

University of Wisconsin Oshkosh

Department of Political Science

PS 303 / WAGS303 / SocJust 303

Women, Politics and Policy – A Global Perspective, 3 credits

No Prerequisites Required

Fall 2020

This course is taught online, asynchronously on CANVAS.

Dr. Juliane Troicki

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Office Hours:

Professor Troicki is available via email and remotely via various virtual platforms upon request and by appointment

Office hours - Office Hours (MS Teams)

The Political Science Department uses Microsoft Teams (MS Teams) for holding office hours. This system is available to all UWO students. Faculty will be available during the hours noted on your syllabus. When logging into MS Teams, look closely at the status symbols for your instructor. A green dot by the professor's icon (which may be their picture or their initials) means they are available. A red dot means they are busy.

Generally, you are able to join office hour meetings and talk openly in the forum or use the chat function freely. At times, your instructor may be in a private meeting with a student during office hours, and will mark my availability as "busy" (a red dot).

We hope that using MS Teams for office hours for all of our courses will help students become more accustomed to virtual office hours during the pandemic. The main point to remember is that we are available to you. Please use our office hours freely and often. We are here to help. Many faculty are also happy to set up meetings outside of my office hours if students have conflicts with the posted times.

Course Description

This is a Comparative Politics course that examines how women's political power varies across countries and around the globe. The course examines topics such as: women's representation in government and political explanations for the variation across countries; women's movements locally and globally and

the degree to which they have been able to achieve their objectives; and gender policy that affects women's political and economic empowerment around the globe, including violence against women policy, family law, social policy, and reproductive health policy. The course is designated as a Global Scholar course; and is cross-listed: Political Science 303 / Women's Studies 303 / Social Justice 303.

Course goals include:

- Familiarize students with a broad range of issues involving women and politics
- Provide a context to examine the interaction between local, national and global gender equality policy advocacy
- Examine how state policy constructs gender in nations, cultures, and societies beyond the United States
- Appreciates diverse human ideas and traditions
- Understand forms of and sources of interaction, interdependence and inequities of gendered power structures at local and global levels
- Provide students with an opportunity to further develop their critical thinking, writing, speaking and analytical skills in a global and comparative context

Student Learning Outcomes

- After completing this course, students should be able to:
- Demonstrate how gender is a social and cultural construction that interacts with other constructions such as race, ethnicity, and class in diverse societies
- Describe the complex ways in which state power permeates all levels of social life, including relations within the private sphere of home and family
- Chart the role of supra-national transnational advocacy organizations for challenging gender-based discrimination
- Outline different theories and assumptions about political representation, and identify the value and limitation of each perspective
- Describe how political challenges and constraints at the local/national level shape the opportunities for gender policy change globally
- Draw cross-cultural connections between experience and theory
- Evaluate comparatively the policies that contribute to (or restrict) the representation of women in positions of political, economic and social power
- Develop an original, effective, and well-supported argument, demonstrating your competence in formal written communication

Course Policies and Requirements

Readings:

Textbook: Pamela Paxton, Melanie M. Hughes and Tiffany D. Barnes. 2020. *Women, Politics, and Power: A Global Perspective*. Sage. (4th edition).

International News: You are expected to be well informed regarding international events. The most convenient way is to download the free BBC News app on your smartphone and to spend at least 15 minutes every day getting informed on current events.

Assessing Student Learning:

Quizzes:

There will be a total of thirteen quizzes. All of these will be taken online on CANVAS by all students. Each quiz will cover the material of the respective week.

Paper:

You will write a short research paper (seven pages). You will select one of the following geographical regions:

- Western industrialized countries (Northern and Western Europe, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, United States)
- Eastern Europe and Central Asia (former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe)
- Latin America and the Caribbean
- Middle East and North Africa
- Asia, Southeast Asia, and the Pacific Islands
- Sub-Saharan Africa

For your paper, you will research and report on two pressing political, economic or social issues affecting women in that region. You will research and report on regional and international efforts to remedy these issues. Lastly, you will discuss how effective these efforts are and what should be done to ensure progress, in your opinion. Your paper will be seven pages in total: five pages of text, plus a cover page and a bibliography page. Your paper needs to have a title (be creative!). Your bibliography needs to contain at least 5 sources. You will submit the paper on CANVAS by December 4, 2020.

Course Policies:

Required Readings:

It is very important that you finish your readings before the week and the new topic starts. You should also take notes while reading. You are expected to complete all assigned readings, otherwise you will not be able to do well on the quizzes. Take notes on your reading, keep a list of key terms and definitions, and write down questions you may have while reading.

Course Requirements:

To successfully complete this course, you need to come to access CANVAS every week, do the assigned readings, review the slideshows and recordings and take the quiz each week. The total grade is based on the following:

Assignment	Percentage of Total Grade
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Quizzes (13)	75
Short research paper (1)	25
Total	100

Your final grade will be calculated based on the UW Oshkosh Default Grading Scheme. Grades will be posted on CANVAS. Please make sure to check there from time to time to be aware of your class performance.

Letter Grade	Percentage
A	100 – 93
A-	< 93 – 90
B+	< 90 – 87
B	< 87 – 83
B-	< 83 – 80
C+	< 80 – 77
C	< 77 – 73
C-	< 73 – 70
D+	< 70 – 67
D	< 67 – 63
D-	< 63 – 60
F	< 60 – 0

Late Submissions:

I will not accept late submissions of assignments unless there is a serious emergency or a really good reason for the assignment's lateness. I will determine whether or not to accept late submissions at my own discretion. If you are allowed to turn in an assignment after the due date, it will lose points for lateness.

Quizzes: Ideally, you should take each quiz in the week it is assigned. However, due to the unpredictable nature of a semester in the midst of a global pandemic, there is some flexibility. The deadline for all quizzes will be December 18, 2020. Consequently, you need to have all work done by that date to pass the course. The advantage is that you can work at your own pace and accommodate any special circumstances. The disadvantage is that you could fall behind. It is your responsibility to make sure you are caught up as much as you can. Please make sure to keep up with the work so that you will finish everything by the deadline.

Cheating and Plagiarism:

Your assignments are expected to be an original effort, i.e. your own work. Group work (via technology) is not allowed for this class. The University of Wisconsin takes plagiarism very seriously and so do I. Students who are caught plagiarizing and/or cheating on exams will automatically fail the class.

Expectations for Academic Honesty: A college education is intended to develop your skills, knowledge, and confidence. Graded assignments are designed to work on these items. Thus, to gain the skills, knowledge, and confidence of a college-educated person all graded work is to be your own. When you are directed to work alone, an assignment or test must be done by you, its primary ideas are to be your

own, and any outside materials should be dealt with properly (quoted when using someone's words, and cited when quoting or referencing them in any other way). When your teacher directs you to work in teams, the work is to be done by the team. More information can be found here: <https://uwosh.edu/politicalscience/wp-content/uploads/sites/14/2020/08/Academic-Honesty.pdf>

Academic Help and Disability Issues:

All assignments have been designed to meet all students' needs so no extra accommodations will be necessary. Students will have two attempts to take each quiz. In addition, quizzes have been timed very generously to help students of all learning abilities and needs succeed.

Technology and Communication:

We will be using Canvas for this class. I will also use Canvas/email to communicate and post grades. The best way to contact me is through email. My email address is troickij@uwosh.edu. You are expected to use your school email account. Please state your full name in your email so that I may know who you are when you are writing to me. Please feel welcome to email me at any time with your questions and concerns. I check my messages every day.

Campus Resources:

There are numerous campus resources available to you. In the University Studies Program, we want you to be successful. Please visit the University's resource page at: <https://uwosh.edu/resources/> to find out about all the campus services available to support your success.

Disclosure Statement:

"Students are advised to see the following URL for disclosures about essential consumer protection items required by the Students Right to Know Act of 1990: <https://uwosh.edu/financialaid/consumer-information/>."

Grievance Statement:

The Department of Political Science is committed to offering you a high-quality classroom experience, and we take your feedback very seriously. If you have concerns about anything related to this course, assignments, or teaching method, you are encouraged to first speak with your instructor directly. If you are not comfortable speaking with the instructor, you are invited to speak with the Chair of the Department of Political Science, Dr. James Krueger. He can be reached at kruegerj@uwosh.edu. Should he be unable to resolve your concerns, he will guide you to appropriate resources within the College of Letters and Science.

A Note to Political Science Majors:

Political Science Majors should take Political Methodology (245) in either their sophomore year or the first semester of their junior year. Political Science 245 is a prerequisite for the senior capstone, Political Analysis (401), and cannot be taken concurrently. If you are currently a political science major or if you think you will be one of our majors in the future, it is important that you save your graded coursework from this class. If you have questions, please see me or any faculty member.

Course Schedule:

Please see the reading assignments in the schedule listed below. The reading assignment is for the entire week. Ideally, you take the quiz by the end of the week.

Week 1 (Sept 9 – 11): Introduction to the class and assignments

Reading assignment: syllabus

Watch videos on CANVAS

Week 2 (Sept 14-18): Introduction to Women in Politics

Reading assignment: Women, Politics and Power: chapter 1

Watch videos and slideshows on CANVAS

Take Quiz 1 on CANVAS

Week 3 (Sept 21-25): Women Struggle for the Vote: The History of Women's Suffrage

Reading assignment: Women, Politics and Power: chapter 2

Watch videos and slideshows on CANVAS

Take Quiz 2 on CANVAS

Week 4 (Sept 28- Oct 2): Positions and Pathways: Women's Representation in Government

Reading assignment: Women, Politics and Power: chapter 3

Watch videos and slideshows on CANVAS

Take Quiz 3 on CANVAS

Week 5 (Oct 5-9): Intersectionality and Difference

Reading assignment: Women, Politics and Power: chapter 4

Watch videos and slideshows on CANVAS

Take Quiz 4 on CANVAS

Week 6 (Oct 12-16): Explaining the Political Representation of Women: Culture

Reading assignment: Women, Politics and Power: chapter 5

Watch videos and slideshows on CANVAS

Take Quiz 5 on CANVAS

Week 7 (Oct 19-23): Explaining the Political Representation of Women: Social Structure

Reading Assignment: Women, Politics and Power: chapter 6

Watch videos and slideshows on CANVAS

Take Quiz 6 on CANVAS

Week 8 (Oct 26-30): Explaining the Political Representation of Women: Politics

Reading Assignment: Women, Politics and Power: chapter 7

View and watch recording/slide show on CANVAS

Take Quiz 7 on CANVAS

Week 9 (Nov 2-6): Explaining the Political Representation of Women: International Factors

Reading Assignment: Women, Politics and Power: chapter 8

View and watch recording/slide show on CANVAS

Take Quiz 8 on CANVAS

Week 10 (Nov 9-13): Do Women Make a Difference?

Reading Assignment: Women, Politics and Power: chapter 9

View and watch recording/slide show on CANVAS

Take Quiz 9 on CANVAS

Week 11 (Nov 16-20): The West and the United States

Reading Assignment: Women, Politics and Power: chapter 10

View and watch recording/slide show on CANVAS

Take Quiz 10 on CANVAS

Week 12: Thanksgiving Break: November 25 – 29, no classes

Week 13 (Nov 30- Dec 4): Eastern Europe and Central Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean

Reading Assignment: Women, Politics and Power: chapters 11 & 12

View and watch recording/slide show on CANVAS

Take Quiz 11 on CANVAS

Research paper due, submit on CANVAS by 12/4/2020

Week 14 (Dec 7-11): Middle East and North Africa, Asia and the Pacific

Reading Assignment: Women, Politics and Power: chapters 13 & 14

View and watch recording/slide show on CANVAS

Take Quiz 12 on CANVAS

Week 15 (Dec 14 – 18): Sub-Saharan Africa & looking towards women's future

Reading Assignment: Women, Politics and Power: chapters 15 & 16

View and watch recording/slide show on CANVAS

Take Quiz 13 on CANVAS

NOTE: Professor Troicki reserves the right to modify this syllabus when appropriate and at her discretion. If substantive changes are made in the course syllabus, such as changes in schedule or assignments, notification will be provided in a timely manner and a revised syllabus will be made available.