

**University of Wisconsin Oshkosh | Department of Political Science**  
**PS303 – Women, Politics and Policy: A Global Perspective**  
**3 cr. Fall 2022**

**Prof. Druscilla Scribner** (Ph.D., University of California San Diego)

**Office Location:** Virtual

**Office Hours:** Tu/Th, 11:30-1:00 pm and by appointment via MS Teams

**Email:** [scribned@uwosh.edu](mailto:scribned@uwosh.edu)

**Class Time:** Asynchronous (paced)

**Class Location:** Online

**Department Office:** Sage 4631, (920) 424-3456

### **UWO COURSE BULLETIN DESCRIPTION**

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Political Science 303 Women, Politics and Policy: A Global Perspective (SS) (GS) 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. *Cross-listed: Political Science 303/ Women’s and Gender Studies 303/Social Justice 303. Students may receive credit for only one of the three cross-listed courses. Political Science 101 or 105 is recommended, but not required. 3 credits*

**There are no prerequisites for this course;** it is open to all students regardless of major or disciplinary focus.

This course is **designated a “Global Scholar” course** and may count toward achieving a Global Scholar Designation on your transcript. Global Scholar courses build on the knowledge, skills and perspectives you gained in your USP Global Citizenship courses. Global Citizenship and Global Scholar courses are designed to provide students with the knowledge of nations, cultures, or societies beyond the U.S.; the recognition of how interaction, interdependence, and inequity among diverse geographical, social, political, or economic systems have shaped historical and contemporary global challenges and opportunities; and the skills needed to engage with the responsibilities of informed citizenship in a complex, interdependent, and changing world.

#### *Course goals*

- 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
- Appreciate 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 develop their critical thinking further, writing, speaking, and analytical skills in a global and comparative context

### *Student Learning Outcomes*

After completing this course, you should be able to:

- *Articulate* the challenges and opportunities attributed to intersectionality
- *Categorize* factors restricting women's political representation
- *Contrast* regional and national experiences of gender policy change
- *Describe* how state power permeates women's public and private lives
- *Develop* an original, compelling, and well-supported argument
- *Differentiate* descriptive and substantive representation
- *Evaluate* explanations for gender gaps (in pay, voter trends, health, etc.)
- *Illustrate* relationships between and among national and transnational advocacy organizations

### *Assessing student learning*

This course uses a variety of methods, both formative and summative, to assess student learning. Assessment activities include quizzes, discussion assignments, writing assignments, and reflection. There is a midterm and final paper.

### **COURSE MATERIALS**

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Required textbook: **Women, Politics, and Power A Global Perspective, Fourth Edition by Paxton, Hughes, and Barnes (2021).**

Your text is available at the UWO bookstore. It is also available from the [publisher](#) and other sellers, such as [Amazon](#). You may consider other purchase or [rental options](#). If you have the correct edition, the format and price point you choose are up to you.

### **ASYNCHRONOUS ONLINE COURSE EXPECTATIONS**

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This is an asynchronous online course - we do not have any zoom meeting times. But we do have a weekly schedule of assignments. You need to complete one week before moving to the next. Each new week is available starting the previous Wednesday at 11:59 pm.

There are a variety of activities to complete to reach our learning objectives each week. These activities include reading, online discussions, videos, mini explanatory lectures, written assignments, quizzes, etc. These assignments have due dates.

### **PARTICIPATION**

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A three-credit course's standard number of expected work hours is 9 hours per week. This is an upper division Political Science course. The number and style of the readings reflect this academic discipline, and the learning activities foster instructor-student and student-student interaction.

In online courses, your regular participation involves logging in to our course, navigating through the content pages in a module, completing the readings and videos, participating in discussions and other activities, and submitting assignments, quizzes, and exams.

Your participation is an integral part of your learning, but it also contributes to the learning of your peers. As members of our learning community, each of us is responsible for creating an environment in which we can all learn from each other.

To ensure each member of our course feels included and welcomed we will treat each other with dignity and respect while acknowledging that each of us is unique and has different views and opinions about topics. Some of the topics we cover may elicit strong reactions. Please keep in mind that written communications can be easily misinterpreted. Each time you make a post or reply to a discussion, read it twice before you submit it to ensure the words you have chosen are considerate but also convey your message. If you feel a peer has violated these expectations, please contact me directly; I will tend to your concern in a confidential matter.

### *Technology Requirements*

We will use Canvas and Zoom extensively for class. Set up your Canvas notifications, so you do not miss anything! Keep in mind that Canvas does not play that well with Apple. So be sure you are accessing Canvas through Chrome (not Firefox, and not Safari). Canvas only supports some file types (again, not Apple) - so be sure to use MS Word and PDF.

Depending on how you decided to purchase your text(s) for this class (e.g., rental, paper copy, or electronic book), you may have other technical requirements related to your textbook. You have purchase options so that you can do you!

## **COURSE POLICIES**

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### *Course Schedule*

We have a course schedule that we follow over the semester. You can find this schedule in our START HERE module. It is hyperlinked to our modules in Canvas. A non-linked version is at the end of this syllabus for your reference.

The course is organized in weekly modules. Each includes an overview highlighting what you need to accomplish during the week. The week's overview page lists the activities and associated assignments for that week; these must be completed before moving to the next module.

### *Assignments and Grading*

Your final grade in this course will be based on the following weighted assignment groups, using the UWO 93/87/80 grading scale.

- Discussion Assignments: 30%
- Reading quizzes / Reading Summaries: 15%
- Weekly Reflection: 15%
- Data Exploration: 15%
- Short Papers: 25%

<b>Letter Grade</b>	<b>Percentage Range</b>	
A	100%	to 93%
A-	< 93%	to 90%
B+	< 90%	to 87%
B	< 87%	to 83%
B-	< 83%	to 80%
C+	< 80%	to 77%
C	< 77%	to 73%
C-	< 73%	to 70%
D+	< 70%	to 67%
D	< 67%	to 63%
D-	< 63%	to 60%
F	< 60%	to 0%

It can be frustrating to wait a long time to receive feedback or to know your grade. I will grade your work on Canvas within a few days to a week. For papers with individualized comments, it may more than a week. [You can see comments on Canvas.](#)

### *Absences, late work, and accommodations*

All assignments are due by midnight (11:59 pm) on the scheduled dates. Because this is an asynchronous course, you have some flexibility with your time and should be able to adjust to minor personal and family emergencies; however, if you have a significant illness or issue that impacts your ability to complete assignments on time or complete the course, you need to communicate with me right away.

Missing work will receive a zero, and late submissions are automatically subject to a 7% per day late penalty. A late penalty can be removed for extenuating circumstances and excused absences. If you think you have extenuating circumstances, contact me.

- *Excused absences and late work:* According to University policy, excused absences require documented evidence of medical necessity or an approved college-sanctioned event. We will work out a schedule for you to complete your work before or after your absence. Zeros and late penalties will be removed as work is turned in. Discussion cannot be made up, but alternative written assignments may be devised as a substitute.
- *Unexcused absences and late work:* The late penalty is 7% per day – it is automatic and will diminish your potential grade to a floor of 65%. This means you can turn in late work and at least get a D. This grace period runs until midterm. You are always better off submitting something rather than nothing! No previous unexcused late work is accepted after Week 10. Note: Post-n-Respond discussion boards are time-sensitive; late discussion board posts receive no credit.

### *Citations and Writing Expectations*

The Political Science Department has [writing resources](#) for you, including the APSA style guide. You are responsible for familiarizing yourself with the APSA citation style and using it properly – if you have questions, ask.

### *Plagiarism and Academic Honesty*

Plagiarism is using someone else's UNIQUE ideas, words, theories, evidence, findings, argument, etc., and passing them off as your own by not properly attributing or acknowledging the original source of those ideas. Plagiarism could result in failing the assignment or course. If you are unsure whether what you have written constitutes plagiarism, ask before you turn it in. If there is an issue, we will talk.

This class uses Turnitin technology to help you and me detect plagiarism issues. See the Dean of Students' [resources on plagiarism](#) for more information about how we address these issues at UWO.

## COURSE SCHEDULE OF READINGS AND ACTIVITIES

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We have a course schedule that we will follow over the course of the semester. The basic schedule is reproduced below. In Canvas, this schedule includes hyperlinks to our weekly pages with detailed plans and additional resources for each week. If anything changes in our schedule, I will inform you via announcements.

I have structured the course with lots of reminders and deadlines to keep you on pace to completion. You should sign up for Canvas notifications to ensure you do not miss class announcements and reminders.

### Part I - Participation and Representation

Week 0: Start Here [September 7-9; module available starting on Wednesday, August 31]

- *Introductions assignment*
- Read Chapter 1 "Introduction to Women in Politics" in *Women, Politics, and Power*
- *Term identification quiz*
- *Choose a regional research group*

Week 1: The struggle for the right to vote [September 12-16; module available starting on Wednesday, September 7]

- Read Chapter 2 "Women Struggle for the Vote: The History of Women's Suffrage" in *Women, Politics, and Power*
- *Post and Share assignment*
- *Post and Respond to assignment*
- *Term identification quiz*
- *Learning Reflection*

Week 2: Pathways to power AND Women's Representation Government [September 19-23; module available starting on Wednesday, September 14]

- Read Chapter 3 "Positions and Pathways: Women's Representation in Government" in *Women, Politics, and Power*
- *Post and Share and Post and Respond assignments*
- *Term identification quiz*
- *Explore comparative data on women in power*
- *Learning Reflection*

Week 3: Intersectionality, Difference, and Cultural Explanations for Representation [September 26-30; module available starting on Wednesday, September 21]

- Read Chapters 4 "Intersectionality and Difference" and 5 "Explaining the Political Representation of Women: Culture" in *Women, Politics, and Power*

- *Post and Share and Post and Respond assignments*
- *Term identification quiz*
- *Explore comparative data on intersecting identities and values*
- *Learning Reflection*

Week 4: Explaining patterns of representation – Structure [October 3-7; module available starting on Wednesday, September 28]

- Read Chapter 6 "Explaining the Political Representation of Women: Social Structure" in *Women, Politics, and Power*
- *Post and Share and Post and Respond assignments*
- *Term identification quiz*
- *Explore comparative data on political violence against women*
- *Learning Reflection*

Week 5: Explaining patterns of representation – Politics [October 10-14; module available starting Wednesday, October 5]

- Read Chapter 7 "Explaining the Political Representation of Women: Politics" in *Women, Politics, and Power*
- *Post and Share and Post and Respond assignments*
- *Term identification quiz*
- *Explore comparative data on electoral systems and political quotas*
- *Learning Reflection*

Week 6: Explaining patterns of representation – International Factors [October 15-21; module available starting on Wednesday, October 12]

- Read Chapter 8 "Explaining the Political Representation of Women: International Factors" in *Women, Politics, and Power*
- *Post and Share and Post and Respond assignments*
- *Term identification quiz*

- *Explore comparative data on CEDAW*
- *Learning Reflection*

Week 7: Women in Office Matters [October 24-28; module available starting on Wednesday, October 19]

- Read Chapter 9 "Do Women Make a Difference?" in *Women, Politics, and Power*
- *Term identification quiz*
- *Midterm persuasive essay*

## **Part II Governance and Policy Making**

Week 8: Gender and the State – Welfare State Policies [October 31-November 4; module available starting on Wednesday, October 26]

- Presentation of Shared Reading (1 of 3 articles)
- *Post and Share and Post and Respond assignments*
- *Explore comparative data on social policy*
- *Learning Reflection*

Week 9: Policy Making – Gender Mainstreaming [November 7-11; module available starting on Wednesday, November 2]

- Presentation of Shared Reading (1 of 3 articles)
- *Post and Share and Post and Respond assignments*
- *Explore comparative data on women's ministries and policy agencies*
- *Learning Reflection*

Week 10: Violence against Women [November 14-18; module available starting on Wednesday, November 9]

- Presentation of Shared Reading (1 of 3 articles)
- *Post and Share and Post and Respond assignments*

- *Explore comparative resources concerning 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence*

- *Learning Reflection*

Week 11: Women in Work – Equal pay [November 21-22; module available starting on Wednesday, November 16]

- *Post and Share and Post and Respond assignments*
- *Explore comparative resources concerning equal pay campaigns (regions)*
- *Begin work on the final paper*

\*NOTE November 23-27 is Thanksgiving Recess

Week 12: Women, Family, Care, and Work [November 28-December 2; module available starting on Wednesday, November 23]

- Presentation of Shared Reading (1 of 3 articles)
- *Post and Share and Post and Respond assignments*
- *Explore comparative family leave policies*
- *Learning Reflection*

Week 13: Reproductive Rights [December 5-9; module available starting on Wednesday, November 30]

- Presentation of Shared Reading (1 of 3 articles)
- *Post and Share and Post and Respond assignments*
- *Explore comparative abortion policy*
- *Learning Reflection*

Week 14: Final Project Week [December 12-16; module available starting on Wednesday, November 2]

- Awareness poster/infographic/social media post
- Policy paper

\*NOTE December 16 is the end of the Term

## **POLITICAL SCIENCE DEPARTMENT POLICIES**

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**Office Hours:** The [Political Science Department](#) uses Microsoft Teams (MS Teams) for holding office hours. This system is available to all UWO students. Your Poli Sci faculty are available during their posted office hours (whether you are taking an in-person or an online class). To use MS Teams during office hours, send a chat to your instructor to let them know you want to meet - think of that as the equivalent of knocking on the door. We're here for you! Please use our office hours freely and often. Many faculty are also happy to set up meetings outside of office hours if students have conflicts with the posted times.

*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 appropriately (quoted when using someone's words and cited when quoting or referencing them in any other way). When you are asked to work in teams, that work should be done by the group collaboratively. [More information can be found here.](#)

*Concerns or Grievances:* The Department of Political Science is committed to offering you a high-quality classroom experience, and we take your feedback very seriously. You should contact me if you have concerns about anything related to this course, assignments, or teaching method. That goes for your other classes, too: always talk to your professor first. But if you are not comfortable speaking to your instructor, you can always reach out to the Chair of the Department of Political Science, Dr. James Krueger. He can be reached at [kruegerj@uwosh.edu](mailto:kruegerj@uwosh.edu). As needed, he can guide you to appropriate resources within the College of Letters and Science or the Dean of Students.

*Note to Political Science Majors:* Congratulations on joining a great major - the world needs your critical thinking, creative problem-solving, knowledge of the issues, and stellar communication skills! Please NOTE that 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 think you will be one of our majors in the future, save your written work from your classes, so you are prepared to put together your portfolio of significant work when you are a senior. Please let me know if you have questions about the major or advising!

*Changes:* If substantive changes are made to this course syllabus, such as changes in schedule or assignments, notification will be provided promptly, and a revised syllabus will be made available (see our course schedule page). See the next tab for support resources

## UNIVERSITY RESOURCES

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I want you to be successful! There are many [student resources](#) dedicated to your academic and personal success.

UW Oshkosh strives to create inclusive learning environments. Reasonable accommodations are available for students with documented disabilities that may affect their ability to participate in course activities or meet course requirements. For more information, see the [Dean of Students](#) website and the [Accessibility Center](#).

If you have any situation/condition, either permanent or temporary, that might affect your ability to perform in this class or access class assignments; please reach out to me so that we can work together on a plan for your success. Canvas is an ADA-compliant course management software suite. Both Canvas and our textbook have accessibility features that you may find helpful such as the immersive reader function.

Diversity drives innovation, creativity, and progress. At the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh, the culture, identities, life experiences, unique abilities, and talents of every individual contribute to the foundation of our success. Creating and maintaining an inclusive and equitable environment is of paramount importance to us. This pursuit prepares all of us to be global citizens who will contribute to the betterment of the world. We are committed to a university culture that provides everyone with the opportunity to thrive.

By federal regulations set forth by [The Higher Education Act of 1965](#) (amended in 1998), [consumer information](#) is available to all students at the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh.

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