

3. Mid-course Test 15%
A take-home written test based on the lecture material discussed up to that date.
4. Final Examination 25%
A two-hour, two question examination. There will be a limited choice of questions, which will be based on the major lecture topics
5. Participation 5%
All absences must be supported by documentation delivered to the academic director of the program.

N.B. The grading system for written work and examinations, and the dangers of plagiarism will be found at the end of these notes

The lecture program

Week 1 *The Stage. Part 1*

- Introduction to the study of politics
 - Analysing a political system - the four key questions
 - Domestic systems and the global system
 - Identifying key issues of debate
 - Identifying strengths and weaknesses in the domestic *polis*

The Stage. Part 2

- Australia - the physical dimensions
- Geography, population, geopolitics
- Political history

Week 2 *The Stage Part 3*

- The Australian political system
 - the federal constitution
 - the formal distribution of powers
 - the institutions of government
 - federal & state relations
 - the inherited values and political culture

The Political battleground , Part 1

- the nature of political conflict
- the key issues, history and overview

- growth and development - the conflicting interests
- social order - the conflicting ideologies
- national identity - conflicting values- core, multicultural or tribal
- the population debate
- human rights
- the environment

Week 3

Delivery of seminar papers

Week 4

The Political battleground. Part2

- the tyranny of distance
- security - the enemy without
- Australia at war
- globalisation - threat or opportunity?
- regionalism - big fish in small pond?
- human rights and self-determination
- the global environment

Week 5

The Actors and the political process Part1

- leaders and legislators
- parties and politicians
- bureaucrats and officialdom
- interest groups
- voter power

The Actors and the political process Part2

- diplomats and soldiers
- traders
- transnational corporations
- international institutions and NGOs
- Australia as “good international citizen”

Week 6 *Policy Action* *Part 1*

- The decision making processes
 - Managing the economy
 - Social policies
 - Population and immigration policies
 - Indigenous policies
 - Managing the environment

Week 7

Possible Field Trip

Policy Action *Part 2*

- globalisation and economic policies
- foreign policies
- defence policies

Week 8

General Conclusions

Global politics - present and future

- The Australian political system - a critique
 - Australia in the world - autonomies, vulnerabilities and policy capacities
 - Lessons from the past
 - Future trends and predictions

Source material

Books

Text Book

Summers.J., Woodward, D., Parkin.,A
Government, Politics, Power and Policy in Australia
7th ed. Longmans 2002

Highly recommended

The Oxford Companion to Australian Politics
Oxford U.P 2007

Eccleston,R., Williams,P. Hollander,R.,
The Foundations of Australian politics
Pearson Edu. 2006

Clarke, F.G., *Australia; a concise political and social history*
Harcourt Brace 1992

Firth, S., *Australia in international politics*
Allen and Unwin 1999

Cook, I., *Government and Democracy in Australia*
Oxford U.P. 2004

The Boyer Lectures, ABC Books, 2000

Further Reading

To be advised during the course

Journals

Note particularly

Australian Quarterly
Australian Journal of Political Science
Australian Journal of Politics and History
Australian Journal of International Affairs
Quadrant
Public Administration
The Diplomat

Official documents and speeches

Hansard, Commonwealth Gazette, Foreign Affairs Record, etc

The Internet