

## CAPSTONE SEMINAR N POLITICAL SCIENCE (778-500)

Instructor: Dr. Uk Heo  
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Office Hours: T&R 11:00-12:00 and by appointment  
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Classroom: Bolton 277 (T&R 9:30-10:45)

### COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES

In this course, we briefly review research methods that you learned throughout your coursework. Using all the knowledge you have obtained in your college career, you are expected to write a research paper. To this end, you are expected to come up with a clearly defined research question; identify and assemble sources that speak to that question; critically analyze those sources, showing why your research is new/different/better, making clear your contribution to the literature; put forward testable hypotheses; find a way to reasonably test those hypotheses via quantitative (data) or qualitative (case study, or analytical) methods; write up your results in a coherent, and logically smooth fashion. You are also expected to present that research in poster panel presentations at the end of the semester. You will also critique your colleagues' research in that forum. The design of the course will take you step-by-step through the process, providing feedback at frequent intervals, helping you produce a better paper, and ensuring that you do not procrastinate. We will not meet every week, but there are deadlines throughout the course to keep you on track.

### REQUIRED TEXT

Shively, W. Phillips. 2013. *The Craft of Political Research*. 9<sup>th</sup> Edition. Boston: Longman.

### PROFESSIONALISM

Professional behavior is expected, meaning arrive on time and attend all meetings. You are also expected to actively participate in discussion. I will not tolerate disruptive behavior, including, but not limited to, reading newspapers, conversing during lectures or class discussion, insulting classmates or the instructor, leaving early, or eating food or drinking beverage. I also will not tolerate students who do not put forth every effort. **Late work will not be accepted for credit** (unless there is a major and substantiated complication which prevents completion of which I am aware **immediately and prior to** the due date, and the determination about whether or it is "major and substantiated" will be made solely at the discretion of the instructor.) Do note that **full documentation** of illness or death in the family is REQUIRED for excused absences. Sincerely-held religious beliefs are exempt from the documentation policy, though I still require advance notification of absence/conflict with a religious observance. Finally, you **MUST COMPLETE ALL WORK IN THIS COURSE** to receive a passing grade.

### ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

No form of academic dishonesty will be tolerated. **Anyone found guilty of cheating or plagiarism or of any other violation of academic integrity will be assigned an automatic**

grade of F in the course. Notes on plagiarism can be found here <http://www.uwm.edu/Libraries/guides/style/plagiarism.html>. UWM's policy can be found here: [http://www4.uwm.edu/acad\\_aff/policy/academicmisconduct.cfm](http://www4.uwm.edu/acad_aff/policy/academicmisconduct.cfm). **Be sure you know the definition and know how to avoid it.** It is indeed plagiarism to use another person's ideas and works as if they were your own, without proper citation.

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

Class Participation and Attendance (10%)

Paper Proposal (10%): 3-5 double-spaced pages

Annotated bibliography (30%): 10-12 double-spaced pages

Final Paper (50%): 12-15 double-spaced pages, excluding references

## **COURSE OUTLINE**

- 1/22 Welcome to the Class; Go over the course Syllabus
- 1/24 Writing a Paper: Finding a Topic; Writing a Literature Review; Finding Sources
- 1/29 Shively, Chs. 1 & 2 Doing Research & Research Topics
- 1/31 Shively, Chs. 3 Dimensional Thinking
- 2/5 Shively, Chs. 4 & 5 Measurement
- 2/7 Shively, Chs. 6 Causal Thinking and Research Design
- 2/12 Shively, Chs. 7 Finding Data
- 2/14 **No Class** (Work on Paper Proposal)
- 2/19 Shively, Ch. 8, 9, 10 Basic Statistics in Computer Lab (Bolton 293)
- 2/21 **No Class** – Work on Paper Proposal
- 2/26 Shively, Ch. 8, 9, 10 Basic Statistics in Computer Lab (Bolton 293)
- PAPER PROPOSAL DUE IN CLASS**
- 2/28 **No Class** – Work on Annotated Bibliography
- 3/5 *Paper Proposal Returned in Class*
- 3/7 **No Class** – Work on Annotated Bibliography
- 3/12 **No Class** – Work on Annotated Bibliography
- 3/14 **ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY DUE IN CLASS**
- 3/19 & 21 Spring Recess
- 3/26 **No Class** – Work on Hypotheses, Data, Methodology, Analysis
- 3/28 *Annotated Bibliography Returned in Class*
- 4/2 **No Class** – Work on Hypotheses, Data, Methodology, Analysis
- 4/4 **No Class** – Work on Hypotheses, Data, Methodology, Analysis
- 4/9 **No Class** – Work on Hypotheses, Data, Methodology, Analysis
- 4/11 **No Class** – Work on POSTER
- 4/16 **No Class** – Work on POSTER
- 4/18 **No Class** – Work on presentation & discussion
- 4/23 **POSTER PRESENTATIONS PANEL 1**--Location: TBD
- 4/25 **POSTER PRESENTATIONS PANEL 2**--Location: TBD
- 4/30 **POSTER PRESENTATIONS PANEL 3**--Location: TBD
- 5/2 **POSTER PRESENTATIONS PANEL 4**--Location: TBD

5/7 **POSTER PRESENTATIONS PANEL 5--Location: TBD**  
5/9 **FINAL PAPER DUE in Class**