A. Course Goals:
Although this course will study political culture, as conventionally defined within the discipline of political science, it will also go considerably further afield by considering alternative political realities and the definitions and understandings of the political arena which may flow from them. Does the study of the connections between the realm of politics and the realm of culture hold some hope for better understanding the political world around us? Does culture have a serious impact on politics and public policy, or is it merely another academic irrelevancy? Does culture actually explain anything?

The first goal of the course will expose students to several of the major scholarly approaches and orientations which have attempted to link cultural phenomena to the study of politics. Broadly comparative in scope, we shall focus on the intersections of politics and culture within various geographic regions (including the U.S.), as well as on various analytical patterns and configurations of politics and culture. What are the systematic linkages between the realms of politics and culture? What are their importance in the contemporary world? And how may we best study them?

The course has a second goal as well—to explore the notion of political legitimacy. Although in recent years, the various theoretical strands of political economy; social class analysis; ethnicity, cultural pluralism, and the politics of identity; and state-society relations have all contributed importantly to our understanding of political phenomena, they do not adequately address the
question of what constitutes a politically legitimate order. Nor do these theoretical orientations probe the critical relationship between culture and political legitimacy. How do rarely articulated assumptions and understandings shape our views of political legitimacy? The question of political legitimacy should not be taken for granted. For example, we should not facilely assume that the construction of democracy and the construction of political legitimacy are necessarily identical processes. Nor should we assume that we even know what factors are likely to contribute to the construction of political legitimacy in any given society. Although, such cautions are especially important and relevant in those parts of the globe undergoing rapid political change since the end of the Cold War, they are equally important in established democracies (including our own) where notions of political legitimacy are continuously being refashioned and reconstituted.

B. Course Requirements:
Credits: 3
Level: Intermediate
Breadth: Social Science
Pre-Reqs: Sophomore standing and PS 120 (106) or 182 (186)
L&S Credit: C

This is a 3-credit course so there will be two 75-minute lectures each week. We will meet on Mondays and Wednesdays, 8:00-9:15 a.m. in Ingraham 224. It is expected that students will attend. “Lecture” should not imply that your questions, comments, and observations are out of order. Far from it. Within the limits imposed by a moderately large class, time, and the necessity of completing the course outline, student participation is actively encouraged for the instructor values dialogue more than monologue. It is thus essential that students do the reading on time (by Wednesday of each week), and appear in lecture ready to share their questions, thoughts, and observations. Since the politics of culture is often contentious and controversial, respectful and open-minded discussion will be important throughout the semester. Students are thus expected and encouraged to participate regularly.

To facilitate a friendly and comfortable learning environment for all, recording devices of any sort will be permitted only with the instructor’s consent. In addition, and with the same goal in mind, all cell phones, pagers, and other such devices should be turned off during our class sessions. Students wishing to use laptops to take notes may do so, but please observe the following simple rules of etiquette: a) be sure your sound is off at the beginning of class; b) please stay focused on the course: surfing, gaming, or checking out the Facebook status of your friends is distracting to those around you; c) during certain periods laptops may be prohibited (during exams or films, for example), so please respect these times; and d) students using computers to take notes must sit in the first two rows.

There will be a mid-term examination on Monday, 5 March 2018 as well as a two-hour final examination on Tuesday, 8 May 2018 starting at 10:05 a.m. (Please note well that since you have been alerted to this unfortunate bit of university scheduling on day one of the semester, and since it has been readily available on the web since last fall, requests to take the final at alternative times because of fear of sorcery, vampires, alien invaders, or summer vacation travel arrangements will not fall on sympathetic ears.) Please note as well that the class will not meet on Wednesday, 21 March 2018. This session will be made up toward the end of the semester by an optional review session before the final exam. The time and place will be determined later.
In addition, undergraduates will submit a 2,500 word (roughly 10 typewritten pages) term paper dealing with a contemporary aspect of comparative political culture.

Graduate students (as well as undergraduate honors students) should submit a lengthier, more theoretically focused, paper of 5,000 words (or 20 typewritten pages). Honors students should treat the requirement of a lengthier paper as the “default” option. Other possibilities exist for fulfilling the honors requirement exist and the instructor will be happy to discuss them with you. All papers are due on Wednesday, 18 April 2018, but will be welcomed earlier. Late papers are a serious “no-no,” and will be penalized severely.

All students should also submit a one-page, typewritten statement of the proposed topic which tentatively indicates some of the sources to be consulted. These paper proposals are due no later than Monday, 26 February 2018, but will also be welcomed earlier. Consultations with the instructor will then be arranged for all students desiring, or needing, them. All term paper topics must be approved in this way. Although these paper proposals will not be graded, students failing to submit them will not receive a passing grade. Similarly, all required work must be submitted to be eligible to receive a passing grade. (Students affiliated with the McBurney Center are warmly and strongly encouraged to see the instructor as soon as possible if they are going to need any sort of alternate arrangements.)

At the end of the semester I expect that all students will have achieved a certain facility in understanding the comparative politics of culture, as well as policies pertaining to political culture, in a variety of global settings. To do this they will have to master a body of empirical knowledge and learn how to analyze it creatively and perceptively while understanding that the politics of culture occurs in a wide variety of political and normative contexts. In other words, culture in the Arab-speaking world may well have very different political effects than culture in either the U.S. or Western Europe. In addition, political culture may emphasize normative values that are entirely different depending on the setting. Learning to see the invisible, hear silence, and think the unthinkable will be crucial and are critical analytical skills we shall develop throughout the semester.

Finally, students should use their university e-mail addresses so that they will be able to receive and post messages of interest pertaining to the subject matter of the course. The list address for this course is: polisci438-1-s18@lists.wisc.edu.

C. Grading Criteria:

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<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mid-term</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Term paper</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final examination</td>
<td>40%</td>
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Where possible, the instructor will reward exceptional cases of sustained, consistent, intelligent, and creative class participation with a grading bonus at the end of the semester. Borderline cases will also be determined on the basis of class participation.

D. Readings:
The following books will be used extensively. In theory, the University Book Store and the reserve reading room of the College Library in Helen C. White Hall should have copies available. They are also all available online from other commercial vendors, as well as in
various digital formats. Please note: it is required that you read these books, not that you buy them.

David Art, *The Politics of the Nazi Past in Germany and Austria* (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2006).

In the course outline which follows, some readings are required (*); others are recommended (#) for those wishing to pursue a subject further. Required books readings should be on three-hour reserve in the College Library at Helen C. White Hall. In addition, all required articles may be accessed both through Learn@UW (Canvas Course Page: https://canvas.wisc.edu/courses/89813) and the following web link: http://faculty.polisci.wisc.edu/schatzberg/ps438. (Throughout the remainder of this syllabus this will be abbreviated as [web].) Some of the recommended articles may also be accessed through other indicated links or directly through MadCat. You may need to access these from a UW email or web address, but the relevant journal articles should then be accessible. To facilitate easy access, I will send electronic copies of this syllabus (in WordPerfect, Word, Adobe pdf, and html) to the classlist. A copy of this syllabus will also be accessible through [web] and Canvas.

**E. Course Outline:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>24 January 2018</td>
<td>1–Organization and Introduction</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#Stephen Chilton, “Defining Political Culture,” *Western Political Quarterly* 41:3 (September 1988): 419-45. [web]


#Sheri Berman, “Ideas, Norms, and Culture in Political Analysis,” *Comparative Politics* 33:2 (January 2001): 231-250. [web]


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2—Basic Concepts, 2: Politics, Culture, Legitimacy 31 January 2018

*Edelman, *Constructing the Political Spectacle*, entire (1-130).


### 3–Constructing Political Reality, 1

*Art, *The Politics of the Nazi Past in Germany and Austria*, 1-100.


### 4–Constructing Political Reality, 2

*Art, *The Politics of the Nazi Past in Germany and Austria*, 101-212.


###5–Other Political Realities? 1  
21 February 2018

*Bockie, *Death and the Invisible Powers*, 1-82.


###6–Other Political Realities? 2  
28 February 2018

***1-PAGE PAPER PROPOSALS DUE: MONDAY, 26 FEBRUARY***


#Alan Kilpatrick, *The Night has a Naked Soul: Witchcraft and Sorcery among the Western Cherokee* (Syracuse: Syracuse University Press, 1997).


7–Analytic Interlude, 1 7 March 2018

***MID-TERM EXAM: MONDAY, 5 MARCH 2018***

8–Cognitive Models, 1 14 March 2018


#Dorothy Holland and Naomi Quinn, eds., *Cultural Models in Language and Thought* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1987).


9–Cognitive Models, 2

21 March 2018

***No lecture on Wednesday, 21 March 2018***

*Sperling, *Sex, Politics, and Putin*, 1-124.*


**SPRING BREAK**

**10–Culture under Construction, 1: Gender**  
* Sperling, *Sex, Politics, and Putin*, 125-313.

11–Culture under Construction, 2: Music 11 April 2018


#Tejumola Olaniyan, Arrest the Music!: Fela and His Rebel Art and Politics (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2004).

12–Analytic Interlude, 2 18 April 2018

***TERM PAPER DUE: WEDNESDAY, 18 APRIL 2018***

13–Culture under Construction, 3: Religion 25 April 2018

*Eickelman and Piscatori, Muslim Politics, ix-xix, 1-107.


14—Everyday Culture & Creating Political Legitimacy 2 May 2018

*Eickelman and Piscatori, Muslim Politics, 108-164.


#Karin Barber, Africa’s Hidden Histories: Everyday Literacy and Making the Self (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2006).


***FINAL EXAMINATION:***

***TUESDAY, 8 MAY 2018, 10:05 a.m. - 12:05 p.m., LOCATION: T.B.A.***