

**GVPT 600 – Professionalization Seminar in Political
Science Fall 2023
Monday, 11:00-12:00; #1111 Tydings Hall**

Instructors E-mail Address Kathleen Cunningham & Ernesto Calvo

Course Objectives

This seminar is focused on introducing students to the practices, norms, and expectations of professional political science. By the end of this course, students will consider important issues that currently confront the profession, including those involving, race, gender, and power hierarchies. Students will also discuss important professional issues such as work-life boundaries and coauthoring. Taken together, the course aims to prepare students to better navigate many significant issues that they many encounter in the profession of political science.

Course Requirements & Evaluation

Attendance & Active Participation (50%)

Much of the value in the seminar will come from an open and engaged discussion of student ideas by all present, and thus full and active participation is essential. We expect you to be on time and prepared for every seminar meeting. This means that you will have completed the assigned readings ahead of time and come to class ready to participate. Absences should be cleared beforehand with the instructors.

Short Writing Assignments (50%)

To support active discussions and reflection on the course topics, you will submit two short (1-2 pages) reaction papers on the assigned readings. You may choose the two weeks/topics on which you would like to write, and those papers will be due at the start of class that week.

Grades are based upon how many points you earn according to the following distribution: A+ “Excellent mastery of the subject” 97-100 pts.

A 93-96 pts.

A- 90-92 pts.

B+ “Good mastery of the subject” 87-89 pts.

B 83-86 pts.

B- 80-82 pts.

C+ “Acceptable mastery of the subject” 77-79 pts.

C 73-76 pts.

C- 70-72 pts.

D+ “Borderline understanding of the subject” 67-69 pts.

D 63-66 pts.

D- 60-62 pts.

F “Failure to understand the subject” fewer than 60 pts.

Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is a core value of institutions of higher learning. The University of Maryland has a student-administered Honor Code and an Honor Pledge. The Code prohibits students from cheating on exams, plagiarizing papers, submitting the same paper for credit in two courses without authorization, buying papers, submitting fraudulent documents, and forging signatures. Compliance with the code is administered by the Student Honor Council, which strives to promote a “community of trust” on the College Park campus. Allegations of academic dishonesty should be reported directly to the Honor Council by any member of the campus community. It is a student's responsibility to familiarize him/herself with this, and accordingly this course assumes that all students are thoroughly familiar with the Honor Code and Honor Pledge. The official university honor code policy is located at: <http://www.president.umd.edu/policies/iii100a.html>.

Students with Disabilities

University of Maryland is legally obligated to provide appropriate accommodations for students with documented disabilities. Students who seek special accommodations due to disabilities must first set up an appointment with the Disability Support Services (DSS) office. We will make every effort to accommodate those who register with the Disability Support Service (DSS) office and provide a University of Maryland DSS Accommodation form. We can only accommodate those who present the required written DSS documentation.

Course Schedule - see ELMS pages