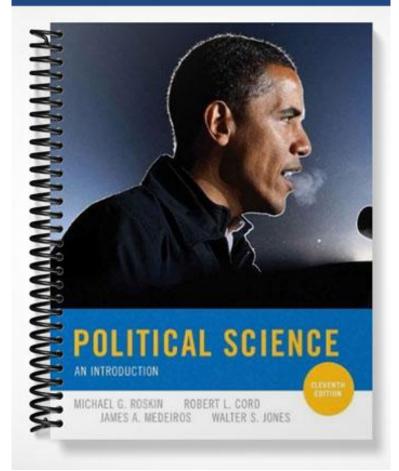
# TEST BANK



# **Instructor's Manual & Test Bank**

to accompany

**Roskin • Cord • Medeiros • Jones** 

# **Political Science: An Introduction, 11e**

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#### Chapter 1 POLITICS AND POLITICAL SCIENCE

#### Learning Objectives

- 1. Why did politics fall out of favor? Is it now back?
- 2. What does it mean to "never get angry at a fact"?
- 3. Why did Aristotle call politics "the master science"?
- 4. What did Machiavelli bring to the study of politics?
- 5. How are legitimacy, sovereignty, and authority different but similar?
- 6. Is the Iraqi government now legitimate? How can you tell?
- 7. Is politics largely biological, psychological, cultural, rational, or irrational?
- 8. How can something as messy as politics be a science?

#### Summary

This book argues that politics matters. Politics plays an important role in much human activity. The goal of the book is to provide the reader with information about how politics works and the role that each person plays in the political life of their society. Many people view politics as distasteful, immoral, corrupt, and just "plain dirty." Just because something is distasteful does not mean that it can't be studied.

Political science is an interdisciplinary field of study that focuses on questions and issues related to power and how power is distributed and used. The Greek philosopher Aristotle is recognized as the founder of political science. He argued that politics is the "master science" because almost everything happens in a political context. Political science is interdisciplinary because it borrows from many other disciplines in the social sciences: history, human geography, economics, sociology, anthropology, and psychology.

History provides much of the data used in political science. While historians study one episode in detail, political scientists collect information on numerous episodes to find generalizations about what happened and why it could happen again. Human geography affects politics in conflicts over borders and the relationships between levels of government. Economics also play an important role in the distribution of power. Sociology examines the social relations of people and provides an empirical basis to political culture, public opinion, and electoral studies. Anthropology – traditionally the study of ancient societies – provides research tools to help political scientists understand the work of politics. Finally, psychology provides clues as to the personalities involved in politics. The discipline of political science can be divided into several sub-disciplines. U.S. politics or American politics focuses on institutions and processes in the United States. Comparative politics examines political processes either in one country or across regions of countries. International relations studies the politics that occur between nations. Political theory seeks to find the "good polity" as described by the major thinkers. Public administration seeks to understand bureaucracies. Constitutional law examines the application of the Constitution in the American legal system. Public policy discusses the development of effective policies.

Focusing on power, political science discusses the similarities and differences between the five major explanations for the origins of power: biological, psychological, cultural, rational, and irrational. The discipline suggests that power could be a composite of all of these explanations.

Chapter 1 provides evidence suggesting that political science is a science. In their work, political scientists quantify data to validate hypotheses. In conducting research, political scientists are empirical in that they seek to describe things as they are and not as they wish them to be. Most political scientists cannot be completely unattached to what they are studying, but they work to produce research that is reasoned, balanced, and supported with evidence. Such research also should provide some theoretical information to advance thinking on the topic. By conducting research, political scientists hope to improve people's lives and build societies.

#### Essay and Discussion Questions

1. What is the underlying likeness among the concepts of legitimacy, sovereignty, and authority?

Bloom's level: Analysis Page reference: p. 8-9

2. Is it even theoretically possible for human communities to govern themselves without "power"? Why couldn't societies be based on love and sharing?

Bloom's level: Evaluation Page reference: p. 7-13

3. It can be easily demonstrated that humans are not very rational. Why then would one wish to base a political system on the supposition that people are rational?

Bloom's level: Application Page reference: p. 11 4. Should the study of politics be treated as a science?

Bloom's level: Evaluation Page reference: p. 13-17

5. What does it mean to "never get angry at a fact?"

Bloom's level: Knowledge Page reference: p. 5

#### Multiple Choice Questions

6. Hegel argued that a. facts speak for themselves. b. precepts without concepts are meaningless. \*c. whatever exists must have a reason for it. d. you should never get angry at a fact. Bloom's level: Knowledge Page reference: p. 5 7. The technique for studying things in an objective way is a. validity. b. rationality. \*c. methodology. d. validation. Bloom's level: Knowledge Page reference: p. 7 8. The collapse of regimes in Eastern Europe showed they lacked \*a. legitimacy b. authority c. sovereignty d. power Bloom's level: Application Page reference: p. 8-9 9. "Legitimacy" in political science refers to a. legality \*b. rightful rule c. birth status d. patriotism Bloom's level: Knowledge Page reference: p. 8-9

10. "Sovereignty" is best described as

a. having more power than anyone else in the system.

- \*b. being boss on one's own turf.
- c. having legitimacy at the national level.
- d. the power of a monarch over his kingdom.

Bloom's level: Knowledge Page reference: p. 8-9

11. President Nixon suffered an erosion of executive a. legitimacy. b. sovereignty. c. legality.

\*d. authority.

Bloom's level: Application Page reference: p. 8-9

12. In broadest terms, "political power" is

- \*a. the ability to get another to do something.
- b. command of the means of coercion.
- c. control over the legal structure of government.
- d. being treated with deference and respect.

Bloom's level: Knowledge Page reference: p. 7

Bloom's level: Knowledge Page reference: p. 7

- 14. The Milgram study found that people
  - a. talk back to authority figures.
  - \*b. obey authority figures.
  - c. try to become authority figures.
  - d. are naturally cruel.

Bloom's level: Knowledge Page reference: p. 9-10

15. The term "cultural" in political science refers to a. intellectual level.b. innate behavior.\*d. learned behavior.

Bloom's level: Knowledge Page reference: p. 10-11 16. Hitler illustrates the \_\_\_\_\_\_ theory of political power. a. rational \*b. irrational c. biological d. cultural

Bloom's level: Application Page reference: p. 11-12

- 17. Politics
  - a. can be quantified, like a natural science.
  - b. cannot be quantified, so it cannot be a science.
  - c. cannot be quantified, but it's still a science.
  - \*d. can be partially quantified.

Bloom's level: Knowledge Page reference: p. 13-15

18. Eliminating bias from the study of politics is

- a. possible and required of political scientists.
- \*b. difficult but should be promoted.
- c. impossible because we all have political views.
- d. not necessary so long as there are competing views.

Bloom's level: Application Page reference: p. 15-17

19. A(n) \_\_\_\_\_\_ is an initial theory a researcher starts with.a. thesis b. argument c. synthesis \*d. hypothesis

Bloom's level: Knowledge Page reference: p. 13-14

20. Political scientists' best contribution to governance is in

- \*a. warning of coming trouble.
- b. writing good constitutions.
- c. training people to become effective politicians.
- d. advising politicians how to win elections.

Bloom's level: Knowledge Page reference: p. 17-18

21. A(n) \_\_\_\_\_\_ study uses numbers to demonstrate a point. a. empirical \*b. quantified c. qualified d. scholarly

Bloom's level: Knowledge Page reference: p. 13-14

| 22. "Political" come | s from the Gro | eek word for |          |
|----------------------|----------------|--------------|----------|
| *a. city-state.      | b. society.    | c. power.    | d. rule. |

Bloom's level: Application Page reference: p. 4

23. \_\_\_\_\_ first emphasized the role of power in politics. a. Plato b. Aristotle c. Morgenthau \*d. Machiavelli

Bloom's level: Knowledge Page reference: p. 7

24. The book urges you to study a chapter by a. outlining it.

- b. making a tree diagram of it.
- \*c. writing its three main points.
- d. turning it into a series of questions.

Bloom's level: Knowledge Page reference p. 14

25. Quakers aim to

- \*a. speak Truth to Power.
- b. seek Truth from Reason.
- c. practice Action from Love.
- d. turn Wisdom to Power.

Bloom's level: Knowledge Page reference: p. 18

26. \_\_\_\_\_ is the subfield of political science that studies politics within other countries.

| a. Political theory        | c. Constitutional law    |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| b. International relations | *d. Comparative politics |

Bloom's level: Knowledge Page reference: p. 12

27. \_\_\_\_\_\_ is the subfield of political science that studies politics among countries.

a. Political theory c. Constitutional law

\*b. International relations d. Comparative politics

Bloom's level: Knowledge Page reference: p. 12

# 28. Kant argued that

- a. facts speak for themselves.
- \*b. precepts without concepts are meaningless.
- c. whatever exists must have a reason for it.
- d. you should never get angry at a fact.

Bloom's level: Comprehension Page reference: p. 15