POLITICAL INTOLERANCE IN WORLD POLITICS
L32-3280
Fall Semester, 2013–2014

Dr. J. L. Gibson
Sidney W. Souers Professor of Government

This course is an investigation into the meaning, causes, and consequences of political intolerance. My goal is to expose you to contemporary research on a) how political intolerance is conceptualized and understood, especially within the context of theories of democracy; b) how political intolerance can be measured, both at the level of the individual and the institution/society; c) where intolerance originates, both in terms of individual psychology and system-level politics; and d) what consequences flow from intolerance, especially in terms of legal and extra-legal political repression, as well as cultural consequences (e.g., a “culture of conformity”). The course makes little distinction between American politics and politics in other parts of the world (although no knowledge of specific non-U.S. systems is required as a prerequisite).

There will be a final exam that will constitute 40 percent of your final grade. You are also required to write a research paper within one of the topic areas listed above. This paper will constitute 40 percent of your grade. The remaining 20 percent of your final grade will be based on class participation and various assignments. The final exam will take place on Monday, December 16, from 3:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

You are strongly encouraged to attend class, and to have completed the reading assignment prior to class. Because exams will stress material presented in class, you cannot do well in this course without regularly attending class. You are responsible for all class material and assignments regardless of whether you are present. Should you be absent, you should make arrangements to get access to another student's notes. I reserve the right to use pop-quizzes to ensure that the reading assignments are being completed.

MISSING EXAM POLICY: There will be no make-up exams unless you give me 24 hours advance notice of a legitimate university function which prevents you from taking the exam, or provide written documentation of a medical excuse or other emergency which prevents you from taking the exam. You will receive a failing grade (0) for all missed exams for which there is not adequate documentation. Only one make-up will be given, and it will be scheduled at my discretion.

No "Incompletes" will be given in this course. You must complete all of the assignments by the end of the semester. I also observe all university drop deadlines. You should familiarize yourself with the university's rules on ethics, academic misconduct, and plagiarism. You should review the university’s policy at http://www.wustl.edu/policies/undergraduate-academic-integrity.html. I strictly adhere to these rules.

My office hours are Tuesdays 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m., and Wednesdays 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 p.m., and by appointment (I am on campus virtually every day). My office is 243 Seigle Hall. My office telephone number is 935-5897, and my email address is jgibson@wustl.edu

Readings for this course have been assigned from three books, all of which are available at the Bookstore. In addition, a few readings will be available on E-RES.


## READING ASSIGNMENTS

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Reading</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8/28</td>
<td>Introduction and Seminar Organization</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/4</td>
<td><strong>Introduction to Democratic Theory</strong></td>
<td>Gibson &amp; Gouws 2003, Ch 1</td>
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<td><strong>The Meaning of Political Intolerance</strong></td>
<td>Sullivan, Piereson, &amp; Marcus, Ch.1</td>
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<td>Holmes Dissent in <em>Abrams v. U.S.</em></td>
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<td>9/11</td>
<td><strong>Measuring Political Intolerance</strong></td>
<td>Gibson &amp; Gouws 2003, Ch. 3 &amp; Appendix A</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Sullivan, Piereson, &amp; Marcus Ch. 3 &amp; 4</td>
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<td>Gibson 2013</td>
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<td>Review of 2013 Survey Data Codebook</td>
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**Supplementary Reading:**


Supplementary Reading:

10/2 The Effect of Context on Political Intolerance
Gibson & Gouws 2003, Ch. 5
Gibson & Bingham 1985, Ch. 5
Peffley & Rohrschneider 2003


Supplementary Reading:

10/9 Paper Topic Due

10/9 Change in Intolerance Over Time
Gibson & Gouws 2003, Ch. 8
Sullivan & Hendriks 2009


Supplementary Reading:

10/16 Persuasibility and Change in Intolerance
Gibson & Gouws 2003, Ch. 6
Mutz 2002

Supplementary Reading:

10/23 Elite and Mass Differences in Intolerance: The Elitist Theory of Democracy


Supplementary Reading:

10/30 The Consequences of Intolerance: Public Policy and Repression


Supplementary Reading:

11/6 Paper Outline Due

11/6 The Cultural Consequences of Intolerance

Supplementary Reading:

11/13 **The Role of Institutional Intervention in Protecting Tolerance**

Supplementary Reading:

11/20 **Case Study: Nazis in Skokie**
Gibson & Bingham 1985

11/27 No Class – Thanksgiving

12/4 **Unanswered Questions**
Gibson & Gouws 2003, Ch. 9
Sullivan, Piereson, & Marcus, Ch. 9
Gibson, 2006

Gibson, James L. 2006. “Enigmas of Intolerance: Fifty Years after Stouffer’s *Communism, Conformity, and Civil Liberties.*” *Perspectives on Politics* 4 (#1, March): 21-34.

12/4 Final Paper Due

12/16 Final Exam, 3:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Political Intolerance In World Politics
Semester I, 2013/2014
Paper Assignment

Nearly one-half of your grade for this course is based on a required research paper. The paper should be typed and should be between 14 and 18 pages of text (double-spaced). You should spend as much space
as is necessary to produce a good paper. Footnotes and references/bibliography should be used and you must adopt a style manual to guide in the preparation of your paper. The particular manual must be cited in your bibliography. Excessive (more than a few) typographical and spelling errors will be penalized, but corrections made by hand on the final copy of your typed paper are acceptable.

The paper is due on December 4. On October 9, a title and a short descriptive paragraph are due. On November 6, a detailed outline with a bibliography is due. Both the descriptive paragraph and the outline must be typed. Papers not written in satisfactory English will be returned ungraded. These may be revised and resubmitted. Late papers will be penalized one letter grade per day, and no paper will be accepted after the final exam.

The subject matter of your paper must pertain to some aspect of political tolerance and repression, but otherwise there are few restrictions on the types of paper you might select. The most important attribute of your paper is not subject matter; instead, it will be graded mainly on the quality of your analysis of the problem. I am not interested in your opinions on the issue you chose to consider, but instead want you to provide an analysis of the existing literature and arguments relevant to the problem. Your analysis should be comprehensive, which of course means that you must select a fairly narrow topic. “Free Speech” would be too broad; an analysis of “hate speech” restrictions on free speech would not be too broad. To reiterate: the quality of your analysis of the problem is the most important attribute of your paper.