

The Washington Experience

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The course will explore the role of a national capital in the determination of public policy and national culture in a diverse democracy, using Washington, D.C., as text. Enrollment is limited to students who have applied and been accepted to the Washington Internship Program.

1 Required Texts

There are two required texts for this course:

- Marietta. *A Citizen's Guide to American Ideology*.
- Fiorina and Abrams. *Disconnect: The Breakdown of Representation in American Politics*.

Students are also required to read two additional books selected in consultation with the instructor. Supplementary material will be distributed via e-mail. All class communication will be sent to the e-mail address on file with the instructor. Students are expected to check this account daily.

2 Course Requirements

- *Attendance and Participation:* (70%)
- *Papers:* (3 at 10% each)

Attendance and Participation: The bulk of your grade will be based on attendance and participation at both your internship and the class meetings. You are expected to attend EVERY meeting. You will only be excused for an internship event, family emergency, or medical emergency. Proper documentation is required.

Beyond attendance, students are expected to have completed all of the assigned reading before class. Completing the reading before class also allows students to engage in thoughtful discussion and makes class more interesting. The quality (not just quantity) of class participation will be considered when computing the student's final grade. Students whose comments are unproductive or disruptive will be penalized. Remember: simply showing up is not enough to get credit for participation.

Paper Guidelines: All submissions should be double-spaced and written in 12 pt. Times New Roman font with 1 inch margins on all sides. Failing to follow formatting instructions will result in a letter grade (10 point) penalty for each assignment. Papers may be submitted in hard copy or electronically via email. If submitted electronically, please convert to PDF before attaching.

Grading Scale: Letter grades will be assigned according to the scale below:

- 100-94 = “A”
- 93-90 = “A-”
- 89-87 = “B+”
- 86-84 = “B”
- 83-80 = “B-”
- 79-77 = “C+”
- 76-74 = “C”
- 73-70 = “C-”
- 69-67 = “D+”
- 66-64 = “D”
- 63-60 = “D-”
- Below 60 = “F”

A final word on grading: Final grades will only be rounded up in the case of decimals, e.g. an 85.4 will round to an 86. An 89.0 *will not* be rounded to a 90. This policy is non-negotiable. Please plan accordingly.

“Lack of preparation on your part does not constitute an emergency on my end.”
- Unknown Origin

3 Americans with Disabilities Act

Appalachian State University is committed to making reasonable accommodations for individuals with documented qualifying disabilities in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. If you have a disability and may need reasonable accommodations in order to have equal access to the University’s courses, programs and activities, please contact the Office of Disability Services (828.262.3056 or www.ods.appstate.edu). Once registration is complete, individuals will meet with ODS staff to discuss eligibility and appropriate accommodations. Please notify me as soon as possible if you require any accommodations related to a disability.

4 Academic Integrity

Each student must pursue his or her academic goals honestly and be personally accountable for all submitted work. Representing another person’s work as your own is always wrong. Faculty are required to report any suspected instances of academic dishonesty to the Office of Student Conduct. For more comprehensive information on academic integrity, including categories of academic dishonesty, please refer to the academic integrity code website at <http://studentconduct.appstate.edu/pagesmith/2>

5 Course Schedule

TBA — Assignment due dates to be determined on a student-by-student basis.