

Department/Program: [Political Science](#)

Year: Winter 2010 – Term 1

Course Title: POLI 380 (001)

Location: BUCHA104 + Tutorial Labs (see registration system for location)

Course Schedule: MWF 10-11 + Computer Lab Tutorial (tutorials begin second week of classes, Sept 13)

Instructor: Fred Cutler

Teaching Assistants: see webCT website

Office location: Buch C408

Office hours: MW 11-12:20

E-mail: fred.cutler@ubc.caWeb: WebCT Vista site from <http://my.ubc.ca> (CWL to access)

Course Description (from calendar): An Introduction To Quantitative Methods In The Study Of Political Science.

Format of the course:

Students will first encounter information and concepts by reading the course texts. Class time will be used only partly for lecture, mostly for a range of activities to learn the material actively. Tutorial/Lab sections will involve computer software demonstrations by a tutorial assistant. Office hours are the 2nd hour of each tutorial.

Required Reading:

1. Leonard Mlodinow, *The Drunkard's Walk* (UBC bookstore & other places, online and real, Kindle too)
2. Kellstedt, Paul and Guy Whitten. *The Fundamentals of Political Science Research*. (bookstore, but note also: ebook version \$52USD from <http://128.232.233.16/us/catalogue/catalogue.asp?isbn=9780511460579>)
3. Lab Workbook (paper copy from the bookstore \$5, or download pdf from course website)
4. A few readings linked from the course website.

Recommended Software Purchase: SPSS. This is in the labs. But it's also available for a six-month rental (\$38) at <http://tinyurl.com/ydgpveu> (note that Windows comes up by default; for mac, see the bottom of the screen) and there's an open-source alternative, called PSPP, that does almost all of what we need SPSS to do.

Evaluation:

1. FOUR Assignments: 12.5% each = 50% Due Mondays at 7pm: Oct 11, Oct 25, Nov 15, Nov 29
2. Five 20 minute in-class mini-tests on Fridays worth 5% each (You must be on time for these.)
3. Final Examination: 30%
4. Extra credit will be possible for participation in the Political Science Experimental Subject Pool (or alternate activities). Details will be provided in class and on the website. Please don't ask by email.

Course Policies

General: Students have the responsibility to act in accordance with community standards of behavior, respect, and uphold principles of scholarly integrity. Students must also abide by the rules and regulations of the University.

Attendance: The University accommodates students whose religious obligations conflict with attendance, submitting assignments, or completing scheduled tests and examinations. Please let me know in advance, preferably in the first week of class, if you will require any accommodation on these grounds. Students who plan to be absent for varsity athletics, family obligations, or similar commitments, cannot assume they will be accommodated, and should discuss the situation with me.

Non-discrimination / Harassment / Accommodation: Students have the right to an education free of discrimination and harassment. UBC has a policy on discrimination and harassment that applies to all members of the UBC community. This policy can be found in the UBC Policy Handbook. The University accommodates students with disabilities registered with DRC.

Plagiarism: Please review the UBC Calendar "Academic regulations" for the university policy on cheating, plagiarism, and other forms of academic dishonesty. Also visit www.arts.ubc.ca and go to the students' section for useful information on avoiding plagiarism and on correct documentation. (<http://www.arts.ubc.ca/FOA/students/plagiarism.htm>). NOTE: In this course, collaboration is permitted, but students must write up their assignments separately. The WebCT software will detect substantially similar answers. Assignments in this course are NOT submitted to Turn-It-In.

Paper Format / Documentation: Students should retain a copy of all submitted assignments (in case of loss). Students have the right to view their marked examinations with their instructor, providing they apply to do so within a month of receiving their final grades. The examination remains the property of the university.

Late assignments: Without documentation from Arts Advising, late assignments will not be accepted and a grade of zero will be given. Assignments are deemed late if they are submitted electronically after 5pm on the day they are due. Late assignments don't work in this course because I have to get them graded quickly and an answer sheet posted.

Please note: The Website Contains More Course Information

POLI 380 (001) – Course Schedule — updates on course website – check often

Week of	Topic	Reading KW means Kellstedt and Whitten Drunk means Mlodinow, The Drunkard's Walk	Lab Workbook Lesson
Sept 6	Introduction	Course Objectives (Website) KW back cover & Ch. 1, Drunk Prologue & Ch. 1 And http://www.sciencemag.org/cgi/content/full/319/5865/966	
Sept 13	Questions, Concepts, Theories, Hypotheses, Variables. Friday's class is discussion of our class survey!!	YOU MUST DO THIS READING BEFORE TUTORIAL and BEFORE CLASS. First, KW Ch. 2 & 3 Then http://www.jstor.org/stable/25054218 (Bradley et al. "Distribution and Redistribution..." in World Politics. (Don't read section on "Estimation Techniques"). Note: Read article for questions, concepts, hypotheses, variables – not for conclusions.	Exercise 1
Sept 20	Data and Measurement, Survey Design	KW Ch. 4 & 5, Drunk 124-134 And you must read: http://www.socialresearchmethods.net/kb/survey.php and its subpages (i.e. not all the stuff in the Measurement section, just the Survey Research section)	1 DATA
Sept 27	Summarizing Data - Get to know your data Test 1, Fri Oct 1	KW Ch 6 (really carefully!)	Survey Planning (2hr)
Oct 4	Probability & Distributions Final Survey Read-Through on Friday	Drunk Ch 2, 3, 4, 5 plus web reading TBA (see website)	2 DATA SUMMARIES
Oct 11	Sampling and Inference Assignment 1 Due Mon Oct 11	KW Ch. 7, Drunk Ch. 6 & 7 http://www.probability.ca/jeff/writing/pollerror.html	3 PREPARING DATA
Oct 18	Two-Variable Relationships: Tabular Analysis Survey Interviewing Due Oct 18 Test 2, Fri Oct 22	Drunk Ch. 8, KW Ch. 8 sections 8.1 to 8.4.1	4 SAMPLING DEMO
Oct 25	Graphics: REALLY get to know data Assignment 2 Due Mon Oct 25	No new reading	5 CROSSTABS
Nov 1	Difference of Means	KW Ch. 8 sections 8.1-8.3 AGAIN, plus 8.4.2	6 GRAPHICS
Nov 8	Linear Relationships: Regression Test 3, Fri Nov 12	KW sections 8.4.3, 8.5, and 9.1, 9.2, 9.3 A. Caiazza "Does Women's Representation." (website)	7 DIFFERENCE OF MEANS
Nov 15	Statistical Inference for Regression Assignment 3 Due Mon Nov 15	KW section 9.4 Drunk Ch. 9	8 MULTIPLE REGRESSION
Nov 22	Statistical Control Multiple Linear Regression Test 4, Fri Nov 26	KW Ch. 10 plus sections 11.1 and 11.2 and then 9.5	9 WRITING UP RESULTS
Nov 29	Review Assignment 4 Due Mon Nov 29	Drunk Ch. 10 (I mean it. The final exam will ask about the big messages in this book. You've got to understand them and be able to write about them like you'd understand and write about Locke or some IR theorist or a Canadian Supreme Court decision).	Lab is Office hours