

## **POLS 2051 - AMERICAN GOVERNMENT**

Fall 2011

Professor: Stacia L. Haynie

Office: 231 Stubbs Hall

E-mail: [pohayn@lsu.edu](mailto:pohayn@lsu.edu)

Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 10:30am to 12:00am and by appointment

Department Office: 240 Stubbs 578-2141

### **COURSE OBJECTIVE:**

This course will introduce students to the principles, institutions and processes of the American political system. This knowledge will provide a foundation enabling students to better understand and critically evaluate our form of government. Specifically, this course is designed to familiarize students with political behavior and its relationship to the executive, legislative, and judicial functions of government. Students also will be introduced to the bureaucracy responsible for administering social welfare, regulatory, foreign, economic, and fiscal policies.

### **GENERAL EDUCATION OBJECTIVES:**

This course also aims to educate students about and instill a life-long desire to understand our political and social system. Specifically the students will be able to demonstrate mastery of factual knowledge of the subject matter; understand the levels of association, from friends and family, to economy and polity, and to civilizations of global significance seen in the social sciences; and explain diversity of cultures, across time and space, as well as universal social characteristics and global networks.

### **REQUIRED TEXTS:**

O'Con thg S 488.11 Tm( )IJETlic, and fels of assand0am

## COURSE OUTLINE

Date	Topic	Reading Assignment
August 23	Introduction	
25	The Political Landscape	Chapter 1
	<b>The Political Landscape – Moodle Quiz Due Chapter 1</b>	
	<b>Chapter 1 - Moodle 1.6 Multi-Media Quiz Due mypoliscilab multimedia 1.6 Visual Literacy: Who are Liberals and Conservatives? What's the Difference? - Assess the role of political ideology in shaping American politics</b>	
30	Constitution/Federalism	Chapters 2 & 3
	<b>The Constitution - Moodle Quiz Due Chapter 2 Moodle quiz due Federalism Moodle Quiz Due Chapter 3</b>	
	<b>The Constitution - Moodle 2.4 Multi-Media Quiz Due Chapter 2- mypoliscilab multimedia 2.4 - Comparative: Comparing Constitutions - Analyze the underlying principles of the U.S. Constitution</b>	
September 1	Civil Rights in Perspective	
6	Judiciary	Chapter 5
	<b>The Judiciary Moodle Quiz Due - Chapter 5/mypoliscilab Chapter 9 quiz due – Moodle</b>	
8	Judiciary	Chapter 5
13	Civil Liberties	Chapter 6
	<b>Civil Liberties - Moodle Quiz Due Chapter 6/mypoliscilab Chapter 4</b>	
15	Civil Liberties	Chapter 6
20	Civil Rights	Chapter 7
	<b>Civil Rights - Moodle Quiz Due Chapter 7/mypoliscilab Chapter 6</b>	
22	Civil Rights	Chapter 7
	<b>EXTRA CREDIT (1 POINT): Civil Rights Moodle 6.3 Multi-Media Quiz Due Civil Rights - Chapter 7/ mypoliscilab Chapter 6 - mypoliscilab multimedia 6.3 – Comparative: Comparing Civil Rights - Analyze the civil rights movement and the effects of the Civil Rights Act of 1964</b>	
27	<b>FIRST EXAMINATION</b>	
29	Public Opinion	Chapter 8
	<b>Public Opinion - Moodle 10.2 Multi-Media Quiz Due Chapter 8/ mypoliscilab Chapter 10 - mypoliscilab multimedia 10.2 – Simulation: You Are a Polling Consultant - Describe the methods for conducting and analyzing different types of public opinion polls.</b>	
October 4	Public Opinion	Chapter 8
	<b>Public Opinion - Moodle Quiz Due Chapter 8/ mypoliscilab Chapter 10</b>	
6	Political Parties	Chapter 9
	<b>Political Parties - Moodle Quiz Due Chapter 9/mypoliscilab chapter 11 quiz due</b>	
11	Political Parties/Elections and Voting	Chapter 9/10
	<b>Elections and Voting - Moodle Quiz Due Chapter 10/mypoliscilab Chapter 13</b>	
	<b>EXTRA CREDIT (1 POINT): Political Parties Moodle 12.3 Multi-Media Quiz Due Chapter 9 - mypoliscilab multimedia 12.3 – Simulation: You Are a Campaign Manager - Identify the functions performed by American political parties</b>	
13	<b>Fall Holiday</b>	
18	Elections and Voting/Campaign Process	Chapter 10 & 11
	<b>Elections and Voting - Moodle 13.5 Multi-Media Quiz Due Chapter 13 – mypoliscilab multimedia 13.5 – Visual Literacy: Voting Turnout - Identify six factors that affect voter turnout– Moodle quiz due</b>	
20	Campaign Process/Media	Chapter 11 & 12
	<b>Campaign Process - Moodle Quiz Due Chapter 11/mypoliscilab Chapter 14</b>	

- 25 News Media/ Interest Groups Chapter 12 & 13  
News Media - **Moodle Quiz Due** Chapter 12 quiz due/myopoliscilab Chapter 15
- 27 Interest Groups Chapter 13  
**Interest Groups - Moodle Quiz Due** Chapter 13/myopoliscilab Chapter 16  
**EXTRA CREDIT (1 POINT): Moodle 16.3 Multi-Media Quiz Due** Chapter 13 -  
myopoliscilab multimedia 16.3 – Simulation –