

Foreign Governments and Politics
Widener University
POLS 102

Location and Time: TR 9:30-10:45 AM, Rm. 1, Kapelski Learning Center

Credit Hours: 3

Instructor: Dr. Jeremy R. Backstrom

Email: jrbackstrom@widener.edu

Office Hours: TR 2:00-3:00 Rm. 337 Kapelski Learning Center

Class Web: Campus Cruiser/Canvas

Required Materials:

- ❖ Patrick H. O'Neil. 2016. *Essentials of Comparative Politics, 5th edition*. New York: W.W. Norton & Company. (ISBN: 978-0-393-93897-5)
- ❖ Patrick H. O'Neil and Ronald Rogowski. 2013. *Essential Readings in Comparative Politics, 4th edition*. New York: W.W. Norton & Company. (ISBN: 978-0-393-91280-7)

Additional Reading Materials:

***Any additional reading materials will be available via pdf through the class website.

Technology Requirements:

- ❖ Internet access (free access available in campus computer labs)
- ❖ Basic use of a personal computer (word processing and internet research)
- ❖ Access to Widener University Campus Cruiser/Canvas system

Software Requirements:

- ❖ Microsoft Office or Open Office (free alternative to MS Office)

Course Catalog Description:

This introductory course provides students with a basic knowledge of how political systems around the world function. By examining a wide range of countries, students learn how and why the "rules of the political game" differ from country to country. It is hoped that, after taking this course, students will better understand political events that take place outside the United States and appreciate the diverse political ideas and aspirations of people around the world.

Course Description:

The purpose of this course is to provide a general overview of the political science subfield of comparative politics and introduce its various areas of study. While we will use real world examples in order to illustrate important concepts in comparative politics, this course is not a current events course. This course concentrates on providing a broad introduction to comparative politics including the theoretical approaches to the study of comparative politics as well as the empirical methods of analysis political scientists employ in conducting research in this subfield. The concepts of systems analysis are used in the study of structures and processes of foreign political systems. Furthermore, this course concentrates on the significant areas of study within

the comparative politics subfield such as the state, political economy, democracy, authoritarian governments, terrorism and political violence, communism, and globalization.

Moreover, while the comprehension of the material is important, the course focuses heavily on the development of writing and critical thinking skills. Critical thinking skills and the improvement of writing skills can be beneficial for the student in their political science courses, courses in other disciplines, and their advancement in future endeavors outside of academia.

Course Objectives:

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

- ❖ Identify and interpret seminal theoretical methods for studying comparative politics.
- ❖ Demonstrate an understanding of political institutions, democratic and authoritarian regimes.
- ❖ Compare and contrast different systems of government and politics.
- ❖ Evaluate and critique seminal literature regarding various topics within the subfield of comparative politics.
- ❖ Use political concepts noted in the textbook and the classroom to examine current real-world events.
- ❖ Improve general critical thinking, research, and communication skills that can be applied to other courses and future endeavors.

Current Events:

As this is a course in political science, I encourage you as students to become more cognizant of the world and daily events that arise concerning political institutions (democracies and authoritarian governments); political economy; ethnicity, nationalism, and religion; political violence; globalization; and comparative politics in general. Therefore, I want you to read the newspaper headlines (New York Times, Washington Post, BBC, Philadelphia Inquirer, etc.), watch the news on television, or read online news (local news or national news such as CNN, MSNBC, FoxNews, BBC, CSPAN). If you gain your information regarding politics and government from headlines for social media newsfeed/trending headlines, please ensure to follow up this headline in a major news resource. If time permits, we will devote time in each class to discussions concerning current events regarding these topics.

Communication and Email:

As indicated above, you can contact me via email at jrbackstrom@widener.edu. Please ensure that you address the email with the course number (POLS 102) and your last name in the “subject line” (Example: Backstrom- POLS 102). I request that you use proper English in your emails so I can understand your question/issue and offer you an answer or resolution to the issue. Proper English does not include the abbreviated version of words as those you would use in a text message/instant message/tweet. I will respond to your email in a timely manner, typically within 24 hours on the weekdays and 48 hours on the weekends. Please be aware that while this is my

general and intended practice for responding to your e-mails, it is subject to the changes and interruptions of life. If you do not hear from me within 48 hours do not assume I got your message and please follow up. Finally, please note I do not discuss grades electronically. If you wish to discuss your grades, you will need to come to my office during my office hours or by appointment.

Additionally, I will be available during my office hours on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2:00-3:00 PM. If this does not meet your needs, if you need to meet with me at a different time, or if you need to meet with me for a longer period of time, please email me and schedule an appointment to meet with me.

Attendance Policy:

Regardless of course format, Widener University considers regular attendance, participation, and interaction with the instructor and other students to be essential components of successful learning in a Widener class. Courses are conducted for the benefit of students, and it is important that students attend regularly and participate in class activities, however attendance and participation are defined by the course instructor. The academic program takes priority over other obligations, whether sponsored by the college or not. The student is responsible for attending class and for work missed due to absence, and the faculty are not required to make special arrangement for student absences. The presence of a qualifying disability accommodation may allow some flexibility on attendance and due dates, but the essential academic integrity of course goals and student learning will be preserved. Good communication from the students to the faculty about any problems related to attendance and deadlines is crucial. See the Undergraduate Catalog for the full policy statement.

As adults, you are expected to attend every class. **Attendance is required and roll will be taken at every class.** In addition, you are expected to be in the classroom on time. If you continue to have a problem with being on time. If you continue to have a problem with being on time, you will be listed as absent for the day. Excessive absences or tardiness will count against you for your final grade. Each late arrival (1-10 minutes) will count as a tardy. If you are tardy twice, this will count as an absence. If you arrive late by 10 minutes or more, you will be marked as absent. If you depart early, you will also be marked as absent unless you discuss the necessity for an early departure with me before we begin class.

You have a total of three absences that you may use at your discretion. **At the fourth absence and each subsequent absence, your overall grade for the course will be reduced by one letter grade.** Additionally, it is your responsibility to obtain the notes for the missed class from one of your fellow students.

Finally, as a student in this course, you are expected to come into each class having read the required readings and be prepared to participate in the discussion. My lectures complement the readings and it will benefit you to take notes from my lectures in addition to reading the required chapters.

Additional Policies:

Personal laptops or I-Pads may be used to take notes during the class; however, this is not an invitation to check your email, chat online, check the internet for topics outside of the classroom discussion; or any other activity that would disturb your attention and those around you from your class work. If caught engaging in one of these infractions, I will warn you only once. After this warning, you will not be allowed to use your laptop in the class.

Cell phones, I-Pods, or any other electronic communication device must be shut off or silenced during class. Similar to the policy regarding laptops, I will warn you only once. After this event, I will not tolerate any violation of this policy. You will be asked to leave the classroom for that day and be listed as absent for the class.

This is a course on comparative politics and each of us has our own personal thoughts and opinions on the matter. As your instructor, I strongly encourage scholarly debate and discussion in the classroom. However, you must be respectful of your fellow students and their opinions. I will not tolerate any outbursts or demeaning (hateful, racist, sexist, homophobic, transphobic, obscene, and/or etc.) attacks/comments against your fellow students regarding their opinions or observations. If this does occur, I will consider it as a disturbance to the learning experience of the classroom, instruct you to leave for that day, and you will be listed as absent. At the instructor's discretion, a student that violates these guidelines may be removed from the course and possibly the campus.

Assignments and Grading:

Exams: (3 exams worth 10% each. This section is worth 30% of your grade.)

There are three exams given during this course, covering the readings of the textbooks and lecture materials for the specific section. Furthermore, the exams are non-cumulative and will only cover the information for the specific section of the course being tested. The exams will be closed book, closed notes multiple choice and short answer exams. **Students must provide their own materials for the exams.**

Research Papers: (2 papers- Research Paper 1: 20%; Research Paper 2: 30%)

There are two papers that must be completed by the student to pass the course. It is imperative to address the questions that raised for the assignment and write the paper in a professional manner. Moreover, it is crucial for the student to avoid plagiarism, intentional or unintentional. At this point in your educational career, you should attempt to use quotations sparingly and more often paraphrase the thoughts of another scholar. With this in mind, you should ensure that you provide in line citation for the work and thoughts that are not your own.

Research Paper 1: Watch a film from the list below and analyze the film in relation to Comparative Politics. Ensure that you relate back to topics of interest that we covered (or will cover) in the course including but not limited to democracy, authoritarian governments, the state, political economy, ethnicity and religion, nationalism, political violence, terrorism, and/or globalization. In addition, please be sure to respond to the following questions: How does the film speak to government and politics? How does the film relate to the course readings? **This assignment is due February 27, 2018.**

The following guidelines must be followed to fulfill the Research Paper 1 assignment for this course:

- 5-6 pages in length
- Must be typed/word processed

- Double spaced
- Times New Roman Script
- 1 inch margins
- No grammatical errors
- Only your name at the top of the paper
- Handed in on time at the beginning of class
- Hard copy (paper) and submitted through www.turnitin.com on Moodle

*1984 (1984)

*Animal Farm (1999) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cGzRf0Ow1qU>

*The Battle of Algiers (1966)

*Ghosts of Rwanda (2004) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VJAuyIRfYIM>

*Gladiator (2000)

*Hotel Rwanda (2004)

*The Hunger Games: Mockingjay Parts I and II (2014)

*The Islamic State (2016)- Vice News <https://news.vice.com/video/the-islamic-state-full-length>

*The Last King of Scotland (2006)- I have a copy of this film if you wish to borrow it.

*The Lord of the Flies (1990) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WluHyduImtE>

*Romero (1989)

*The Siege (1998)- I have a copy of this film if you wish to borrow it.

*The Square (2013)- Netflix or <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VuO3OvMJ2Gw>

*Star Wars films specifically Star Wars II: Attack of the Clones or Star Wars IV: A New Hope

*Syriana (2005)

*This is What Winning Looks Like (2016)- Vice News <http://www.vice.com/video/this-is-what-winning-looks-like-full-length>

*Triumph of Evil (1995) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O8iCLJKRVoc>

*V For Vendetta (2005)- I have a copy of this film if you wish to borrow it.

*The Year of Living Dangerously (1982)- I have a copy of this film if you wish to borrow it.

*****NOTE 1:** Please be aware that some of the films contain graphic language and/or graphic violence. If you do not feel comfortable with watching this film, please feel free to select another film that matches your comfort level.

*****NOTE 2:** If you discover another film that will fit the requirements of this assignment, please contact me and we will discuss the merits of the film for the project.

Research Paper 2: 20% of your grade

In the last thirty years, a number of countries were created through various means: the dissolution of a previous country (Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Kyrgyzstan, Ukraine, Montenegro, Slovakia, Macedonia, Moldova, Belarus, Estonia, Slovenia, Kazakhstan, and Armenia); civil war and conflict (East Timor); unification (Yemen); the end of colonization (Eritrea, Namibia); and partition (South Sudan). The leadership of the new regime faced significant hardships and difficult decisions on how to devise a new government, attempt to resolve lingering issues of conflict and ethnic strife, cultivate a sense of nationalism for the newly developed country, and create a thriving economic system. While most of the newly created

countries experienced a political, economic, cultural, and social legacy based on the previous country/administration/colonial power, the new leadership still faced multiple hurdles on how to overcome the issues noted above.

For your second research paper, you are the new ruler of a recently created country (create a name for your country and decide how your country was created based on the examples above). What will you do to govern your country and how will you overcome the various issues discussed in this course? Choose a political system of government as well as an electoral system (if there are elections). Why would you choose this particular type of political regime? Discuss your decision to pursue these choices versus other options. Discuss the positive and negative effects of your selection. How will you as the new ruler overcome the negative aspects? What about the economy? Federalism? Political violence? Globalization? Please provide a rationale for all decisions regarding your country.

For this assignment, write a 7-10-page paper on this topic. I will upload a rubric for the assignment as well as more details regarding this project to Campus Cruiser/Canvas. As required for all of your assignments, the paper should be well-written and demonstrate your research and critical thinking skills. If you desire feedback on the content or your writing, I would be happy to provide feedback prior to April 23, 2018. **Research paper #2 is due April 24, 2018.**

The following guidelines must be followed to fulfill the Research Paper 2 assignment for this course:

- 7-10 pages in length
- Must be typed/word processed
- Double spaced
- Times New Roman Script
- 1 inch margins
- No grammatical errors
- Only your name at the top of the paper
- Handed in on time at the beginning of class
- Hard copy (paper) and submitted through www.turnitin.com on Moodle

Participation: 15% of your grade

The course is designed to provide you with an introduction to the subfield of comparative politics and the various topics of study within the subfield. Moreover, we will read and critique various seminal works concentrating on these topics. Remember you are not a student, you are a scholar.

You are expected to complete the assigned readings prior to the designated date in accordance to the course calendar. In addition, this course will include days that the course will resemble a seminar in which the instructor and the students will interact and discuss the assigned readings. Therefore, it is imperative for you to complete the assigned readings and be prepared to discuss the concepts and arguments during the following class. Furthermore, in order to prepare for the discussion, you should be able to identify the author's arguments concerning the respective

topic but also identify possible flaws/shortcomings of the arguments or questions concerning the theory presented.

Please note that if I observe that the discussion continues to linger without participation, if I am solely leading the discussion, or if there are only a few students participating, I will devise a weekly quiz that will allow me to determine whether you completed the assigned readings and if you understand the theories presented. If this situation arises, you will not be permitted to use the assigned readings or your notes from the readings to take the quizzes. Finally, if you miss the weekly quiz, there are no quiz make-ups.

Weekly Thought Papers: 5% of your grade

At the beginning of each class week (Tuesday), you are expected to write a reflection paper regarding the assigned readings for the week or a particular discussion we had in the classroom during the week prior. You can offer your thoughts, feelings, opinions, etc. regarding a particular topic that you found interesting, highly significant, or controversial. With a class this size and highly divisive topics such as politics and government, political violence, and other topics, we may not have the opportunity to address all viewpoints, opinions, or arguments. Therefore, this allows you to express your feelings, thoughts, opinions, and arguments with me specifically and I can engage in dialogue with you concerning this. This is a method of continuing our classroom discussions outside of the actual classroom. The thought papers are not intended to be conducted in an academic research format and you do not need to include formal citations but rather reference the article(s) or book chapter that you discuss. **PLEASE DO NOT MERELY RECITE THE READINGS OR AN ASPECT OF THE PREVIOUS SECTION. THIS IS INTENDED TO BRING OUT YOUR THOUGHTS ON THE READINGS/DISCUSSIONS, NOT A REGURGITATION OF THE READING.** You will receive the full 5% if you abide by the following formatting guidelines:

- 1 ½-2 pages in length
- Only your name at the top of the paper
- Must be typed/word processed
- Double spaced
- Times New Roman Script
- 1 inch margins
- No grammatical errors
- The thought paper must explicitly address either: 1) an aspect/article of this week's reading or 2) a discussion we had in class
- Handed in on time (Tuesday at the beginning of class)
- Hard copy (paper)

Grading Rubric:

A: 94-100%

A-: 91-93%

B+: 88-90%

B: 85-87%

B-: 81-84%

C+: 78-80%

C: 75-77%
C-: 71-74%
D+: 68-70%
D: 60-67%
F: 59% and below

Late Work Policy:

All assignments for this course are expected on or before the deadline as indicated on the assignment. As a reasonable person, I understand that uncontrollable personal circumstances may arise. Thus, I am willing to work with you through such issues should they arise and you must submit a late assignment. **If you need to submit a late assignment, you must contact me in advance of the deadline for my approval and for arrangements to be made concerning the assignment.** Written documentation will be required in order to confirm your request to submit a late assignment.

Late homework assignments will be heavily penalized unless there are extenuating circumstances. There is a 10 point penalty per day for late homework assignments. This includes weekends and holidays. If the assignment has not been submitted within 5 days, you will receive a "0" for the homework assignment.

Tentative Reading and Course Outline:

***O'Neil textbook= (O)

***O'Neil and Rogowski textbook= (O & R)

*****NOTE:** Due dates for thought papers and assignments are listed in **Bold** while important dates for Widener University related academic issues are listed in *Italics*.

Week 1:

Jan. 16: Introduction to the course and discussion of the syllabus

Jan. 18: Introduction: Chap. 1- (O)

Week 2:

Jan. 23: What is Comparative Politics: Chap. 1- (O & R)

*** Lichbach and Zuckerman- *Research Traditions and Theory in Comparative Politics*

*** King, Keohane, and Verba- *The Science in Social Science*

Jan. 23: Thought Paper due

Jan. 23: *Last day for dropping and/or adding classes*

Jan. 25: States: Chap. 2- (O)

Week 3:

Jan. 30: The State: Chap. 2- (O & R)

- *** Weber- *Politics as a Vocation*
- *** Fukuyama- *The Necessity of Politics*
- *** Herbst- *War and the State in Africa*
- *** Rotberg- *The New Nature of Nation-State Failure*

Jan. 30: Thought Paper due

Feb. 1: Nations and Society: Chap. 3- (O)

Week 4:

Feb. 6: Nations and Society: Chap. 3- (O & R)

- *** Hobsbawm- *Nationalism*
- *** Fearon and Laitin- *Ethnicity, Insurgency, and Civil War*
- *** Alesina and La Ferrara- *Ethnic Diversity and Economic Performance*
- *** Baldwin and Huber- *Economic versus Cultural Differences*
- *** Cederman, Weidmann, and Gleditsch- *Horizontal Inequalities and Ethnonationalist Civil War: A Global Comparison (PDF online)*

Feb. 6: Thought Paper due

Feb. 8: No Class- Eagles Super Bowl Parade

Week 5:

Feb. 13: Political Economy: Chap. 4- (O)

Feb. 13: Thought Paper due

Feb. 15: Political Economy: Chap 4- (O & R)

- *** Smith- *An Inquiry into the Nature and Causes of the Wealth of Nations*
- *** North- *Institutions*
- *** Acemoglu- *Root Causes*
- *** Banerjee and Iyer- *History, Institutions, and Economic Performance*
- *** Mankiw- *The Trilemma of international Finance*

Week 6:

Feb. 20: Wrap up Section 1 and Review for Exam #1

Feb. 20: No Thought Paper due- Study for your exam

Feb. 22: Exam # 1

Week 7:

Feb. 27: Democratic Regimes: Chap. 5- (O)

Feb. 27: Research Paper #1 due (No Thought Paper due)

Mar. 1: Democratic Regimes: Chap. 5- (O & R)
*** Zakaria- *A Brief History of Human Liberty*
*** Schmitter and Karl- *What Democracy Is.. and Is Not*
*** Lijphart- *Constitutional Choices for New Democracies*
*** Putnam- *Tuning In, Tuning Out*
*** Stephan, Linz, and Yadav- *The Rise of "State-Nations"*

Week 8:

Mar. 6: *Spring Break- No class*

Mar. 8: *Spring Break- No class*

Week 9:

Mar. 13: Nondemocratic Regimes: Chap. 6- (O)

Mar. 13: Thought Paper due

Mar. 15: Nondemocratic Regimes: Chap. 6- (O & R)
***Linz and Stepan- *Modern Nondemocratic Regimes*
*** Weinthal and Jones Luong- *Combating the Resource Curse*
*** Diamond- *The Rule of Law versus the Big Man*
*** Levitsky and Way- *The Rise of Competitive Authoritarianism*
*** Geddes, Frantz, and Wright- *Military Rule (PDF online)*

Week 10:

Mar. 20: Political Violence: Chap. 7- (O)

Mar. 20: Thought Paper due

Mar. 22: Political Violence: Chap. 7- (O & R)
*** Skocpol- *France, Russia, China: A Structural Analysis of Social Revolutions*
*** Crenshaw- *The Causes of Terrorism*
*** Kuran- *Now Out of Never*
*** Goldstone- *Understanding the Revolutions of 2011*
*** Abrahms- *What Terrorists Really Want*

Week 11:

Mar. 27: Developed Democracies: Chap. 8- (O)

Mar. 27: Thought Paper due.

Mar. 29: Developed Democracies: Chap. 8- (O)

Week 12:

Apr. 3: Advanced Democracies: Chap. 8- (O & R)
*** Acemoglu, Johnson, Robinson, and Yared- *Income and Democracy*

- *** Przeworski- *Conquered or Granted? A History of Suffrage Extensions*
- *** Duverger- *The Number of Parties*
- *** Iversen and Soskice- *Electoral Institutions and the Politics of Coalitions*
- *** Estevez-Abe, Iversen, and Soskice- *Social Protection and the Formation of Skills*

Apr. 4: *Deadline for class withdrawal without academic penalty*

Apr. 5: Wrap up Section 2 and Review for Exam # 2

Week 13:

Apr. 10: Exam #2 (No Thought Paper due)

Apr. 10: Thought Paper due

Apr. 12: Communism and Postcommunism: Chap. 9- (O)

Week 14:

Apr. 17: Communism and Postcommunism: Chap. 9- (O & R)

- *** Marx and Engels- *Manifesto of the Communist Party*
- *** Bunce and Wolchik- *Defeating Authoritarian Leaders in Postcommunist Countries*
- *** Krastev- *Paradoxes of the New Authoritarianism*
- *** He and Warren- *Authoritarian Deliberation*
- *** Gat- *The Return of Authoritarian Great Powers*

Apr. 17: Thought Paper due

Apr. 19: Developing Countries: Chap. 10- (O)

Week 15:

Apr. 24: Less-Developed and Newly Industrializing Countries: Chap. 10- (O & R)

- *** Easterly- *To Help the Poor*
- *** Collier and Gunning- *Why Has Africa Grown Slowly?*
- *** Krugman- *The Myth of Asia's Miracle*
- *** Arnold- *Vietnam Holds Its Own within China's Vast Economic Shadow*
- *** Acemoglu and Johnson- *Disease and Development*

Apr. 24: Research Paper #2 due (No Thought Paper due)

Apr. 26: Globalization and the Future of Comparative Politics: Chap 11- (O)

Week 16:

May 1: Globalization: Chap. 11- (O & R)

- *** Florida- *The World is Spikey*
- *** Rodrik- *Is Global Governance Feasible?*
- *** The Economist- *Leviathan Stirs Again*
- *** Jiang- *Authoritarian Informationalism*

May 3: Wrap up for section 3/Exam #3 review/Course Wrap up

May 4: *Last day of classes*

Week 17:

May 7- May 11: *Final Exams*

May 8: Final Exam 8:00-10:00 AM

May 11: *Last day of Spring semester*

Outline of the Course:

Section 1

- ❖ What is Comparative Politics
- ❖ States
- ❖ Nations and Society
- ❖ Political Economy

Section 2

- ❖ Democratic Regimes
- ❖ Nondemocratic Regimes
- ❖ Political Violence
- ❖ Advanced Democracies

Section 3

- ❖ Communism and Postcommunism
- ❖ Less-Developed and Newly Industrializing Countries
- ❖ Globalization and the Future of Comparative Politics

******The instructor reserves the right to modify any course requirements and calendar due dates as necessary to manage and conduct this course.***

Institutional Policies:

***Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)**

FERPA is a federal law that protects your privacy by limiting access to your educational and personal records. Educational and personal information cannot be distributed or discussed with your parents or legal guardians or anyone else without a legitimate education interest without your written permission. Educational and personal information includes your social security number or institutional identification number, citizenship, gender, grades, GPA, or class schedule. Additional

information and FERPA waivers (waiver of release of information forms) are available from the registrar or the Office of Student Affairs.

Finally, please note I do not discuss grades electronically. If you wish to discuss your grades, you will need to come to my office during my office hours or by appointment.

***Overall Statement on Academic Support for Traditional Undergraduates:**

Students have academic support resources available to them at no charge. The Academic Support offers course-specific tutoring services, academic coaching services, writing services, and disabilities services. The Writing Center offers tutoring to assist with writing and reading support for any class. The Disability Services office provides impairment-related accommodations consistent with the ADA and its amendments. Academic Coaching offers services where students are paired with an Academic Coach, who can assist the student in various ways. For help or further information, contact the Writing Center at (610) 499-4332; the Disabilities Services at (610) 499-1266; and the Academic Coaching at (610) 499-1193.

***Academic Coaching Statement:**

Academic Coaching offers various resources to assist Widener students with their academic success that is tailored to the student's needs. Students have academic support resources available to them at no charge. Academic Coaching offers assistance on study skills, time management, test taking, academic planning, textbook reading, and note taking. Further information can be found at: <http://www.widener.edu/academics/support/coaching.aspx>. Academic Coaching can be reached at (610) 499-1193 or through Tim Cairy at tjcairy@widener.edu.

***Tutoring Services Statement:**

Tutoring Services offers tutoring for students by trained Widener University students for introductory and upper level courses. Moreover, these services are offered to Widener students at no additional charge outside of your tuition. Further information can be found at: <http://www.widener.edu/academics/support/tutoring/>. Tutoring Services is located at 522 E. 14th Street in Pineapple House (9:00 AM- 5:00 PM Monday through Friday) or via email at: tutoringservices@widener.edu.

***Writing Center Statement for Regular/Day Courses:**

You are encouraged to visit the Writing Center early and often throughout the semester to help build a strong foundation for writing in this course and in all of your courses. The center's peer tutors and director will work with you at any stage of the writing process, from developing and organizing ideas to revising and editing drafts. Tutors are also available to discuss and practice approaches to managing the college reading workload and reading more effectively. The center is located on the first floor of the Old Main Annex and can be reached at (610) 499-4332. Appointments are strongly recommended to ensure availability particularly during midterms or the end of the semester.

***ADAA Statement on Services for Students with Disabilities:**

Consistent with the ADAA and section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, Widener University welcomes students with disabilities into the college's educational programs. If you need impairment-related academic adjustments in this course, please contact Anna Bachus, Director of

Disability Services, by email at apbachus@widener.edu, by phone at (610) 499-1266, or at the office of Disability Services at 520 East 14th Street. It is important to make this request as soon as possible so that we will have time to make any necessary arrangements.

***Withdrawal:**

During the drop/add period as established by the registrar, students can drop or add classes at any time online. If a student cannot add a course online, the student will need to bring a Registration form signed by his or her advisor to Enrollment Services in Lipka Hall.

After the first six days, any student desiring to withdraw from a course must submit to the Enrollment Services a Registration form signed by his or her advisor and the instructor of the course. Any student who withdraws from the course after the first six days but before the last four weeks of the semester will be given a grade of “W” (Withdrawal). A “W” will not affect the student’s cumulative average.

If a student drops a course during the last four weeks of the semester without the signed approval of the associate provost or stops attending a class at any time without officially withdrawing from the class through Enrollment Services, the student will receive a grade of “F” for the course.

***Harassment Policy:**

It is the policy of Widener University not to discriminate on the basis of sex, gender, pregnancy status, age, race, national origin or ethnicity, religion, disability, status of veteran of the Vietnam era or other covered veteran, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, or genetic information in its educational programs, admissions policies, employment practices, financial aid, or other school-administered programs or activities. This policy is enforced under various federal and state laws including Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 as amended by the Civil Rights Act of 1991, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act, and the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (“Title IX”) prohibits discrimination based on sex and gender in educational programs and activities that receive federal financial assistance. Title IX also protects students and employees from unlawful sexual harassment (including sexual violence) in university programs and activities. In compliance with Title IX, the university prohibits discrimination and harassment based on sex in employment as well as in all programs and activities.

The university’s Title IX coordinator monitors compliance with Title IX and its accompanying regulations. Individuals with questions or concerns about Title IX and/or those who wish to file a complaint of noncompliance may contact the Title IX coordinator or deputy coordinators: The university’s Title IX coordinator is Assistant Director for Employee Relations Grace Karmioli, One University Place, Chester, PA 19013; telephone: (610) 499-1301; email: gckarmioli@widener.edu.

***Academic Integrity Policy:**

Cheating, plagiarism, and other attempts to engage in academic fraud will not be tolerated in this class. A full definition of these concepts is available in the Standards for Academic Integrity in the Widener University *Undergraduate Catalog*.

Plagiarism is a particularly prevalent method of academic fraud. The *Undergraduate Catalog* states that “(p)lagiarism- submitting the work of others as one’s own- is a serious offense. In the academic world, plagiarism is theft. Information from sources- whether quoted, paraphrased, or summarized- must be given credit through specific citations. When a student paraphrases a work, it is still necessary to cite the original source. Merely rearranging a sentence or changing a few words is not sufficient.”

“Plagiarism can be intentional or unintentional. However, since each student is responsible for knowing what constitutes plagiarism, unintentional plagiarism is as unacceptable as intentional plagiarism and commission of it will bring the same penalties.”

Also, “(s)tudents are required to obtain permission prior to submitting work, any part of which was previously or will be submitted in another course. The instructor has the option of accepting, rejecting, or requiring modification of the content of previously or simultaneously submitted work.”

For more information on Academic Integrity, see pages 22 and 23 of the *Undergraduate Catalog*.

Plagiarism/cheating in this course will result in an instant failure for the semester. This applies to any work submitted for the course, including, but not limited to, take home tests, tests, quizzes, and papers. Ignorance is not an acceptable excuse. If you have any questions on plagiarism, please contact me. You may also wish to consult the OWL Purdue Online Writing Lab website on plagiarism: <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/589/01/>.

***General Statement:**

The instructor reserves the right to modify any course requirements and calendar due dates as necessary to manage and conduct this course. Students are responsible for contacting the instructor and seeking clarification of any requirement that is not understood.