

INTRO TO POLITICAL SCIENCE  
Political Science 1550, CRN 40357  
Fall Semester 2009 (T/R 12:30-13:45)  
E-mail: [cldomhoff@ysu.edu](mailto:cldomhoff@ysu.edu)

Prof. Christine Domhoff  
Meshel Hall, Room 103  
Work phone: 330-941-3185  
Cell phone: 808-687-0820 (HI)

**Office Hours:** Monday/Wednesday/Friday 12:00-13:00 and by appointment as needed any day.

**Course Description:** This course is intended to introduce beginning students to the world of politics as it goes on around us; in our nation and in our world. Students will learn about the institutions and processes as well as other concepts which will provide the analytical context within which they may come to develop knowledge and an understanding, not only of the “what” of politics, but more importantly, the “how” and the “why.”

**General Education Program Information:** Political Science 1550 is an approved course under the “Societies and Institutions” domain, designed to fulfill general education goals 10, 11, and 12 while also addressing goals 1, 2, and 3 (for listing of the goals for the general education requirements please access YSU’s general education web site at <http://www.cc.ysu.edu/ger/genedg.html>)

**Text:** Political Science: An Introduction, CourseSmart eTextbook by Roskin  
(c) 2010 | ISBN-10: 0205746934 Electronic Book | Status: 01-Jul 2009 NYP |  
Net Price: \$46.67 | Suggested Retail Price: \$46.67: \$46.00

CourseSmart Textbooks Online is an exciting new choice for students looking to save money. As an alternative to purchasing the print textbook, students can subscribe to the same content online and save up to 50% off the suggested list price of the print text. With a CourseSmart etextbook, students can search the text, make notes online, print out reading assignments that incorporate lecture notes, and bookmark important passages for later review. For more information, or to subscribe to the CourseSmart eTextbook, visit [www.coursesmart.com](http://www.coursesmart.com).

**Directions for Students:**

1. Go to [www.coursesmart.com](http://www.coursesmart.com).
2. Select "student" and search by the ISBN, Title or Author
3. Be sure to select the 11th edition of Roskin, Introduction to Political Science.
4. Create an account- be sure to use zip code: 44555 and select Youngstown State University.
5. Follow the purchasing instructions from here.

**Incomplete Grade Policy:** An incomplete grade of “I” may be given to a student who has been doing satisfactory work in a course but, for reasons beyond control of the student and deemed justifiable by the instructor, had not completed all requirements for a course when grades were submitted. A written explanation of the reason for the “I” and a date (which must be within one year) by which all course requirements will be completed must be forwarded to the Office of the Registrar for inclusion in the student’s permanent record, with copies to the student and department chairperson. The instructor will initiate a grade change upon completion of the course requirements. If no formal grade change occurs within the one-year time period, the Incomplete grade will be converted to an “F” before graduation.

**Performance Evaluation:** The grade in this course depends on four scheduled examinations (total 160 points / 80% as noted) covering material in the syllabus readings, lectures, and class discussions. Two assignments (40 points / 20%) will be due as noted on this syllabus. The first assignment (15 points) will be determined at a later date. The second assignment (25 points) will be a group project regarding one of the states as described on the syllabus (details/rubric will follow). No term paper, special report, or reading additional to those in the syllabus will be assigned, nor may any extra credit be earned, as a substitute for poor examination performance. Examinations will be a combination of objective type questions and essays. The student in need of assistance with essay question writing should consult his/her English instructor or attend the Writing Center sessions. **Student ID verification will be required for this course.** The comprehensive Final Exam will be provided for any student who has been unable to attend **any** of the four scheduled examinations and/or as a substitute for one of the exams. No make-up examinations will be given. Additional materials for this course are available in Maag Library at the Circulation desk under “Professor Domhoff.” You **must** present your YSU Identification card to use these materials (for up to three hours) in the library.

**Attendance:** *One (1) point will be **deducted** from your total points score for every two (2) unexcused absences beyond the first three (3) absences, i.e., five (5) days missed will result in an one (1) point deduction, (7) days missed will result in a two (2) points deduction, etc.*

To be used as a guideline only and is subject to change. All course materials should be reviewed prior to the scheduled topic date.

<b>Dates</b>	<b>Day</b>	<b>Assignment Topic</b>	
8-25-09	Tues.	Chapter 1	Politics and Political Science
8-27-09	Thurs.	Chapter 2	Theories
9-1-09	Tues.	Chapter 3	Political Ideologies
9-3-09	Thurs.	Chapter 4	States
		Chapter 5	Constitutions
<b>9-7-09</b>	<b>Mon.</b>	<b>University Holiday (Labor Day), University Closed</b>	
9-8-09	Tues.	Chapter 6	Regimes
9-10-09	Thurs.	Chapter 7	Political Ideologies
9-15-09	Tues.	Chapter 8	Public Opinion
<b>9-17-09</b>	<b>Thurs.</b>	<b>Exam I—Chapters 1-8 and notes (40 points, 20% grade)</b>	
9-22-09	Tues.	Chapter 9	Political Communication
9-24-09	Thurs.	Chapter 10	Interest Groups
9-29-09	Tues.	Chapter 11	Parties
10-1-09	Thurs.	Chapter 12	Elections
10-6-09	Tues.	Chapter 13	Legislatures
10-8-09	Thurs.	Chapter 13	Legislatures

10-13-09	Tues.	Chapter 14	Executives
10-15-09	Thurs.	<b>Exam II—Chapters 9-14 and notes (40 points, 20% grade)</b> <b>Assignment 1 Due: 15 Points, 8% grade</b>	
10-20-09	Tues.	Chapter 15	Judiciaries
10-22-09	Thurs.	Chapter 15	Judiciaries
10-27-09	Tues.	Chapter 16	Political Economy (Career Awareness Day)
10-29-09	Thurs.	Chapter 16	Political Economy
11-3-09	Tues.	Chapter 17	Political Violence
11-5-09	Thurs.	Chapter 18	International Relations
11-10-09	Tues.	Chapter 18	International Relations
11-11-09	Wed.	<b>University Holiday (Veteran's Day), University Closed</b>	
11-12-09	Thurs.	<b>Exam III, Chapters 15-18 and notes (40 points, 20% grade)</b> <b>Assignment 2 Due: Powerpoint presentations and group questions (25 points, 12% grade)</b>	
11-17-09	Tues.	<b>Russia:</b> The Struggle for Democracy <b>China:</b> Searching for a New Vision	
11-19-09	Thurs.	<b>Brazil:</b> Resurgence of Democracy? <b>Iraq:</b> Democracy or Battle Zone?	
11-24-09	Tues.	<b>Japan:</b> A Special Form of Democracy <b>India:</b> A Democracy in Question	
11-26-09	Thurs.	<b>University Holiday (Columbus Day Observed), University Closed</b>	
11-27-09	Fri.	<b>University Holiday (Thanksgiving Day), University Closed</b>	
12-1-09	Tues.	<b>The European Union:</b> An Emerging European Identity Review for Exam IV; completion of projects	
12-3-09	Thurs.	<b>Exam IV—Special Projects/Student Questions (40 points, 20% grade)</b>	
12-8-09	Thurs.	<b>Final Exam, Comprehensive (15:15-17:15 or 3:15-5:15)</b>	

**Academic Misconduct (Dishonesty) Policy:** Acts of dishonesty include, but are not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, or other forms of academic dishonesty. The University's policy regarding Academic Dishonesty is strictly enforced in this class. Please consult the student *Code* or *Undergraduate Bulletin*.

**American with Disabilities Act:** Anyone requiring special adaptations or accommodations should inform the instructor as soon as possible. In accordance with University procedures, if you have a documented disability and require accommodations to obtain equal access in this course, please contact the Office of Disability Services (phone: 330-941-1372) in the Center for Student Progress at the beginning of the semester or when given an assignment for which an accommodation is required. Students with disabilities must verify their eligibility through the Office of Disability Services." The Office of Disability Services has moved to a new location on Wood Street effective Fall 2009.

**Special Assistance:** Tutoring help (student tutors) is available at the Student Tutorial Service Office (Kilcawley Center West). Students wishing tutoring help may make application at the Center any time during the first two weeks of the term. The phone number is 330-941-7253.

The **Writing Center** in Coffelt Hall is open, by appointment, from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Monday and Tuesday and 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., Wednesday and Thursday and 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m., Friday. The phone number is 330-941-3055.

Assistance is also available through the **Reading and Study Skills Center** located in Maag Library, Room 154 (Lower Level). The phone number is 330-941-3099. Hours are 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Thursday and 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Fridays.