

POLITICAL SCIENCE 1 - GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES 3.00 UNITS - (UC,CSU) Lecture 3 hours.

Course: This is a college level course with undergraduate credit that is transferable to accredited colleges and universities. Essential parts of the class include attendance, participation, assigned readings, critical thought, writing and college level learning. Students study the U.S. Constitution and the major principles, institutions and policies of the American federal system. Mission Catalog Description: *Principles, institutions, functions, and policy processes of the American Political System: including ideology and government; the constitution; federalism; Congress; the Presidency, the Judiciary; Civil Rights and Liberties; the media, elections and voting, political parties, interest groups. Also includes California government structure and constitution.*

Our class meets for a 16-week period on Tuesdays from 6:50 to 10:00PM from August 27th to December 10th. There will be assignments with deadlines given on an on-going basis throughout the term of the class. This traditional in person class has about 54 hours of lecture and substantial work required outside of class.

You will need to use and check your Canvas account regularly. Check your grades, messages, announcements, and complete your assignments within the timeframes provided. There may be public events and broadcasts that reflect the concepts we cover in Poli Sci 1. As they occur, I may want to have you follow the broadcast and/or event. Be sure to keep up with the assignments and communications.

Our course content will include the Openstax OER/ZTC textbook and other essential sources provided either in PDF, Word or by link to a website. There will be quizzes with questions from the end of each chapter and additional readings, and assignments related to the chapters covered.

Office Hours: I am available to communicate with students in person and by e-mail (cofercw@lamission.edu). I usually respond to email within 48 hours, probably sooner. I am available for office hours on Tuesdays from 600 to 640PM in CMS (Faculty Offices Second Floor or TBA. I can be available to meet at other times by request.

Accommodation: Students needing accommodation for this class are encouraged to notify the instructor (me) and seek appropriate support. At Mission the Office of Disabled Students Programs Services (DSPPS) is located in Instructional Building 1018 (<http://www.lamission.edu/dsps/>) 818-364-7732, TTD 818/364-7861. Additional information is also available at <http://www.lamission.edu/dsps/docs/Orientation%20Introduction.pdf>.

Academic Freedom and Safety: Academic freedom is honored - scholarly and considerately presented opinions are welcome. Everyone is entitled to a safe learning environment. Please inform me of any specific concerns. The Sheriff's Department is located on the Mission campus. Their number is 818-364-7843. If you need police assistance, call them directly or dial 911 (note: 911 may direct your call to another enforcement agency who will require time to forward the call back to Mission).

Student Conduct and Academic Integrity: Our class is a professional learning environment. Honest academic work is that created/produced by the author claiming credit for it. Policies regarding student conduct including academic dishonesty will be enforced. Academic Dishonesty and Violations of Academic Integrity include but are not limited to: cheating on an exam, plagiarism, working together on an assignment, paper or project when the instructor has specifically stated students should not do so, submitting the same term paper to more than one instructor, or allowing another individual to assume one's identity for the purpose of enhancing one's grade. Zero or no credit ("0" or "F") may be assigned for violations on assignments and exams. Cheating is a violation of academic integrity and Board Rule 9803.12. Penalties for cheating may include a grade of zero or "F" on an exam or paper, or even suspension from the College.

Recording class lectures requires the instructor's consent and if given is only for the purpose of your learning about the subjects discussed and may not be distributed. The Student Handbook, code(s) of conduct, Catalog and related Federal and State laws as well as LACCD Board Rules and/or valid policies are applicable.

Students often do better in class when they work together on learning the material covered, Feel free to form a study group for exams, meeting on campus in a common area and collaborate on assignments but do your own individual work.

Student Learning Outcome: Successful students will be/become able to: *1. Analyze and discuss the powers, roles, functions, and limitations of the duties of Federal, state, and local governments and the impact on individuals. 2. Analyze current American foreign policy and be able to put it into a historical perspective. 3. Differentiate initiatives, referendums and recalls in California Constitution and laws.*

Textbook: *American Government 2e*

available to you @ <https://openstax.org/details/books/american-government-2e>

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Commonly used software Word, Adobe PDF (free Adobe version) and reliable Internet access are required. A printed version of the text is available for purchase at the Mission Bookstore (previous edition is acceptable).

Enrollment, Attendance and Dropping: Students are responsible for enrolling and being enrolled in the class. Regular participation is part of the class. If you stop participating or wish to drop a class, I recommend that you drop the class yourself - officially - on or before the deadline. Failure to do so may result in a grade of "F" and/or be counted as an unsuccessful attempt. If my records indicate that you are not participating, I may drop you from the class in accordance with the college calendar and deadlines. Admissions information is available at <http://www.lamission.edu/admissions/> .

Drop Date Information: The deadline to drop without a "W" is Sunday, September 8th. The deadline to drop with a "W" is Sunday November 17th. If you must drop the course, it is suggested that you drop before the deadline for dropping a class without a grade of "W." A "W" counts as an unsuccessful attempt and students are limited to 3 attempts to pass a class. If you have any questions, please talk to me or ask. You may also see an academic counselor in Student Services Annex (818) 364-7655 or 7656 (<http://www.lamission.edu/counseling/>).

General Policies of the college are applicable and are available for review *in the official Catalog and Schedule of Classes* (<http://www.lamission.edu/Schedule/Assets/2019-2020-Catalog-Final.aspx>).

Financial Assistance: Financial assistance is available for books and other college expenses. If you need help paying for books and other college expenses, call or visit the Financial Aid Office at (818) 364-7648 or in the Annex of the Instructional Building or at <http://www.lamission.edu/financialaid/> .

Final Grades and Points Criteria:

15 Tests (20 points each)	300 Points
Homework File & Assignments (5 to 10 points each)	150 Points
Research Assignment	100 Points
Final Exam (You must attend class for the final exam).	100 Points
Total Points Possible	650 Points

Final Grades 585 to 650 = A 520 - 584 = B 455 - 519 = C 350 - 454 = D 0 - 349 = F.

Tests and the Final are 400 points, ~50% of your grade - do well on for them by reading the material thoroughly and studying. The Final Exam is cumulative and will be given only at the scheduled time. Points are substantially reduced for late work if it is accepted. In the event of unusual and exceptional circumstances the instructor may make appropriate adjustments in evaluating student work and determining student grades.

Homework File & Assignments Keep up with the homework assignments given throughout the semester and have a complete homework/assignment file by the end of the course - this is 150 points ~ 20% of your grade. Assignments are due by the Canvas due date - there may be substantial reductions in points for late work if it is accepted.

Research Assignment Completing a basic research assignment is part of the class. You have broad discretion in selecting a research topic, provided you follow instructions and base it on a recent congressional hearing.

The basic guideline/criterion for the research assignment follows. The 100 points are based on the following...

- 30 From a Congressional Hearing, identify/state/describe/introduce a problem in American politics.
Identify interested/affected parties. Why and how did the problem develop? What is the environment/setting/structure? Why is a legislative, executive and/or judicial remedy needed?
- 20 Sources - correctly identify the congressional committee or subcommittee, its chair, the so-called ranking member and the witnesses who provide testimony.
- 20 Basic Presentation - Present your information in class, c. 1 to 2 minutes.
- 30 Your Original Work - Discuss, Critical Thought/Research - Analyze, Evaluate and Interpret... Well written? Clear and complete sentences? Developed your concepts from the sources? Avoiding advocacy or promotion - analyzing? What does it mean? Can you understand and manage different views and facilitate others' understanding and consideration of a problem?

Schedule - Class occurs over a 16 week period starting the week of August 26th and ending December 10th with allowances for official holidays (No class on Thursday March 28th and Thursday April 4th).

Fall Semester Begins	Monday, August 26, 2019
Labor Day	Monday, September 2, 2019
Last day to Drop Class without a W or ADD	Sunday, September 8, 2019
Census Date	Monday, September 9, 2019*
Veterans' Day	Monday, November 11, 2019
Last Day to Drop with "W"	Sunday, November 17, 2019*
Final Exam Week	Monday December 9, 2019

See the official calendar for details <http://www.lamission.edu/students/calendar.aspx> .

Chapters in your text correspond to the topics and sections that are part of the class and lectures. There are fifteen chapters that correspond to the quizzes/exams and assignments for the course. There is a cumulative final exam at the end of the course. All assignments, including late ones (if accepted) are due by the last class meeting before the Final Exam. (See Canvas for class schedule including due date and assignments).

This is the tentative schedule and there will be adjustments.

Week	Dates	Modules & Chapters	Topic(s)	Notes
One	08/26 to 09/01	1	Comparative Overview and intro to American Government	Syllabus, Introduction, Canvas, email.
Two	09/02 to 09/08	1 & 2	Constitution	
Three	09/09 to 09/15	2 & 3	Federalism	
Four	09/16 to 09/22	3 & 4	Civil Liberties	
Five	09/23 to 09/29	4 & 5	Civil Rights	
Six	09/30 to 10/06	6 & 8	Public Opinion & Media	
Seven	10/07 to 10/13	7	Voting and Elections	
Eight	10/14 to 10/20	9	Political Parties	
Nine	10/21 to 10/27	10	Interest Groups & Lobbying	
Ten	10/28 to 11/03	Research Assignments	Student Papers and Presentations	Follow Instructions.
Eleven	11/04 to 11/10	11	Congress	
Twelve	11/11 to 11/17	12	Presidency	
Thirteen	11/18 to 11/24	13	Courts	
Fourteen	11/25 to 12/01	14	State and Local Government	
Fifteen	12/02 to 12/08	15	Bureaucracy	
Sixteen	12/10	Final Exam	Final Exam	