

# PL9244: Personality, Prejudice, and Polarisation: Political Psychology

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## Course Description

How can we predict how someone will vote in the future using only their grandfather's job as a starting point? Why does convincing people UFOs exist reduce their racial biases? And how did tens of thousands of people across the globe come to believe that Comet Ping Pong Pizza in Washington D.C. was the headquarters of an international Satanic ritual abuse ring organised by the US Democratic Party? In this module, we will learn how to use the fundamentals of political psychology to understand the biggest, most complex, and strangest issues of the day.

But what is political psychology? And how can we use it as a tool to make sense of politics? These are the questions we will discuss throughout this course. In Section 1, the module begins with an overview of the field of political psychology and some of the ways that questions in this field are answered. In Section 2, the module will consider the mechanisms of how people construct political beliefs and determine political choices, investigating topics how we process information, social identities, partisan bias, and persuasion. In Section 3, the module will explore the psychological roots of political behavior, and the contributions of influences such as socialization, social identity, emotion, and genes to how citizens and political leaders make decisions. In Section 4, the module will study the political psychology of the media, the psychological roots of international conflict, and the routes to cooperation and compromise.

## Module Learning Objectives:

Completion of this module should equip students with:

- Introduce students to key concepts and theories of political psychology and political behaviour
- Encourage students to think critically about fundamental ideas and approaches in the field of political psychology
- Assist students in applying these approaches to answer questions about the political and social world.

Upon completion of this module, students will be able to:

- Demonstrate theoretical understanding and empirical applicability of key terminology, concepts, and theories defining the field of political psychology
- Recognise and evaluate the motivations of individuals in a range of political scenarios
- Critically reflect on the benefits and pitfalls of political psychology's research methods
- Read and understand scientific papers and their implications

## Assessment

1. **Engagement Portfolio (10%):** There will be four short quizzes across the semester that relate to the content covered during each seminar. These will be collated into a portfolio and submitted at the end of the semester.
2. **Critical Review (40%):** Choose one of four different academic papers to analyse (1,500 words). Analysis should show an understanding of its key concepts being tested in the paper, a small discussion of the main method used in the paper (e.g. is it an experiment, a survey, or something else?) and an understanding of its conclusion and wider implications. Examples of critical reviews previously awarded first class marks are available on Learning Central.
3. **Written Exam (50%):** Answer two questions from a set list of six questions. Students are expected to demonstrate knowledge of core concepts of political psychology as well as an ability to critically examine key issues, discourses and/or cases. References are not required!

## Course Structure

The full structure of the course is displayed in the table below.

## Lecture Structure

A list of lecture topics are listed in the table below. The lectures on this module are expected to form a framework for your own, more extensive, exploration of both the primary texts and the accompanying secondary literature.

There are **recommended** readings for each lecture laid out in the module reading section (see below). These are not compulsory, but will help to your understanding of the topics and themes being discussed. There are also a number of additional readings for those who want to extend their knowledge of the topics covered (and boost their assessment marks!)

## Seminar structure

For each seminar there will be a number of **required readings** outlined below. Everyone should be reading both the required reading and exploring the library resources and the larger module reading list for interesting and helpful supporting material. Feel free to also read and prepare articles not on the module reading list (in addition to the required readings).

The seminars are a chance to bring your reading to bear in a supportive and engaged discursive environment. Students should attend seminars expecting to contribute to discussions, to make arguments, and express judgements and opinions. In order to do this in a helpful and informed manner all students should ensure that they read and prepare for every seminar.

At the start of each seminar there will be a **short-answer exercise based on each week's required reading**. These exercises are designed to help give students continual feedback throughout the course and to guide future learning. Answers will not be marked in class, but will allow the class to focus subsequent discussion on any challenging aspects from each week's reading.

## Course resources

Students will not be expected to purchase any singular textbook, but almost all the recommended lecture readings are taken from the following four books:

- Cottam et al., (2022) Introduction to Political Psychology (Fourth edition). (London: Taylor & Francis)
- Minz et al (2021) Beyond Rationality: Behavioural Political Science in the 21st Century. (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press)
- Huddy et al. (2023) The Oxford Handbook of Political Psychology 3rd Edition (Oxford: Oxford University Press)
- Osborne & Sibley (2022) The Cambridge Handbook of Political Psychology (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press)

None of the texts are perfect, but together they do an excellent job of conveying the fundamentals (and thensome) of political psychology.

Week	Date	In-person Lecture	Seminar series	Activities
1	30/09/24	(1) Studying Political Psychology (2) The Rational Human?	XXXX	Familiarise yourself with reading list and read through recommended readings
2	07/10/24	(1) Origins of Behaviour (2) Heuristics & Bounded Rationality	Evolution and Rationality (Groups A&B)	Seminar required readings and recommended lecture readings.
3	14/10/24	(1) Biases (2) Groups & Social Identities	Evolution and Rationality (Groups C & D)	Seminar required readings and recommended lecture readings.
4	21/10/24	(1) Motivated Reasoning (2) Polarisation	Heuristics and Biases (Groups A&B)	Seminar required readings and recommended lecture readings.
5	28/10/24	(1) Prejudice (2) Personality	Heuristics and Biases (Groups C&D)	Seminar required readings and recommended lecture readings.
6	04/11/24	Module Reading Week	Groups & Identity (Groups A&B)	Seminar required readings and recommended lecture readings.
7	11/11/24	(1) Emotions & Morality (2) Nature vs Nurture	Groups & Identity (Groups C&D)	Seminar required readings and recommended lecture readings.
8	18/11/24	(1) Attitudes & Ideology (2) Voting	Personality, Socialisation & Genetics (Groups A&B)	Seminar required readings and recommended lecture readings.
9	25/11/24	(1) Media & Politics (2) Social Justice	Personality, Socialisation & Genetics (Groups C&D)	Seminar required readings and recommended lecture readings.
10	02/11/24	(1) International Conflict (2) Exam Q&A	Mass Politics (All Groups)	Seminar required readings and recommended lecture readings.

All three are available electronically through Cardiff University Library as e-books so there isn't any need to buy them unless you really want to have your own copy. If there are any problems accessing any readings please let me know.

## Seminars

For each seminar there will be a **required reading** posted to Learning Central in advance of each seminar. The lectures on this module are expected to form a framework for your own, more extensive, exploration of both the primary texts and the accompanying secondary literature. Everyone should be reading both the required reading and exploring the library resources and module reading list (below) for interesting and helpful supporting material. Feel free to also read and prepare articles not on the module reading list (in addition to the required readings.)

The seminars are a chance to bring your reading to bear in a supportive and engaged discursive environment. Students should attend seminars expecting to contribute to discussions, to make arguments, and express judgements and opinions. In order to do this in a helpful and informed manner all students should ensure that they read and prepare for every seminar.

Seminars for this module begin in Week 2 of the semester, but depending on your group you may start in Week 3.

### Seminar 1: Evolution and Rationality

This seminar will explore the topics focused on the first three lectures with a particular focus the origins of political psychology and rational decision-making.

**Required reading:** Petersen, M. B. et al. (2013) 'The Ancestral Logic of Politics: Upper-Body Strength Regulates Men's Assertion of Self-Interest Over Economic Redistribution.' *Psychological Science*, 24(7), 1098–1103.

**Suggested additional reading:** Chapter 7 (*The Evolutionary Approach to Political Psychology*), The Oxford Handbook of Political Psychology

**Nerd bonus:** Stanford Professor Robert Sapolsky's entire course Human Behavioral Biology on YouTube ([Click here](#))

### Seminar 2: Heuristics and Biases

This seminar focuses on the topics covered in lectures on heuristics and biases.

**Required reading:** Travers et al. (2014) *The Secrecy Heuristic: Inferring Quality from Secrecy in Foreign Policy Contexts*. *Political Psychology*, 35(1), 1-132

**Suggested additional reading:** Chapter 3 (*The Limits of Human Information Processing*), Beyond Rationality: Behavioral Political Science in the 21st Century

**Suggested listening:** *Hidden Brain: Think Fast with Daniel Kahneman*

**Nerd bonus:** An interview with Michael Lewis (author of Moneyball, The Big Short etc.) who has written excellent story of the work of Kahneman and Tversky ([Click here](#))

### Seminar 3: Groups & Identity

This seminar focuses on lecture content of social identity and group behaviour.

**Required reading:** Peterson, E. and Iyengar, S. (2021), *Partisan Gaps in Political Information and Information-Seeking Behavior: Motivated Reasoning or Cheerleading?* *American Journal of Political Science*, 65: 133-147.

**Suggested additional reading:** Chapter 24 (*Political Identities*), Oxford Handbook of Political Psychology **Suggested listening:** *Hidden Brain: Separating Yourself From the Pack*

**Nerd bonus:**

### Seminar 4: Personality, socialisation, and genetics

This seminar focuses on content from our lecture on personality, attitudes and emotion, and nature vs nurture.

**Required reading:** Bakker (2017) *'Personality Traits, Income, and Economic Ideology.'* *Political Psychology*, 38 (6), 1025-1041

**Suggested additional reading:** Chapter 3 *Genetic Contributions to Political Phenomena*, Cambridge Handbook of Political Psychology **Suggested listening:** *Personality Politics (BBC Radio 4 Analysis)*

**Nerd bonus:** Three Identical Strangers. Documentary available on Netflix ([Click here](#))

### Seminar 5: Mass Politics

This seminar focuses on public opinion, voting, and ideology.

**Required reading:** Zaller (1998) *Monica Lewinsky's Contribution to Political Science*, *PS: Political Science and Politics*, 31(2), 182-189

**Suggested additional reading:** Chapters 3 & 4 from Butler, D & Stokes, D. (1974) *Political Change in Britain: The Evolution of Electoral Choice*. (Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan) 2nd Edition. pp. 48-94 **Suggested listening:** *Speaking of Psychology: What drives voter behavior?*

**Nerd bonus:** Professor Stanley Feldman giving the Miller-Converse lecture at University of Michigan on "Elections, Authoritarianism, Partisan Polarization in the US" ([Click here](#))

## Further Module Reading

The readings listed below are supplementary to the course lectures. I **highly recommend** you make an effort to complete some of these readings - it is the surest way to boost your assessment marks! Readings are divided into two categories:

**Recommended readings:** These are readings that will be discussed in the lectures and will add substantially to your ability to engage with the course matter. I understand that you won't always have time to read all of these, but endeavour to read as many of these as possible.

**Additional readings:** If you want to know more about the topic, you should read these. They aren't required, but you will get more out of the course if you do read them. These will be particularly useful for boosting marks in assessments.

### 01/10/2024: Studying political psychology

**Recommended readings:** Chapter 1, Introduction to Political Psychology

Huddy et al. (2023) 'Introduction: Theoretical Foundations of Political Psychology.' in L. Huddy, D. O. Sears and J. S. Levy (eds) *The Oxford Handbook of Political Psychology, 3rd Edition*. Oxford University Press: Oxford

#### **Additional Readings**

- Monroe et al. (2009) 'What is Political Psychology?' *Perspectives on Politics*, 7(4), pp.859-882
- Harden, K. P. (2021) *The Science of Terrible Men* Aeon, 11 March 2021

### 04/10/2024 The Rational Human?

**Recommended readings:** Ansell, B. (2023) *Why Politics Fails: The Five Traps of the Modern World and How to Escape Them*. Viking Penguin: London, pp. 1-20

#### **Additional Readings**

- Mintz, A., Valentino, N. A., and Wayne, C. (2022) *Beyond Rationality: Behavioural Political Science in the 21st Century*. Cambridge University Press: Cambridge, pp. 19-44
- Ansell, B. (2023) *Why Politics Fails: The Five Traps of the Modern World and How to Escape Them*. Any of the additional chapters from this book!
- Chong, D. (2023) 'Rational Choice as an Empirical and Normative Model of Political Behavior' in *The Oxford Handbook of Political Psychology, 2nd Edition*.
- Chong, D. & Mullinix, K. J. (2022) 'Rational Choice and Information Processing.' *The Cambridge Handbook of Political Psychology*
- Tetlock, P. E. and B. A. Mellers (2002). "The Great Rationality Debate." *Psychological Science* 13(1): 94-99.

### 08/10/2024: Origins of Behaviour

**Recommended readings:** Petersen (2023) 'The Evolutionarily Approach to Political Psychology.' *The Oxford Handbook of Political Psychology, 3rd Edition*.

#### **Additional Readings**

- Aarøe, L., & Petersen, M. B. (2013). 'Hunger Games: Fluctuations in Blood Glucose Levels Influence Support for Social Welfare.' *Psychological Science*, 24(12), 2550–2556.
- Wrangham, R. W., & Glowacki, L. (2012). 'Intergroup aggression in chimpanzees and war in nomadic hunter-gatherers', *Human Nature* 23(1), 5–29.
- Petersen, M. B. (2017). 'Healthy out-group members are represented psychologically as infected in- group members', *Psychological Science* 28(12), 1857–1863.

### 11/10/2024 Heuristics & Bounded Rationality

**Recommended readings:** Kahneman, D. (2011) *Thinking Fast and Slow*. Penguin: London. Chapter 1 (Characters of the Story)

#### **Additional Reading:**

- Chapter 3, Mintz, A., Valention, N. A., and Wayne, C. (2022) *Beyond Rationality: Behavioural Political Science in the 21st Century*. Cambridge University Press: Cambridge
- Bendor, J. (2010) *Bounded Rationality and Politics*. University of California Press: Oakland. Chapters 1 & 2
- Bellew, C. C., & Todorov, A. (2007) 'Predicting political elections from rapid and unreflective face judgements.' *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, 104(46), pp. 17948-17953
- Lau, R. R., & Redlawsk, D. P. (2001). Advantages and Disadvantages of Cognitive Heuristics in Political Decision Making. *American Journal of Political Science*, 45(4), 951–971.
- Gigerenzer, G. (2008). Why Heuristics Work. *Perspectives on Psychological Science*, 3(1), 20–29.

### 15/10/2024 Biases

**Recommended readings:** Chapter 3, Introduction to Political Psychology

#### **Additional reading:**

- Maoz, I., Ward, A., Katz, M., & Ross, L. (2002). **Reactive Devaluation of an "Israeli" vs. "Palestinian" Peace Proposal** *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, 46(4), 515–546.
- Bullock, J. G. & Lenz, G. (2019) **'Partisan Bias in Surveys.'** *Annual Review of Political Science*, 22(1), 325-342
- Huddy, Leonie, and Nayda Terkildsen. 1993. "Gender Stereotypes and the Perception of Male and Female Candidates." *American Journal of Political Science* 37: 119-47.

### 18/10/2024 Groups & Social Identities

**Recommended readings:** pp. 104-112, Introduction to Political Psychology

#### **Additional readings**

- pp. 166-185, *Beyond Rationality*
- Craig & Phillips (2022) 'Group-Based Hierarchies of Power and Status', *The Oxford Handbook of Political Psychology*, 3rd Edition.



- Evans, A., 2015. Ideological change under Vladimir Putin in the perspective of social identity theory. *Demokratizatsiya*, 23(4), pp. 401-426
- Fowler, J.H. and Kam, C.D. (2007), Beyond the Self: Social Identity, Altruism, and Political Participation. *Journal of Politics*, 69: 813-827.
- Brewer, M. B. (2001). The Many Faces of Social Identity: Implications for Political Psychology. *Political Psychology*, 22(1), 115–125.
- Lebow, R. N. (2008). Identity and International Relations. *International Relations*, 22(4), 473–492.
- Hainmueller, J. & Hopkins, D. J. (2014) 'Public Attitudes Toward Immigration', *Annual Review of Political Science*, 17(1), 225-249
- Cara J. Wong. (2007). "Little" and "Big" Pictures in Our Heads: Race, Local Context, and Innumeracy about Racial Groups in the United States. *The Public Opinion Quarterly*, 71(3), 392–412.
- Renshon, J. (2016). Status Deficits and War. *International Organization*, 70(3), 513-550.
- Sides, J., & Citrin, J. (2007). European Opinion about Immigration: The Role of Identities, Interests and Information. *British Journal of Political Science*, 37(3), 477–504.
- Howard, J. A. (2000) '**Social Psychology of Identities**' *Annual Review of Sociology* Vol. 26:367-393

## 22/10/2024 Motivated Reasoning

**Recommended readings:** Chapter 3, Introduction to Political Psychology

### **Additional Readings:**

- Festinger, L. (1962) *A Theory of Cognitive Dissonance*. Tavistock Publications: London
- Bayes, R., Druckman, J.N., Goods, A. and Molden, D.C. (2020), When and How Different Motives Can Drive Motivated Political Reasoning. *Political Psychology*, 41: 1031-1052.
- Baekgaard, M., Christensen, J., Dahlmann, C., Mathiasen, A., & Petersen, N. (2019). The Role of Evidence in Politics: Motivated Reasoning and Persuasion among Politicians. *British Journal of Political Science*, 49(3), 1117-1140.
- Druckman, J.N., McGrath, M.C. The evidence for motivated reasoning in climate change preference formation. *Nature Climate Change* 9, 111–119 (2019).
- Kertzer, J., Rathbun, B., & Rathbun, N. (2020). The Price of Peace: Motivated Reasoning and Costly Signaling in International Relations. *International Organization*, 74(1), 95-118.
- McCright, A. M., & Dunlap, R. E. (2011) 'Cool dudes: The denial of climate change among conservative white males in the United States', *Global Environmental Change*, 21(4), pp. 1163-1172

- Peterson, E. and Iyengar, S. (2021), Partisan Gaps in Political Information and Information-Seeking Behavior: Motivated Reasoning or Cheerleading? *American Journal of Political Science*, 65: 133-147.

### 25/10/2024 Polarisation

**Recommended Reading:**

**Additional Readings:**

### 28/10/2024 Prejudice

**Recommended Reading:** Chapter 8, Introduction to Political Psychology

**Additional Readings:**

- Davenport (2020) 'The Fluidity of Racial Classifications', *Annual Review of Political Science*, Vol. 23, pp. 221-240
- Fiske, S. (1998). Stereotyping, prejudice, and discrimination. In D. T. Gilbert, S. T. Fiske, & G. Lindzey (Eds.), *The handbook of social psychology* (4th ed., Vol. 2, pp. 357–411). New York: McGraw-Hill.
- Jefferson, Hakeem, Fabian Neuner, and Josh Pasek. 2020. "Seeing Blue in Black and White: Race and Perceptions of Officer-Involved Shootings." *Perspectives on Politics*
- Bobo, L., & Hutchings, V. L. (1996). Perceptions of racial group competition: Extending Blumer's theory of group position to a multiracial social context. *American Sociological Review*, 61(6), 951–972.
- Kinder, D. R. (2023). Prejudice and politics. In *The Oxford handbook of political psychology*
- Pierson, E., Simoiu, C., Overgoor, J. et al. A large-scale analysis of racial disparities in police stops across the United States. *Nature Human Behavior* 4, 736–745 (2020).
- Davenport, Lauren D., Shanto Iyengar, and Sean Westwood. 2022. "Racial Identity, Group Consciousness and Affect: A Framework for Assessing Multiracial Identity." *American Journal of Political Science* 66(3): 570-586
- Sobolewska, M. (2017) 'Race, Ethnicity and Elections: From Recognizable Patterns to Generalized Theories' in Arzheimer, Evans, & Lewis-Beck (eds) *The SAGE Handbook of Electoral Behaviour*. (London: Sage Publications Ltd) pp. 220-240

### 01/11/2024 Personality

**Recommended readings:** Chapter 2, Introduction to Political Psychology

**Additional Reading**

- Thompson, D. (1941) 'Who goes Nazi?' , *Harper's Magazine*.

- Bakker (2023) 'Personality Approaches to Political Behavior', in *The Oxford Handbook of Political Psychology*, 3rd edn
- Stenner, K. (2007) *The Authoritarian Dynamic*. New York: Cambridge University Press. Chapter 2
- Feldman, S., & Stenner, K. (1997). Perceived Threat and Authoritarianism. *Political Psychology*, 18(4), 741–770.
- Carney, D.R., Jost, J.T., Gosling, S.D. and Potter, J. (2008), The Secret Lives of Liberals and Conservatives: Personality Profiles, Interaction Styles, and the Things They Leave Behind. *Political Psychology*, 29: 807-840.

### **12/11/2024 Emotions & Morality**

**Recommended readings:** pp. 112-137, Introduction to Political Psychology

#### **Additional Readings:**

- Chapter 6, *Beyond Rationality*
- Brader, T., & Marcus, G. E. (2023) 'Emotion and Political Psychology', in *The Oxford Handbook of Political Psychology*, 2nd Edition. Oxford University Press: Oxford, pp. 165-204
- Brader, T. (2006) *Campaigning for Hearts and Minds: How Emotional Appeals in Politics Ads Work*. University of Chicago Press: Chicago (Pretty much anything from this book!)
- Druckman, J.N., McDermott, R. (2008) Emotion and the Framing of Risky Choice. *Political Behavior* 30, 297–321
- Keltner D, Ellsworth PC, Edwards K (1993) Beyond simple pessimism: effects of sadness and anger on social perception. *Journal of Personality Social Psychology*. 64(5):740-52.
- Jasper, J. M. (1998). The Emotions of Protest: Affective and Reactive Emotions in and around Social Movements. *Sociological Forum*, 13(3), 397–424.
- Valentino, N., Wayne, C. & Ocen, M. (2018) Mobilizing Sexism: The Interaction of Emotion and Gender Attitudes in the 2016 US Presidential Election, *Public Opinion Quarterly*, Volume 82, Issue S1,, Pages 799–821,
- Pearlman, W. (2013). Emotions and the Microfoundations of the Arab Uprisings. *Perspectives on Politics*, 11(2), 387-409.
- Vasilopoulos, P., Marcus, G.E. and Foucault, M. (2018), Emotional Responses to the Charlie Hebdo Attacks: Addressing the Authoritarianism Puzzle. *Political Psychology*, 39: 557-575.

### **15/11/2024 Nature vs Nurture**

**Recommended readings:** Settle, J. & Detert, L. (2023) 'Biology and Politics' in *The Oxford Handbook of Political Psychology 3rd Edition*

#### **Additional Readings:**

- Alford, John R., Carolyn L. Funk, and John R. Hibbing. 2005. "Are Political Orientations Genetically Transmitted?" *American Political Science Review* 99:153-167.
- Hibbing, J. R., Smith, K. B., & Alford, J. R. (2014) *Predisposed: Liberals, Conservatives, and the Biology of Political Differences*. Routledge:New York, Chapters 2 & 3
- Smith KB, Oxley D, Hibbing MV, Alford JR, Hibbing JR (2011) Disgust Sensitivity and the Neurophysiology of Left-Right Political Orientations. *PLOS ONE* 6(10)

### 19/11/2024 Attitudes & Values

**Recommended Reading:** Chapter 6, Introduction to Political Psychology

**Additional Readings:**

- Maio, Haddock & Verplanken (2019) *The Psychology of Attitudes and Attitude Change*, Chapter 1, SAGE
- Erikson, R. S. (2018) 'The Stability of Political Attitudes' in Fisher, Fieldhouse, Franklin, Gibson, Cantijoch, & Wlezien *The Routledge Handbook of Elections, Voting Behaviour and Public Opinion*. (Abingdon: Routledge) pp. 357-368
- Philip E. Converse (2006) The nature of belief systems in mass publics (1964), *Critical Review*, 18:1-3, 1-74
- Kalmoe, N.P. (2020), Uses and Abuses of Ideology in Political Psychology. *Political Psychology*, 41: 771-793.

### 22/11/2024 Voting

**Recommended Reading:** Chapter 6, Introduction to Political Psychology

**Additional Readings:**

- Butler, D. & Stokes, D. (1969) *Political Change in Britain.*, Chapter 3
- Hutchings, V. & Jefferson, H. (2018) 'The sociological and social-psychological approaches' in in Fisher, Fieldhouse, Franklin, Gibson, Cantijoch, & Wlezien *The Routledge Handbook of Elections, Voting Behaviour and Public Opinion*. (Abingdon: Routledge) pp. 21-29
- Hobolt, S., Leeper, T., & Tilley, J. (2020) '[Divided by the Vote: Affective Polarization in the Wake of the Brexit Referendum.](#)' *British Journal of Political Science*, 51 (4) pp.1-18
- Manstead, A.S.R. (2018), 'The psychology of social class: How socioeconomic status impacts thought, feelings, and behaviour.' *British Journal of Social Psychology*, 57: 267-291
- Sears, D. O., and Brown, C. (2023). "Childhood and Adult Political Development" In *The Oxford Handbook of Political Psychology 3rd edition*. New York: Oxford University Press.

## 26/11/2024 Media & Politics

**Recommended Reading:** Chapter 7, Introduction to Political Psychology

**Additional Readings:**

- Soroka, S. (2014) *Negativity in Democratic Politics: Causes and Consequences*. Cambridge University Press: Cambridge, pp. 1-14
- Berinsky, A.J. and Kinder, D.R. (2006), Making Sense of Issues Through Media Frames: Understanding the Kosovo Crisis. *Journal of Politics*, 68: 640-656.
- Iyengar, S., & Simon, A. (1993). News Coverage of the Gulf Crisis and Public Opinion: A Study of Agenda-Setting, Priming, and Framing. *Communication Research*, 20(3), 365–383.
- Druckman, J. (2004). Political Preference Formation: Competition, Deliberation, and the (Ir)relevance of Framing Effects. *American Political Science Review*, 98(4), 671-686.

## 29/11/2024 Social Justice

**Recommended Reading:** Chapter 11, Introduction to Political Psychology

**Additional Readings:**

- Jost, J. T. (2018) 'A quarter century of system justification theory: Questions, answers, criticisms, and societal applications', *British Journal of Social Psychology*, 58(2), pp. 263-314
- van Stekelenburg, J. & Gaidyte, T. (2023) 'Social Movements and the Dynamics of Collective Action' in *The Oxford Handbook of Political Psychology*, 3rd Edition.
- Barrie, C., Fleming, T., & Rowan, S. (2023). 'Does Protest Influence Political Speech? Evidence from UK Climate Protest, 2017–2019.' *British Journal of Political Science*, 1-18.
- Ellinas, A., & Lamprinaou, I. (2023). 'Movement versus Party: The Electoral Effects of Anti-Far Right Protests in Greece.' *American Political Science Review*, 1-19.

## 03/12/2024 International security, conflict and terrorism

**Recommended Reading:** Mintz & Barr (2022) Chapter 40 ('Rethinking Group Dynamics'), *The Cambridge Handbook of Political Psychology*

**Additional Readings:**

- Chapter 4, *Introduction to Political Psychology*
- Bobo, L. (2004). Group Conflict, Prejudice and the Paradox of Contemporary Racial Attitudes. In J. T. Jost & J. Sidanius (Eds.), *Political psychology: Key readings* (pp. 333–357). Psychology Press. 4-19

## Marking Criteria for the Assessments

	Academic quality	Range & relevance of content	Style, length & presentation	References and bibliography
<b>90%+</b> <b>Exceptional First Class</b>	Evidence of outstanding academic rigour and insight, publishable work	Exceptional range and accomplished use of sources, demonstrating expansive understanding of the field	Exceptional style and structure, meticulously presented work	Very wide ranging, comprehensive, precise, presented accurately
<b>80-89%</b> <b>Strong First Class</b>	Sophisticated, relevant and sustained critical engagement with the available literature/ sources, displaying some original insights or fresh perspective	Excellent range and appropriate use of sources, demonstrating confident understanding of the field	Highly accomplished structure, style and presentation	Wide ranging Comprehensive, used effectively, presented accurately
<b>70-79%</b> <b>First Class</b>	Methodical, relevant and sustained critical engagement with the available literature/ sources.	Wide range and appropriate use of sources, demonstrating confident understanding of the field	Excellent structure, succinct and concise style and presentation	Wide ranging, used effectively, presented accurately
<b>60-69%</b> <b>Upper 2<sup>nd</sup> Class (2.1)</b>	Engaging critically and consistently with the available literature/ sources, organised in a coherent and persuasive manner	Good use of a range of relevant sources, demonstrating clear understanding of main ideas	Good, structure, succinct and concise style and presentation showing ability to create argument in highly competent manner.	Good range of sources, used effectively and presented accurately

<b>50-59%</b> <b>Lower 2<sup>nd</sup> Class (2.2)</b>	Engaging with some literature/sources, range of ideas organised in a mostly coherent manner	Competent use of sources demonstrating knowledge of most of the main issues	Coherent structure may contain lapses in style and presentation. May have some issues with succinct writing style	Satisfactory range of sources, may be some flaws in presentation
<b>40-49%</b> <b>Third Class</b>	Adequate to pass, but work undeveloped showing limited critical engagement with the literature/sources	Adequate use of sources, but some main concepts missed	Uneven structure and inappropriate style. Presentation adequate. May have issues with succinct writing style	Adequate but limited range of sources, may be inaccurately presented
<b>30-39%</b> <b>Borderline Fail</b>	Attempt made to engage with relevant literature/sources but lacks focus and basic academic rigour	Poor use of sources, significant omissions, evident weaknesses	Confused structure and inappropriate style. Presentation may be flawed and work difficult to read.	Barely acceptable range and use of sources, poorly presented.
<b>20-29%</b> <b>Clear Fail</b>	Very poor engagement with relevant literature/sources, work heavy with unsupported opinions	Very limited and/or largely irrelevant sources used	Serious deficiencies in structure, style and/or presentation. Writer's intentions difficult to discern	Inadequate range and/or inappropriate use of sources
<b>10-19%</b> <b>Fail with particularly serious flaws</b>	Minimal engagement with relevant literature/sources. Extensive errors/omissions	Minimal content, irrelevant	Minimal attention to structure, style or length requirement.	Minimum use of sources, inadequate presentation of references
<b>1-9%</b> <b>Absolute fail</b>	No engagement with relevant literature/sources	Non-existent or wholly irrelevant	Serious deficiencies in structure, style	Non-existent referencing throughout/no list of sources used

			and/or length requirement	
0%				
No work submitted				

The categories in the table are **indicative only**: there is no mathematical correlation between them and the final mark, which is based on the **balanced assessment of the overall performance**. The fundamental aim is to write an academically persuasive argument. All marks are subject to confirmation by the relevant module board.

Marking of essays and examinations is normally 2-5-8 for each decile and variation within class depends on the manner by which the assessment matches the above criteria. Thus an essay that largely matches the 2.1 criteria, but includes some at a lower grade is likely to receive a mark of 62. One that matches the 2.1 criteria throughout is likely to get a mark of 65, and one that largely matches the 2.1 criteria but includes some at a higher level is likely to receive 68.