Undergraduate Course Syllabus

POL 372: Campaign Finance and Fundraising
Center: Online

Course Prerequisites
POL 210

Course Description
Financing a successful campaign requires dedicated fundraising at the beginning, middle, end, and every stage in between. It is increasingly important that all members of a campaign understand the importance of fundraising and the regulations around campaign finance. This course takes these topics head on and introduces students to successful fundraising tactics, the role money has played in campaigns, elections, and policy development, and the key laws and regulations around campaign finance.

Course Outcomes
- Analyze the importance of financial support in political campaigns for accomplishing desired campaign outcomes
- Evaluate the role of special interest groups for their implications to the fundraising process in political campaigns
- Appraise public source information, research, and fundraising tools for their effectiveness in developing cohesive fundraising campaigns
- Propose campaign strategies that maximize fundraising potential and align with desired campaign outcomes

Required Materials
None

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
As indicated in our core values, SNHU is committed to "embrace diversity where we encourage and respect diverse identities, ideas, and perspectives by honoring difference, amplifying belonging, engaging civilly, and breaking down barriers to bring our mission to life."

This may or will be reflected in SNHU's curriculum as we embrace and practice diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) to provide the most transformative experience for our students, faculty, and staff. Because topics pertaining to DEI can be sensitive, please remember that embodying and practicing diversity, equity, and inclusion is one of our core values that you will encounter throughout the academic experience. In higher education, we are expected to think and engage critically. Use a growth mindset to embrace the diverse readings, course assignments, and experiences of your peers and faculty.

For more information about DEI at SNHU, please visit our website at the [Office of Diversity and Inclusion](#).

Instructor Availability and Response Time

Your class interaction with the instructor and your classmates will take place on a regular, ongoing basis. Your instructor will be actively engaged within the course throughout the week. You will normally communicate with your instructor in the weekly discussions or the General Questions discussion topic so that your questions and the instructor's answers benefit the entire class. You should feel free, however, to communicate with your instructor via SNHU email at any time, particularly when you want to discuss something of a personal or sensitive nature. Your instructor will generally provide a response within 24 hours. Instructors will post grades and feedback (as applicable) within seven days of an assignment's due date, or within seven days of a late submission.

Grade Distribution

Assignment Category	Number of Graded Items	Point Value per Item	Total Points
Discussion	8	25	200
Short Paper	4	50	200
Final Project			
Milestone One	1	125	125
Milestone Two	1	175	175
Final Submission	1	300	300
			Total Course Points: 1,000

This course may also contain practice activities. The purpose of these non-graded activities is to assist you in mastering the learning outcomes in the graded activity items listed above.

University Grading System: Undergraduate

Grade	Numerical Equivalent	Points
A	93–100	4
A-	90–92	3.67
B+	87–89	3.33
B	83–86	3
B-	80–82	2.67
C+	77–79	2.33
C	73–76	2
C-	70–72	1.67
D+	67–69	1.33
D	60–66	1
F	0–59	0
I	Incomplete	
IF	Incomplete/Failure *	
IP	In Progress (past end of term)	

Grade	Numerical Equivalent	Points
W	Withdrawn	

* Please refer to the [policy page](#) for information on the incomplete grade process.

Grading Guides

Specific activity directions, grading guides, posting requirements, and additional deadlines can be found in the Assignment Guidelines and Rubrics section of the course.

Weekly Assignment Schedule

All reading and assignment information can be found within each module of the course. Assignments and discussion posts during the first week of each term are due by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time. Assignments and discussion posts for the remainder of the term are due by 11:59 p.m. of the student's local time zone.

In addition to the textbook readings that are listed, there may be additional required resources within each module.

Module	Topics and Assignments
1	The Political Impact of Campaign Fundraising 1-1 Discussion: Fundraising Methods 1-2 Short Paper: Campaign Selection for Final Project
2	Campaign Finance Laws and Changes Since Citizens United 2-1 Discussion: Citizens United Debate 2-2 Short Paper: State Campaign Finance Laws
3	Third Party Political Spending and Its Impact on Elections 3-1 Discussion: The Role of Super PACs 3-2 Final Project Milestone One: Campaign Overview 3-3 Small Group Formation: Module Six Short Paper (Non-graded)
4	Major Political Spending Players in America 4-1 Discussion: Special Interest Group and Super PAC spending 4-2 Short Paper: Interest Groups
5	Technology and Campaign Fundraising Strategies 5-1 Discussion: Technology and Fundraising 5-2 Final Project Milestone Two: Key Players and Comparative Analysis
6	How to Raise Money in American Politics: Campaign Fundraising Methods 6-1 Discussion: Analysis of Fundraising Methods 6-2 Short Paper: Donor Research (Small Group)
7	Managing Campaign Budgets 7-1 Discussion: Campaign Funding and Campaign Spending 7-2 Final Project Submission: Fundraising Strategy for a Political Campaign
8	Money and Democracy 8-1 Discussion: The Importance of Money in Politics

Attendance Policy

Online students are required to submit a graded assignment/discussion during the first week of class. If a student does not submit a graded assignment/discussion during the first week of class, the student is **automatically dropped** from the course for non-participation. Review the full attendance policy.

Late Assignments Policy

Meeting assigned due dates is critical for demonstrating progress and ensuring appropriate time for instructor feedback on assignments. Students are expected to submit their assignments on or before the due date. Review the full late assignment policy.

SNHU Student Handbook

Review the student handbook.

ADA/504 Compliance Statement

Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) is dedicated to providing equal access to individuals with disabilities in accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and with Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, as amended by the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act (ADAAA) of 2008.

SNHU prohibits unlawful discrimination on the basis of disability and takes action to prevent such discrimination by providing reasonable accommodations to eligible individuals with disabilities. The university has adopted this policy to provide for prompt and equitable resolution of complaints regarding any action prohibited by Section 504, the ADA, or the ADAAA.

For questions about **support services, documentation guidelines, general disability issues, or pregnancy accommodations**, please visit the Online Accessibility Center (OAC).

As a student, you must complete an interactive intake process, with supporting documentation, in order to be granted accommodations. Once reasonable accommodations are approved by the OAC, you will receive an accommodations letter. You are then responsible for sharing the letter with your instructor. Accommodations are not retroactive.

If you feel you've been subject to discrimination on the basis of disability, by any party, you may file a complaint or grievance. For more information on the ADA/504 Grievance Policy, go to the Disability and Accessibility Services website.

Academic Integrity Policy

Southern New Hampshire University requires all students to adhere to high standards of integrity in their academic work. Activities such as plagiarism and cheating are not condoned by the university. Review the full academic integrity policy.

Copyright Policy

Southern New Hampshire University abides by the provisions of United States Copyright Act (Title 17 of the United States Code). Any person who infringes the copyright law is liable. Review the full copyright policy.

SNHU Withdrawal Policy

Review the [full withdrawal policy](#).

Southern New Hampshire University Policies

More information about SNHU policies can be found on the [policy page](#).