

**Pols 465**

Dr. Randolph C. Horn

Fall 2004

RCHORN@Samford.edu

Class meetings: M 1:00-4:00, DBH 217

**Senior Seminar**

Phone: 726-2179

Office: DBH 108

Office Hours: T 3-4:00, W 1-2:00

&amp; by appointment

**Required Readings:**Earl Black and Merle Black 2002 *The Rise of Southern Republicans*. Belknap/Harvard University Press.*The New York Times*, daily**Course Description:**

This course is for political scientists at the end of their undergraduate careers; it emphasizes interpretive and research skills. While the common readings are thematic they are not intended to limit the scope or depth of the student's experience. The readings provide a focal point for discussion; students are expected to bring different strengths to the class, reflecting their interests. Similarly, students are not required nor even encouraged to carry the same theme into their independent research. Instead, this course provides an opportunity for students to explore issues that are of importance to them.

**Course Requirements:**

- 1) Students must be prepared for class, completing readings before class meetings.
- 2) Full participation is required. Three cuts will result in an FA. Absences may be excused with appropriate documentation.
- 3) Plagiarism is unacceptable.
- 4) Students performance will be evaluated in these areas:

Class Participation	10%	<b>Grades:</b> In ascending order, greater than 60%= D- greater than 63.3%= D greater than 66.6%= D+ greater than 70%= C- greater than 73.3%= C	greater than 76.6%= C+
Homework	30%		greater than 80%= B-
First paper submission	20%		greater than 83.3%= B
Presentation	10%		greater than 86.6%= B+
Final paper submission	<u>30%</u>		greater than 90%= A-
	100%		greater than 93.3%= A

**Class participation:** Class participation is required.

**Homework:** Homework refers to written work other than the research project. Students will make one-page progress reports each week and submit two-page synopses for each reading assignment. Progress reports and synopses are due at 9:00 a.m. on class meeting days (i.e. well before class).

**First paper submission:** A polished draft of the completed project is due 8 November. This submission is not a rough draft. Students will provide copies for discussants.

**Presentation:** Each student will present his or her research to the seminar and guests invited by the instructor. Other students will provide constructive criticism and encouragement.

**Political Science Field Exam:** All students will take this exam. No special preparation is required.

**Final submission:** Final submission of student research is due in class 6 December.

<b>Class Schedule</b>		
<b><u>Week</u></b>	<b><u>Session Topic/assignment</u></b>	<b><u>Notes</u></b>
Week 1 8/30	Introductions	
Week 2 9/06	Black 1-3	Short Paper Due
Week 3 9/13	Preliminary Topics	Topics (3) Due
Week 4 9/20	Black 4-6	Short Paper Due
Week 5 9/27	Final Topic	Short Paper Due
Week 6 10/04	Black 7-9	Short Paper Due
Week 7 10/11	Annotated bibliography	
Week 8 10/18	Black 10-12	Short Paper Due
Week 9 10/25	Fall Break: No Class	
Week 10 11/1	Prospectus, Outline with citations	
Week 11 11/8	First submission due	
Week 12 11/15	Presentations	
Week 13 11/22	Presentations	
Week 14 11/29	Political Science Field Examination	
Week 15 12/6	Final drafts due	Last Class (12/6)

Samford University complies with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act. Students with disabilities who seek accommodations must make their request by contacting Disability Support Services, located in Counseling Services on the lower level of Pittman Hall (telephone number: 726-4078 or 726-2105). A faculty member will grant reasonable accommodations only upon written notification from Disability Support Services.