Political Leadership in International Relations
Political Science 220 (Writing Intensive)
Spring Semester 2020
MW 2:00-3:20pm in Kauke 035

Dr. Kent Kille
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Class web page: http://discover.wooster.edu/kkille/polleaderir/

Office hours: Mon. 12:30-1:30pm, Tues. 1:00-2:00pm, Fri. 2:00-3:00pm; or by appointment
*Schedule an office hour meeting at https://kentkille.youcanbook.me/

Teaching Apprentice: Jimmy Hinton
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Office Hour: Sunday 7:00-8:00pm in CoRE

Course Description:
Approaching the study of international relations primarily from an individual level of analysis, this course investigates political leadership across varying types of political organization in the global arena. Potential definitions of political leadership, and the implications for the application of variations in definitions, are closely explored. Different forms of political leadership and leadership contexts are addressed. In the process, students explore key debates over and approaches to the study of political leadership, and engage in leadership analysis – including undertaking their own original research and learning from the research carried out by their peers in the course.

Educational Objectives
By the end of the course, students should be able to:
- demonstrate knowledge of and critically evaluate ways to explain, classify, and study political leadership in international relations
- evaluate political leadership across different forms and contexts in the international system
- recognize and clearly explain the central arguments, debates, and research questions from scholarship on political leadership, and assess this scholarship
- carry out an applied research project which addresses a specific research question on political leadership
- clearly articulate oral and written arguments

As a Writing Intensive-designated course, this course fulfills in part the writing requirement for graduation by integrating writing with other class work to:
- focus on the process of writing as a means of learning and effective communication within a specific content area
- help students achieve an understanding of the relationship between writing and membership in a particular discipline’s intellectual community
**Required Reading:**
There is one book required for this course. Readings from this book are labeled with *(Oxford Handbook)* in the syllabus: R.A.W. Rhodes and Paul ‘t Hart (Eds.), *The Oxford Handbook of Political Leadership*

The course also incorporates a wide range of other readings, available online or on electronic reserve through the Library at `http://libguides.wooster.edu/er.php?course_id=13816`. A password for accessing electronic reserve readings will be provided in class.

Students are also required to follow international news events relevant to the course. *The New York Times* is recommended, with college-rate discounted subscription available at `www.nytimes.com`.

**Course Requirements**
*Note:* Specific assignment instructions for the essays and papers will be provided in class.

**Class Participation** *(15% of course grade)*: Class participation is strongly encouraged and accounts for a significant part of a student’s grade. Since this is an upper-level course where success relies on prepared and engaged students, students are required to have completed the assigned readings before class and to participate in class discussions on a regular basis. Being absent from class without approval from the instructor more than twice in the semester may result in failure of the course.

**Political Leadership and Decision-Making Essay** *(15% of course grade)*
The first part of the course focuses on political leadership and decision-making, and students will write a reflective take-home essay on the topic. No additional reading or research is expected outside of the course material for this paper.

**Political Leadership Across Contexts Essay** *(15% of course grade)*
Students will complete a take-home essay in which they reflect on and compare political leadership across contexts. No additional reading or research is expected outside of the course material.

**Literature Review Paper** *(20% of course grade)*
Students will establish a central research question on political leadership, and then evaluate the related literature to report how scholars have sought to address this question. A literature review proposal must be submitted for instructor approval. Failure to turn in a proposal on time will lead to an automatic one-letter grade deduction from the final paper (see below in the syllabus for the proposal and paper due dates).

**Leadership Analysis Paper** *(20% of course grade)*
Students will undertake a leadership analysis paper based on their particular interests in political leadership. A leadership analysis proposal must be submitted for instructor approval. Failure to turn in a proposal on time will lead to an automatic one-letter grade deduction from the final paper (see below in the syllabus for the proposal due date). This paper must be turned in no later than the class session when presentations of paper findings start (see below in the syllabus for date).

**Final Examination: Reflective Essay on Political Leadership** *(15% of course grade)*
The final examination will take the form of a thematic take-home essay on political leadership in international relations, in which the student reflects back across the entirety of the course.
Grading
As stated in The College of Wooster Catalogue, letter grades are defined as:
“A range” Indicates an outstanding performance in which there has been distinguished achievement in all phases of the course
“B range” Indicates a good performance in which there has been a high level of achievement in some phases of the course
“C range” Indicates an adequate performance in which a basic understanding of the subject has been demonstrated
“D range” Indicates a minimal performance in which despite recognizable deficiencies there is enough to merit credit
F or NC Indicates unsatisfactory performance

Course Policies:
1. Plagiarism is a serious offense and will be treated as such. References must be clearly cited. A particular citation style (i.e. APA, MLA, Chicago, APSA) is not required, but students must consistently cite and format their Works Cited with a commonly used citation style. Work done by other students or work done previously for other classes is also unacceptable. Students who plagiarize will automatically fail the course and could be subject to further academic disciplinary action. If there are any questions regarding proper academic behavior please see the professor or refer to the section “Academic Integrity” in the official student handbook The Scot’s Key (available at https://www.wooster.edu/offices/dean-of-students/).

2. There will be no extensions given for the paper deadlines. Students handing in a late paper will have one letter grade deducted for every day that the paper is late and papers will only be accepted in this manner with prior permission from the instructor.

3. Students must turn off all cell phones and other electronic devices before class. Any failure to do so, especially the use of cell phones during class time, will lead to a severe penalty for the student’s class participation grade. Laptop computers or tablets are allowed in class for note-taking or referencing electronic readings only, and it is highly recommended that students turn off wireless internet access before class. Any improper use of a laptop computer or tablet will lead to the loss of privilege of using this device in class, as well as a severe penalty for the student’s class participation grade.
COURSE OUTLINE AND READING ASSIGNMENTS

January 13: Introduction to Course

January 15: What is Leadership?
Peter Northouse, “Introduction” to Leadership: Theory and Practice, pp. 1-18 (focus on pp. 2-7) (on reserve)


Nannerl Keohane, “What is Leadership?” pp. 18-47 (focus on pp. 18-31) from Thinking About Leadership (on reserve)

January 20 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Campus-Wide Commemoration
Students should attend the events that best fit with their interests and then for class on Wednesday be prepared to discuss: What events did you attend? Why did you pick these events? Based on the information provided and your participation in these events, how does this inform your perspective on Martin Luther King, Jr.’s legacy as a political leader?

January 22: What is Political Leadership? and MLK Day Debrief
Nannerl Keohane, “What is Leadership?” review pp. 38-40 on “The Particular Characteristics of Public Leadership” (on reserve)

Barbara Kellerman, “Leadership as a Political Act,” pp. 63-89 (focus on pp. 70-73) from Leadership: Multidisciplinary Perspectives (on reserve)

Paul ‘t Hart, “The Work of Public Leadership,” pp. 21-46 (focus on pp. 21-39) from Understanding Public Leadership (on reserve)

January 27: Exploring Puzzles of Political Leadership
*Class meets in McCoy Lab in Library


Ludger Helms, “Introduction: The Importance of Studying Political Leadership Comparatively,” pp. 1-24 (focus on pp. 6-14) from Comparative Political Leadership (on reserve)

For reference: David Bell, “Political Science,” pp. 87-100 (Oxford Handbook)
January 29: Individual Level of Analysis and Foreign Policy Decision-Making
Paul Viotti and Mark Kauppi, “Levels of Analysis,” pp. 8-12 from International Relations Theory (on reserve)


For reference: Kenneth Waltz, “Explaining War: The Levels of Analysis,” pp. 96-109 (on reserve)

February 3: Literature Review Proposal Workshop/Political Psychology in IR Overview
*Rough Draft of Literature Review Proposal Due Today


Elif Erisen, “An Introduction to Political Psychology for International Relations Scholars,” pp. 9-28 from journal Perceptions (on reserve)


February 5: Political Psychology of Political Leadership
*Final Literature Review Proposal Due Today


February 10: Placing the Leader into Decision-Making Context


February 12: Political Leadership and Decision-Making Discussion *Essay Due
*Come prepared to comparatively discuss your paper arguments
February 17: Executive Head Leadership in International Organizations


February 19: United Nations Secretary-General as a Leader in International Relations
Kent Kille, Introduction, Chapter 2, “The Secretary-Generalship: The Individual Behind the Office” and Chapter 3, “A Secretary-General’s Avenues for Influence,” pp. 1-66 from From Manager to Visionary: The Secretary-General of the United Nations (on reserve)

Kent Kille, “Introduction” and Chapter 1, “Moral Authority and the UN Secretary-General’s Ethical Framework,” pp. 1-24 from The UN Secretary-General and Moral Authority: Ethics & Religion in International (on reserve)


February 24: Studying International Organization Executive Heads Across Organizations


IO BIO Project, access online at www.ru.nl/fm/iobio

February 26: Special Representatives of the UN Secretary-General (SRSG)
Manuel Fröhlich, “The Special Representatives of the United Nations Secretary-General,” pp. 231-243 from Routledge Handbook of International Organization (on reserve)

March 2: Views on Political Leadership from a Practitioner *Literature Review Paper Due
Guest lecture by Alan Bersin, former Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection and Assistant Secretary for Policy and International Affairs, U.S. Department of Homeland Security


March 4: Approaches to Studying Political Leadership
Reading to be assigned from Part II: Studying Political Leadership: Analytical and Methodological Approaches in Oxford Handbook

March 9-20: NO CLASS – SPRING BREAK

March 23: At-a-Distance and Automated Content Analysis Coding
Mark Schafer, “At-a-Distance Analysis,” pp. 296-313 (Oxford Handbook)


For reference: Social Science Automation online at http://socialscience.net/

March 25: Leadership Analysis Proposal Workshop
*Rough Draft of Leadership Analysis Proposal Due Today
Note: Professor Kille will be away at the International Studies Association Conference, but students will still meet to workshop their proposals under the guidance of the TA

March 30: Comparing Leadership Across Political Structures
*Final Leadership Analysis Proposal Due Today


April 1: Comparing Political Leadership Across Areas
Reading to be assigned from Part VI: Political Leadership Beyond the West in *Oxford Handbook*

*For reference*: Narae Lee, *To Reflect, or Not to Reflect, That is the Question: An Examination of the Impact of Personality Traits on Political Leaders’ Responsiveness to Political Culture*, Senior I.S. Thesis, available at College of Wooster Open Works http://openworks.wooster.edu/ (will need to create login)

April 6: Leadership Trait Analysis Applied
*Note: Students on the Model UN traveling team will miss class on April 6 and April 8*


April 8: Political Leadership and the Use of Media *TA Jimmy Guest Lecture*

*Readings to be determined*

April 13: Leadership Across Contexts Discussion *Essay Due*
*Come prepared to comparatively discuss your paper arguments*

April 15: Leadership Analysis Workshop #1/Leadership Data and Databases


April 20: Gender and Political Leadership

Laura Sjoberg, “Feminism,” 72-86 (*Oxford Handbook*)


April 22: Leadership Analysis Workshop #2/Can Leadership Be Taught?

Mansour Javidan, “Teaching Global Leadership” pp. 63-80 from The Handbook for Teaching Leadership: Knowing, Doing, and Being (on reserve)

For reference: Jepson School of Leadership Studies at the University of Richmond at http://jepson.richmond.edu/

April 27: Leadership Analysis Presentations
*Final Day to turn in Leadership Analysis Paper

April 29: What Have We Learned About Political Leadership?
Jean Blondel, “What Have We Learned?” pp. 705-718 (Oxford Handbook)

FINAL EXAM: Monday May 4 at 3:00pm