# POLI 4001: Research Methods

Monday, Wednesday, Friday 1:30-2:20 Room 220, Stubbs Hall

## **Instructor Information**

Dr. Belinda Creel Davis Office: 221 Stubbs Hall

Office Hours: T/T 9-10:30 or by appt

## **Course Description**

This course is designed to introduce students to the logic of research design and the use of qualitative and quantitative methods of political science and for investigating political issues.

## **GRADED ASSIGNMENTS AND COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

Homework/Quizzes: There are 11 homework or quizzes scattered across the course. They are each worth 10 points. Your top 10 scores will be used in computing your grade.

Midterm--100 points

Final Exam--100 points

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Total = 300 Points

#### MAKEUP AND LATE WORK

The scheduled dates of all exams and homework/quizzes are clearly indicated in this syllabus. No makeup exams or late papers will be accepted without my **prior approval**.

# **Support for Students With Disabilities**

If you have, or think you may have, a disability (including an "invisible disability" such as a learning disability, a chronic health problem, or a mental health condition) that interferes with your performance as a student in this class, you are encouraged to discuss your needs and arrange support services and/or accommodations through Disabilities Services. This instructor will be as flexible as possible to accommodate the needed services. Any student who has a concern or needs to make special arrangements for meeting the requirements of the course is encouraged to speak with the instructor.

## **Academic Honesty Policy**

Be sure that you understand the university's Academic Honesty Policy. It is important that you refrain from any form of academic dishonesty or deception, such as cheating or plagiarism.

## **Course Schedule**

Session and Date		
#1	PREPARATION:	Read Chapter 1 & 2
8/24-8/28	ASSIGNMENTS:	See Moodle, due 8/28
TOPICS:		Introduction and The Empirical Approach to Political Science
#2	PREPARATION:	Read Chapter 3

9/31-9/4	ASSIGNMENTS:	See Moodle, due 9/4		
	TOPICS:	Beginning the Research Process: Identifying a Research Topic, Developing Research Questions, and Reviewing the Literature		
#3	PREPARATION:	Read Chapter 4		
9/9-9/11	ASSIGNMENTS:	See Moodle, due 9/11		
	TOPICS:	The Building Blocks of Social Scientific Research: Hypotheses, Concepts, Variables, and Measurement		
#4	PREPARATION:	Read Chapter 5		
9/14-9/18	ASSIGNMENTS:	See Moodle, due 9/18		
	TOPICS:	Sampling		
#5	PREPARATION:	Read Chapter		
9/21-9/25	ASSIGNMENTS:			
	TOPICS:			