

PUBPOL 3071 / 5071; GOVT 3071; AMST 3071,

Enduring Global and American Issues

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Summer 2024

Course: The US and the global community face a number of complex, interconnected and enduring issues that pose challenges for our political and policy governance institutions and society at large. Exploring how the US and the world conceive of the challenges and take action on them is fundamental to understanding them. This course investigates such issues, especially ones in the critical areas of sustainability, social justice, technology, public health and globalization, security and conflict. Students will engage with these areas and issues and the challenges they pose, using multiple frameworks and approaches, through weekly class discussions and lectures.

Learning Outcomes: By the end, students should have: 1) identified the multiple critical issues in America and the world; 2) formulated a number of public-facing analyses of these issues

Structure: 4 credits. Can be taken for a letter grade only. There are no prerequisites. The class meets Tuesday, Thursday, 6:30 - 9:50 in Room 118. For class, you should bring your laptop and be ready to use it. Laptops may be open and in use for note-taking during lectures. For discussion periods & guest speakers, they should be put away. Readings are available on Canvas. Assignment extensions are possible but must be cleared with me ahead of time. Late assignments are penalized one grade increment (A to A-, eg) per day of lateness. I reserve the right to change this syllabus but will make reasonable attempts to warn you if I have to do so.

My **office hours** are Tuesdays, 5:00 - 6:15 pm (late office hours) and Thursdays 3:00 - 4:00 pm. Email (at the top) will reach me fastest.

Assignments	Grade %	Due Date	Hand in via
Participation & Class Questions	20%	In class and on Canvas	In class, and via Canvas.
Weekly Newsletter	20%	To be scheduled	In class
Podcast	20%	July 24	Canvas
Prelim & Final	20% each	June 30, July 29	Canvas

Integrity: Remember your academic integrity. Your submitted work should be your own. You agree that by taking this course all required papers may be subject to review by Turnitin.com for the detection of plagiarism. All submitted papers will be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of such papers. Use of the Turnitin.com service is subject to the Usage Policy posted on the Turnitin.com site.

Students with Disabilities: Your access in this course is important to me. Please request your accommodation letter early in the semester, or as soon as you become registered with SDS, so that we have adequate time to arrange your approved academic accommodations.

- Once SDS approves your accommodation letter, it will be emailed to both you and me. Please follow up with me to discuss the necessary logistics of your accommodations.
- If you are approved for exam accommodations, please consult with me at least two weeks before the scheduled exam date to confirm the testing arrangements.
- If you experience any access barriers in this course, such as with printed content, graphics, online materials, or any communication barriers; reach out to me or SDS right away.
- If you need an immediate accommodation, please speak with me after class or send an email message to me and SDS at sds_cu@cornell.edu.

If you have, or think you may have a disability, please contact Student Disability Services for a confidential discussion: sds_cu@cornell.edu, 607-254-4545, sds.cornell.edu.

Class Schedule (preliminary):

June 4: INTRODUCTION & DISCUSSION: *Governance: Issues, policies, politics. Election 2024 and the political context. Analysis & advocacy.* **Class prep:** Make sure you can access the class area on Canvas.

June 6: WORK: *Governance in the 21st Century: Origins, Mentalité, Failure?* **Class Prep:** Readings & class question in Canvas

June 11, DISCUSSION: *Existential Issues: Environmental Collapse, War, Nuclear and Otherwise.* **Class Prep:** Readings & class question in Canvas.

June 13, WORK: *Existential Issues: Environmental Collapse, War, Nuclear and Otherwise* **Class Prep:** Readings in Canvas. Prepare a question for the guest speaker.

June 18 DISCUSSION: *Living in the 21st Century, Privacy, and Technology: Your iPhone (and Google and Facebook) Knows Everything About You.* **Class Prep:** Readings & class question in Canvas

June 20, WORK: *Living in the 21st Century, Privacy, and Technology: Your iPhone (and Google and Facebook) Knows Everything About You* **Class Prep:** Readings in Canvas. Prepare a question for the guest speaker.

June 25, DISCUSSION: *Commoditization, Partisanship, and Health: Opioids, Antibiotics, and COVID.* **Class Prep:** Readings & class question in Canvas

June 27, WORK: *Commoditization, Partisanship, and Health: Opioids, Antibiotics, and COVID.* **Class Prep:** Readings in Canvas. Prepare a question for the guest speaker.

JULY 2: DISCUSSION: MONUMENT TOUR. Memorialization.

PRELIM DUE JUNE 30.

Grade Scale	Range	Value
A+	98-100	98
A	93-97	95
A-	90-92	92
B+	88-89	88
B	83-87	85
B-	80-82	82
C+	78-79	78
C	73-77	75
C-	70-72	72
D	60-69	65
F	<59	50

JULY 4: NO CLASS.

July 9: WORK: *Memorialization: How Does the United States Remember It's History.* Class Prep: Readings in Canvas. Prepare a question for the guest speaker.

July 11, NO CLASS

July 16, DISCUSSION: *Being a Global Superpower.* Class Prep: Readings & Class Question in Canvas.

July 18, WORK: *Being a Global Superpower.* **Class Prep:** Readings in Canvas. Prepare a question for the guest speaker.

July 23, DISCUSSION: *Fake News, Myths and Conspiracy Theories.* **Class Prep:** Readings & class question in Canvas

July 25, WORK: *Fake News, Myths and Conspiracy Theories.* **Class Prep:** Readings in Canvas. Prepare a question for the guest speaker.