



**Saint Louis University**  
*Madrid Campus*

**POLS 1000-M01  
INTRODUCTION TO POLITICS  
Fall 2017**

**Barah Mikail**  
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**Monday, Wednesday and Friday: 13:00 to 13:50  
SIH C**

**Office hours  
Monday and Wednesday: 11:00-13:00  
Friday (by appointment): 14:00-16:00**

**Mobile phones and laptops are not allowed in the class**

**PLEASE READ THIS SYLLABUS CAREFULLY  
IT HAS INFORMATION FOR THE COURSE AND  
ITS EVALUATION**

### **Course Description:**

This course aims at familiarizing students with *politics* as understood by studying the political process, sorting out the nature of governments, understanding the functioning of institutions, distinguishing the different types of political systems and being aware of the changes brought with recent and contemporary social dynamics and technological breakthroughs. It further engages key political themes and issues such as the state, sovereignty, nationalism, ideology, constitutions and constitutionalism, representation, political parties and interest groups.

### **Course Objectives:**

1. Study the history of political thought
2. Sort out types of government depending on their nature
3. Understand how institutions work and what are their aims
4. Be aware of the threats and the limits to the functioning of institutions
5. Understand what are the main contemporary challenges in traditional politics

### **Learning Outcomes**

By the end of this course, students should be able to:

1. Compare and contrast the main theories and concepts studied during the semester
2. Understand what are the main trends and analytical concepts in contemporary politics
3. Be able to form their personal ideas, opinions and conclusions based on the readings, materials and class discussions
4. Be able to discuss contemporary politics using the tools they have in hand

### **Research Methods:**

Students should complete the readings before the date of the course. They will be graded on the basis of a mid-term exam, an oral presentation and a final exam. Participation in class will be evaluated.

### **Recommendations for oral presentations**

- **Students are required not to read their presentations.** The idea for you is to understand well the topic you have studied before you share your findings and ideas with your audience. The more you are comfortable with what you say, the better you will be prepared to engage a debate with your audience.
- **Students have to make their presentation structured, dynamic, provocative when needed and challenging.** The idea is not to get your audience to listen to an enumeration of dates and facts. Instead, you are required to make a clear and concise presentation of the topic before presenting the different views that are part of the debate. You are encouraged to express your personal opinions, to

suggest solutions and to bring two or three open questions that will open the floor for a debate with your audience.

- **Your presentation will be evaluated based** on the way you lead and expose your presentation and on the degrees of interest and involvement of your audience. You need to show a good knowledge on the topic of the seminar based on relevant bibliography. You need to make an argument and to provoke a dynamic discussion.

**The criteria for evaluation will be**

Your knowledge

Your ability to put your argument forward

Your ability to explain the argument and the points you wish to make

Your ability to provoke a dynamic and lead the discussion

**Grade Scale:**

A	93%-100%
A-	90%-92%
B+	87%-89%
B	83%-86%
B-	80%-82%
C+	73%-79%
C	67%-72%
C-	60%-66%
D	50%-59%
F	0%-49%

**Methods of Evaluation and Grading (% of Final Grade)**

20%	Oral presentation
20%	Mid-term exam
20%	Attendance and participation
40%	Final exam

**All the classes will involve discussing the readings and current issues. Therefore, student participation is crucial. An active participation is required. Each recorded absence beyond three will result in a letter grade reduction in your participation and attendance grade.**



## BIBLIOGRAPHY

Textbook

Andrew Heywood, *Politics* (4<sup>th</sup> Edition),  
Basingstoke/Palgrave Macmillan, 2013

### Additional Reading:

- Acemoglu Daron, Robinson James, **Why Nations Fail: The Origins of Power, Prosperity, and Poverty**, Crow Business, 2013
- Carothers, Thomas, **Confronting the Weakest Link: Aiding Political Parties in New Democracies**, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, 2012
- Davies Norman, **Vanished Kingdoms: The Rise and Fall of States and Nations**, Penguin Books, 2012
- Hoffman Bruce, **Inside Terrorism**, Columbia University Press, 2006
- Jentleson, Bruce, **American Foreign Policy (Fifth Edition)**, W.W. Norton & Company, 2014
- Judt, Tony, **Postwar: A History of Europe since 1945**, PIMLICO Random House, 2007
- Kant, Immanuel, **Principles of Politics**, CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform, 2015
- Machiavelli, Niccolo, **The Prince**, Dover Publications, 1992
- Mogenthau, H.J., **Politics among Nations: The Struggle for Power and Peace**, McGraw-Hill Higher Education, 2005
- Mosley, Ivo, **Democracy, Fascism and the New World Order**, Imprint Academic, 2003
- Opello Walter, Rosow Stephen J., **The Nation State and Global Order: A Historical Introduction to Contemporary Politics**, Lynne Rienner Publications, 2004
- Zinn, Howard, **A People's History of the United States: 1492-Present**, Harper Perennial, 2005

## CLASSES

The first class will be dedicated to the presentation of the course: syllabus, assignments, guidelines for oral presentations, mid-term and final exams, class rules and expectations.

Then, classes will deal with the following topics (sequences and content will be agreed on previously during classes):

- *What is politics?*

Reading: Andrew Heywood, Chapter 1, 2-26

- *Understanding ideology*

Reading: Andrew Heywood, Chapter 2, 28-30

- *History of political thought and ideologies (1): Liberalism*

Reading: Andrew Heywood, Chapter 2, 30-38 & 47-48

- *History of political thought and ideologies (2): Conservatism*

Reading: Andrew Heywood, Chapter 2, 30-38 & 47-48

- *History of political thoughts and ideologies (3): Fascism*

Reading: Andrew Heywood, Chapter 2, 30-38 & 47-48

- *History of political thoughts and ideologies (4): Socialism*

Reading: Andrew Heywood, Chapter 2, 38-46 & 48-49

- *History of political thoughts and ideologies (5): Anarchism and Feminism*

Reading: Andrew Heywood, Chapter 2, 38-46 & 48-49

- *History of political thoughts and ideologies (6): Other Western and non-Western ideologies*

Reading: Andrew Heywood, Chapter 2, 50-55

- *The role of the State*

Reading: Andrew Heywood, Chapter 3, 56-79

- *Legitimacy and Political Stability*

Reading: Andrew Heywood, Chapter 4, 81-89 and chapter 20, 452-459

- *How to define democracy?*

Reading: Andrew Heywood, Chapter 4, 89-107

- *Revolutions and rising citizen power*

Reading: Andrew Heywood, Chapter 11, 260-264

- *Nation(s) and nationalism*

Reading: Andrew Heywood, Chapter 5, 108-123

- *Politics and Society*

Reading: Andrew Heywood, Chapter 7, 151-159

- *Identity Politics*

Reading: Andrew Heywood, Chapter 7, 160-170

- *Parties and Party Systems*

Reading: Andrew Heywood, Chapter, 10, 233-242

- *Elections and electoral systems*

Reading: Andrew Heywood, Chapter 9, 202-216

- *International Politics: The Cold War and Post-Cold War Orders*

Readings: Bruce W. Jentleson, Chapter 6, 167-214

Kenneth N. Waltz, Structural Realism after the Cold War, *International Security*, Vol. 25, No.1 (Summer 2000), pp.5-41, [http://www.columbia.edu/itc/sipa/U6800/readings-sm/Waltz\\_Structural%20Realism.pdf](http://www.columbia.edu/itc/sipa/U6800/readings-sm/Waltz_Structural%20Realism.pdf)

- *Media and Politics*

Reading: Andrew Heywood, Chapter 8, 178-194

- *The Private sector: Power and politics*

Reading: Andrew Heywood, Chapter 6, 141-150

- *Human security and its impact on politics*

Reading: Todd Landman, *Democracy and Human Security: Essential Linkages*, [http://www.idea.int/publications/dchs/upload/dchs\\_vol2\\_sec1\\_1.pdf](http://www.idea.int/publications/dchs/upload/dchs_vol2_sec1_1.pdf)

- *Nation States and the future of politics*

Reading: Andrew Heywood, Chapter 20, 443-459

- *Terrorism: Domestic and external implications*

Reading: Bruce Hoffman, Chapter 9, 257-295

- *Politics in the European Union*

Reading: “Reconnecting Europe with its Citizens – The Role of Political Foundations”, European Network of Political Foundations, <http://www.european-network-of-political-foundations.eu/docs/policy/files/download/Enop%20policy%20paper%2007-2015%20web.pdf>

**Mid-Term exam: Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> of October 2017**

**Final exam: Friday 15<sup>th</sup> of December 2017, 13.00-15.00**

## Academic Calendar and Important Dates

<b>SEPTEMBER</b>		
Friday-Saturday	1-2	Permanent and Transfer students mandatory Academic Welcome Session and departure for Welcome Days from SLU-Madrid (9:00 a.m.)
Saturday	2	Class of 2021 Convocation at SLU-Madrid (12:00 p.m.-noon) Study Abroad arrival and Housing in host family move-in date
Sunday	3	Study abroad students mandatory Welcome Sessions (10:00 a.m.)
Monday	4	Fall 2017 first day of classes
Sunday	17	Last day to drop a class without a grade of W and/or add a class Last day to choose Audit (AU) or Pass/No Pass (P/NP) options
Friday	29	Exams for MATH - First midterm (2:00-4:30 p.m.)
<b>OCTOBER</b>		
Thursday	12	<i>Fiesta Nacional de España</i> - Holiday (University closed)
Friday	13	University closed
Monday	16	Last day to submit Transfer Application for spring semester
Thursday	19	Professors' deadline to submit midterm grades
Monday	30	Last day to drop a class and receive a grade of W
<b>NOVEMBER</b>		
Wednesday	1	<i>Día de Todos los Santos</i> Holiday - (University closed)
Thursday	2	Registration for Spring 2018 semester begins
Thursday	9	<i>La Almudena</i> Holiday - (University closed)
Friday	24	Exams for MATH - Second midterm (2:00-4:30 p.m.)

## DECEMBER

Wednesday	6	<i>Día de la Constitución</i> Holiday - (University closed)
Friday	8	<i>Inmaculada Concepción</i> Holiday - (University closed)
Wednesday	13	Fall 2017 final day of classes
Thursday-Friday	14-15	Fall 2017 final exams
Monday-Wednesday	18-20	Fall 2017 final exams
Monday	18	Mid-Year commencement
Thursday	21	Fall 2017 University Housing move-out date
Saturday	23	Professors' deadline to submit fall 2017 final grades

## Holidays

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Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> of October:	<i>Fiesta Nacional de España</i>
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> of October:	<i>University Closed</i>
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> of November:	<i>Día de Todos los Santos</i>
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> of November:	<i>La Almudena</i>
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> of December:	<i>Día de la Constitución</i>
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> of December	<i>Inmaculada Concepción</i>

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## **Accommodation Statement**

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In recognition that people learn in a variety of ways and that learning is influenced by multiple factors (e.g., prior experience, study skills, learning disability), resources to support student success are available on campus. Students who think they might benefit from these resources can find out more about:

- Course-level support (e.g., faculty member, departmental resources, etc.) by asking your course instructor.
- University-level support (e.g., tutoring/writing services, Disability Services) by visiting the Academic Dean's Office (San Ignacio Hall) or by going to [http://spain.slu.edu/academics/learning\\_resources.html](http://spain.slu.edu/academics/learning_resources.html).

Students who believe that, due to a disability, they could benefit from academic accommodations are encouraged to contact Disability Services at +34 915 54 58 58, ext. 204, send an e-mail to [counselingcenter-madrid@slu.edu](mailto:counselingcenter-madrid@slu.edu), or to visit the Counseling Office (San Ignacio Hall). Confidentiality will be observed in all inquiries. Course instructors support student accommodation requests when an approved letter from Disability Services has been received and when students discuss these accommodations with the instructor after receipt of the approved letter.

## **Academic Integrity and Plagiarism**

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*Academic integrity is honest, truthful and responsible conduct in all academic endeavors.* The mission of Saint Louis University is "the pursuit of truth for the greater glory of God and for the service of humanity." Accordingly, all acts of falsehood demean and compromise the corporate endeavors of teaching, research, health care and community service via which SLU embodies its mission. The University strives to prepare students for lives of personal and professional integrity, and therefore regards all breaches of academic integrity as matters of serious concern.

The governing University-level Academic Integrity Policy can be accessed on the Provost's Office website at: [http://www.slu.edu/Documents/provost/academic\\_affairs/University-wide%20Academic%20Integrity%20Policy%20FINAL%20%2006-26-15.pdf](http://www.slu.edu/Documents/provost/academic_affairs/University-wide%20Academic%20Integrity%20Policy%20FINAL%20%2006-26-15.pdf).

Additionally, SLU-Madrid has posted its academic integrity policy online: <http://www.slu.edu/madrid/academics>. As a member of the University community, you are expected to know and abide by these policies, which detail definitions of violations, processes for reporting violations, sanctions and appeals.

The professor will review these matters during the first weeks of the term. Please direct questions about any facet of academic integrity to your faculty, the chair of the department of your academic program or the Academic Dean of the Madrid Campus.

## **Information regarding the collection of student work for assessment**

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In order to maintain quality academic offerings and to conform to accreditation requirements, SLU-Madrid regularly assesses its teaching, services and programs for evidence of student learning. For this purpose, SLU-Madrid keeps representative examples of student work from all courses and programs on file, including assignments, papers, exams, portfolios and results from student surveys, focus groups and reflective

exercises. Copies of your work for this course may be kept on file for institutional research, assessment and accreditation purposes. If you prefer SLU-Madrid not to retain your work for this purpose, you must communicate this decision in writing to your professor.

### **Title IX Statement:**

Saint Louis University and its faculty are committed to supporting our students and seeking an environment that is free of bias, discrimination, and harassment. If you have encountered any form of sexual misconduct (e.g. sexual assault, sexual harassment, stalking, domestic or dating violence), we encourage you to report this to the University.

If you speak with a faculty member about an incident of misconduct, that faculty member must notify SLU's Title IX deputy coordinator, Marta Maruri, whose office is located on the ground floor of Padre Rubio Hall, Avenida del Valle, 28 ([mmaruri@slu.edu](mailto:mmaruri@slu.edu); 915-54-5858, ext. 213) and share the basic fact of your experience with her. The Title IX deputy coordinator will then be available to assist you in understanding all of your options and in connecting you with all possible resources on and off campus.

If you wish to speak with a confidential source, you may contact the counselors at the SLU-Madrid's Counseling Services on the third floor of San Ignacio Hall ([counselingcenter-madrid@slu.edu](mailto:counselingcenter-madrid@slu.edu); 915-54-5858, ext. 230) or Sinews Multipletherapy Institute, the off-campus provider of counseling services for SLU-Madrid ([www.sinews.es](http://www.sinews.es); 917-00-1979). To view SLU-Madrid's sexual misconduct policy and for resources, please visit the following web address: <http://www.slu.edu/Documents/Madrid/campus-life/SLUMadridSexualMisconductPolicy.pdf>.

### **Accommodation statement:**

In recognition that people learn in a variety of ways and that learning is influenced by multiple factors (e.g., prior experience, study skills, learning disability), resources to support student success are available on campus. Students who think they might benefit from these resources can find out more about:

- Course-level support (e.g., faculty member, departmental resources, etc.) by asking your course instructor.
- University-level support (e.g., tutoring/writing services, Disability Services) by visiting the Academic Dean's Office (San Ignacio Hall) or by going to <http://www.slu.edu/madrid/learning-resources>.

Students with a documented disability who wish to request academic accommodations **must** contact Disability Services to discuss accommodation requests and eligibility requirements. Once successfully registered, the student also **must** notify the course instructor that they wish to access accommodations in the course. Please contact Disability Services at [disabilityservices-madrid@slu.edu](mailto:disabilityservices-madrid@slu.edu) or +915 54 58 58, ext.

230 for an appointment. Confidentiality will be observed in all inquiries. Once approved, information about the student's eligibility for academic accommodations will be shared with course instructors via email from Disability Services. For more information about academic accommodations, see "Student Resources" on the SLU-Madrid webpage.

Note: Students who do not have a documented disability but who think they may have one are encouraged to contact Disability Services.

### **Trips**

Students enrolled in this class must participate and make payment for all mandatory trips/activities. The prices posted on the web are approximate; and the final price will be based on the number of students enrolled on the last day of the Add/Drop period. All students, including those who withdraw from the class after this date, are required to pay these fees, which are non-refundable, unless the trip is cancelled due to low enrollment. Please review SLU-Madrid's trip policies, available [on-line](#).

### **FINAL EXAMS**

<b>FALL 2017</b>					
	<b>14 Dec (Th)</b>	<b>15 Dec (Fr)</b>	<b>18 Dec (Mn)</b>	<b>19 Dec (Tu)</b>	<b>20 Dec (Wd)</b>
<b>08:30-11:30</b>	Mn classes that meet at 9:00 & 9:30	Mn classes that meet at 10:00	Mn classes that meet at 11:00 & 11:30	Tu classes that meet at 9:30 & 10:00	Tu classes that meet at 8:00
<b>12:00-15:00</b>	Tu classes that meet at 11:00	Mn classes that meet at 13:00	Tu classes that meet at 14:30	Mn classes that meet at 12:00	Tu classes that meet at 12:30
<b>15:30-18:30</b>	Mn classes that meet at 14:30	Tu classes that meet at 17:00 & 17:30	Mn classes that meet at 16:00	Tu classes that meet at 15:30 & 16:00	Mn classes that meet at 17:30
<b>19:00-22:00</b>	---	---	Mn classes that meet at 19:00	Tu classes that meet at 19:00	---