

FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY™

Graduate Programs—NEW COURSE PROPOSAL

UGPC APPROVAL _____
 UFS APPROVAL _____
 SCNS SUBMITTAL _____
 CONFIRMED _____
 BANNER POSTED _____
 CATALOG _____

DEPARTMENT NAME: POLITICAL SCIENCE

COLLEGE OF: ARTS AND LETTERS

RECOMMENDED COURSE IDENTIFICATION:

PREFIX ___ POS ___ COURSE NUMBER 6736 LAB CODE (L or C) _____

(TO OBTAIN A COURSE NUMBER, CONTACT MJENNING@FAU.EDU)

COMPLETE COURSE TITLE : RESEARCH DESIGN IN POLITICAL SCIENCE

EFFECTIVE DATE

(first term course will be offered)

FALL 2011

CREDITS: 3

TEXTBOOK INFORMATION: Pollack, Philips H. Shrinkwrapped Pkg.
 The Essentials of Political Analysis, 3rd Edition + An SPSS Companion to Political Analysis, 3rd
 Edition + SPSS Student Version Software
 Publisher: CQ PRESS

GRADING (SELECT ONLY ONE GRADING OPTION): REGULAR X PASS/FAIL _____ SATISFACTORY/UNSATISFACTORY _____

COURSE DESCRIPTION, NO MORE THAN 3 LINES: The goal of the course is to familiarize students with the appropriate techniques and methods of research, inference, and statistics in political science.

PREREQUISITES:

COREQUISITES:

OTHER REGISTRATION CONTROLS (MAJOR, COLLEGE, LEVEL):

 PREREQUISITES, COREQUISITES & REGISTRATION CONTROLS SHOWN ABOVE WILL BE ENFORCED FOR ALL COURSE SECTIONS.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS NEEDED TO TEACH THIS COURSE: PH.D. IN POLITICAL SCIENCE

Other departments, colleges that might be affected by the new course must be consulted. List entities that have been consulted and attach written comments from each.

SOCIOLOGY

____ Mehmet Gurses, gurses@fau.edu, 561 297 3213 _____
 Faculty Contact, Email, Complete Phone Number

SIGNATURES

SUPPORTING MATERIALS

<p>Approved by:</p> <p>Department Chair: _____</p> <p>College Curriculum Chair: _____</p> <p>College Dean: _____</p> <p>UGPC Chair: _____</p> <p>Dean of the Graduate College: _____</p>	<p>Date:</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>Syllabus—must include all details as shown in the UGPC Guidelines.</p> <p>Written Consent—required from all departments affected.</p> <p>Go to: http://graduate.fau.edu/gpc/ to download this form and guidelines to fill out the form.</p>
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Email this form and syllabus to diamond@fau.edu and eqirjo@fau.edu one week **before** the University Graduate Programs Committee meeting so that materials may be viewed on the UGPC website by committee members prior to the meeting.

**POS 6736: Research Design in Political Science
Fall 2011**

Mehmet Gurses, Ph.D.
Office: SO 384E
Office phone: 561 297 3213
E-Mail: gurses@fau.edu

Course Objectives

- The goal of the course is to familiarize students with the appropriate techniques and methods of research, inference, and statistics in political science.
- These methods are equally useful in courts of law, market research, and public health, to give but a few examples. This is a demanding but also extremely rewarding and helpful class – for whatever you will end up doing.
- Completion of the assigned readings before each class meeting is critical to your success in the course. Although you may be tempted to put off the reading until shortly before the exams, this will make it very difficult to do well on the exams and short-change you in your understanding of comparative politics. If you have questions about the material as the course progresses, do not hesitate to contact me.

Required Texts/Materials

1- Pollack, Philips H. Shrinkwrapped Pkg.
The Essentials of Political Analysis, 3rd Edition + An SPSS Companion to Political Analysis, 3rd Edition + SPSS Student Version Software
Publisher: CQ PRESS

Requirements & Evaluation

The course is divided into two major sections. In the first half of the semester we will cover the fundamentals of social science research. Readings are assigned by topic and date as shown below.

Following the completion of the first section, each student is required to turn in two-short research papers/designs and one term-paper. Further details will be distributed at a later date.

In each written assignment you are expected to state: (1) research question; (2) theoretical framework; (3) derive concise and clear hypotheses; and (4) test the hypotheses against a data set using computer analysis. *Further instructions about the written assignments will be provided at a later date.*

Participation: Students are expected to arrive for each class prepared to discuss the assigned reading material. You are expected to be attentive to class lectures, participate in class discussions and exercises, respect the views and work of classmates, and refrain from all disruptive behavior (including the use of cellular telephones and laptop computers for anything other than class notes). Lectures and other class materials are designed to clarify and expand on class readings, expecting you have read and developed a general understanding of the topics addressed in the readings. You will be rewarded for your constructive contribution to the discussion. Simply arriving for class to enjoy a nap in the back of the room does not constitute adequate participation in the class! Given the intense nature of this class failing to attend will have serious consequences for your grade. Past experience shows that failing to attend will lower your grade by at least one letter. Participation is worth 10% of your total grade and will be based on informed discussion in seminar.

Grading Policy: The student's final course grade is broken down as follows: two short-research design (each 20%); term-paper (50%); and Participation 10%.

Grading Scale: A 93-100; A- 90-92; B+ 87-89; B 83-86; B- 80-82; C+ 77-79; C 73-76; C- 70-72; D+ 67-69; D 63-66; D- 60-62; F 0-59.

The Florida Atlantic University Honor Code: Students at Florida Atlantic University are expected to maintain the highest ethical standards. Academic dishonesty, including cheating and plagiarism, is considered a serious breach of these ethical standards, because it interferes with the University mission to provide a high quality education in which no student enjoys an unfair advantage over any other. Academic dishonesty is also destructive of the University community, which is grounded in a system of mutual trust and places high value on personal integrity and individual responsibility. Harsh penalties are associated with academic dishonesty. For more information see http://www.fau.edu/regulations/chapter4/4.001_Honor_Code.pdf

Students with Disabilities: In compliance with Disabilities Act (ADA), students who require special accommodations must register with the Office of Students with Disabilities (OSD) located in Boca Raton – SU 133 (561-297-3880) and follow the procedures.

Lecture Topics & Readings

The dates listed for each topic are approximate and will depend on how quickly we move through the material. You absolutely need to study the assigned readings before the date listed as I will be covering the material on the date given below. *Note that this is not a contract. It is subject to change at my discretion.*

Week 1 (August 24): Introduction

Thinking and Studying Scientifically

Puzzles, theory, and hypotheses; variables and constants

Read: Chp 2

Week 2 (August 31): Measurement

Read: Chp1

Week 3 (Sep 7): Research Design

Read: Chp2

Week 4 (Sep 14): Cont'd.

Week 5 (Sep 21): Sampling and Inference

Read: chp5

Week 6 (Sep 28): Correlation and Linear Regression

Read: Chp7

Week 7 (Oct 5): Wrap-up

Week 8 (Oct 12): Introduction to SPSS

Week 9 (Oct 19): Data Collection & Analysis Using SPSS

Week 10 (Oct 26): Presenting the Results

Week 11 (Nov 2): Term-Paper/Presentations

Week 12 (Nov 9): Cont'd.

Week 13 (Nov 16): Cont'd.

Week 14 (Nov 23): Cont'd.

Week 15 (Nov 30): April 18-20): Cont'd.

Week 16 (Dec 7): TERM-PAPER DUE

Proper Citations and Plagiarism: For all scholarly projects, I encourage you to discuss your work with your colleagues, but it is each individual's personal obligation to make sure the paper is written in accordance with generally-recognized editorial and documentation principles. **As such, you are to cite anyone else's ideas using standard American Political Science Association (APSA) style. (read Course rules # 1 again).**

Cite all works in the following manner:

For an article:

Becker, Gary S. 1983. "A Theory of Competition Among Pressure Groups for Political Influence." *Quarterly journal of Economics* 98: 371-400.

For a book:

Arrowsmith, Susan. 2003. *Government Procurement in the WTO*. New York: Kluwer Law International.

For television or radio:

WPTV News, 6:30-7:00 p.m., 10/25/05.

Morning Edition, NPR, 6:30-7:00 a.m., 10/25/05.

For newspaper:

McNeal, Natalie P., "Miramar candidate George Pedlar falls ill, says he's fine now," *Miami Herald*, October 24, 2005.

For a personal interview:

Bush, Jeb. Interview by author. Tape recording. Miami, Florida, April 10, 2006.

For a webpage (with no date of authorship):

Stevens, Julie. n.d. "The Economics of Collaborative Purchasing Practices." Accessed June 11, 2004, from <http://www.lianza.org.nz/conference/conference03/papers/stevens.pdf>.

-----Original Message-----

From: Farshad Araghi [<mailto:araghi@fau.edu>]

Sent: Tuesday, January 25, 2011 2:04 PM

To: Timothy Lenz

Subject: Re: FW: new course

Dear Tim,

Sociology has no objection to the proposed research methods design class by the political science department.

Best,

Farshad

On 1/25/11 9:30 AM, Timothy Lenz wrote:

> Dear Farshad,

> The Department of Political Science has redesigned its MA program to create a required research design seminar. I have attached a copy of the proposal. Please let me know if you have any concerns or objections. P.S.: our end of the SO building is much less lively these days.

>

> From: Mehmet Gurses [<mailto:gurses@fau.edu>]

> Sent: Monday, January 24, 2011 3:16 PM

> To: Timothy Lenz

> Subject: new course

>

> Tim,

>

> Attached please find the syllabus and the form for the research design course that I will be offering in Fall 2011. Would you please forward it to Sociology to see if they have any objections to it?

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> Thank you,

> Mehmet

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> Mehmet Gurses

> Assistant Professor

> Department of Political Science

> Florida Atlantic University

> 777 Glades Road, Social Science 384

> Boca Raton, FL 33431-0991

> Phone: (561) 297-3213

> Fax: (561) 297-2997

> email: gurses@fau.edu<<mailto:gurses@fau.edu>>