**Course Focus:** The class will focus on the political science discipline areas of political philosophy, comparative politics, and international affairs. There will be reviews and analyses of persons, events, and ideological movements that have produced and characterize the current world of politics. The lecture and reading materials assume a minimal knowledge of politics and that, for many if not most students, this course will be the last one taken in this area. The class is available to majors and minors in political science as well as to any student in any major who is simply interested in the content.

**Class Meeting Days, Time, and Place:** Tuesday and Thursday, 2:00 – 3:15, BUS 257.

**Textbook:** The required purchase for the course is the textbook, *Introduction to Politics: Nations and States in the Twenty-First Century* (5th edition). Copies are available in the campus bookstore. Students are encouraged to obtain a copy as soon as practical in order to begin the reading and keep up with the material through the semester. Any additional required readings will be provided either electronically or through hard copy distribution in class to the student at no additional cost. Reading assignments in the textbook are indicated below and should be completed in advance of designated class meetings.

**Attendance Policy:** Consistent class attendance is both required and expected. Late arrival to class for any reason is discouraged and constant tardiness will not be tolerated since it causes a disruption and discourtesy to other students. Please keep all electronic devices turned off during class meetings.

**Examinations:** Four tests of equal worth (see formula for course grade evaluation below), including the final examination, will be administered through the semester. No make-up examinations will be administered under any circumstances. Missing an examination should not be considered an option. All four of the examinations will be combinations of multiple-choice questions and short essays.

**Course Evaluation:**

- Each of Four Examinations – 20% x 4 = 80%
- Class Attendance and Discussion – 20%

**Instructor Contact Information:**

- Name: Martin Slann
- Office: BUS 215
- Office Phone: 903-566-7368
- E-Mail: martin_slann@uttyler.edu
- Office Hours: M – TTh – 9:00 – 12:00 and 1:00 – 5:00
Reading Assignments:

I. Chapter 1, “Introduction to Politics,” August 21 and 23
II. Chapter 2, “Government, the State, and Political Philosophy,” August 28 and 30
III. Chapter 3, “Political Culture,” September 4 and 6
IV. Chapter 4, “Political Democracy and Authoritarian Government,” September 11 and 13

First Examination: September 18

V. Chapter 5, “Legislatures,” September 20 and 25
VII. Chapter 7, “The Law and the Judiciary,” October 4 and 9
VIII. Chapter 8, “Political Parties and Electoral Systems,” October 11 and 16

Second Examination: October 18

IX. Chapter 9, “The Global Political Economy,” October 18 and 23
X. Chapter 10, “Political Geography and Demography,” October 25 and 30
XI. Chapter 11, “Political Violence,” November 1 and 6

Third Examination: November 8

XII. Chapter 12, “The International Constellation,” November 8 and 13
XIII. Chapter 13, “Ethnic and Religious Conflict,” November 15 and 27
XIV. Chapter 14, “Summary and Conclusions,” November 29 – December 6

Final Examination: December?
POLICIES THAT MUST APPEAR IN EACH COURSE SYLLABUS

The following University policies must appear on each course syllabus or be provided as an informational sheet (web-links to these policies may be used in the print or electronic syllabus) [http://www.uttyler.edu/academicaffairs/syllabuspolicies.pdf](http://www.uttyler.edu/academicaffairs/syllabuspolicies.pdf)

Students Rights and Responsibilities
To know and understand the policies that affect your rights and responsibilities as a student at UT Tyler, please follow this link: [http://www2.uttyler.edu/wellness/rightsresponsibilities.php](http://www2.uttyler.edu/wellness/rightsresponsibilities.php)

Grade Replacement/Forgiveness and Census Date Policies
Students repeating a course for grade forgiveness (grade replacement) must file a Grade Replacement Contract with the Enrollment Services Center (ADM 230) on or before the Census Date of the semester in which the course will be repeated. Grade Replacement Contracts are available in the Enrollment Services Center or at [http://www.uttyler.edu/registrar](http://www.uttyler.edu/registrar). Each semester's Census Date can be found on the Contract itself, on the Academic Calendar, or in the information pamphlets published each semester by the Office of the Registrar. Failure to file a Grade Replacement Contract will result in both the original and repeated grade being used to calculate your overall grade point average. Undergraduates are eligible to exercise grade replacement for only three course repeats during their career at UT Tyler; graduates are eligible for two grade replacements. Full policy details are printed on each Grade Replacement Contract. The Census Date is the deadline for many forms and enrollment actions that students need to be aware of. These include:

- Submitting Grade Replacement Contracts, Transient Forms, requests to withhold directory information, approvals for taking courses as Audit, Pass/Fail or Credit/No Credit.
- Receiving 100% refunds for partial withdrawals. (There is no refund for these after the Census Date)
- Schedule adjustments (section changes, adding a new class, dropping without a “W” grade)
- Being reinstated or re-enrolled in classes after being dropped for non-payment
- Completing the process for tuition exemptions or waivers through Financial Aid

State-Mandated Course Drop Policy
Texas law prohibits a student who began college for the first time in Fall 2007 or thereafter from dropping more than six courses during their entire undergraduate career. This includes courses dropped at another 2-year or 4-year Texas public college or university. For purposes of this rule, a dropped course is any course that is dropped after the census date (See Academic Calendar for the specific date). Exceptions to the 6-drop rule may be found in the catalog. Petitions for exemptions must be submitted to the Enrollment Services Center and must be accompanied by documentation of the extenuating circumstance. Please contact the Enrollment Services Center if you have any questions.

Disability Services
In accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the ADA Amendments Act (ADAAA) the University offers accommodations to students with learning, physical and/or psychiatric disabilities. If you have a disability, including non-visible disabilities such as chronic diseases, learning disabilities, head injury, PTSD or ADHD, or you have a history of modifications or accommodations in a previous educational environment you are encouraged to contact the Student Accessibility and Resources office and schedule an interview with the Accessibility Case Manager/ADA Coordinator, Cynthia Lowery Staples. If you are unsure if the above criteria applies to you, but have questions or concerns please contact the SAR office. For more information or to set up an appointment please visit the SAR office located in the University Center, Room 3150 or call 903.566.7079. You may also send an email to cstaples@uttyler.edu

Student Absence due to Religious Observance
Students who anticipate being absent from class due to a religious observance are requested to inform the instructor of such absences by the second class meeting of the semester.

Student Absence for University-Sponsored Events and Activities
If you intend to be absent for a university-sponsored event or activity, you (or the event sponsor) must notify the instructor at least two weeks prior to the date of the planned absence. At that time the instructor will set a date and time when make-up assignments will be completed.

Social Security and FERPA Statement:
It is the policy of The University of Texas at Tyler to protect the confidential nature of social security numbers. The University has changed its computer programming so that all students have an identification number. The electronic transmission of grades (e.g., via e-mail) risks violation of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act; grades will not be transmitted electronically.

Emergency Exits and Evacuation:
Everyone is required to exit the building when a fire alarm goes off. Follow your instructor’s directions regarding the appropriate exit. If you require assistance during an evacuation, inform your instructor in the first week of class. Do not re-enter the building unless given permission by University Police, Fire department, or Fire Prevention Services.

Rev. 06/2012