

PUP 3323: Women & Politics
Summer A 2025
May 12 - June 20, 2025
TUR 2319
M-F 9:30 am - 10:45 am

Instructor: Dr. Teresa Cornacchione

Office Location: 234 Pugh Hall

Office Hours: T & W 1:00-2:30 PM; or by Appointment: calendly.com/tcornacchione

Email: tcornacchione@ufl.edu

Course Description

Prerequisite: None. But introduction to American Government or Introduction to Comparative Politics is strongly suggested.

Overview: This is an upper-level interdisciplinary studies course that will serve as an introduction to the study of women and politics. I should note that this is not a course on feminist theory. Instead, we will be focused on questions such as: Does the descriptive representation of women guarantee their substantive representation? Which electoral rules favor the election of women? Do the negative effects of gender quotas outweigh their impressive ability to increase the number of women in office? Once in power do women govern differently than men? Much of our time in the course will be spent on the obstacles that women face in obtaining and maintaining positions of power, and how they wield it.

Course Objectives: While this course will cover a global perspective, we will not cover specific regions in depth. Rather, the goal is to explore several political puzzles that are of particular relevance to the study of gender and politics, and to create students who are well-versed in the ever-growing literature on women and politics. Some of the concepts presented in the readings and in lecture will be straightforward, while others may take a reasonable amount of effort to understand.

Many of the articles we read come from the discipline of political science, and the methods used may be entirely new to you. I do not expect you to familiarize yourself or understand all the methodological tools used in the readings. It is my hope that through readings and lectures, you will have the tools necessary to evaluate the arguments. After you leave the class at the end of the semester, the material will give you a much deeper understanding of developments in the study of gender and politics.

Readings

There are no required textbooks for this course. Texts will consist of scholarly articles, current news articles, policy papers, and online resources. These will appear in the online Canvas course shell. Scholarly articles are listed in the course schedule below, under the weeks for which they are assigned. All scholarly articles can be accessed through the UF Libraries website or Canvas, if you need help navigating the library website, tutorials are available [here](#). From your computer, you will need to be on the UF VPN Network.

Suggested Texts: These works represent quality research in the field of women and politics. These readings are NOT required, but they are recommended to enhance your understanding of

course material. If you find yourself wanting to know more, these are great places to start.

Fox, Richard L., Jennifer L. Lawless, and Richard L. Fox. 2005. *It Takes a Candidate: Why Women Don't Run for Office*. N.p.: Cambridge University Press.

Herman, Eleanor. 2022. *Off With Her Head: Three Thousand Years of Demonizing Women in Power*. New York, NY: Harper Collins.

Lawless, Jennifer L., and Richard L. Fox. 2017. *Women, Men & U.S. Politics: Ten Big Questions*. N.p.: W.W. Norton.

Lemi, Danielle C., and Nadia E. Brown. 2021. *Sister Style: The Politics of Appearance for Black Women Political Elites*. N.p.: Oxford University Press.

Murray, Rainbow, ed. 2010. *Cracking the Highest Glass Ceiling: A Global Comparison of Women's Campaigns for Executive Office*. N.p.: Praeger.

Paxton, Pamela, Melanie M. Hughes, and Tiffany D. Barnes. 2021. *Women, Politics, and Power: A Global Perspective*. Maryland: Rowman & Littlefield.

Pitkin, Hanna. 1967. *The Concept of Representation*. Berkeley: University of California Press.

Grading Policy

Your grade in this class will be based on four components: attendance & participation, Perusall Readings, three quizzes, and a final project. All assignments will be submitted via Canvas or in person. Late Assignments and Make-up Exams/Quizzes will not be accepted without a university-approved excuse and instructor approval. Every component is worth 100 points, the weight of each is listed below:

Participation/Attendance	10%
Perusall Readings	20%
Quizzes	30%
Final Project	40%

Attendance & Participation: I will take attendance randomly no less than 5 or no more than 10 times throughout the semester. This will be done via quiz on the lecture that day to check your understanding and is graded on completion. If you are present, you will get a 100, if you are absent, you will receive a zero. I will also grade you on your participation during your peers' presentations. You will be required to fill out a form evaluating presentations and developing a question/comment on your classmates' presentations. You must be present in class to complete the assignment. In extreme circumstances, I reserve the right to waive an attendance/participation grade; but I will only do so if provided documentation of a university-approved excuse (military service, documented illness, jury duty, university-approved activity, etc.). Also, please note that I will not make my slides available online. Please do your best to attend class regularly.

Quizzes: You will have three quizzes throughout the term. Each quiz will ask you to address two questions pertaining to important questions surrounding the study of gender and politics, and will address concepts covered in class, readings, materials, etc. Quality answers to the quiz questions will reflect your knowledge and understanding of course materials. These questions will be in short response format and will ask you to incorporate material from the course lectures and readings. You may use your notes and readings on the quiz, but they must be hard copies, not electronic.

Perusall Readings: You will read and annotate two (2) academic readings per week on Perusall (total of 10). Perusall is interactive software that allows you to read and annotate a text along with your peers. You can highlight, ask questions, and respond to your classmates' comments and questions. You can earn extra credit for annotating more than the minimum ten required. Note that any additional Perusall annotations must be completed by the indicated due dates.

Research Project and Presentation: For your final project you will identify a political science article under the umbrella of gender and politics, read the article, write a short critical summary of the piece, and then present the article to the class. This should be a peer reviewed article from an approved journal; and, this article should **not** be an article on the syllabus. Full details are on Canvas.

Extra Credit: Typically, I am not a fan of extra credit. If you make an effort throughout the semester, you should not need extra credit. **HOWEVER**, there may be occasions when I will offer extra credit to the ENTIRE class to attend a guest lecture, view a program, etc. I will not offer individual extra credit.

Late Assignments: Late assignments will only be accepted with instructor approval and may be subject to a 1-letter grade deduction per day late, up to a maximum of three days late. After the assignment is 3 days late, I will no longer accept it.

Grading Scale

I adhere to the University letter-to-grade conversion chart for all exams, papers, assignments, quizzes, and final grades. **I reserve the right to round grades up or down a half of a letter grade (for example, A to A-, or vice versa) based on my assessment of your effort and engagement throughout the semester.**

93 or above=A*	90-92=A-	87-89=B+	83-86=B	80-82=B-	77-79=C+
73-76=C	70-72=C-	67-69=D+	63-66=D	60-62=D-	0-59=F

*An A is the highest grade you can earn in this class

Grade Changes: I am certainly open to and actively encourage you to challenge me both in class as well on disputed test questions/essay points. Sometimes, I make mistakes and sometimes, it is possible that more than one answer or perspective is correct. If you present an empirically-defensible case as to why your answer/assumptions are also correct (for which I originally took off points), I will gladly give back partial or full credit, depending on the quality of your argument.

However, at the end of the semester, there are inexorably a handful of students who send me a late-night email requesting (and sometimes incoherently demanding) that I raise their final grade,

whether from a D+ to a C-, or a B+ to an A- or anywhere in between. Two remarks on this rather bold and questionable strategy.

I try to be charitable in terms of the grading scheme already, both the attendance & participation grades, and Perusall readings (30% of your final grade) are designed to give your grade a “cushion.” Secondly, the “But I NEED a/an (insert grade here),” or “can you just raise my grade x-number of points” arguments reflect a fundamental misunderstanding of the nature of grades. Implicit in this statement is the assumption that grades are capriciously handed out on the instructor’s whim or fancy and are not based on the student’s demonstrated mastery of the material. Grades reflect your mastery of the course material. There are many things YOU can do to enhance your mastery of the material, and consequently, your grade.

- Attend class regularly
- Be present: pay attention in class and participate
- Read materials
- Ask questions: either in class or during office hours or over email
- Do not procrastinate on assignments.

I will not respond to emails asking for extra points, or for grades to be bumped up. If a student wishes to dispute a grade on an assignment or test, the student must request an appointment or come during office hours and present a compelling case as to why extra points should be awarded.

Email Policy

Please include your first and last name and course information in the subject line of your email. When I receive your email, I will make every effort to respond in a timely manner, usually within 48 hours. Though you may receive a reply sooner than that, you should not expect an immediate response. Please treat all email correspondence with your instructor as you would treat any other professional exchange. Accordingly, I expect emails to be respectful and polite, to use correct grammar and complete sentences. I reserve the right to summarily delete rude, disrespectful, and/or poorly written emails without reply. Please note that I have structured the course and office hours to best assist you in mastering the materials. Please utilize office hours, in-class time, and your syllabus to answer any doubts you may have. Finally, I will contact you via your UF designated email address via Canvas, so please see to it that your account is set such that you are able to receive these communications.

Technology Policy

The use of technology in the classroom can be a wonderful way to directly engage with materials. From time to time, I may utilize YouTube clips and social media because it can be a fun way to keep us all motivated and engaged with the real world of politics. That said, cell phones and laptops are generally a distraction and detrimental to the classroom experience. They have the potential to take students “away” from the lecture and impede active engagement with their peers. While I do permit the use of laptops and tablets for note-taking, I encourage you to give your eyes a rest and take notes with paper and pen. Given the time and effort I invest in course planning, I am hard pressed to see a reason why you would need to be on your phone during class. Please turn your phones off or on vibrate.

Academic Honor Policy

UF students are expected to uphold the highest standards of academic honesty. Requirements, expectations, and violations can be found at this link. It is your responsibility to know university policies and procedures, and to hold yourself to the highest standards.

Academic Accommodations

In keeping with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and University of Florida policy, students with disabilities needing academic accommodation should: 1. Register with and provide documentation to the Disability Resource Center; and 2. Bring a letter to the instructor indicating the need for accommodation and what type. This should be done during the first week of class. The syllabus and other materials are available in alternative format upon request.

For more information about services available to UF students with disabilities, contact the:

Disability Resource Center

001 Reid Hall

DRC@ufsa.ufl.edu

352-392-8565

Other Helpful Links

UF Counseling and Wellness Center

UF Writing Center

Course Evaluation

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 online . 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 this link. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students online.

Final (and perhaps reiterative) Notes on Course Protocol

Arriving late or leaving early is disruptive to all of us who made it a priority to get to class time and be here. Please enter and exit the classroom quietly within minimal interruptions and take a seat close to the door. Please keep private conversations private. Discussions with your neighbor are distracting for me as well as other students. If you have a thought on course material or a question, speak up! Please feel free to share your thoughts on the lecture topic with all of us. I reserve the right to dismiss individual students from the classroom for disruptive behavior, and report them to the Dean of Students. I do not tolerate academic dishonesty in any form, and will pursue the full penalties for violations thereof. For your reference, the University of Florida Academic Honor Policy is listed above.

Syllabus Change Policy

Except for changes that substantially affect the parameters of evaluation, including grading and the scheduling of the final exam, this syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the

instructor. I will provide you with advance notice in class and via your university registered email contact.

Course Schedule

Date	Topic	Reading
Part I	Introduction to Women and Politics	
May 12	Syllabus & State of the Discipline	Cassese & Friesen (2025)
May 13	Representation & Critical Mass	Mansbridge (1999), Schotel & Mügge (2024)
Part II	Women in the Electorate	
May 14	Gender Gaps	Junn & Masouka (2019), Teele (2024)
May 15	Women's Voting Behavior	Kim & Junn (2024)
May 16	Women's Political Participation	Brown (2014)
Part III	Women as Candidates	
May 19	Barriers to Women Running	Bernhard et al (2021) Crowder-Meyer (2018)
May 20	Candidate Recruitment	Karpowitz et al (2024) Verge & Weisheimer (2019)
May 21	Perceptions of Women	Butler et al (2022) Teale et al (2018)
May 22	Perceptions of Women	Eggers et al 2018, Sweet-Cushman (2022)
May 23	QUIZ 1	
Part IV	Women in Government	
May 26	NO CLASS	MEMORIAL DAY
May 27	Quotas and their Impacts	Clayton (2021)
May 28	Quotas and their Impacts	Weeks & Masala (2022) Kim & Fallon (2023)
May 29	Women in Legislatures	Lazarus et al (2022) Miller & Sutherland (2023)
May 30	Women in Legislatures	Bucchianeri et al (2025) Holman & Mahoney (2017)
June 2	Women as Executives	O'Brien et al (2015)
June 3	Women as Executives	Stockemer & Sundstrom (2018)
June 4	Women in the Executive	Barnes & O'Brien (2018) O'Neill et al (2021), Wahman et al (2021)
June 5	Women in the Judiciary	Escobar-Lemmon (2021)
June 6	QUIZ 2	
Part V	Women & Current Issues	
June 9	Media & Violence	Erikson et al (2023) Krook & Restrepo Sanín (2020)
June 10	Women's Reproductive Rights	Hansen (2025)
Part VI	Women in Extremism	
June 11	Women in the Anti-Establishment	Weeks et al (2023), Chueri & Damerow (2023)
June 12	Women in Anti-Establishment	Cornacchione & Tuning (2020)
June 13	QUIZ 3	
Part VII	Reflections	
June 16	Presentations	Peer Reviews of Presentations
June 17	Presentations	Peer Reviews of Presentations
June 18	Presentations	Peer Reviews of Presentations
June 19	NO CLASS	JUNETEENTH
June 20	Presentations	Peer Reviews of Presentations