

Political Science 4011
Politics, Bureaucracy, and Cultural Policy
Spring 2016
6:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. Tuesday

Professor: Kevin V. Mulcahy
Office: 221 Stubbs
Hours: M-F 5:00-6:00 p.m., or by appointment.
Phone: 578-2533

Course Description

This course is designed to elucidate the process of public policymaking by an intensive study of cultural policy with reference to its theoretical constructs, the variety of public policies, and the special case of the United States. Support for the performing arts and museums are discussed as issues involving cultural identity, ideologies, and hegemony. Different models of cultural patronage internationally are evaluated. Furthermore, the importance of private, not for profit cultural institutions as a distinguishing characteristic of American cultural patronage is evaluated. Public support for the arts and culture in the United States has also been associated with recurring controversies that pit politics against aesthetics. Finally, arguments in support of public support for the arts and culture are discussed.

Required Books

- Davila, Arlene M. Sponsored Identities
- Kramer, Jane. Whose Art Is It?
- Giroux, Henry. The Mouse that Roared

Requirements

The following will be required from all students in the course:

1. Three papers. 2,000 words discussing each of the three books. (50 pts each)
2. A take home midterm consisting of questions from all lectures and films up until that point. Midterm exams will be distributed in class the week before they are due. Length 2,100 words. (150 pts)
3. The final exam will be distributed at the last class meeting prior to its due date, and is due at the regular class time the following Tuesday. Final exams will consist of questions regarding all lectures and films from the second half of the course. Length: 2,100 words. (150 pts)
4. Three in-class tests on each of the four assigned books. (50 pts each)
5. Ten pop quizzes given randomly throughout the semester. (10 pts each)

Required Essays

Essays and exams are due at the beginning of the class day as scheduled. Late work will be penalized at least a letter grade. The book essays should be 2,100 words in length with frequent in-text citations and topical subheading. The principled themes of the book should be discussed and conclude with an overall evaluation.

Midterm and Final Exams

Both the midterm and final exams will consist of questions concerning the lectures and movies we have viewed up until that point. It is recommended that our midterm and final exam lengths are 2,100 words. HINT – It is advisable to take notes during the movies.

Class Participation/Attendance

Participation is expected and should be informed by the quality, as distinct from the quantity, of the discussion. Since your presence in class is the *sine qua non* of a discussion, more than one absence will result in a reduction of one letter grade per each additional absence.

It is expected that the student will attend every class during the semester, having done the assigned readings. It is certainly understood that a student might miss a class for personal, family or health reasons. If it is anticipated that more than one class will be missed, it would be recommended that you discuss this with me. It is better to have a discussion with me in advance of any extended absences rather than incur a letter grade reduction due to insufficient attendance. In short, please be a good citizen about attendance.

The class begins at 6:00 as noted in the schedule, and ends at 9:00. There will be a 15-minute break from 7:25 to 7:35 (someone should remind me of this in class). Again, be a good citizen about arriving on time and staying the duration of the class. If you need to leave early, speak with the instructor; it is understood that *occasionally* people come unavoidably late, especially due to the Darwinian parking situation. Again, please be a good citizen about your attendance and punctuality.

Point Distribution

Essays	150
Midterm Exam	150
Final Exam	150
Book Tests	150
Quizzes	100
Total	700

Plus/Minus Grading Policy

Beginning this semester, all courses will implement the new plus/minus grading policy. For more information on this, please contact or visit the website of the Office of The University Registrar.

A+	97
A	93
A-	90
B+	87
B	83
B-	80
C+	77
C	73
C-	70
D+	67
D	63
D-	60
F	Below 60

Session 1. Introduction/Syllabus (August 25)

Good Night, and Good Luck (93 min.)

Session 2. What is Cultural Policy? (September 1)

The Olympic Opening Ceremony as Cultural Policy
Powerpoint/Video

Part I: Forms of Cultural Patronage

Session 3. Four Nations (September 8)

Rape of Europa (120 min.)

Session 4. What is Coloniality? (September 15)

“The Legacy of Hegemony: Coloniality, Identity and Cultural Policy”
Siqueiros

Session 5. Establishing a National Identity (September 22)

Excerpt from “Combating Coloniality”
The Frescoes of Diego Rivera (35 min.)
The Life and Times of Frida Kahlo (90 min.)

Session 6. French Cultural Diplomacy (September 29)

Woman in Gold (110 min).

Book Test: Sponsored Identities

Session 7. *Sponsored Identities* (October 6)

First Paper Due

Basquiat (106 min.)

Part II: American Exceptionalism

Session 8. Hollywood and the Red Scare (October 13)

HUAC Documentary

Guilty by Suspicion (105 Min.)

Session 9. The Laissez-Faire Model (October 20)

Seven Poles

Pollock (52 min.)

Session 10. Washington D.C. as a Work of Art (October 27)

Maya Lin: A Strong Clear Vision (83 min.)

Session 11. The NEA & the Reauthorization Process (November 3)

Mapplethorpe

Book Test: *Whose Art Is It?*

Session 12. *Whose Art Is It?* (November 10)

Artists at Work: A Film on the New Deal Art Projects (35 min.)

Second Paper Due

Part III: Culture as a Way of Life

Session 13. Privatization or Cultural Darwinism (November 17)

Excerpt from *Triumph of the Will*

Disneyland Video

Session 14. Cajun and Creole Culture (November 24)

Cajun PowerPoint with videos

Hurricane Katrina: A Cultural Chernobyl

Book Test: The Mouse that Roared: Disney and the End of Innocence

Session 15. *Disneyworld: Corporate 'Fascism'?* (December 1)

Norman Rockwell: Painting America (86 min.)

Final Paper Due

Session 16. Final (December 8)

FINAL DUE (Take Home)

Mandatory Discussion Will Follow