

PSCI 595.001 Research Project
Fall 2015

Dr. Jeffrey C. Herndon
160 Ferguson Social Science Building
Jeffrey.Herndon@tamuc.edu

COURSE INFORMATION

Course Materials:

Books: The booklist will be based on the student's specific research focus and verified through consultation with the instructor. These should be academic articles in scholarly journals that discuss the student's topic.

Suggested & supplemental reading list: Consultation with the instructor may result in supplemental reading assignments that are designed to draw from additional interpretations or to broaden the student's methodological approach.

Course description:

Hours: Three.

Required of students in Option II. This course requires an extensive investigation into a topic agreed upon by the student and instructor. The student will produce a research design and complete bibliography under the direction of the instructor. Students should have passed either their comprehensive Master's Exam prior to enrollment or their Oral Examination if they are enrolled in the joint PSCI/HIST graduate program.

Student Learning Outcomes:

By the end of the semester, students should be able to:

- Produce a research design complete with literature review related to a specific research topic.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Instructional, Methods, Activities Assessments: Students will meet individually with the instructor each week. It is your responsibility to schedule your appointed time with me.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS, ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

The following information is provided to assist students in preparing to use technology in this course:

Word processing: Students will need access to a word processor and a printer to access and print out reading assignments, to write research papers, to prepare for debates and written exams and to complete type-written response assignments. Students' word processors must enable them to read and insert footnotes into a Microsoft Word document.

Internet: Students will need email access to receive reading assignments and for course-related correspondence.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Students are encouraged to contact the instructor whenever the need arises; clear lines of communication enable the instructor to better assist your learning processes and provide any necessary support. Outside the classroom, the best way to contact the instructor is by email and during posted office hours. Do not hesitate to talk to me about any concerns you may have or any problems or issues you may experience during the semester – I can only assist you if I am aware of what is going on with you.

Academic Honesty:

In all our courses, political science faculty members expect that all work turned in by students for grades is their own work. It is the policy of the university, the political science department and the instructor that no form of plagiarism, cheating, collusion or any other form of academic dishonesty will be tolerated. Plagiarism is defined as taking the words or ideas of someone else and passing them off as your own. Cheating is defined as obtaining unauthorized assistance on any assignment. Collusion is defined as selling or purchasing academic products with the intention that they be submitted to fulfill an academic or course requirement. Students are expected to uphold and support the highest possible academic standards at all times. Any student found guilty of violating academic integrity policy will fail the assignment in question, will automatically fail the course and will be subject to disciplinary action by the university (see Texas A&M University-Commerce Code of Student Conduct 5.b. [1,2,3]). If you are unclear about what constitutes academic dishonesty, ask.

Writing Center:

Students are encouraged to take advantage of the Writing Center's resources for assistance with drafting their written assignments. Although the center will not write your paper for you, it may help you to improve your writing skills. If you use the Writing Center, plan in advance because it can only help you if there is adequate time to incorporate their suggestions into your paper.

Student Conduct:

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. (See Code of Student Conduct from Student Guide Handbook). Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum:

<http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html>

Texas A&M University-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

Students with Disabilities:

Students requiring special accommodations for learning disabilities must work with the Academic Support Committee. The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities.

If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

Gee Library, Room 132,

Phone: (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax: (903) 468-8148

Email: StudentDisabilityServices@tamu-commerce.edu.