

The University of Oklahoma

College of Continuing Education

Advanced Programs – Course Syllabus

Course Title:

Seminar in Human Geography: Political Geography

Course Number:

GEOG 6220-103

Course Description:

The purpose of this seminar is to survey contemporary literature on political geography, with an emphasis on important contemporary theoretical debates in the field. The course will emphasize theoretical debates of relevance to national and international issues of contemporary importance, including globalization, terrorism, and environmental politics. It will also focus on institutional responses to global-scale political changes, including electoral geography and representation issues

Class Dates, Location and Hours:

Dates: July 10 – 16, 2017

Location: Washington, D.C. Liaison Office - 2189 Crystal Plaza Arcade, Arlington, VA, 22202.

Hours: Monday - Friday 6:00 p.m.-9:30 p.m.; Saturday 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; Sunday 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Last day to enroll or drop without penalty: June 11, 2017

Site Director:

Email: apwashington@ou.edu. Phone: 703-418-4800.

Professor Contact Information:

Course Professor: Fred M. Shelley, Ph.D.

Mailing Address: University of Oklahoma
Department of Geography, SEC 684
Norman, OK 73019

Telephone Number: 512-787-0472

Email Address: fshelley@ou.edu

Professor availability: The professor will be available via email to students before and after the class sessions. On-site office hours are half an hour before and after each class session, by appointment.

Instructional Materials:

Materials posted on the OU Canvas learning management system: The assigned readings listed below under Class Schedule and Assigned Readings are available via Canvas. Access Canvas at <https://oklahoma.instructure.com/>, enter your OU NetID and password, and select course to access material. Please contact your local Site Director if you require assistance.

Course Objectives:

The principal objective of this course is to enable the student to think critically about contemporary political geography and political-geographic research. Specific objectives are:

- to survey recent intellectual approaches to political geography;
- to examine political-geographic perspectives on globalization, terrorism, and the environment; and;
- to show how political geographers can make predictions about future issues of significance.

Class Schedule and Assigned Readings:

Please come to class having read the assigned reading(s) for that day. Additional readings to be announced and provided by the instructor at the time of the seminar.

Day 1: Basics of Political Geography, State Symbols, Government Structures and Democracy

- Danny Osborne, Jennifer Lees-Marshment, and Clifton van der Linden, “National identity and the flag change referendum: Examining the latent profiles underlying New Zealanders’ flag change support,” *New Zealand Sociology*, 16 (2016), http://ndhadeliver.natlib.govt.nz/delivery/DeliveryManagerServlet?dps_pid=IE26854971. Read pages 19-47.
- “Is Democracy in Decline? The Weight of Geopolitics” by Robert Kagan at <http://www.brookings.edu/research/articles/2015/01/democracy-in-decline-weight-of-geopolitics-kagan>,
- “Democracy Is in Recession” by Thomas L. Friedman at <http://www.nytimes.com/2015/02/18/opinion/thomas-friedman-democracy-is-in-recession.html>,
- “Discarding Democracy: A return to the iron fist” by Arch Puddington at <https://freedomhouse.org/report/freedom-world-2015/discarding-democracy-return-iron-fist>.

Day 2: Boundary Disputes, Geopolitics, European Union

- “South Asia’s Longest War” at <https://www.insightonconflict.org/conflicts/kashmir/conflict-profile/>.
- “In Restless Kashmir, Desire for Independence Grows” by Issam Ahmed at <http://www.csmonitor.com/World/Asia-South-Central/2010/0921/In-restless-Kashmir-desire-for-independence-grows>.
- Anton Bebler, “The Russian-Ukrainian conflict over Crimea,” 2015, at http://www.fdv.uni-lj.si/docs/default-source/tip/tip_1-2_2015_bebler.pdf?sfvrsn=2.
- “Sir Halford Mackinder, Geopolitics, and Policymaking in the 21st Century” by Christopher J. Fettweis at <http://www.carlisle.army.mil/usawc/Parameters/Articles/00summer/fettweis.htm>.
- Larry Elliott (2016), “Brexit is a rejection of globalization,” <https://www.theguardian.com/business/2016/jun/26/brexit-is-the-rejection-of-globalisation>.
- Alex Massie (2017), “The Brexit delusion and the battle for Scotland” at <http://foreignpolicy.com/2017/03/15/the-brexit-delusion-and-the-battle-for-scotland/>

Day 3: Geopolitics in Asia, Clash of Civilizations

- “Monroe Doctrines in Asia?” by James R. Holmes: <http://the-diplomat.com/2011/06/15/monroe-doctrines-in-asia/?all=true>
- “South Asia’s Geography of Conflict” by Robert D. Kaplan at http://www.cnas.org/files/documents/publications/South%20Asias%20Geography%20of%20Conflict_Robert%20D.%20Kaplan_0.pdf
- Andrew Jacobs, “A border city on the edge of the law,” at <http://www.nytimes.com/2014/02/25/world/asia/a-border-city-on-the-edge-of-the-law.html>.

- Huntington, Samuel, 1993, The clash of civilizations, *Foreign Affairs*, 72, 22-49, <http://online.sfsu.edu/mroozbeh/CLASS/h-607-pdfs/S.Huntington-Clash.pdf>.
- Stephen Walt, “The (Con)fusion of civilizations, 2016, <http://foreignpolicy.com/2016/05/04/the-confusion-of-civilizations-larry-summers-enlightenment/>

Day 4: Political Geography and Globalization, Trafficking, Demographics

- Martin Wolf, “Shaping Globalization,” 2014, <http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/fandd/2014/09/pdf/wolf.pdf>.
- SUNY Levin Institute, “Culture and globalization, <http://www.globalization101.org/uploads/File/Culture/cultall.pdf>.
- Susan Lieberman, “Wildlife trafficking: Beyond elephants and ivory, *National Geographic*, October 21, 2014, <http://voices.nationalgeographic.com/2014/10/21/wildlife-trafficking-beyond-elephants-and-ivory/>.
- Human Rights Watch, “Smuggling and trafficking human beings: questions and answers,” July 7, 2015, <https://www.hrw.org/news/2015/07/07/smuggling-and-trafficking-human-beings>.
- J. J. Gould, “Slavery’s Global Comeback,” *Atlantic*, December 19, 2012, <http://www.theatlantic.com/international/archive/2012/12/slaverys-global-comeback/266354/>.

Day 5: Political Geography and Environmental Change

- Garrett Hardin, “The Tragedy of the Commons,” *Science*, 1968, <http://science.sciencemag.org/content/sci/162/3859/1243.full.pdf>.
- Simon Dalby, “The Geopolitics of Climate Change,” 2013, http://www.academia.edu/3280535/The_Geopolitics_of_Climate_Change.
- “Does Oil Hinder Democracy? by Michael Ross at <http://www.sscnet.ucla.edu/polisci/faculty/ross/doesoil.pdf>.
- David Biello, “10 Solutions for Climate Change,” *Scientific American*, 2007, <https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/10-solutions-for-climate-change/>.

Assignments, Grading and Due Dates:

This is a seminar course. The learning experience should be a collective one based on discussion of the assigned material. That means that you will be expected to have completed the assigned reading ahead of time, think about the issues raised, and arrive at class prepared to discuss them. Participation in class discussion is also expected.

Paper

A paper of approximately 6 double-spaced pages will be worth 25% of your final grade. **You should draw on the full range of seminar readings relevant to your topic in order to complete the assignment.**

Students who wish to do so may submit a rough draft before the seminar ends. The student then has the option to revise the paper in accordance with the comments in order to try for a higher grade. The paper will be due one week after the seminar ends – **July 23, 2017**

Choose one of the following topics and write a thoughtful, well-reasoned essay in response.

- How has globalization affected United States trade, foreign, and economic policy? To what extent should U.S. policy encourage or discourage further globalization of the economy?
- In light of evidence of global environmental degradation, to what extent should U.S. policy promote higher levels of environmental awareness and protection at a global level?

Final Exam

A take-home final exam will be given. The questions will be developed by the instructor in conjunction with the students during the seminar. The final exam will be worth 75% of your grade. It will be due four weeks after the seminar ends – **August 13, 2017**

Grading:

This is a letter-graded course: A, B, C, D, or F.

Notice: Failure to meet assignment due dates could result in a grade of I (Incomplete) and may adversely impact Tuition Assistance and/or Financial Aid.

POLICIES AND NOTICES

Attendance/Grade Policy

Attendance and participation in interaction, individual assignments, group exercises, simulations, role playing, etc. are valuable aspects of any course because much of the learning comes from discussions in class with other students. It is expected that you attend all classes and be on time except for excused emergencies.

Excused absences are given for professor mandated activities or legally required activities such as emergencies or military assignments. It is the policy of the University to excuse absences of students that result from religious observances and to provide without penalty for the rescheduling of examinations and additional required class work that may fall on religious holidays. Unavoidable personal emergencies, including (but not limited to) serious illness; delays in getting to class because of accidents, etc.; deaths and funerals, and hazardous road conditions will be excused.

If you are obtaining financial assistance (TA, STAP, FA, VA, Scholarship, etc.) to pay all or part of your tuition cost, you must follow your funding agency/institution's policy regarding "I" (Incomplete) grades unless the timeline is longer than what the University policy allows then you must adhere to the University policy. Students who receive Financial Aid must resolve/complete any "I" (Incomplete) grades by the end of the term or he/she may be placed on "financial aid probation." If the "I" grade is not resolved/completed by the end of the following term, the student's Financial Aid may be suspended making the student ineligible for further Financial Aid.

Students are responsible for meeting the guidelines of Tuition Assistance and Veterans Assistance. See the education counselor at your local education center for a complete description of your TA or VA requirements.

Academic Integrity and Student Conduct

Academic integrity means honesty and responsibility in scholarship. Academic assignments exist to help students learn; grades exist to show how fully this goal is attained. Therefore all work and all grades should result from the student's own understanding and effort.

Academic misconduct is any act which improperly affects the evaluation of a student's academic performance or achievement. Misconduct occurs when the student either knows or reasonably should know that the act constitutes misconduct. Academic misconduct includes: cheating and using unauthorized materials on examinations and other assignments; improper collaboration, submitting the same assignment for different classes (self-plagiarism); fabrication, forgery, alteration of documents, lying, etc...in order to obtain an academic advantage; assisting others in academic misconduct; attempting to commit academic misconduct; destruction of property, hacking, etc...; intimidation and interference with integrity process; and plagiarism. All students should review the Student's Guide to Academic Integrity at http://integrity.ou.edu/students_guide.html

Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. All students should review policies regarding student conduct at <http://studentconduct.ou.edu/>

Accommodation Statement

The University of Oklahoma is committed to making its activities as accessible as possible. For accommodations on the basis of disability, please contact your local OU Site Director.

Adjustment for Pregnancy/Childbirth-Related Issues

Should you need modifications or adjustments to your course requirements because of documented pregnancy-related or childbirth-related issues, please contact me as soon as possible to discuss. Generally, modifications will be made where medically necessary and similar in scope to accommodations based on temporary disability. Please see <http://www.ou.edu/content/eoo/faqs/pregnancy-faqs.html>.

Title IX Resources

For any concerns regarding gender-based discrimination, sexual harassment, sexual misconduct, stalking, or intimate partner violence, the University offers a variety of resources, including advocates on-call 24/7, counseling services, mutual no-contact orders, scheduling adjustments, and disciplinary sanctions against the perpetrator. Please contact the Sexual Misconduct Office at smo@ou.edu or (405) 325-2215 (8-5), or the Sexual Assault Response Team at (405) 615 -0013 (24/7) to report an incident. To learn more about Title IX, please visit the Institutional Equity Office's website at <http://www.ou.edu/content/eoo.html>

Course Policies

Advanced Programs policy is to order books in paperback if available. Courses, dates, and professors are subject to change. Please check with your OU Site Director. Students should retain a copy of any assignments that are mailed to the professor for the course. Advanced Programs does not provide duplicating services or office supplies.

Any and all course materials, syllabus, lessons, lectures, etc. are the property of professor teaching the course and the Board of Regents of the University of Oklahoma and are protected under applicable copyright.

For more information about Advanced Programs, visit our website at: <http://www.goou.ou.edu/>

INSTRUCTOR VITA

Fred M. Shelley, Ph.D.

Education

- 1981 Ph.D. Geography, University of Iowa
- 1977 M.A. Geography, University of Illinois
- 1974 A.B., Philosophy, Clark University

Current Positions

- Advanced Programs professor since 2005
- Professor and Chair, Department of Geography, University of Oklahoma

Frequently Taught Advanced Programs Courses

GEOG 6230 Seminar in Economic Geography: Geography of World Economy
GEOG 6220 Seminar in Human Geography: Political Geography

Major Areas of Teaching and Research Interest

Political, cultural, and economic geography with emphasis on the United States and its role in the world economy.

Representative Publications and Presentations

- Susan W. Hardwick, Fred M. Shelley, and Donald Holtgrieve (2006), *Geography of North America*. New York: Prentice-Hall
- Fred M. Shelley, Adrienne M. Proffer, and Lisa M. DeChano (2006), "Wal-Mart and Partisan Electoral Politics in the Contemporary United States, in *Wal-Mart World: The World's Biggest Corporation in the Global Economy*, edited by Stanley D. Brunn. New York: Routledge, pp. 203-212
- J. Clark Archer, Stephen J. Lavin, Kenneth C. Martis, and Fred M. Shelley (2006), *Atlas of U.S. Presidential Elections, 1789-2004*. Washington, D.C.: CQ Press.
- Lydia L. Bean and Fred M. Shelley (2004), "Borders and Vulnerability," in *World Minds: Geographical Perspectives on 100 Problems*, edited by Donald G. Janelle, Barney Warf, and Kathy Hansen. Dordrecht: Kluwer, pp. 461-466.
- Gearoid O Tuathail and Fred M. Shelley (2003), "Political Geography and the New World Order," in *Geography in America at the Dawn of the 21st Century*, edited by Gary Gaile and Cort Willmott. New York: Oxford University Press, pp. 164-184
- J. Clark Archer, Stephen J. Lavin, Kenneth C. Martis, and Fred M. Shelley (2002), *Atlas of American Politics, 1960-2000*. Washington, D. C.: CQ Press.
- Fred M. Shelley (2002), "The Electoral College in Historical and Geographical Perspective, *Political Geography*, 20, pp. 202-207
- Stanley D. Brunn, Fred M. Shelley, Gerald R. Webster, and Wael M. Ahmed (2000), "Place and Region in American Legal Culture: State Origins of Landmark Supreme Court Cases," *Historical Geography*, 28, pp. 134-155

Representative Honors and Awards Received

Distinguished Teaching Achievement Award, National Council for Geographic Education

Major Professional Affiliations

- Association of American Geographers
- National Council for Geographic Education