Course Syllabus

Edit

EUS 4944

POS 4931Syllabus Emotions, Affect, Politics

Instructor

Prof. Esther Romeyn

Phone Number

480-603-5706

Email

esromeyn@ufl.edu

For questions about course content, your grade or other personal issues, use the Canvas mail tool. Expect a response within 24 hours. Use email (Esromeyn@ufl.edu) only for personal questions such as grades, special circumstances, special accommodations or illness

Office Hours

Turlington 3342: Tuesdays/Thursday 7th period

Online: Wednesday 12:00-1:00 : https://ufl.zoom.us/j/95967467380 Links to an external site.

by appointment

Course Schedule

Tuesday: 4th Period: 10:40-11:30 MAT 0118

Thursday: 4th/5th period: 10:40-12:35 MAT 0118

Credit Hours

3

Course Information

Course Information

This interdisciplinary course focuses on the ways emotions and other affective dynamics shape the perception and development of social and political challenges in Europe and the European Union. It offers an introduction into the main ideas embedded in the burgeoning field of "affect theory," explores how these concepts are being used in contemporary social and political science and links these conceptual frameworks to specific case studies involving contemporary European emotional, political and media landscapes. Specific case studies include EU austerity politics in the wake of the 2008 financial meltdown, the migration crisis, Euroscepticism and the rise in support for populist politics.

Until recently, the study of politics and political behavior did not pay much attention to the role of emotions in public and political life. Dominated by positivism and behavioralism, social sciences and political studies conceived of political subjects as rational actors pursuing their strategic interests. More recently, the so-called "affective turn" in social sciences has centered academic interest on the place of feelings, connecting the personal and the political, the individual and the collective.

Meanwhile, the rise of populist leaders mining emotions for political gains, conspiracy theories, anxiety about the climate crisis, the rise of nativism, and discussions about the place of fear, anger and hope in contemporary social movements have demonstrated the relevance of the study of affect in political and communal life. Feelings such as disgust, fear, anxiety, optimism, hatred, anger, aggression, aversion, envy, resentment, melancholy, nostalgia, trust, shame, compassion, pride, humiliation, hope and desire now are widely understood as emotions that can serve as catalysts in determining wider social and political developments. The current media and internet environment moreover provides a networked space that enables the effective mobilization of these affects.

Course Structure

The course will have a theoretical and an applied component.

The first six weeks of the course will explore the conceptual framework that informs affect theory, while also embedding discussion of the relation of affect and politics in the context of a critical investigation of contemporary media landscapes.

The "affective turn" has revived interest in European modern and postmodern sociologists and philosophers such as Nietzsche, Bergson, Deleuze and Guattari and Foucault, as well as the contribution of psychoanalysis, from Freud to Zizek. Marxian

theorists, including Adorno and Horkheimer, Georg Lukacs, Antonio Gramsci and Raymond Williams related their investigation of feelings to unpacking the Marxist concept of "ideology". Finally, feminist and queer theory (Laurent Berlant, Sianne Ngai, Sarah Ahmed) have interrogated the gendered dimensions of emotion and politics.

Class Procedure:

We will work together in this course to improve our knowledge, competence, and understanding of concepts of the self. Each of us in this class will know more in some areas and less in others; each participant will take on the role of mentor in some situations and novice in others. Please commit yourself to participating in ways that encourage the intellectual, social, and emotional development of class members, thereby contributing to a supportive and engaging community of learners. If you have any questions about these expectations at any point in the semester, please email me.

Consistent attendance and participation is required. It is my firm belief that the most important key to success in life is being present, followed closely by being prepared. During class discussions, critical analysis of the reading and video material is expected of all. One effective way to be prepared for this is to prepare your answers to the reading questions and jot down 2-3 questions immediately after you read/watch/listen to assigned texts .

WEEKLY MODULE TOPICS:

Module 1: **Introduction The Emotions and the History of Political Thought**

Module 2: **Bringing the Passions Back in**

Module 3: **The Circulation of Affect**

Module 4: **Cultural Politics of Emotion in Neoliberalism**

Module 5: **Affective responses, genres of politics**

Module 6: **It's a Shame: Gender, Race and the Politics of Affect**

Module 7: **Love and Hate the Nation State**

Module 8: **Visceral Politics**

Module 9: **Trauma**

Module 10: **Affective Politics of Fear and Terror**

Module 11: **Emotional Underpinnings of Populism**

Module 12: **Sour Grapes**

Module 13: **Emotions in Conflict I**

Module 14: [Emotions in Conflict II](#)

Module 15: Just Emotions

Course Objectives

- The course is based on the following Student Learning Objectives (SLOs):

    1. **Content**: Students identify, describe, and explain global and intercultural conditions and interdependencies.
    2. **Critical Thinking**: Students analyze and interpret global and intercultural issues.
    3. **Communication**: Students communicate effectively with members of other cultures.

Course Requirements

Prerequisites

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADE BREAKDOWN

ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION: 5%

READING QUESTIONS: 25%

SELF REFLEXIVITY PROJECTS: 15%

MIDTERM ESSAY: 25%

FINAL ESSAY: 30%

ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION: 5%

Explanation: This course will be conducted in seminar format. To ensure active learning you are required to submit you answers for the reading questions to each module before that week's online sessions. You can miss 2 sessions without an excuse note; make sure to notify me of your absence in advance. If you miss more classes I require a written note from a doctor or an explanation....

READING QUESTIONS: 25% of your grade

The reading questions that you are asked to complete **EVERY MONDAY** BEFORE CLASS are designed to guide your reading and facilitate discussion.

Reading questions late submission policy: Unless otherwise agreed with the instructor, late submissions will be graded according to the grading rubric.

PROJECTS (Reflexivity essays): 15 % of your grade

You have been assigned projects where you will collect visuals in the form of photos or video to illustrate concepts from the reading for that week. You will explain your rationale for selection the images in a short paragraph and upload your contribution so that we can use them as basis for discussion.

Projects late submission policy: Unless otherwise agreed with the instructor, late submissions will be graded according to the grading rubric.

1 MIDTERM ESSAY: 25% of your grade

The essay (5-6 pages; 1500-1800 words (minus reference page), double spaced 12 point font) will be based on an essay prompt**.**

The **Due Date** for the Midterm Essay is **March 14.**

Midterm Essay late submission policy: Unless otherwise agreed with the instructor, I will deduct **5 points from your total score for every 24 hours the essay is late.**

FINAL RESEARCH ESSAY: 30% of your grade

The essay (8-10 pages; (minus reference page), double spaced 12 point font) based on a your own research project. We will discuss proper topics for this essay individually.

The **Due Date** for your Final Essay is **April 27.**

Final Essay late submission policy: Unless otherwise agreed with the instructor, I will deduct 5 points from your total score for every 24 hours the essay is late.

Minimum technology requirements

The University of Florida expects students entering an online program to acquire computer hardware and software appropriate to his or her degree program. Most computers are capable of meeting the following general requirements. A student's computer configuration should include:

- Webcam
- Microphone
- Broadband connection to the Internet and related equipment (Cable/DSL modem)
- Microsoft Office Suite installed (provided by the university)

Individual colleges may have additional requirements or recommendations, which students should review prior to the start of their program.

Minimum technical skills

To complete your tasks in this course, you will need a basic understanding of how to operate a computer, and how to use word processing software.

Course Policies

Requirements for make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found at catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/Links to an external site.

Grading Policy

I will make every effort to have each assignment graded and posted within one week of the due date.

Course Grading Policy

Assignment	Percentage %
ATTENDANCE	5
READING QUESTIONS	25
3 PROJECTS	15
1 MIDTERM ESSAY	25
1 FINAL ESSAY	30

Grading Scale

Percent	Grade	Grade Points
92.0 – 100.0	A	4.00
88.0 – 91.9	A-	3.67

84.0 – 87.9	B+	3.33
80.0 – 83.9	B	3.00
76.0 – 79.9	B-	2.67
72.0 – 75.9	C+	2.33
68.0 – 71.9	C	2.00
64.0 – 67.9	C-	1.67
60.0 – 63.9	D+	1.33
56.0 – 59.9	D	1.00
52.0 – 55.9	D-	0.67
0 – 51.9	E	0.00

See the current UF grading policies Links to an external site.for more information.

UF Policies

University Policy on Accommodating Students with Disabilities:

Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, https://disability.ufl.edu/ Links to an external site.) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter that must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

University Policy on Academic Conduct:

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted

for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment." The Honor Code (http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/ Links to an external site.) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor n this class.

Netiquette and Communication Courtesy:

All members of the class are expected to follow rules of common courtesy Links to an external site.in all email messages, threaded discussions, and chats.

Getting Help

Technical Difficulties:

For issues with technical difficulties for Canvas, please contact the UF Help Desk at:

- http://helpdesk.ufl.eduLinks to an external site.
- (352) 392-HELP (4357)
- Walk-in: HUB 132

Any requests for make-ups due to technical issues should be accompanied by the ticket number received from the Help Desk when the problem was reported to them. The ticket number will document the time and date of the problem. You should e-mail your instructor within 24 hours of the technical difficulty if you wish to request a make-up.

Health and Wellness

- **U Matter, We Care**: If you or someone you know is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu, 352-392-1575, or visit umatter.ufl.edu Links to an external site.to refer or report a concern and a team member will reach out to the student in distress.
- **Counseling and Wellness Center**: Visit counseling.ufl.edu Links to an external site.or call 352-392-1575 for information on crisis services as well as non-crisis services.
- **Student Health Care Center:** Call 352-392-1161 for 24/7 information to help you find the care you need, or visit shcc.ufl.edu Links to an external site..
- **University Police Department**: Visit police.ufl.edu Links to an external site.or call 352-392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies).

- **UF Health Shands Emergency Room/Trauma Center:** For immediate medical care in Gainesville, call 352-733-0111 or go to the emergency room at 1515 SW Archer Road, Gainesville, FL 32608; [ufhealth.org/emergency-room-trauma-center Links to an external site.](ufhealth.org/emergency-room-trauma-center).

Academic and Student Support

- **Career Connections Center:** 352-392-1601. Career assistance and counseling services [career.ufl.edu/ Links to an external site.](career.ufl.edu/).
- **Library Support:** Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources. [cms.uflib.ufl.edu/askLinks to an external site.](cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask)
- **Teaching Center:** 352-392-2010 General study skills and tutoring: [teachingcenter.ufl.edu/Links to an external site.](teachingcenter.ufl.edu/)
- **Writing Studio:** 352-846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers: [writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/Links to an external site.](writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/)

Course Evaluations

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at [https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/ Links to an external site.](https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/). Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via [https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/ Links to an external site.](https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/). Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at [https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/ Links to an external site.](https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/).

Tips for Success

Taking a course online can be a lot of fun! Here are some tips that will help you get the most of this course while taking full advantage of the online format:

- Schedule "class times" for yourself. It is important to do the coursework on time each week. You will receive a reduction in points for work that is turned in late!
- Read ALL of the material contained on this site. There is a lot of helpful information that can save you time and help you meet the objectives of the course.

- Print out the Course Schedule located in the Course Syllabus and check things off as you go.
- Do not wait to ask questions! Waiting to ask a question might cause you to miss a due date.
- Do your work well before the due dates. Sometimes things happen. If your computer goes down when you are trying to submit an assignment, you'll need time to troubleshoot the problem.
- To be extra safe, back up your work to an external hard drive, thumb drive or through a cloud service.

Privacy and Accessibility Policies

For information about the privacy policies of the tools used in this course, see the links below:

- Instructure (Canvas)
  - [Privacy Policy](#)
  - [Accessibility](#)
- Zoom
  - [Privacy PolicyLinks to an external site.](#)
  - [AccessibilityLinks to an external site.](#)
- YouTube (Google)

  - [Privacy PolicyLinks to an external site.](#)
  - [AccessibilityLinks to an external site.](#)