



GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY
Semester in Washington, DC Program

**SDCP 352-30: Law, Politics & Legislation Academic Seminar/Internship (3 credit hours)
Summer 2015 Syllabus
June 1-July 24, 2015**

<i>Faculty information:</i>	Carter Cornick
<i>Faculty contact information:</i>	ccornick@dawsonassociates.com; 703-915-8201
<i>Faculty office hours and location:</i>	By appointment
<i>Course meeting times and location:</i>	Fridays 8:30-10:30 am, Classroom C-223 640 Massachusetts Ave NW, Washington DC

OBJECTIVES

Most people, across all walks of life and regardless of age, have strong opinions about politics and government – to include firm views about those leaders we put in charge to make policy and law. This course will take a fresh look – from the perspective of a practitioner – at our unique style of government: what form it is (and why that matters); how it works (or doesn't, and why); and who is in charge. Students will examine how our leaders take their respective roles and how federal policy is made. Students will have the opportunity to hear from former and current members of Congress (and other senior officials), as they make presentations to the class. The seminar will draw heavily on current events- in the Congress, with the Administration, and on issues before the Supreme Court.

REQUIREMENTS

Reading Materials: Students are expected to do all the required readings before class and come to class prepared to discuss and engage other students as well as the professor in thoughtful and respectful discussion. **Reading assignments will be posted on the course intranet site the week before they are to be read.** There are three books to purchase for the course: **The Federalist Papers (Signet Classics, Mass Market Paperback-** This edition is introduced, with notes, by Charles R. Kesler and edited by Clinton Rossiter); **It's Even Worse Than It Looks** by Thomas Mann and Norman Ornstein; and **The PARTISAN DIVIDE: Congress in Crisis**, by Tom Davis, Martin Frost, & Richard E. Cohen.

GRADING

Attendance Policy: SWP student attendance is expected at all meetings of your course. Unexcused tardiness is not acceptable and may result in a lower final grade as an indication of a lack of class participation. If a student misses more than two class sessions, the Assistant Dean will be contacted regarding the appropriate action to be take.

Late Submissions: Assignments are due on the days indicated in the course outline. No late assignments will be accepted without reasonable excuse to be determined at the sole discretion of the Professor.

Incomplete Assignments: Shall be treated with the grade of F.

Grading Scale: Students will be given numerical grades for their various assignments. These numerical grades, when added up to form their final grades, will be converted into letter grades according to the following scale:

A	93-100
A-	90-92.99
B+	88-89.99
B	83-87.99
B-	80-82.99
C+	78-79.99
C	73-77.99
C-	70-72.99
D	60-69.99
F	under 60

Evaluation: Class participation - 15%
 One short writing assignment - 15%
 Internship evaluations -20%
 e-portfolio writing assignments -20% Blog site link:
<https://blogs.commonsgorgetown.edu/sdcp-352-30-summer2015/>
 Final writing assignment -30%

Late Attendance: Students are required to come to class on-time unless there is a reasonable excuse that is conveyed to the Professor in advance.

Incomplete Option: Students are expected to complete all coursework by the end of the semester in which that coursework is taken. In extreme, documented instances (typically related to unexpected, documented health reasons), it may be necessary for students to request an Incomplete, "N," grade and a limited extension of time to complete the required coursework. Incompletes are not automatic, and should be requested first by the student of the professor. If the professor grants a student additional time to complete the coursework, and the work is completed by the date established by the professor on or before the incomplete deadline, the "N" is changed to the appropriate grade.

COURSE OUTLINE

Last year, speakers included Congressman Frank Wolf (former Georgetown Law alumnus) and Mo Elleithee, Communications Director and Spokesman for the Democratic National Committee (DNC). Possible speakers for this year include US Senator Tim Kaine, former US Senator Olympia Snowe, and former Congressmen Tom Davis and Martin Frost, as well as senior staff from House Speaker John Boehner's Office, and leadership staff in the office of the Administrator of the U.S. DOT Transit Administration (as well as key officials from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development).

June 5: Introduction & Politics, Legislation and Law – The Basics

Readings: U.S. Constitution
 + Select essays from the Federalist Papers
 (read 3 of 7 from the following: Essay #s 1, 10, 14, 39, 51, 70, 78)

Assignment: In two paragraphs or less (150 words max), describe our form of federal government. Bring to first class.

June 12: The Basics (cont.) and Candidates, Elections, Politics & Policy – Part I

Readings: Select essays from the Federalist Papers
 (read 3 of 4 that you did not choose from Wk 1 list above) + Read Chapter 1, The New Politics of Hostage Taking, Mann/Ornstein book

June 19: Candidates, Elections, Politics & Policy – Part II - Guest Speaker

Readings: Finish Part 1 + Start Part II of Mann/Ornstein book (read chapters 2, 3, & 4) + Additional readings to be announced (will be posted on course intranet site 7 days before due)

Short Writing Assignment (#1) Due

**June 26: Candidates, Elections, Politics & Policy – Part III
(– Or, “ What you see is what you get” – Tea Party, Term Limits, Unions, Money and Speech/ campaign finance, politics vs. policy & more)**

Readings: Finish Part II, Mann/Ornstein book, read chapters 5, 6, & 7 + Additional readings to be announced (will be emailed or posted on course intranet site 7 days before due)

Interim Internship Evaluations due to SWP Assistant Dean by June 29.

Submit Interim Internship Evaluations

**July 3: Politics, Policy, Legislation & Law – U.S. House of Representatives/ Guest Speaker
(Article I, Constitution; Budget – process, timelines, practice; Appropriations – process, timelines, practice; Authorization – process, practice, policy)**

Readings: Start Davis/Frost/Cohen book, read 6 chapters through “Moneyball”) + Additional readings to be announced (will be emailed or posted on course intranet site 7 days before due)

**July 10 Politics, Policy, Legislation & Law – U.S. Senate/ Guest Speaker
(Article 1, Constitution; Budget – process, timelines, practice; Appropriations – process, timelines, practice; Authorization – process, practice, policy)**

Readings: Continue Davis/Frost/Cohen book, read 6 chapters through “House Elections...” + extra readings to be announced (will be emailed/posted on course intranet site 7 days before due)

Submit Topic and Outline for Final Writing Assignment (#2)

**July 17: Politics, Policy, Legislation & Law – The Executive/ President’s Administration
(Article II, Constitution; Budget – process, timelines, practice; Interface with Congress on Appropriations and Authorization – process, practice, policy)**

Readings: Finish Davis, et.al. book + Additional readings to be announced (will be emailed or posted on course intranet site 7 days before due)

**July 24: Politics, Policy, Legislation & Law – The Judiciary/ Supreme Court issues
(Article III, Constitution; “strict construction” or not, Constitution as a guide or as the answer; politics and law)**

Readings: To be announced (will be emailed or posted on course intranet site 7 days before due)

Final Internship Evaluations due to SWP Assistant Dean by July 24.

Submit Final Internship Evaluations

Submit Final Writing Assignment

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND HONOR CODE

Academic Integrity: All students within SCS will maintain the highest standards of academic and personal integrity in pursuit of their education at Georgetown. Academic dishonesty in any form is a serious offense, and students found in violation are subject to academic penalties that include, but are not limited to, failure of the course and termination from the program.

Citation system: An important aspect of academic integrity is using an acknowledged system of bibliographic references to document the sources of ideas and quotations in one's work. Examples include APA style, MLA style, and Turabian. Students select and notify the Professor as to the method they choose to incorporate in their Issue Paper.

Plagiarism: The presentation of someone else's ideas or work as your own is unacceptable. The sources for all information and ideas in your papers that are not your own must be documented using the documentation system followed by the American Psychological Association or the Modern Language Association. In addition, all quotations must be identified as quotations, using quotation marks and documenting the source of the quotation. Anything less than these standards is plagiarism and will be treated as such. Work that appears to have been plagiarized, or otherwise violates the Honor Code, will be reported to Georgetown's Honor Council. If the Council finds that the work violates the University's standards of academic honesty, the work will receive a grade of zero (0) for the assignment – for the first offense. A second infraction will result in a grade of F for the course. The Honor Council may impose sanctions of its own as well.

The Honor Code pledge: All students in this course are expected to follow Georgetown's honor code unconditionally. We assume you have read the honor code material located at www.georgetown.edu/honor, and in particular have read the following documents:

“Honor Council Pamphlet”

“What is Plagiarism?”

“Sanctioning Guidelines”

Submitting material in fulfillment of the requirements of this course means that you have abided by the Georgetown University honor pledge:

In the pursuit of the high ideals and rigorous standards of academic life, I commit myself to respect and uphold the Georgetown Honor System: To be honest in any academic endeavor, and to conduct myself honorably, as a responsible member of the Georgetown community, as we live and work together.

OTHER ITEMS

Faculty Bio: Carter Cornick graduated from the University of Virginia in 1986, with a Masters Degree in Government and Foreign Affairs. He earned his B.A. from UVA in 1984. He has over 25 years of professional experience, having served in the Congress for Members of the House and Senate, two Administrations, and in the private sector. In 1987, Mr. Cornick began a 17 year career on Capitol Hill. He worked for 6 Members of the House of Representatives in jobs ranging from Deputy Chief of Staff to Communications Director to Legislative Assistant, and he played a major role in drafting, negotiating and passing a number of pieces of legislation. For nearly 8 years he worked for U.S. Senator John Warner, former Chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, first as his Communications Director and Committee Spokesman (Senate Rules Committee and Armed Services Committee) and finally, from 2007 to 2009, as his Chief of Staff. From 2002 to 2007, Mr. Cornick served as one of the top political appointees at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

He carried the role of Acting Assistant Secretary for Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations and was the Secretary's point man for all activity with the U.S. Congress. He also played a key role in representing the Department in interagency initiatives on community and economic development matters. In 2007, Mr. Cornick testified before the House Financial Services Committee for HUD on the subject of Government Sponsored Enterprises (Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac) reform. Since 2009, Mr. Cornick has worked in the private sector, both independently and as a Senior Vice President at Cassidy & Associates. He is presently a Senior Advisor at Dawson & Associates in Washington, DC.

Counseling and Psychiatric Service (CAPS): CAPS serves as the university's primary mental health agency for its students and campus community. CAPS staff collaborates directly with students in overcoming difficulties that may interfere with the accomplishment of their educational, personal, and career goals. To learn more about CAPS services please visit: <http://caps.georgetown.edu/>.

Students with Disabilities Policy: Students with disabilities should contact the Academic Resource Center (Leavey Center, Suite 335; 202-687-8354; arc@georgetown.edu; <http://ldss.georgetown.edu/index.cfm>) before the start of classes to allow their office time to review the documentation and make recommendations for appropriate accommodations. If accommodations are recommended, you will be given a letter from ARC to share with your professors. You are personally responsible for completing this process officially and in a timely manner. Neither accommodations nor exceptions to policies can be permitted to students who have not completed this process in advance.

Academic Recourse Center (ARC): ARC strives to facilitate the success of Georgetown students through services for students with disabilities, student-athletes, and any student facing academic challenges. To learn more about how ARC please visit: <http://guarc.georgetown.edu/>.

Georgetown Writing Center: As a member of the Georgetown community, you will have full access to the University Writing Center (<http://writingcenter.georgetown.edu>) located in Lauinger Library 217A. Offered to students at all levels, the center's tutoring has proved helpful to those wishing to improve their grammar and style, to respond more effectively to assignments, to learn to organize both short papers and lengthy research projects, and to turn first drafts into publishable projects. Some students seek assistance on a regular basis; some only occasionally. For well-established students, the writing tutors have also offered on-line help, responding to questions about papers submitted through email attachments and counseling students through phone conferences.

Classroom Etiquette: Students should turn off all cell phones, pagers, or other communication devices while in class. Class discussions should be respectful and considerate of others' views and opinions.

Inclement Weather, School Closings and Other Emergencies: During inclement weather or other emergencies, check: <http://preparedness.georgetown.edu>, or call (202) 687-7669 for information about school/event closings. If the university is open, class will meet on schedule. Should the university be closed class will not meet, however, any written assignments submitted through Blackboard will be due as usual. Students are advised to sign up for the text messaging service for instant notification of school closings. You may sign up for this service at Student Access+ .

End of Syllabus