POLS 104-01:  
INTRODUCTION TO POLITICAL SCIENCE II  
Spring 2011, Tuesdays 13:40, 14:40 and Thursdays 15:40, 16:40 (extra hour) in T 173  
Instructor: Lerna Yanık, Ph.D.  
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POLS 104 is an introductory level course completing the survey of basic concepts of political science. This semester the focus will be on issues such as political culture, media, political communication, elections, voting patterns, political parties, party systems, interest groups, bureaucracies, parliamentary and presidential systems. The goal is to provide students the necessary conceptual and analytical foundations for understanding political systems—foreign and domestic, thus preparing the basis for the upper level political science classes that the students will/might be taking after the completion of this course. Overall, POLS 104 aims to familiarize the students with the basic political science vocabulary, making them literate in political science as well as political life.

Reading Materials:  
- This book, if you have not purchased it already in fall, is still available for sale in the Meteksan bookstore. The students are expected to familiarize themselves with lectures topics before coming to class.
- There are also two copies on reserve at Bilkent University Library.

Assignments and Grading:
1. Short essay (in-class): (3 X 10%)=> 30% (Thu, February 24th; Thu, April 7th; Thu, May 5th)
   There will be three in-class short essays. Each of these will account for 10% of your overall grade. IMPORTANT NOTE: Since one of these in-class essays is a bonus, if you miss an in-class short essay, you can make up for it. As a result, there will not be any make-up for any of these in-class essays, no matter what your excuse is.

2. Midterm: 30% (in-class exam)=> (Thu, March 10th 2 hour slot)

3. Final: 50% (in-class exam)=> (TBD by the Dean’s Office)
=>TOTAL: 110% (10% points bonus, that is)

If You Want to Get an ‘A+’ in this course......
YOU……………………………………
(1) should not skip any classes,
(2) should do the reading assignments regularly,
(3) should take notes while doing the readings (this will save you enormous amount of time when you are studying for the exams)
(4) should think critically and comparatively while doing the readings and listening to the lectures.
Make-up, Grading and Academic Dishonesty Policy:

MAKE UP: Since, unfortunately, medical reporting system in Turkey is openly misused (or abused, to be more correct), I reserve the right to decide who deserves the right to take the make-up exam on a case by case basis. That means, a doctors report does not automatically qualify you for a make up exam.

Apart from the medical excuses, excuses like ‘I have another exam/paper due the same day,’ ‘our family pet just passed away,’ ‘I broke up/quarreled with the girlfriend/boyfriend/spouse,’ ‘the alarm clock did not go off so couldn’t make it to the exam,’ I had to attend the meeting at the Student Council,’ or ‘I was organizing the May Fest,’ etc.,” will not be accepted as excuses that entitle the student for a makeup. To reiterate one more time, HEAVY WORKLOAD, EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES DO NOT JUSTIFY YOUR ABSENCE IN CLASS.

GRADING: At the end of the semester, before asking me why you got the grade that you got, please, do ask yourself how your performance was for this course. Below is what Bilkent University administration asks from the instructors to keep in mind while evaluating students’ performance.

A+: Truly OUTSTANDING performance. [An indication of having achieved a full grasp and an exceptional analysis and synthesis of the material combined with a display of superb analytical and writing performance. This grade is left to the discretion of the instructor and only 1 student per class with a size larger than 25 can have it.]
A: Excellent [Superb performance in assignments, full attendance, and the indication of the having done all the assigned readings.]
A-: Very good.
B+: Good.
B: Somewhat good.
B-: More than adequate.
C+, C: Varying degrees of acceptable/adequate performance during the course.
C-, D+, D: These grades imply less than adequate performance but they will enable the student to pass the course.
F: Less than minimally acceptable performance during the course.
FX: Failure as a result of not fulfilling more than 50% of the assignment requirements of the course.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY: Academic dishonesty is not tolerated and punished in accordance with the university regulations. Regulations regarding academic dishonesty can be found at http://www.provost.bilkent.edu.tr/procedures/DisipKopya.htm

A note on Attendance and Grade-Beggars:
I don’t take attendance. I believe that you are all grown ups and know that every action has a consequence. This means that if you don’t show up for classes your likelihood of succeeding in this course is low. Since you are grown ups, I assume that you are fully cognizant of this fact. And, please, please, please, please, after the final exam, don’t come up to me asking for a grade that you really didn’t deserve. I give my students more than enough chances to get good grades. If you can’t make good use of these opportunities this is absolutely your fault, not mine.

Making Use of the Extra Class Hour: The classes will be held on Tuesdays 13:40-14:40 and Thursdays 15:40. Thursday 16:40 will be the extra hour allocated for this class. I will let you know in advance when we will make use of these extra slots.
CLASS SCHEDULE:

Week 1:
February 1  First Class Meeting
February 2  Key concepts of the last semester

Week 2:
February 8, 11  Ch. 10, Political Culture, Identity and Legitimacy

Week 3:
February 15, 17  Ch. 11, Mass Media and Political Communication

Week 4:
February 22  How to write an essay?
February 22  Ch. 12, Representation, Elections and Voting

February 24  In-class essay #1

Week 5:
March 1, 3  Ch. 12, cont’d, Ch. 13, Parties and Party Systems

Week 6:
March 8  Ch. 13, cont’d

March 10  MIDTERM EXAM (15:40, 16:40 slot)

Week 7:
Tuesday, March 15: Movie: Wag the Dog
Thursday, March 18: No Class

Week 8:
Tuesday, March 22: Movie: Propaganda
Thursday, March 24: No Class

Week 9:
March 29, 31  Ch. 14, Groups, Interests and Movements

Week 10:
April 5, 7  Ch. 15, Constitutions, the Law and Judiciaries

April 7  In class essay #2 on Wag the Dog and Propaganda

Week 11: SPRING BREAK NO CLASS

Week 12:
April 19, 21       Ch. 16, Assemblies

**Week 13:**

April 26, 28       Ch. 17, Political Executives and Ch. 18, Bureaucracies

**Week 14:**

May 3             Ch. 18, cont’d

**May 5**        *In class essay #3*

**Week 15:**

May 10, 12       Ch. 19, Militaries and Police Forces