

Facing the problem

Section 1

Maximizing this course

lecture #2

Thank you for taking this course. It's my first. To create this course, I've had to make do with low budget items. But I trust you will find the quality of the content well worth your time. As revenue pours in, I'll be better equipped to make any improvements you recommend.

Following the format

Your time is valuable. So I get to the point quickly, and move on. Each section contains only three "lectures" or what I prefer to call **content units**. You follow this with a brief recap unit. Then conclude each section with a short quiz to internalize your learning experience.

By moving through the material swiftly, I respect your interest level. Those needing to go deeper into the material may want to check out my other courses, once I have them up and ready. More on that later.

I will be introducing you to many new concepts and terms. You will find a complete glossary in the BONUS section, as an added resource.

The material can be quite dense at times. You may want to click the "rewind the last 15s" button (lower left of video viewing page) to revisit a point or two. Or just rewatch the entire video, to catch stuff you may miss the first time around. The consistent format should make it easier to navigate.

Engaging the content

Each content unit follows a predictable format itself. Each content unit:

- opens with an <u>activating question</u> or questions, to jar your thinking about that unit's theme
- humorous exchange between "Left" and "Right" to illustrate the theme's political conflict
- title card and evocative quote for the unit's theme
- body of the unit to seriously engage the unit's theme, often grouped into segments tied together
- closing summary and what to expect next

Beyond these elements is some variety. Such as the occasional illustrative diagram and other illustrations, some more of "Left" and "Right" to pick your funny bone, and sometimes an image rich slide show.

Distilling the content

I **recap** each section to highlight the key points. This includes a summary of each content unit, and the chief takeaway for the whole section.

If you take all the courses in this series, these quick summaries may help jog your mind as you take the full journey toward overcoming polarization, and divisive politics. Each course is structured similarly to this one.

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Checking your learning

Each section wraps up with a three item **quiz**, to check your learning. You start with a soft ball quiz, nothing too heavy as you're just getting started. Half way through, the quizzes get more challenging as they prompt you to apply the material. By the end, you will learn as much from the quizzes as the lectures themselves.

Budgeting your time

I crafted this tight course structure with your valuable time in mind. To get it done quickly, you could get through each section under an hour. So if you do a section, take a break, then do one more, you could feasibly get through this whole course within a week.



Or one a day, after blowing through the very short first section.



Or you could pace yourself more slowly. Two sections a week to get it done within a month.



Or three a week, done in three weeks.



Or perhaps you can only spare a few minutes each day, and spread it out one unit at a time.



Whatever it takes to complete this course that fits your schedule. So you can get to that bonus unit.

I value your input

At any time you need to ask me a question or have a comment, just hit "b" to pause the video to post your question or comment. Go ahead and suggest improvements. While I'm new at this, I will do my best to promptly read your posts, and reply as needed.

Your engaging feedback

Soon enough, as you take this course, Udemy will ask you to rate this course, along a five-star continuum. You can then optionally "tell us more" by answering six basic questions with "yes" or "no" or "not sure."

Are you learning valuable information?

Are the explanations of concepts clear?

Is the instructor's delivery engaging?

Are there enough helpful practice activities?

Was the course description accurate?

Is the instructor knowledgeable about the topic?

You can always answer these later in the course.

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You know what's truly helpful? Providing a short testimonial to give flavor to your course rating. It's a great way for you to let others know if you felt this material was a good fit for your needs, so others can see if it may be a good fit for them.

I just ask you to briefly give a "glow," a "grow," and a "go."

- Glow = what you like about the course
- **Grow** = what could improve the course for you (and for others)
- Go = an actionable item I could do to make that improvement happen

You will see this simple format again at the end of this course. You will be utilizing it beyond this course, when ready to step out beyond political polarization.

I have no control when Udemy will prompt you for this review. You are free to delay this, and offer your assessment later after taking more of it in. Just click the option "too early, will rate later."

You are also free to edit your review at any time. Others are counting on you for a helpful assessment, so I trust you will inform them well.

And now let's isolate the problem...