

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 2023

Dr. Juliane Troicki

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Office Hours:

I am available via email and remotely via Zoom or Microsoft Teams upon request and by appointment. Please always feel welcome to contact me at any time via email with any of your questions. I am happy to help and will respond as soon as I can. I am here to help you on your learning journey and want you to succeed. 😊

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

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).

Additional articles are uploaded to CANVAS.

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:

Tests:

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.

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 tests. 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 uploaded materials and take the quiz each week. The total grade is based on the following:

Assignment	Percentage of Total Grade
Quizzes (13)	100
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:

Tests: Ideally, you should take each test in the week it is assigned. However, there is some flexibility. Please note: the deadline for all quizzes is December 8, 2023. All quizzes need to be completed by December 8, 2023 to pass this 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 or any other way) 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. 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/consumerinformation/>."

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.

Diversity and Inclusion:

The intention of this course is to welcome and support students from all diverse backgrounds and perspectives. I am committed to help all students' learning both in and outside of class. We are enriched by our diversity and we will value it as our resource and collective strength. In this class, we will cherish our diversity and will respect gender, sexuality, disability, age, socioeconomic status, ethnicity, race, and culture. We will encourage each other to be open, kind, and compassionate. As a professor and ally in their journey as scholars, I will support students of all backgrounds, identities, and abilities to help them thrive and grow.

Class Expectations:

Ideal learning takes place in environments where trust, mutual respect and active engagement is valued and observed by all participants. Students are expected to conduct themselves in a manner appropriate to a professional setting. Students are expected to be respectful of the learning environment established by Professor Troicki. No student has the right to be disruptive, disrespectful, or uncivil in their conduct, including language. Professor Troicki will report any student who behaves inappropriately to the Dean of Students' Office with serious consequences.

Note: Students who cannot meet these expectations will fail this class.

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 6): Syllabus, Course Details

Reading assignment: syllabus

Check out set up and materials on CANVAS

Week 2 (Sept 11): 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 18): 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 25): 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 2): 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 9): 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 16): Explaining the Political Representation of Women: Social Structure

Reading Assignment: Women, Politics and Power: chapter 6

View and watch recording/slide show on CANVAS

Take Quiz 6 on CANVAS

Week 8 (Oct 23): 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 (Oct 30): 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 6): 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 13): The West and the United States

Reading Assignment: Women, Politics and Power: chapters 10

View and watch recording/slide show on CANVAS

Take Quiz 10 on CANVAS

Week 12: Thanksgiving Break: November 22 – 26, no classes

Week 13 (Nov 27): 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

Week 14 (Dec 4): 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

Bonus Material: Sub-Saharan Africa & looking towards women's future

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

Voluntary: view and watch recording/slide show 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.