**POLS 465**

**Politics and the Media**

**Spring Semester 2024**

Professor: Steve Herr

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**Course Description**

This course will look the influence of television, newspapers, news magazines, film, the internet and radio on national political institutions and the political process.

**Prerequisite**: POLS 111 and POLS 112

**Text**:

and ydpsteveherr.com

**Course Objectives**

1. Complete all reading assignments prior to the class in which the material will be discussed.

2. Participate in class frequently.

3. Complete the mid-term exam.

4. Complete the final exam.

5. Attend all classes.

6. Be punctual.

**Course Requirements**

1. Complete all reading assignments prior to the class in which the material will be discussed.

2. Participate in class frequently.

3. Complete the mid-term exam.

4. Be punctual.

5. Complete the final exam.

6. Attend class regularly.

**Teaching Methods/Technology**

The class will be discussion based and research intensive. We will use the best technology available to us. The class will also include lectures, focused discussions, specific readings, research assignments, in class reviews, written summaries and cumulative evaluations.

**Class Attendance Policy**

Students and faculty should realize that one of the most vital aspects of a college experience is attendance and punctuality in the classroom and that the value of this experience cannot be exclusively measured by testing procedures alone. Should the occasion arise in which a faculty member is unavoidably detained for a class, students must wait a minimum of 15 minutes before leaving. If students find it necessary to miss a class, it is their responsibility to arrange with the instructor to make up all work missed. Instructors must devise their own attendance policies, have them approved by the Dean of the College, include them in the course syllabi, and explain them to students. Continuation in class for a student who misses more than 20% of class time during any one semester, whether excused or unexcused, may be possible only after consultation with the faculty member involved and Dean of the College.

**Writing Across the Curriculum**

This course provides a means of addressing student writing proficiency. Students will keep a journal reviewing the major class readings, class reflections and the final exam.

**Cultural Diversity and Global Perspectives**

The wonder of a liberal arts education is a search for the truth. In this class we will follow that wonder in all its richness and possibility, regardless of where those paths may lead us.

**Schedule**

**Wednesday January 10**

Sign in

and

“the great chain of being”

**Friday January 12**

“Social media manipulation by political actors an industrial scale problem – Oxford report”

<https://www.ox.ac.uk/news/2021-01-13-social-media-manipulation-political-actors-industrial-scale-problem-oxford-report>

and

Damon Cart, “How Social Media Manipulates You”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-ZdM4Qhzaho>

**Monday January 15**

No Class – Martian Luther King Day

**Wednesday January 17**

I’ll be out of town – No Class

**Friday January 19**

Ryan Holiday, “What is Media Manipulation? – A Definition and Explanation”

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/ryanholiday/2012/07/16/what-is-media-manipulation-a-definition-and-explanation/?sh=24944c103939>

and

Sharyl Attkissn, “Astroturf and manipulation of media messages”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-bYAQ-ZZtEU&t=554s>

**Monday January 22**

Plato, "The Apology,"

<http://classics.mit.edu/Plato/apology.html>

**Wednesday January 24**

“Founding fathers used fake news, facial fear-mongering to unite colonies during American Revolution, new book reveals”

<https://www.binghamton.edu/news/story/388/founding-fathers-used-fake-news-racial-fear-mongering-to-unite-colonies-dur>

and

“Fake News in War”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mQpzWCC9rQ0&t=17s>

**Friday January 26**

Newsreel 'Nation aroused at revolting kidnapping of Lindbergh Baby, Hopewell N.J' HD Stock Footage

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NZIcAdZWIO4>

and

Where Baby Lindbergh Was Found (1932)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iuz2C2dWEkY>

and

Arrest Made in Lindbergh Case

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w-Fi-_aG2UY>

and

Lindbergh Baby Case (1935)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_ti76hPZETM>

and

Death sentence by court to convict Hauptmann for kidnap and murder of son of avia...HD Stock Footage

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7eUgujSD__o>

**Monday January 29**

Good Night and Good Luck - McCarthy Response

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HKWGoCqu57Y>

and

Edward R. Murrow's final reply to Senator Joseph McCarthy's "See It Now" appearance - April 13, 1954

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z6j6TN7Tkw>

and

Larry Tye, “When Bobby Kennedy slipped into Appleton for Joe McCarthy’s funeral”

<https://archive.jsonline.com/greensheet/when-bobby-kennedy-slipped-into-appleton-for-joe-mccarthys-funeral-b99752133z1-384880911.html>

**Wednesday January 31**

“A Confrontation for Integration at the University of Alabama”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4WbLGlIzW88>

and

“Malcolm X on Front Page Challenge, 1965: CBC Archives | CBC”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C7IJ7npTYrU>

and

“Malcolm X at the Oxford Union” (December 3, 1964)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1Jxj4-2zrGw>

**Friday February 2**

“The First Amendment”  
<https://www.history.com/topics/united-states-constitution/first-amendment>

and

“Law of Large Numbers - Explained and Visualized”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MntX3zWNWec>

and

“White House Frontiers Conference” 58 min.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BikQFWNYct4&feature=youtu.be&t=58m45s>

and

“Hillary Clinton warns of the dangers of fake news”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Pft1qtmJWG8>

**Monday February 5**

“Der Spiegel reporter Claas Relotius sacked over 'invented' stories”

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-46624297>

and

“A Fragile Trust: Jayson Blair, plagiarism and the New York Times”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QMJXprjU1qk>

Mid-term handed out

**Wednesday February 7**

“Two step flow - Audience Theory”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hFpBLeOHfxs>

and

“Trump vs. Truth: Last Week Tonight with John Oliver (HBO)”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xecEV4dSAXE>

**Friday February 9**

Scandal management: Pentagon spends most of US gov’t PR budget

<https://www.rt.com/usa/362303-pentagon-biggest-propaganda-budget/>

and

Pentagon boosts spending on PR for domestic and world public opinion

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t9I0_k7O-Bo>

**Monday February 12**

Johnny Harris, “The Dark Side of Electric Cars”

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2\_T5DgsO0jc

and

John Stossel, “Even Greenpeace Says ‘Most Plastic Simply Cannot Be Recycled’”

<Https://www.youtube.com/watch?v+NLkpjJoNkA>

Mid-term due

**Wednesday February 14**

“WATCH: Biden delivers remarks on special counsel report”

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=XEbkh7qgJ3w&pp=ygUdYmlkZW4gcHJlc3MgY29uZmVyZW5jZSAyLzgvMjQ%3D>

and

“Biden Didn’t Know When He Was Vice President, and More Damning Details From Report, with Ben Shapiro”

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=kbfPNkUwGL0&pp=ygUXQmVuIHNoYXBpcm8gYmlkZW4gZnVubnk%3D>

“CDC Withheld Important COVID-19 Data from America, Report Says”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VuhNhbSCMM0>

and

“Tom Cotton demands Anthony Fauci be prosecuted for his lies”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=akLj7D4tZ1k>

**Friday February 16**

“Elon Musk to advertiser who are trying to ‘blackmail’ him: ‘Go f---yourself’” <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U_M_uvDChJQ>

and

“Bud Light faces major layoffs after backlash”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ql2c3FQfuoI>

and

“Jeremy’s Razors: The Greatest Commercial Ever”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s92UMJNjPIA>

**Monday February 19**

Dan Gillmor, “The ghostwritten op-ed: an unacceptable deception”

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/cifamerica/2011/aug/24/oped-ghostwriter-deception>

and

“NYT publishes anonymous op-ed by senior Trump administration official”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dW9A6h_mHxQ>

and

“Wave of critical comments hit Harvard Palestinian student group”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=drN2_cBmvgc>

**Wednesday February 21**

“Watch: Don Lemon schooled Hilary Fordwich on royal family reparations”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u67QEyrDPRg>

and

Watch: Ta-Nehisi Coates’ full opening statement on reparation at House hearing

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kcCnQ3iRkys>

and

Stephan Talty, “Slaves of a different color”

<https://www.salon.com/2000/06/15/white_slaves/>

and

“Income and Wealth in the United States”

<https://www.pgpf.org/blog/2023/11/income-and-wealth-in-the-united-states-an-overview-of-recent-data>

and

FBI “2018 Crime in the United States”

<https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/2018/crime-in-the-u.s.-2018/tables/table-43>

**Friday February 23**

“'Hands up, don't shoot': Day 3 of Ferguson rallies”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MSKunNK8yFg>

and

“Attorney: Dorian Johnson didn't lie”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oadzUk57pxs>

and

Watch Attorney General Eric Holder discuss DOJ Ferguson investigation findings

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zwtgQly2NhM>

**Monday February 26**

Hans A. von Spakovsky, “Supreme Court Finally Ends Racist Discrimination in College Admissions”

<https://www.heritage.org/courts/commentary/supreme-court-finally-ends-racist-discrimination-college-admissions>

and

“Lying About Race to Get into College: Survey Says It’s Surprisingly Common”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VZ7PVOwEmO8>

and

Senator apologizes for her claims of an American Indian heritage

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=12hLIjf1YbA>

and

James s. Robbins, “End of Elizabeth Warren’s presidential campaign? New claim of ‘American Indian’ heritage”

<https://www.usatoday.com/story/opinion/2019/02/07/elizabeth-warren-dna-results-percentage-cherokee-nation-native-american-column/2799968002/>

**Wednesday February 28**

Lydia Rose, “Tight Dress Try On Haul \*SEXY\*”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l2mzlttWJpA>

and

Adam Gallagher, “A day in the life of GALLA NYC”

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1EIu8ydykjs

and

“The Hamptons,” GALLA

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9H42l3fDOOg>

**Friday March 1**

“Forbes Top Creators 2023”

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/stevenbertoni/2023/09/26/top-creators-2023/?sh=8c27c714c0c2>

and

Jimmy Donaldson, “$1 vs $10,000,000 Job”!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wdjh81uH6FU>

**Monday March 4**

“Seven Years Ago Today Hillary Clinton Says She Landed Under Sniper Fire”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-vpGh7qnxA8>

and

“Flashback: Hillary Clinton Under 'Sniper Fire' In Bosnia”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rZHO1vo762c>

**Wednesday March 6**

“USA: CLINTON DENIES HAVING AN AFFAIR WITH MONICA LEWINSKY UPDATE”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kMu-2tXfPQI>

and

“USA - Clinton videotape of testimony released”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E6poYzFWkFg>

**Friday March 8**

“How to Make Money on Social Media with a Small Following”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u67QEyrDPRg>

and

Stephanie Kase, “How Much social Media Platforms Paid Me to Post”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M8eYLjok9BQ>

**Monday March 11 - Friday March 15**

No Class – Spring Break

**Monday March 18**

“Racial Microaggressions: Comments That Sting | The New York Times”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_85JVcniE_M>

and

“Trigger Warnings And Microaggressions On College Campuses”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sxzQ2al0J-M>

**Wednesday March 20**

“Climate Change Explained In 5 Minutes Featuring Al Gore”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jOKqYtRDGak>

and

“Christopher Booker -- Global Warming: a case study in groupthink”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y8350XaGeZY>

and

Ronald Bailey, “[Temperature Record Chicanery: An Overhyped Scandal](https://reason.com/blog/2015/02/11/temperature-record-chicanery-an-overhype)”

<https://reason.com/blog/2015/02/11/temperature-record-chicanery-an-overhype>

**Friday March 22**

“President Obama Calls IRS Targeting of Conservative, Tea Party Groups 'Outrageous'”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3jjDsGr92to>

and

“IRS Scandal Becomes Criminal Investigation”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZIFzVtcrykk>

**and**

“Trumps $355M Penalty: New York Lawyer Breaks Dow the Impacts

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mYeBSUeu0O8>

**Monday March 25**

“The Myth of Roosevelt’s Wheelchair”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NMKCOb03S-k>

and

“Hillary Clinton Proves She’s in Good Health”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Kt22Y9-dfNk>

and

“Hillary Clinton leaves 9/11 event early, diagnosed with pneumonia”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QLhtzWxYDF4>

**Wednesday March 27**

“Rice: Libya attacks spontaneous”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6oOxAyU8QwM>

and

“[Benghazi: Terrorist attack from the start”](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bPL2MJoWsPk)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bPL2MJoWsPk>

and

“[Was the Benghazi US consulate attack out of the blue”?](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SEcbtTZMR44)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SEcbtTZMR44>

and

“[Hillary Clinton's public and private Benghazi remarks”](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0MjMGhS1zz4)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0MjMGhS1zz4>

**Friday March 29**

No Class – Good Friday

**Monday April 1**

Lanny Davis defends Donna Brazile: I believe her

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v_itv3pRNJE>

and

“Donna Brazile Regrets Sharing Debate Question With Hillary Clinton”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9OTimqticpo>

and

Warren agrees DNC was rigged against Sanders

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I8qBexfR3r4>

**Wednesday April 3**

“Muslim Woman Harassed On Subway”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JMPJCfQ204k>

and

“Faking Hate Crimes: Always A Bad Decision”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c3kw7JD20z8>

and

“Jussie Smollett Tearfully Details His Attack in First TV Interview”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1eDGRZ1VoZg>

and

“Dave Chappelle on the Jussie Smollett Incident”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wZXoErL2124>

**Friday April 5**

[**https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w9ncUcC-MGA**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w9ncUcC-MGA)

Simon Parkin, “The Never-Ending War on Fake Reviews”

<https://www.newyorker.com/tech/annals-of-technology/the-never-ending-war-on-fake-reviews>

and

“How to Become TripAdvisor’s #1 Fake Restaurant”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bqPARIKHbN8>

**Monday April 8**

Prison

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=iWG7JB9saE4&pp=ygUQR2F6YSBpcyBhIHByaXNvbg%3D%3D>

Tourist

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=JBo7i-TXy6s&pp=ygUaZ2F6YSBiZWZvcmUgYW5kIGFmdGVyIDIwMDU%3D>

Walking

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=jYCWjYBsr8M&pp=ygUTR2F6YSB0b3VyaXN0IHBsYWNlcw%3D%3D>

Ben

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=wlGsYtDJaK4&pp=ygUTYmVuIHNoYXBpcm8gZW5nbGFuZA%3D%3D>

**Wednesday April 10**

Something

**Friday April 12**

[**https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B-QlUXHf1\_A**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B-QlUXHf1_A)

[**https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=78IPERSxc70**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=78IPERSxc70)

[**https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fTstM345V00**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fTstM345V00)

Taiwan: Last Week Tonight with John Oliver

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9Y18-07g39g>

**Monday April 15**

Trump

[**https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W42MJk\_YAS8**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W42MJk_YAS8)

[**https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DnpO\_RTSNmQ**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DnpO_RTSNmQ)

**Wednesday April 17**

“How I Found Out I'm an Undocumented Immigrant | Vanity Fair”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9M2H98wb0Es>

and

“ICE cracks down on undocumented immigrants with previous criminal convictions”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qpcLJjgN8UE>

**and**

[**https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ps2WcNuDLm0**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ps2WcNuDLm0)

**Friday April 19**

Otto English, “Have we reached peak stupidity”?

<https://www.politico.eu/article/peak-stupidity-donald-trump-ben-shapiro-edward-cocking/>

and

K.N.C and A.M. “Inside the mind of Ben Shapiro, A radical Conservative”

<https://www.economist.com/open-future/2019/03/28/inside-the-mind-of-ben-shapiro-a-radical-conservative>

and

Sara Fischer, “Daily Wire says streaming service has surpassed 1M subscribers”

<https://www.axios.com/2022/11/17/daily-wire-1m-subscribers>

and

“Masked Student Gets Rocked”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eFXfhMbsoaw>

**Monday April 22**

Biden

**Wednesday April 24**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0vApATxcur0>

and

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SRh7j2g95HU>

and

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UuVPWV11Z-w>

and

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m1rouE61W6M>

**Friday April 26**

Last Day of Class

**Monday April 29 - Friday May 3**

Final Exams

**Monday May 4**

Commencement

**Critical Thinking**

Alice Lloyd College has a goal to improve the critical thinking abilities of its students. The College has adopted Paul and Elder’s (2007) definition of critical thinking, which defines critical thinking as, “the art of analyzing and evaluating thinking with a view to improving it” (p. 4).

Source: Paul, R., & Elder, L. (2007). *The Miniature Guide to Critical Thinking Concepts and Tools* (4th ed.). Tomales, CA: Foundation for Critical Thinking Press.

**Dress Code**

Alice Lloyd College has a long-standing tradition of emphasizing development of the total person and a commitment to personal and community enhancement. As members of the campus community, students are expected to dress modestly and appropriately for various occasions.

The College recognizes that “modest” or “appropriate” is often loosely defined in society at large. Therefore, the following guidelines are offered to assist students in choosing suitable dress:

Professional Day (Tuesday) Dress: Professional dress will be required of all students on central campus until 2:00 p.m. and for all convocation programs. Central campus includes all of the campus buildings with the exception of the gym, maintenance building, fitness center, and the residence halls.

**Plagiarism Statement:** Plagiarism is the act of using another person’s ideas or expression in your writing without acknowledging the source… In short, to plagiarize is to give the impression that you have written or thought something you have in fact borrowed from someone else. Plagiarism often carries severe penalties, ranging from failure in a course to expulsion from school.

The most blatant form of plagiarism is to repeat as your own someone else’s sentences, more or less verbatim… Other forms of plagiarism include repeating someone else’s particularly apt phrase without appropriate acknowledgement, paraphrasing another person’s argument as your own, and presenting another’s line of thing as though it were your own…

**The Parameters**

*MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*, New York Modern Language Association of America, 1988, the Alice Lloyd College Handbook, the Alice Lloyd College website, letters from Dean Laffie Crum and the syllabi of previous professors.

Syllabus Updated: January 2, 2024