Public Opinion and Voting Behavior

Spring 2011 (992)

Instructor: Prof. Frank C. S. Liu

Time: T 14:10 - 17:00
Office Hours: M & F 1-4pm or by appointment
Classroom: 社 3008
Office: 社 4041
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Phone Number: 07-5252000 ext. 5555
Course Syllabus: http://www2.nsysu.edu.tw/politics/liu

Course Description

This is a course for graduate students to prepare or advance their own projects on political behavior or public opinion. The course will focus on the review of classics about voters and information processing and the exploration of recent inspiring research works. This is a theory-oriented course, so the topics will not be constrained to Taiwan context. Studies, however, are encouraged to discover interesting phenomena that have not been identified by American political scientists. The topics addressed in this class include political identification, belief system, social networks, voter preferences, and media effects.

Course Texts and Readings

The course requires active participation in reading assigned materials. Most articles are available on university's electronic journal archives. A copy of required book chapters and some journal articles that are not available in the library or databases (marked with ** in the end of the entry) will be put in a basket with a proper label in the institute office one week before the class. You can also make a good use of the interlibrary loan system.

Grading Policy

- Class Participation (30%): Involvement in class discussion include your attendance, questions provided for discussion, and respondances to questions. You are asked to read through the given materials before the class and bring thoughts to the class. You will be assigned a week to play as a discussion leader.
- Semester Project (70%): Pick up a subject related to the course, not limited to the topics listed below, and present your effort to answer a question raised by scholars or your self. You need to cite at least 8 international journal articles and explain how these papers contribute to your research proposal. You must present a prelimative findings or arguments in your paper, and present your paper in the end of the semester.

Weekly Schedule

[2月25日 & (3月1日)] 開學暖身週
- 推薦閱讀：Buchanan, Mark. 2007. The Social Atom: whu the rich Get Richer, Gheaters Get Caught, and Your Neighbor Usually Looks Like You. 隱藏的選辨：掌握眾眾行行為的不敗公式（天下文化，2007）

[3月8] 主題一：國會選舉行為
- 3月8日：藍露潔教授主講台灣的國會選舉行行為（英語）

[3月15日] 主題二：網路投票

[3月22 & 29日] 主題三：經典研讀（一）
• The Origin of Voter Preferences
• Hong-Kong Studies:

[4月(5), 12 & 19日] 主題四：經典研讀（二）
* 4月5日 清明節停課
• Classics:
• 補充閱讀：

[4月26日 & 5月3日] 主題五：認同與偏好
• Party Identification
[5月10 & (17) 日]主題六：投票與其他政治參與行為

- 5月17日老師赴美參加學術會議，提前至5月10補課
- Voting Behavior


[5月24日] 學生自選主題一

  TBA

[5月31日] 學生自選主題二

  TBA

[6月7 & (14) 日] 學生自選主題三 & 期末展演

  6/14老師赴法參加會議，於6/7集中補課