

Fall 2022

PS1005 Political Science I

Class Information:

- Time: Wednesdays, 09:10-12:10
- Place: Room 303 Social Sciences Building
- Course Website: <https://cool.ntu.edu.tw/courses/18398>

Instructor:

- Name: **Hans H. Tung** (hanstung@ntu.edu.tw)
- Office Hours: Wednesdays, 15:30-17:30
Sign up at:
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0B4EAEAC2CAA8-fall>
- Office: Room 745, Social Sciences Building

1 Attention !! The Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Outbreak

The NTU COVID-19 policy for the Spring 2022 stipulates that:

Face masks must be worn in classrooms or laboratories by instructors and students when maintaining a social distance of 1.5 meters is not possible.

We will also watch the outbreak closely during the semester and see if it is necessary for us to move the class online.

"Man is by nature a political animal."

~ Aristotle, *Politics*

As Aristotle famously stated more than two thousand years ago, "politics," despite its conceptual evolution in the history of ideas, has always been an essential part of human lives. For Aristotle, one's political life, as opposed to other social activities, is the only way through which he or she can fulfill his or her true human nature. In modern civilizations, however, while Aristotle's teleological understanding of politics might have lost its currency, what is unchanged today is that politics never leaves us and every society still counts on it for achieving all kinds of collective goals. "Political Science," therefore, is first and foremost an intellectual endeavor to understand and explicate everything taking place in the political arena with which we all inescapably live.

2 Course Design and Objectives

Political Science I is the first part of a one-year course series for introducing undergraduate students to basic concepts and theories political scientists have developed for explaining politics, both domestically and internationally. Pedagogically, this introductory course sets three major objectives for students:

1. Learn *how* political scientists study and explain political phenomena (methodologies)
2. Know *what* kind of concepts and theories political scientists come up with for answering interesting puzzles in our political world (substance)
3. Understand *when* and *where* political scientists apply their analytic frameworks (contexts)

The course not only helps students navigate existing theoretical perspectives on how politics can be analyzed, but also contextualizes them in real-world cases. The ultimate goal is to make students able to think independently and formulate their own views.

3 Grading

- Mid-Term (30%)
- Final (60%)
- Class Participation (10%)

4 Textbook (On reserve at the Koo Chen-Fu Memorial Library)

PSI Roskin, Michael G., et al. 2016. *Political Science: An Introduction*. (14th Edition). Essex, England: Pearson.

5 Class Schedule and Reading List

Week 1 September 07, 2021 Introduction

Part I: Methodology

Week 2 September 14, 2022 Is Political Science a Science?

Readings:

- **PSI:** Chapter 1.
- Clark, William Roberts, Matt Golder, and Sona Nadenichek Golder. 2013. *Principles of Comparative Politics*. 2nd Ed. Thousand Oaks, Calif. : SAGE/CQ Press. Chapter 2 What Is Science?
- Morgan, Stephen L. and Christopher Winship. 2007. *Counterfactuals and Causal Inference: Methods and Principles for Social Research*. Cambridge; New York : Cambridge University Press. Chapter 1 Introduction.

Week 3 September 21, 2022 Causality and Social Sciences

Readings:

- Morgan, Stephen L. and Christopher Winship. 2007. *Counterfactuals and Causal Inference: Methods and Principles for Social Research*. Cambridge; New York : Cambridge University Press. Chapter 1 Introduction.

Week 4 September 28, 2022 Theory, Empirical Research and Social Sciences

Readings:

- **PSI:** Chapter 1.
- Clark, William Roberts, Matt Golder, and Sona Nadenichek Golder. 2013. *Principles of Comparative Politics*. 2nd Ed. Thousand Oaks, Calif. : SAGE/CQ Press. Chapter 2 What Is Science?
- Parsons, Craig. 2016. *Introduction to Political Science: How to Think for Yourself about Politics*. 1st Edition. Pearson. Chapter 1 Introduction.

Part II: Fundamentals

Week 5 October 05, 2022 Power

Readings:

- Brigid C. Harrison. 2016. *Power and Society: An Introduction to the Social Sciences*. 14th Edition. Wadsworth Publishing. Chapter 1 Power, Society, and Social Science.

Week 6 October 12, 2022 Political Ideologies

Readings:

- **PSI:** Chapter 2.

Week 7 October 19, 2022 State

Readings:

- **PSI:** Chapter 3.

Week 8 October 26, 2022 Midterm

Week 9 November 02, 2022 Political Regimes: Democracies and Dictatorships

- **PSI:** Chapter 5.

Part III: Demand Side

Week 10 November 09, 2022 Political Cultures and Public Opinion

Readings:

- PSI: Chapters 6-7.

Week 11 November 16, 2022 Guest Lecture: Rick Carew, Visiting Lecturer of Global Commerce, McIntire School of Commerce, University of Virginia

Topic to be announced.

Week 12 November 23, 2022 Political Communications: (Social) Media

Readings:

- PSI: Chapter 8.

Week 13 November 30, 2022 Political Participation: Interest Groups and Political Parties

Readings:

- PSI: Chapters 9-10.

Week 14 December 07, 2022 Political Participation: Elections

Readings:

- PSI: Chapter 11.

Week 15 December 14, 2022 Political Participation: Contentious Politics

Readings:

- Parsons, Craig. 2016. *Introduction to Political Science: How to Think for Yourself about Politics*. 1st Edition. Pearson. Chapter 6 Individual Participation and Collective Action.

Week 16 December 21, 2022 Final Exam