Instructor:

Daniel Poole
Office Hours: BEH S 415; By appointment
Email: daniel.poole@soc.utah.edu

Course Content and organization:

This course is designed to introduce students to core concepts in political sociology. This online course will guide students through theoretical frameworks, practical applications, and real world examples of current explorations of power. We will pay particular attention to coercive power, i.e. military power, within the context of contemporary wars and social conflict. Theoretical tools explored in this course will help students to better understand and analyze political processes and outcomes. Students will engage in critical assessments of current events and apply theoretical frameworks explored in class to real world scenarios. We will have active discussions online and everyone will be required to participate. Interaction is essential in this online course and we will all gain the most insight when we share ideas with each other and take an active approach to learning the material. Instead of a traditional term paper, a photo journal will be compiled as we move through the content. Specific details will be provided online.

Text:

Power, Politics, and Society: An Introduction to Political Sociology. by Betty A. Dobratz; Lisa K. Waldner; Timothy Buzzell.

I prefer a hard copy but an electronic copy of this text is available for about $27. You can purchase it here:

www.coursesmart.com9780205001316__professorview=false&__instructor=3096146
Course Requirements:

Students are expected to actively participate in online discussions by posting and responding to discussion threads. Specific details on how to do this will be provided at the beginning of the course. Each student will also compile a photo journal which will be submitted as the final course project. Two short response papers will critically evaluate one journal article and one film. A list of articles and films to choose from will be made available online.

Grading Criteria:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Online Discussions</td>
<td>45%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Response Papers</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>(2 short papers, 10% each)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Photo Journal</td>
<td>35%</td>
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Grades will be calculated as follows: 100-90 = A; 90-80 = B; 80-70 = C; 70-60 = D; below 60 = F; within each range, 0 to 2.99 will earn a minus, 7 to 9.99 will earn a plus.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Statement:

The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services and activities for people with disabilities. If you will need accommodations in the class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the Center for Disability Services, 162 Union Building, 581-5020 (V/TDD). CDS will work with you and the instructor to make arrangements for accommodations.

Faculty and Student Responsibilities:

“All students are expected to maintain professional behavior in the classroom setting, according to the Student Code, spelled out in the Student Handbook. Students have specific rights in the classroom as detailed in Article III of the Code. The Code also specifies proscribed conduct (Article XI) that involves cheating on tests, plagiarism, and/or collusion, as well as fraud, theft, etc. Students should read the Code carefully and know they are responsible for the content. According to Faculty Rules and Regulations, it is the faculty responsibility to enforce responsible classroom behaviors, beginning with verbal warnings and progressing to dismissal from class and a failing grade. Students have the right to appeal such action to the Student Behavior Committee.”

“Faculty...must strive in the classroom to maintain a climate conducive to thinking and learning.”
PPM 8-12.3, B.

“Students have a right to support and assistance from the University in maintaining a climate conducive to thinking and learning.”
PPM 8-10, II. A.

- Undergraduate Council Syllabus Guidelines 2008
Course Schedule:

This is a session length course which will be held from May 16 to June 22, 2011. Specific deadlines and timetables will be provided online.

*This syllabus is subject to change at any time. Updates will be sent via email or updated on WebCT and will be considered as obligatory as the information in the syllabus itself.

Please contact me with any questions. Learning in the online environment can create new challenges for students. I am here to help and glad to do so!