

Political Science 703: Writing Politics

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This graduate seminar has two aims, one conceptual and one practical. Conceptually, the course is about the relationship between writing and political thinking. We will read and discuss texts that examine the relationship between the forms of writing – tropes, narrative structures, juxtapositions, grammars – and political thinking and analysis. Much of the emphasis will be on how to analyze and incorporate a variety of cultural texts: novels, films and other aspects of visibility, poetry, etc. Practically, the course is about the academic journals to the students in the course aspire to submit articles. We will analyze the style/content of those journals, and encourage writing projects that will result in journal submissions. Thus the course requirement is that those enrolled complete a rough draft or at least a rough prototype for a journal submission. Students from a variety of disciplines are encouraged to enroll.

Here is a list of very tentative readings:

Brian Green, *Literary Method and Sociological Theory*

Michael J. Shapiro, *Studies in Trans-Disciplinary Method*

Lauren Berlant, *Cruel Optimism*

Sven Lindqvist, *Exterminate all the Brutes*

Susan Scheckel, *The Insistence of the Indian*