

CJVA454: English for Political Science



The English Major
@Audenary



Foucault: Schools serve the same
social function as prisons and mental
institutions

Foucault's mum: You're still going

2017-06-19, 10:28 AM

Let me introduce myself...

- Colin Kimbrell
- New Orleans, LA, USA
- Master's graduate from FSS MUNI in Energy Security
- PhD candidate, English teacher, translator, researcher
- Interested in international relations, sustainable development, energy transitions and energy justice
- Other hobbies: travelling, soccer, tennis, reading, hiking with my dogs



Agenda

- Course introduction
 - Objectives, requirements, expectations
- Narrowing of the topic & negotiation of the syllabus
- Video and discussion

But first...

...let's get warmed up.

Get to know a classmate:

Name

Area of study + year

Expectations for the course

Topic of interest/passion

Something interesting

Course objectives

- Primary aim: to provide students with the opportunity to use English in relation to their field of study (i.e. Political science/International relations/Security studies)
- Secondary aim: to improve students' English through practical application
- Course focus:
 - Reading and watching videos about and discussing major issues related to political science from around the world

Course requirements

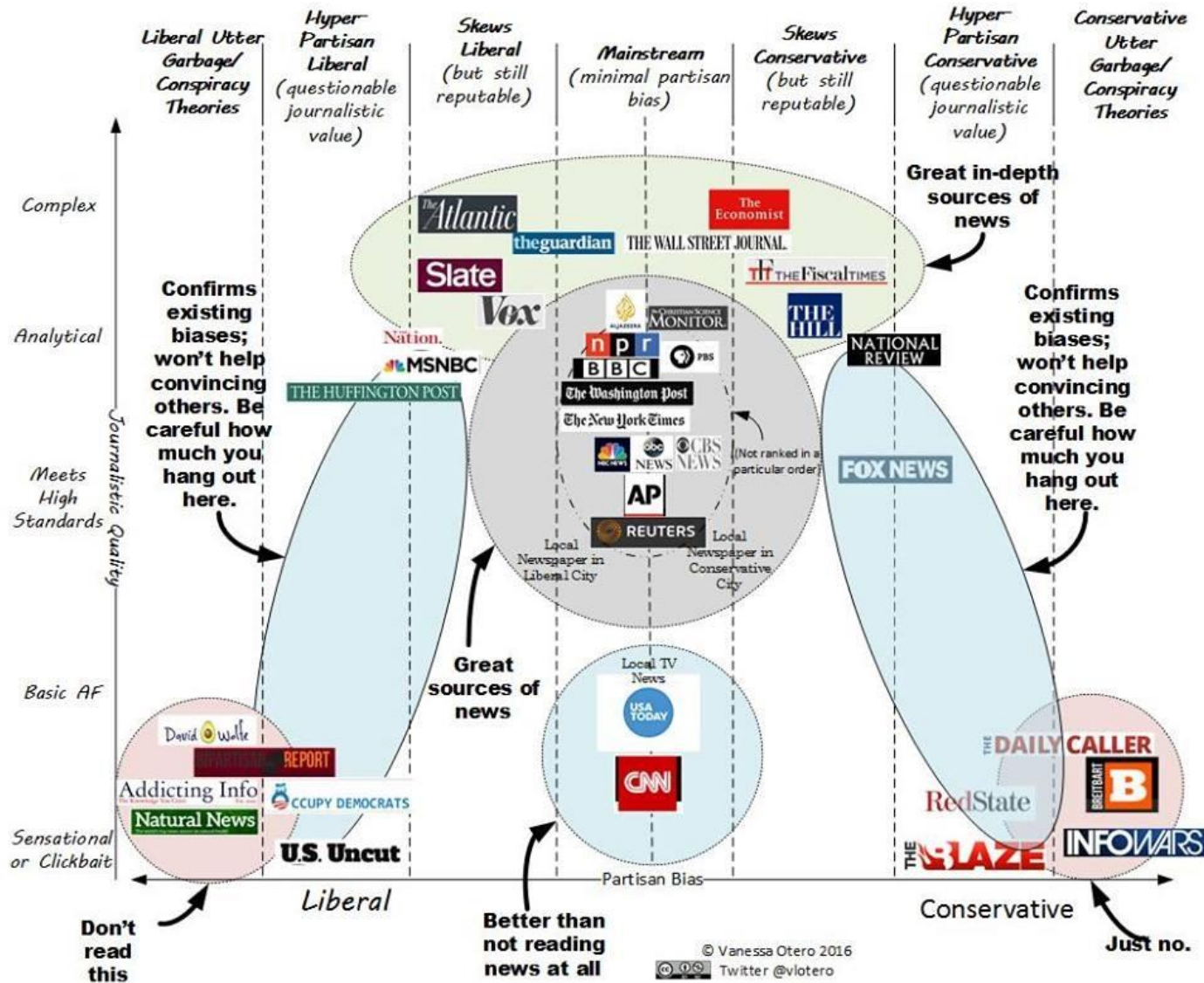
- Regular attendance (max. 2 unexcused absences)

- Continuous assessment:
 - ✓ Active participation
 - ✓ Delivering a presentation on a relevant topic
 - ✓ Giving leads on current issues
 - ✓ Writing an argumentative essay/position paper

Other expectations

- “Stay woke”, i.e. be prepared for class.
- Don’t be afraid to ask questions (you can even bring specific questions to class).
- Do additional work on your own outside of class and beyond the course requirements.
- Be open minded and respectful; maintain a positive attitude!

Other expectations





Pop quiz

(no internet allowed)



Question 1

How many sovereign countries have English as an official (*de facto* or *de jure*) language? ($\pm 10\%$)



Question 2

Who are the current president and prime minister of the Czech Republic? Who were the president and prime minister of the first Czechoslovak Republic?



Question 3

For half a point each, name the current Prime Minister of New Zealand and the party which he/she represents.



Question 4

For reasons of abstentionism, 7 seats in the House of Commons of the British Parliament are “unfilled”. Name the party that holds those seats (or try to explain the situation).



Question 5

Name the two congressional bodies of the United States government for half a point each. For an additional half a point each, give the total number of seats in each.



Question 6

Name the two houses of UK Parliament for half a point each.



Question 7

Name the two main parties in the United Kingdom and their current leaders (half a point each).



Question 8

This country is the most populous in Africa as well as the continent's largest economy and has English as its official language. Name the country.

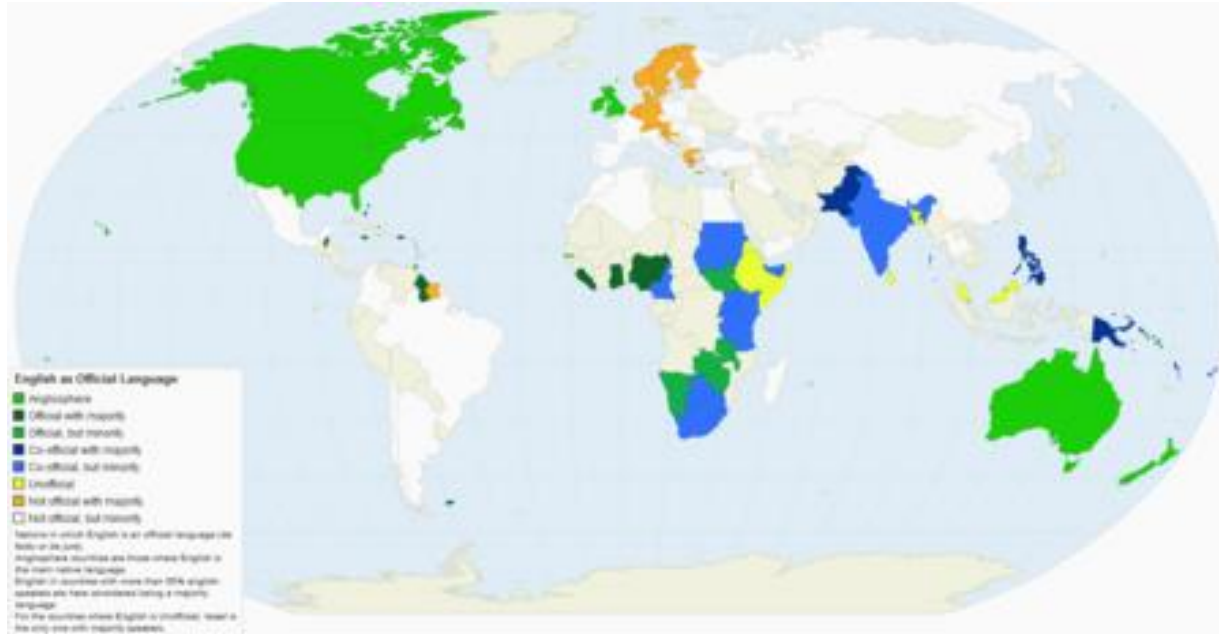


Answers

Question 1

How many sovereign countries have English as an official (*de facto* or *de jure*) language? ($\pm 10\%$)

- 73 ($\pm 10\% = 63-80$)



Question 2

Who are the current president and prime minister of the Czech Republic? Who were the president and prime minister of the first Czechoslovak Republic?

Current: Milos Zeman (president)
Andrej Babis (PM)

First: T.G. Masaryk (president)
Karel Kramar (PM)



Question 3

For half a point each, name the current Prime Minister of New Zealand and the party which he/she represents.

Jacinda Ardern

Labour Party



Question 4

For reasons of abstentionism, 7 seats in the House of Commons of the British Parliament are “unfilled”. Name the party that holds those seats (or try to explain the situation).



Question 5

Name the two congressional bodies of the United States government for half a point each. For an additional half a point each, give the total number of seats in each.

- House of Representatives (435), Senate (100)



Question 6

Name the two houses of UK Parliament for half a point each.

- House of Commons, House of Lords

Question 7

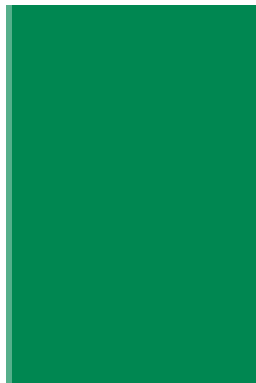
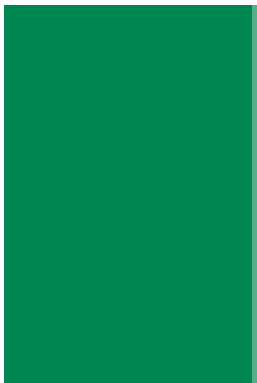
Name the two main parties in the United Kingdom and their current leaders (half a point each).

- Conservative Party (Theresa May...still)
- Labour Party (Jeremy Corbyn)

Question 8

This country is the most populous in Africa as well as the continent's largest economy and has English as its official language. Name the country.

- Nigeria



Narrowing the topic

- What are the major issues in political science and international relations at present?
- Which countries are you most interested in learning and reading about?
- How much do you already know about the governmental structures of those countries and the current issues?

Syllabus negotiation

- What are the key issues at present? What topics would you most like to cover in this course?