

SYLLABUS



COURSE CODE: POL 230
COURSE TITLE: Current Events
SEMESTER: Spring 2005
PLACE/TIME: Room MC 102, Tues & Fri, 10:45-12:05 pm
PROFESSOR: Bruce Sabin

bruce@webbercareers.com
<http://www.brucesabin.com>

TEXTBOOK: No textbook is required for this class. Articles and other materials will be available through the website and class meetings.

CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

This course is a comparative study of major current political events with past and present political, social and economic principles.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

Upon completing this course, students should be better able to:

- 1) think critically about current events.
- 2) apply business principles to political issues.
- 3) perform academic, social science research.
- 4) write well-formed, justified and persuasive arguments.
- 5) determine the credibility and value of information sources.
- 6) explain the process by which issues become political salient.
- 7) create and critique strategies for political and policy advocacy.

GRADE DISTRIBUTION:

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|--------------------|-----------|--------------------|-----|
| 3 Topic critiques | 4% each | Participation | 15% |
| 2 Source critiques | 2.5% each | Research Project 1 | 20% |
| Presentation 1 | 3% | Research Project 2 | 10% |
| Presentation 2 | 2% | Mid-term exam | 10% |
| 2 Letter | 5% each | Final exam | 10% |

Syllabus is subject to change

Check course website for your current grade status.

CLASS SCHEDULE (The schedule is subject to change.)

Jan 11

14 email address due, turnitin.com registration due (1 point each)

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18 Topic: **Social Security**

21

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25

28

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Feb 1 Topic: **American Financial Equality**

4

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8

11

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15 Topic: **Globalization**

18

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22

25 No class meeting; work on research projects

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29 Topic: **Preemptive war**

March 4

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8 Research Project #1 due on 8th
presentations all week

11

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15 Topic: **Taxes**

18

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21-25 Spring Break

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29

April 1 No class on 1st due to Career Expo 2005

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5

8 Research Project #2 due on 8th

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12 letters due on 12th

15 Group Presentations

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19

22