**MSJC Political Science 101**

**Study Questions – Chapter 10**

NOTE: Sections marked with an asterisk (\*) must be read and questions answered at home. Sections without an asterisk will be covered in class.

10.1\*

1. What is meant by public opinion?
2. Compare the ideas of elitism and pluralism as it relates to public opinion.
3. In general, how did the founding fathers feel towards public opinion in the *Federalist* papers?
4. In general, what are the three values that most Americans agree on?

10.2\*

1. What is political culture?
2. Explain three major shifts in public opinion resulting in a shift in American politics.
3. Explain what is meant by cohort replacement.
4. Give examples of how popular culture can influences political values and opinions.
5. Explain the three theories explaining the relationship between popular culture and political culture: catalyst-for-change theory, barometer of public attitudes theory and interactive theory.

10.3\*

1. What is meant by political ideology?
2. Explain, in general terms, basic beliefs of liberals.
3. Explain, in general terms, basic beliefs of conservatives.
4. Explain, in general terms, the basic beliefs of populists and libertarians.

10.4\*

1. What is meant by political socialization?
2. Briefly explain how the following are agents of political socialization: family, school, peers and community, religion, media, world events.

10.5\*

1. What is meant by crosscutting cleavages?
2. Which factors usually have an impact on whether an individual becomes a Democrat, Republican or other party member?
3. How does education affect political views in general?
4. How does religion affect political views in general?
5. In general, how does race and ethnicity affect political views?
6. In general, how does gender affect political views?

10.6\*

1. What is meant by “spiral of silence” and the “bandwagon effect”?
2. Explain why polls might be misleading.
3. Explain how language of questions can change the results of surveys.
4. Explain how polls are measured for accuracy.
5. What are pseuo-polls and why are they controversial?
6. Explain what is meant by a focus on the “horse race” and why it might be a problem.