Course description
This online course will compare and contrast major political ideologies, such as liberalism, conservatism, socialism, fascism, liberation ideologies, green politics, and radical Islamism. We will focus on each ideology’s view of freedom and of the individual’s relationship to the State. We will also use the ideologies to explain contemporary political developments in the US and abroad. Lastly, through discussion boards and Twitter, we will develop our own skills in understanding other perspectives and communicating constructively with people who have different views.

Required materials

1) Textbook: *Political Ideologies and the Democratic Ideal* by Terence Ball and Richard Dagger, 7th, 8th or 9th editions published by Pearson
There are many ways to obtain the Text (rental, used, new). You can also purchase an e-book directly from the publisher: [http://www.pearsoncustom.com/az/asu_polsici/](http://www.pearsoncustom.com/az/asu_polsici/). This link takes you to the Pearson publisher site that was made for this course. At that site, begin with the “Purchase Access” option on the lower right side ($97).

You can purchase a print or e-book from the University Bookstore or directly from the Kendall Hunt publisher: [http://www.kendallhunt.com/store-product.aspx?id=304633](http://www.kendallhunt.com/store-product.aspx?id=304633)

Course grading and requirements

- Exams (3 x 20 points each) 60
- Discussion Board posts (in 3 units) 30
- Quizzes (10, top 4 scores x 2.5) 10
- Research Requirement (pass/fail) 0

100 points (97+=A+, 93-96=A, 90-92=A-, etc.)
Exams (20 points each, 60 in total)
Each of the three exams is 60 minutes and includes multiple-choice and matching questions. The exams must be completed by 3/26, 4/14, and 4/29, respectively.

Discussion Board (DB) posts (30 points = (1 post + 1 reply) x 3 assigned units)
Students are assigned to complete a discussion board post and reply in 3 of the course’s 10 units. These DBs are based on the Workbook readings but also reflect insights from the Text. In each of their assigned units, students will be required to provide a well-crafted, 5-6 sentence answer to one of the Reflection Exercises in the Workbook (7 points) and a reply to one classmate’s post in the same unit (3 points each). Replies to classmates should reflect a thoughtful reaction to their post with comments that further the discussion. Posts or replies submitted one day late will receive half-credit and later posts will not be accepted.

Quizzes (10 points = top 4 quiz scores x 2.5 points each)
The quizzes are primarily intended for practice for the exams. Each of the 9 units has a quiz with 5 multiple-choice questions. Each question is worth 0.5 points. At the end of the session, I will count the 4 highest quiz scores.

Research Study Participation Requirement (0 points, but REQUIRED TO PASS THE COURSE)
Students enrolled in this course are required to complete a research assignment that can include up to 2 hours of research study participation (but typically take much less time). These studies require that students set up an appointment to complete participation at a laboratory on campus (or via an on-line survey for ASU Online students). Students will learn how studies are conducted and will receive a synopsis at the conclusion of the semester describing the study’s goal, result, and relevance to the class. Students who prefer not to participate in research as subjects may opt for an alternative that entails finding and reading one academic article about the experimental method and writing a three-page reaction paper. The typical article is about 25-30 pages and thus reading it and writing a three-page paper should take approximately two hours.

During the second week of the session, students will receive an announcement and e-mail through Blackboard including details on how to complete either requirement. Note that if you are enrolled in multiple POS classes that require participation, you only need to satisfy the requirement one time per semester. Participation in former semesters does not carry over to the current semester.
The following website will direct students to the SPAGS experimental website where they can find all necessary information to complete this requirement.
http://spgslab.wordpress.com/experimental-participation-sign-up/

**Completing the research requirement through a study or the Alternate Assignment is REQUIRED for you to pass this course.**

**Extra credit quiz, surveys, and essay (7.5 EC points)**
By Saturday, 3/19, students can earn up to 2.5 of EC on the Syllabus Quiz. Also, by Saturday, 4/23, students can submit a 500-word essay describing how an ideology is reflected in a movie, song, or artwork of their choosing. This optional assignment is worth between 0 and 5 EC points. Lastly, there are two online surveys that take 10 minutes to complete, at the start and the end of the semester. They are voluntary and can earn you 1 point each of EC. These surveys are part of my research into social media and should not be confused with the Research Requirement described above.

**Academic dishonesty**
Plagiarism and cheating on essays and exams is dishonest, disrespectful, and lame. At a minimum, I will give students a zero on the assignment. Multiple or egregious violations will result in expulsion from class.

**Accommodations for Disabilities**
I am happy to accommodate any student with a disability registered with the Disability Resource Center. Please contact them and provide our course number and my email address.

**Additional Tutoring Resources**
For excellent one-on-one assistance with writing, test preparation, and other academic skills, please consult ASU’s online tutoring resource: https://tutoring.asu.edu/online-tutoring. Students meet with tutors in real time online using Adobe Connect.
Schedule of topics, assignments, and exams

The following readings use the page numbers and sections found in the 9th (and 8th, when pages differ) editions of the Political Ideologies and the Democratic Ideal (“Text”) and the Reflections workbook (“Workbook”—shown below by author). Posts and replies are due by 11:59pm on dates shown.

Unit 1  Ideologies & the Democratic Ideal
  Workbook: Bill of Rights
  Quiz in Bb by 3/16 (10 total quizzes, but only use top four scores)

--EC credit Syllabus Quiz-- Due Saturday, March 19th (11:59 pm)

Unit 2  Proto- and Classical Liberalism
  Workbook: Thomas Hobbes
  Groups A&B: Post by 3/20, reply by 3/21
  Quiz in Bb by 3/21 (10 total quizzes, but only use top four scores)

Unit 3  Conservatism
  Workbook: Edmund Burke and Irving Kristol
  Groups C&D: Post by 3/24, reply by 3/25
  Quiz in Bb by 3/25 (10 total quizzes, but only use top four scores)

--EXAM 1-- Due Saturday, March 26th (11:59pm)

Unit 4  Socialism & Marx
  Workbook: Karl Marx/ Friedrich Engels
  Groups E&F: Post by 3/30, reply by 3/31
  Quiz in Bb by 3/31 (10 total quizzes, but only use top four scores)

Unit 5  Liberalism Divided
4/1-5  Text: Chpt 3, pp. 72-93 (8th ed., pp. 64-88)
  Workbook: Isaiah Berlin
  Groups A&B: Post by 3/31, reply by 4/1
  Quiz in Bb by 4/5 (10 total quizzes, but only use top four scores)
Chapter 10: “Using Twitter to Promote Classroom and Civic Engagement” by Woodall and Lennon

Unit 6  Revisionist and Non-Marxist Socialism
4/6-9  
Workbook: Herbert Marcuse
Groups C&D: Post by 4/8, reply by 4/9
Quiz in Bb by 4/9 (10 total quizzes, but only use top four scores)

Unit 7  Fascism
4/10-13  
Workbook: Sheldon Wolin
Groups E&F: Post by 4/12, reply by 4/13
Quiz in Bb by 4/13 (10 total quizzes, but only use top four scores)

--EXAM 2--  Due Thursday, April 14th (11:59pm)

Unit 8  Liberation Ideologies
4/15-20  
Workbook: bell hooks, John Corvino, and Taiaiake Alfred and Jeff Corntassel
Groups A&B: Post by 4/19, reply by 4/20
Quiz in Bb by 4/20 (10 total quizzes, but only use top four scores)

--Optional Extra Credit paper-- Due Saturday, 4/23 (11:59 pm)

Unit 9  Ecology as ideology
4/21-24  
Text: Chpt 9, pp. 276-293 (8th ed. pp. 261-277)
Workbook: Steve Vanderheiden
Groups C&D: Post by 4/23, reply by 4/24
Quiz in Bb by 4/24 (10 total quizzes, but only use top four scores)

Unit 10  Radical Islamism
4/25-28  
Workbook: Bassam Tibi
Groups E&F: Post by 4/27, reply by 4/28
Quiz in Bb by 4/28 (10 total quizzes, but only use top four scores)
--EXAM 3-- Due Friday, April 29th (11:59pm)