POS 100: POLITICS AND GOVERNANCE

Department of Political Science
School of Social Sciences
Ateneo de Manila University

2nd Semester, AY 2013-2014
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Lecturer
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Consultation Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 3:00pm – 4:30pm LH 300

Course description

The course is a study of institutions, actors, powers and limits of the Philippine government. It looks at the processes of governance, particularly the interplay of state and non-state actors in rule making. The course highlights theories that make sense of change and continuities in Philippine governance, as well as the spaces for citizen participation such as elections and local governance. Comparisons with the politics and governance of other Southeast Asian states will also be discussed.

Expected learning outcomes

At the end of the course, students will be able to:

Knowledge

a. Demonstrate a basic grasp of the issues of Philippine politics and governance;
b. Understand, apply and evaluate theories and concepts on the structures, institutions, processes of rule-making, rule enforcing and rule adjudicating processes and of the basic state and citizen relations in governance;

Skills

c. Critically assess theories and practices across different contexts and fields of Philippine politics; and

Attitudes

d. Integrate the course with one’s own field of discipline as basis for pursuing a positive and pro-active political life as citizens and professionals.
Course outline, schedule, and texts

Introduction
(January 24: seatwork)

Required:


Supplementary:

(January 27: First day of Praxis)

Analyzing Philippine Democratic Politics
(January 31, February 7, and February 14: short reports)

Required:


Supplementary:


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1 The praxis component of the Casa Bayanihan program is an integral part of the course as it serves as an avenue for enriching and deepening learning. The course essay and presentation will be based on the students’ praxis experiences.
Philippine Democracy: Institutions, Processes, Practices

A. Executive, Legislative, Judiciary
   (February 28)

Required:


Supplementary:


B. Party Politics and Elections
   (March 7)

Required:


Supplementary:

C. Decentralization and Political Participation
(March 14)

Required:


Supplementary:

(March 19 – 23: Break)
(March 28: Long Exam)

Issues of Philippine Politics and Governance
(April 4 and April 11)

Required:


Supplementary:


(April 14 – 20: Holy Week)
(April 25: POS100 Research Break)
(May 2: POS100 Course Essay Presentation)
(May 9, class time: Deadline of the final version of the course essay)

**Assessment and course requirements**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class participation</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Short report</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Long Exam</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Course Essay and Presentation</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<td>100%</td>
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2 Includes quizzes and other in-class work and activities.
3 Individual short report of current events aimed at demonstrating understanding of frameworks and concepts based on the texts.
4 A written and sit down exam of assigned readings designed to evaluate understanding of theories and concepts and to test critical analysis skills (or reasoning and argumentation skills) of students.
5 The course essay is an analysis of a political issue chosen by the group from their praxis experiences. Students will be working in groups of three. The essay must be at least 10 pages long, double-spaced, Times New Roman font size 12, written on A4-sized paper, one-inch margins on all sides. Students are free to use the citation format they are most comfortable with, though I prefer the MLA citation format. The breakdown of the 30% allotted for the Final Paper and Presentation is as follows: 10% Final Paper, 10% Presentation, and 10% Peer Evaluations (instructions for which to be announced). The general criteria for the Final Paper is as follows:

1. Structure and argument: How the argument is introduced, developed, and concluded;
2. Knowledge and understanding: Shows the grasp and exploration of the relevant issues and concepts; and
3. Style and presentation: Use of grammar, syntax, correct spelling, punctuation, and academic conventions (citation and bibliography).
Grading system⁶

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Range</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>92-100</td>
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<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87-91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>83-86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>79-82</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>75-78</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>70-74</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>69 and below</td>
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Classroom policies

1. Attendance will be checked during each meeting after the second bell. Students who arrive after their names have been called twice will be marked late. The school policy on overcuts will be strictly enforced (that is, for a three-hour, once-a-week regular semester class, the maximum number of cuts is three (3); on the 4th cut the student will get a W). No make-up papers for quizzes or activities missed due to an unexcused absence. Excused absences include the following: hospitalization (with medical certificate), official school activity (competition, conference with letter from coach or ADAA or home department).

2. If the teacher is not in class at the prescribed time, the students should wait quietly inside the classroom for 10 minutes. If the teacher is still absent after this time, the students may consider themselves dismissed. However, if the class is notified, through the class beadle, of the teacher’s time of arrival, the students are obliged to wait until the time designated. If the teacher fails to arrive at the appointed time, the students may consider themselves dismissed.

3. In case classes are cancelled without prior notice (e.g., due to inclement weather), students should check their respective class’s electronic mail group and/or the Department of Political Science bulletin board for any messages regarding the assignment for the next meeting.

4. Behavior that prevents or disrupts the process of learning is unacceptable. The teacher has the discretion to send a student out of the classroom for unacceptable behavior; in such a case, the student will be penalized with a cut.

5. The university rules and policies concerning academic dishonesty (e.g., plagiarism, cheating in exams, etc.), among others, will be enforced strictly.

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⁶ The rules for rounding up grades are as follows: If the tenths digit is less than 5, the grade remains the same; if the tenths digit is greater than 5, the grade is rounded up to the nearest unit; if the tenths digit is 5 and the digit preceding it is odd, the grade remains the same; if the tenths digit is 5 and the digit preceding it is even (including zero), the grade is rounded up to the nearest unit.