unc.edu/tips-and-tools/political-science/>

How to get a A?

Or AT LEAST a B

- Attend every class and every sections
- Complete all assignments, **including the readings**
- Go to your prof's office hours the first three weeks to introduce yourself and then everytime you have a question about the course
- Do something on-campus that will get you. This could be a student job, athletics, arts, or well-run student organization.

Any other logistical questions?

Is Political Science a Science?

At dinner with the queen of Sweden [...] she asked me what I won the Nobel Prize for. When I said "Quantum Physics", she said, "Oh, we can't talk about that, because nobody understands it." and I said "On the contrary, we know quite a lot about quantum physics, and THAT'S why we can't talk about it. It's every thing else we DON'T know about - like how to solve poverty, and lower crime, and stop drugs, that we CAN talk about!

– **Richard Feynman**, after receiving the Nobel Prize

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- Politics is a very broad concept.
- Objects of study?
- Social phenomena are modulated by hundreds of variables and billions of individuals that interact in complex, dynamic and often unpredictable ways.

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- Not complexity... But isolating it in search of invariance across time and space
- Suffers from many of same difficulties other fields of science also have: studies that are poorly designed, replication results are rare, peer review is not double blind and is very often biased, etc.

Final Answer?

It tries...

But is it relevant to answer this question? Why?

Foundational Concepts

- Sovereignty: is the *de jure* legitimate authority or *de facto* power to allocate and re-allocated all decision rights.
- State: is the territorial jurisdiction within which sovereignty is exercised.
- Nation: is a collectivity of individuals that purportedly has a right to a sovereign state of its own.
- Nationalism: is a catch-all term that embraces all manifestations of this claim that a particular group constitutes a nation with a right to a sovereign state of its own.
- Government: organization of individuals within jurisdictions empowered to make binding decisions on behalf of a political system

Strategies of multinational and ethnically divided societies

- Cultural: common identity
 1. Article "One Team, One Nation: Football, Ethnic Identity, and Conflict in Africa" (Depetris-Chauvin and Durante, 2016)
 2. Movie Invictus, based on the book "Playing the Enemy: Nelson Mandela and the Game That Made a Nation "(John Carlin)
- Institutional: Powersharing.