COURSE SYLLABUS

Course Number: POS 4936  
Prerequisite(s): Senior standing  
Course Title: International Relations  
Course Credit: 3  
Course Hours: 3

College: College of Arts & Sciences  
Department: History & Political Science  
Required Text(s):  

Supplies: Required text book and computer

Faculty Name: UFOT B. INAMETE  
Term and Year: Fall 2008  
Place and Time:

Office Location: Tucker Hall 209  
Telephone: (850) 599-3374  
E-mail:

Office Hours | Monday 3:00 p.m.–5:00p.m. | Tuesday 8:00 a.m.-9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 2:00 p.m. | Wednesday | Thursday 8:00 a.m.-9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. | Friday | Saturday
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Course Description

POS 4936 Seminar in Political Science - Various approaches to the study of politics, emphasizing the major themes and concepts, as well as the strength and weaknesses, of each approach in comparison with the others.

Course Purpose

The purpose of this course is to provide students with a seminar in Political Science to help them increase awareness about politics and other areas related to politics.

Conceptual Framework

The Conceptual Framework in the Professional Education Unit (PEU) at Florida A&M University is an integrated approach to providing educational experiences that result in exemplary professional educators. The Framework is comprised of six themes with the mission of developing high quality classroom teachers, administrators and support personnel. The term “exemplary” refers to the kind of graduates the PEU strives to produce. The figure below provides a diagram of the Exemplary Professional Conceptual Framework.
DIVERSITY

• CF 1
• Through this focal area, the FAMU professional education candidate will:

| CF: 1.1 (K) | Understand diverse backgrounds of individuals. | F: 5  | I: 3 |
| CF: 1.2 (S,D) | Acquire the skills & dispositions to understand & support diverse student learning. | F: 5, 8 | I: 3, 8 |
| CF: 1.3 (S,D) | Accepts and fosters diversity. | F: 5 | I: 3, 8 |
| CF: 1.4 (S) | Practice strategies such as: acceptance, tolerance, mediation & resolution. | F: 5 | I: 3 |
| CF: 1.5 (K, S) | Establish a comfortable environment in which all students can learn. | F: 5 | I: 5 |

TECHNOLOGY

• CF 2
• Through this focal area, the FAMU professional education candidate will:

| CF: 2.1 (S) | Use of available technology and software to support student learning. | F: 4 | I: 6 |
| CF: 2.4 (K) | Understands fundamental concepts in technology. | F: 2 | I: 6 |
| CF: 2.5 (S) | Use fundamental concepts in technology | F: 2 | I: 6 |

VALUES

• CF 3
• Through this focal area, the FAMU professional education candidate will:

| CF: 3.4(D) | Be committed to individual excellence. | F: 4, 8 | I: 5, 9 |
### CRITICAL THINKING

**CF4**

Through this focal area, the FAMU professional education candidate will:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CF: 4.1 (K)</th>
<th>Understand a variety of instructional/professional strategies to encourage students development of critical thinking and performance.</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>F: 4</td>
<td>I: 4</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CF: 4.2 (S)</th>
<th>Use a variety of instructional/professional strategies to encourage students’ development of critical thinking and performance.</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>F: 2, 4</td>
<td>I: 4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CF: 4.3 (D)</th>
<th>Values critical thinking and self-directed learning as habits of mind.</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>F: 4</td>
<td>I: 1, 4</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CF: 4.5 (S)</th>
<th>Demonstrate the use of higher order thinking skills.</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>F: 8</td>
<td>I: 4</td>
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### PROFESSIONALISM

**CF 5**

Through this focal area, the FAMU professional education candidate will:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CF: 5.1 (K)</th>
<th>Knows the content</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>F: 8</td>
<td>I: 1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CF: 5.2 (S)</th>
<th>Use the appropriate pedagogy to provide all students with the opportunity to learn.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>F: 4, 8</td>
<td>I: 4, 7</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CF: 5.3 (D)</th>
<th>Demonstrate commitment to professional growth &amp; development.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>F: 5</td>
<td>I: 9</td>
</tr>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CF: 5.5 (S)</th>
<th>Construct learning opportunities that support student development &amp; acquisition of knowledge &amp; motivation.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>F: 1, 8</td>
<td>I: 5</td>
</tr>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CF: 5.6 (S)</th>
<th>Display effective verbal &amp; non-verbal communication techniques to foster valuable interaction in the classroom.</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>F: 2</td>
<td>I: 6</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CF: 5.7 (S,D)</th>
<th>Display appropriate code of conduct including dress, language, and respective behavior.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>F: 2</td>
<td>I: 6, 9</td>
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**Overall Goals of the Course**

Students will fully understand the reality that political science is a discipline well grounded in theories, and also that there are various approaches to the study of this discipline.

**Specific Behavioral Objectives**

The course focuses on the various approaches, themes and concepts in the discipline of Political Science. Political Science will also be analyzed in terms of its linkages to the other social sciences and academic disciplines. The evolving nature of the discipline will also be examined. Overall, Political Science will be analyzed as an academic discipline that also has practical applications and a lot of impacts on the governance and politics at all levels. The general profile of Political Science will also be studied.

**National, State, and PEU Standards Addressed in the Course**
Interstate New Teacher Assessment and Support Consortium (INTASC) Standards

Standard 1: Subject Matter
The teacher understands the central concepts, tools of inquiry, and structures of the discipline(s) he or she teaches and can create learning experiences that make these aspects of subject matter meaningful for students.

Standard 3: Diverse Learners
The teacher understands how students differ in their approaches to learning and creates instructional opportunities that are adapted to learners from diverse cultural backgrounds and with exceptionalities.

Standard 4: Instructional Strategies
The teacher understands and uses a variety of instructional strategies to encourage students' development of critical thinking, problem solving, and performance skills.

Standard 5: Learning Environment
The teacher uses an understanding of individual and group motivation and behavior to create a learning environment that encourages positive social interaction, active engagement in learning, and self-motivation.

Standard 6: Communication
The teacher uses knowledge of effective verbal, nonverbal, and media communication techniques to foster active inquiry, collaboration, and supportive interaction in the classroom.

Standard 7: Planning Instruction
The teacher plans and manages instruction based upon knowledge of subject matter, students, the community, and curriculum goals.

Standard 8: Assessment
The teacher understands and uses formal and informal assessment strategies to evaluate and ensure the continuous intellectual, social and physical development of the learner.

Florida Educator Accomplished Practices (FEAPs)

1. **ASSESSMENT**
   1.1 The preprofessional teacher collects and uses data gathered from a variety of sources. These sources include both traditional and alternate assessment strategies. Furthermore, the teacher can identify and match the students' instructional plans with their cognitive, social, linguistic, cultural, emotional, and physical needs.

2. **COMMUNICATION**
   2.1 The preprofessional teacher recognizes the need for effective communication in the classroom and is in the process of acquiring techniques which she/he will use in the classroom.

3. **CRITICAL THINKING**
   4.1 The preprofessional teacher is acquiring performance assessment techniques and strategies that measure higher order thinking skills in students and is building a repertoire of realistic projects and problem-solving activities designed to assist all students in demonstrating their ability to think creatively.

5. **DIVERSITY**
   5.1 The preprofessional teacher establishes a comfortable environment which accepts and fosters diversity. The teacher must demonstrate knowledge and awareness of varied cultures and linguistic backgrounds. The teacher creates a climate of openness, inquiry, and support by practicing strategies such as acceptance, tolerance, resolution, and mediation.

8. **KNOWLEDGE OF SUBJECT MATTER**
   8.1 The preprofessional teacher has a basic understanding of the subject field and is beginning to understand that the subject is linked to other disciplines and can be applied to real-world integrated settings. The teacher’s repertoire of teaching skills includes a variety of means to assist student acquisition of new knowledge and skills using that knowledge.
Florida Teacher Certification Examination (FTCE) Subject Area Examination (SAE) Competencies and Skills

1. Knowledge of Political Science

1. Identify the features and principles of the United States Constitution, including the Bill of Rights, the separation of powers, checks and balances, and federalism.
2. Identify the functions of U.S. political institutions, including the executive, legislative, and judicial branches.
3. Identify the functions of political parties, elections, interest groups, public opinion, and mass media in the United States.
4. Identify the elements and functions of state and local government in the United States.
5. Analyze the guiding concepts, principles, and consequences of U.S. foreign policy.
6. Compare elements, structures, and functions of various political systems.
7. Analyze the key elements of U.S. citizenship, including rights, privileges, and responsibilities within the legal system.

Topical Outline

1. The Major Concepts
   a. Power
   b. Authority
   c. Government
   d. Politics
   e. State
2. The Evolution of the Discipline of Political Science
3. The Scientific Study of Political Science
4. The Behavioral Era
5. The Post-Behavioral Era
6. Rational Choice Theory and Political Science
7. Political Science and Other Academic Disciplines
   a. Political Science and Psychology
   b. Political Science and Sociology
   c. Political Science and Anthropology
   d. Political Science and Economics
   e. Political Science and Statistics, Mathematics and Computer Science
   f. Political Science and History
   g. Political Science and Law
   h. Political Science and Philosophy
8. The Major Sub-Fields of Political Science
   a. Political Theory
   b. The Methodology of Political Science
   c. Political Behavior
   d. The Study of National Government and Politics
   e. Public Administration
   f. Public Policy
   g. Comparative Government
   h. International Relations
9. Political Science in Applied Context
   a. Public Opinion Polling
   b. Campaign and Election Management
   c. Public Administrators at Local, State and National Levels
   d. Public Policy Analyst
   e. Foreign Service
The Future of Political Science

Teaching Methods

Seminar

Course Evaluation

Students will be evaluated in the course based on regular class attendance and classroom participation. University policies concerning class attendance will be fully implemented. Tests and other class assignments completions are required of all students. Tardiness, in terms of completion of course assignments, is to be avoided. Academic misconduct will result in actions stipulated by the university regulations. Incomplete (“I”) grades are normally not given for this course. Thus, students are to complete all their course requirements by the end of the semester.

Grading

GRADING SYSTEM:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First Test</td>
<td>45%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Second Test</td>
<td>45%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Third Test</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100%</td>
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Course Policies

STUDENTS with DISABILITIES:

Students with disabilities covered by the Americans with Disabilities Act should follow these steps: (1) Provide documentation of their disability to the FAMU student disability resource center. (2) The first week of class, bring a statement from the FAMU student disability resource center to your instructor indicating that you have registered with FAMU student disability services. The statement should indicate the disability and the special accommodations that will be required.

ACADEMIC HONESTY:

It is your responsibility to know the university’s policy on Academic/Intellectual honesty (Section 6C3-2.012(10)(s) of the FAMU Student Handbook). “Plagiarism is defined as the use of intellectual material produced by another person without acknowledging its source. This includes, but is not limited to: (a.) Copying from the writings or works of others into one's academic assignment without attribution, or submitting such work as if it were one's own. (b.) Using the views, opinions, or insights of another without acknowledgment. (c.) Paraphrasing the characteristic or original phraseology, metaphor, or other literary device of another without proper attribution.”

Source: http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/instruct/guides/citations.html

Warning!:

All cases of dishonesty on exams and/or plagiarism on written assignments will result in an ‘F’ for the course and possible dismissal or suspension from the university. The university academic honor code regarding all forms of academic misconduct will be enforced and punished by the severest penalties allowable. Students are responsible for reading the Academic Honor Policy and for living up to their pledge to “…be honest and truthful and…[to] strive for personal and institutional integrity while at Florida A&M University.”

Students taking classes in the Department of History here at FAMU are expected to abide by the Honor Code and its standards of academic honesty. One of the most important issues that history majors must deal with is plagiarism. There should be some discussion of plagiarism in every history class you take at FAMU. For a fuller discussion of this topic, see the very useful website put together by the American Historical Association: http://www.historians.org/pubs/free/professionalstandards.cfm#Plagiarism
READING:
Reading is the most fundamental educational activity one can engage in while in college. It is strongly recommended that you do the readings for this class BEFORE the corresponding lectures/class period. The readings are the basic source of information for this class. The purpose of lectures is to comment on the readings, to highlight important themes and facts, and to enable students to ask questions and make comments.

COMMENTS, CRITICISMS, and COURTESY:
Many aspects of African American history are controversial. Debate, discussion, disagreement, and freedom of thought are essential to education and to any ‘free’ society. Opinions, comments, questions, and constructive criticisms are welcomed at all times. Grades will depend on factual matters, not on agreement or disagreement with the instructor. All students are responsible for creating and maintaining a classroom environment that promotes courtesy and mutual respect.

INTERNET:
Frequent use will be made of the Internet throughout the course. It is important for students to take trips to the library and other on-campus computer labs in order to best utilize the resources of the university regarding the Internet and the educational search engines it offers. All students must have an e-mail address; This is required so that we may begin communicating electronically. All students must e-mail me on the 1st day of class, before 5p.m. Tuesday January 9th. The e-mail must have student’s full legal name, student I.D. number, student phone number, indicate the name of the class, the section number [very important] of the course, and the day and time of the class. The ‘Subject Line’ of the e-mail will have the Student Last Name and the Section Number of the class.

PARTICIPATION and ATTENDANCE:
Attendance is VERY important and absolutely necessary. If you miss more than 3 classes you will receive a ‘F’ for the course. Being Late twice equals 1 absent. Participation in class and attendance is required. It is very important for students to be attentive and verbally contribute to the discussions daily. When called upon in class, all students must identify themselves with their last name and then give their response or comment. It is the responsibility of the tardy/absent student to obtain the information missed from their classmates—their Classroom Comrade. Absences will be excused for emergencies with proper documentation from the Dean’s office. Please remember, there are no ‘make-up’ for tests or quizzes, and other assignments.

FAMILY EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS & PRIVACY ACT (FERPA):
Federal law gives students two rights concerning their education records kept by the university. The federal law is called the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, also known as FERPA or the Buckley Amendment. First, it requires the university to keep those records private. There are exceptions for emergencies, court orders, university officials who have a need to know, etc. Second, it provides that students have the right to inspect records about themselves that are maintained by the university. Pursuant to FERPA, the U.S. Department of Education has enacted legally binding regulations that set out in detail what are student's rights with respect to their education records. For further information, visit the following web site: http://www.ed.gov/policy/gen/reg/ferpa/index.html

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<tr>
<th>Tentative Course Calendar</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 8</td>
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<tr>
<td>First Test</td>
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<td>Minor Assignments</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 12</td>
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<td>Second Test</td>
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<td>Minor Assignments</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 16</td>
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<td>Third Test</td>
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<td>Minor Assignments</td>
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