



POL 110J: Power in American Society

Winter 2012

Professor R. Allen Bolar
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Course Website

- allenbolar.wordpress.com
- Teaching menu -> POL 110J (Winter 2012)
- So,
<http://allenbolar.wordpress.com/teaching/pol-110j-power-in-american-society-winter-2012/>

Course Website

- There you will find...
 - Syllabus
 - Course readings
 - Some handouts on:
 - Writing a paper
 - Reading supreme court cases
 - Managing your anxiety
 - List of important dates
 - Assignments when it is time

Contact Information

- Mr. Bolar

- rbolar@ucsd.edu

- SSB #329

- Tuesdays, 3:30-5:30

- Mr. Haines

- kyhaines@ucsd.edu

- SSB #349

- Thursdays, 12:30-1:30

Assignments (aka how you are judged)

- Read! Read! Then Read!!!!1 1!!1!?!!!1!
 - Join the counterculture: read a book
- Attendance (10%) – $\frac{1}{2}$ % per class
- In-class midterm: Tuesday, week 5
 - 25%
- 7-page paper: Thursday, week 8
 - 25%
- Final Exam: Thursday 3-6pm, finals week
 - 40%

POL 110J

- The purpose of this course is to examine the ways in which political power and participation – *what it means to be a citizen* – have been contested over the course of American history.

What is Power?

- Can we find examples?

Examples of Power?



Examples of Power?



Examples of Power?



- Sheldon Adelson
 - Billionaire casino owner; friend of Newt Gingrich
 - Gave Mr. Gingrich \$5 million for his campaign
 - Legal since after supreme court case, *Citizens v. United* (2010)

Examples of Power?



Examples of Power?



Examples of Power?



- UC Davis Police Officer pepper spraying students on November 18, 2011

Examples of Power?



Examples of Power?



- Social expectations / gender roles

Examples of Power?



Examples of Power?



- Kim Kardashian
- Celebrity?
- Power?

What is Power?

What is Power?

- $P = W/t$
- Power is strength
- Power is influence
- Power is the ability to work one's will in the world. (All true, but I think this one is the best for our purposes)

What is Power?

- Types of power:

What is Power?

- Types of power:
 - Violent force & physical coercion

What is Power?

- Types of power:
 - Violent force & physical coercion
 - Economic influence

What is Power?

- Types of power:
 - Violent force & physical coercion
 - Economic influence
 - Legal

What is Power?

- Types of power:
 - Violent force & physical coercion
 - Economic influence
 - Legal
 - Cultural & Ideological

What is Power?

- Would you stop if a police car put their sirens on?
- Why?
- Do you believe that you should?

What is Power?

- Would you stop if a police car put their sirens on?
- Why?
- Do you believe that you should?

- What if your professor told you to pull over or you will get a bad grade?

What is Power?

- Power vs. Authority:
 - Power and authority are not the same, they are separable concepts

What is Power?

- Power vs. Authority:
 - Power and authority are not the same, they are separable concepts
 - Authority is the legitimate use of power.

What is Power?

- 3 types of Authority:
 - Traditional

What is Power?

- 3 types of Authority:
 - Traditional
 - Rational/legal

What is Power?

- 3 types of Authority:
 - Traditional
 - Rational/legal
 - Charismatic

Problems of Power and Authority in America

- Power without legitimacy is tyranny.

Problems of Power and Authority in America

- Power without legitimacy is tyranny.
- How is legitimacy created?
- To understand this, we need to understand some of the institutions of power in America
- So, for next time. We shall look at some documents that tell us something about the institutionalization of power / authority / legitimacy in America.

For Next Time

- *The Declaration of Independence*
- Thomas Paine's, *Common Sense*
- *The Federalist Papers*, #1 & 10

The End (for now)

