
American Government

GOVT-2305

Spring 2019 Section 405 CRN-24014 3 Credits 01/14/2019 to 05/09/2019 Modified 01/13/2019

Meeting Times

Lecture

Tuesday, Thursday, 9:10 AM to 10:25 AM, T 121

Office Hours

Thursday 10:30 -12:00

Academic 277

Contact Information

Instructor: Mr. Gentry Woodard

Email: gentry.woodard@blinn.edu

Phone: 9792098813

Description

Government 2305 is a study of the organization, functions, and administration of the several branches and agencies of the national government, including a study of the federal constitution. The primary factors considered relate to the three branches of government - judicial, executive, legislative -- major historical documents, the events that shaped the nation, and current events. Emphasis will be placed on the interaction of these subsystems. 48 contact hours. Credit: Three semester hours.

Requisites

Student must be college reading ready according to Texas Success Initiatives Standards (TSI). Please see the Catalog section under Texas Success Initiative.

Core Curriculum Statement

Through the Texas Core Curriculum, students will gain a foundation of knowledge in human cultures and the physical and natural world, develop principles of personal and social responsibility for living in a diverse world, and advance intellectual and practical skills that are essential for all learning. For details relating to this core course, please see:

http://www.blinn.edu/academics/core_curriculum.html (http://www.blinn.edu/academics/core_curriculum.html)

Outcomes

Explain the origin and development of constitutional democracy in the United States.

Demonstrate knowledge of the federal system.

Describe separation of powers and checks and balances in both theory and practice.

Demonstrate knowledge of the legislative, executive, and judicial branches of the federal government.

Evaluate the role of public opinion, interest groups, and political parties in the political system.

Analyze the election process.

Describe the rights and responsibilities of citizens.

Analyze issues and policies in U.S. politics.

Materials

WE THE PEOPLE 2017 PKG

REQUIRED | By GINSBERG

EDITION: 11E

ISBN: 9780393622850

PUBLISHER: NORTON

Current Events

The student should be familiar with current political events.

Lectures

The student is expected to attend class and take notes on lecture material.

Course Requirements

Tests

The student will complete **FOUR (4)** Tests throughout the semester over material covered. Make-up tests will have a 10 point deduction.

The student will complete **ONE (1)** Comprehensive Final Exam that covers all material covered in class.

Quizzes

The student will complete **FOUR (4)** Pop Quizzes throughout the semester.

Quizzes Cannot Be Made Up!

The students lowest quiz grade **will be dropped**.

Writing/Class Assignments

The student will complete **FIVE (5)** Writing/Class Assignments. **Writing Assignments cannot be made up.**

Evaluation

Criteria

Tests: 60%

Quizzes: 15%

Writing Assignments: 25%

Breakdown

90-100 A

80-89 B

70-79 C

60-69 D

59-below F

Blinn College Policies

All policies, guidelines, and procedures in the [Blinn College Catalog \(http://catalog.blinn.edu/\)](http://catalog.blinn.edu/), [Blinn College Board Policies \(http://pol.tasb.org/Home/Index/1204\)](http://pol.tasb.org/Home/Index/1204), and the [Blinn College Administrative Regulations \(https://www.blinn.edu/administrative-regulations/\)](https://www.blinn.edu/administrative-regulations/) are applicable to this course.

[Specific information on civility, attendance, add/drop, scholastic integrity, students with disabilities, final grade appeal, alternative retailers, campus carry and proctoring arrangements and cost. \(http://www.blinn.edu/syllabus-policies/\)](http://www.blinn.edu/syllabus-policies/)

Notice of any action taken under these protocol and procedures, by Blinn College or its employees, may be delivered by hand, through the U.S. Postal Service, or electronically to the student's Blinn Buc e-mail account. Notice shall be deemed received upon actual receipt, on deposit in the U.S. Mail, or upon entering the information processing system used by Blinn College for Blinn Buc e-mail accounts, whichever first occurs.

* Course Policies

Expectations

You **WILL NOT** do well in this class if you miss class, or do not pay attention in class.

Schedule

When	Topic	Notes																																	
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		<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Week One</th> <th>Meeting Details</th> <th>Lecture Minutes</th> <th>Weekly Hours</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Tuesday, Jan. 15, 2019</td> <td>Syllabus and Introduction to course</td> <td>75</td> <td rowspan="2">3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Thursday, Jan. 17, 2019</td> <td>Political Culture</td> <td>75</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Week Two</td> <td></td> <td>LEC</td> <td>Weekly</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tuesday, Jan. 22, 2019</td> <td>The Constitution, Civil Liberties, Civil Rights</td> <td>75</td> <td rowspan="2">3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Thursday, Jan. 24, 2019</td> <td>The Constitution, Civil Liberties, Civil Rights</td> <td>75</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Week Three</td> <td></td> <td>LEC</td> <td>Weekly</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tuesday, Jan. 29, 2019</td> <td>Federalism</td> <td>75</td> <td rowspan="2">3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Thursday, Jan. 31, 2019</td> <td>Federalism</td> <td>75</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Week One	Meeting Details	Lecture Minutes	Weekly Hours	Tuesday, Jan. 15, 2019	Syllabus and Introduction to course	75	3	Thursday, Jan. 17, 2019	Political Culture	75	Week Two		LEC	Weekly	Tuesday, Jan. 22, 2019	The Constitution, Civil Liberties, Civil Rights	75	3	Thursday, Jan. 24, 2019	The Constitution, Civil Liberties, Civil Rights	75	Week Three		LEC	Weekly	Tuesday, Jan. 29, 2019	Federalism	75	3	Thursday, Jan. 31, 2019	Federalism	75
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When	Topic	Week	LEC	Weekly
		Week Four		
Tuesday, Feb. 05, 2019	Test 1		75	3
Thursday, Feb. 07, 2019	Media		75	
Week Five			LEC	Weekly
Tuesday, Feb. 12, 2019	Media		75	3
Thursday, Feb. 14, 2019	Political Parties		75	
Week Six			LEC	Weekly
Tuesday, Feb. 19, 2019	Political Parties		75	3
Thursday, Feb. 21, 2019	Elections and Voting		75	
Week Seven			LEC	Weekly
Tuesday, Feb. 26, 2019	Elections and Voting		75	3
Thursday, Feb. 28, 2019	Interest Groups/Lobbying		75	
Week Eight			LEC	Weekly
Tuesday, Mar. 05, 2019	Interest Groups/Lobbying		75	3
Thursday, Mar. 07, 2019	Test 2		75	
Week Nine			LEC	Weekly
Tuesday, Mar. 12, 2019	Spring Break			
Thursday, Mar. 14, 2019	Spring Break			
Week Ten			LEC	Weekly
Tuesday, Mar. 19, 2019	Congress		75	3
Thursday, Mar. 21, 2019	Congress		75	
Week Eleven			LEC	Weekly
Tuesday, Mar. 26, 2019	The Presidency		75	3
Thursday, Mar. 28, 2019	The Presidency		75	
Week Twelve			LEC	Weekly
Tuesday, Apr. 02, 2019	The Courts		75	3
Thursday, Apr. 04, 2019	The Courts		75	
Week Thirteen			LEC	Weekly
Tuesday, Apr. 09, 2019	Test 3		75	3
Thursday, Apr. 11, 2019	Public Policy		75	
Week Fourteen			LEC	Weekly
Tuesday, Apr. 16, 2019	Crime Policy		75	3
Thursday, Apr. 18, 2019	Crime Policy		75	

When	Topic	Week Fifteen	LEC	Weekly	
		Tuesday, Apr. 23, 2019	Economic Policy	75	3
		Thursday, Apr. 25, 2019	Social Policy	75	
		Week Sixteen		LEC	Weekly
		Monday, Apr. 30, 2019	Test 4	75	3
		Tuesday, May 02, 2019	Final Review	75	
		Week Seventeen - Finals Week		LEC	Weekly
		Monday, May 06, 2019			
		Tuesday, May 07, 2019			
		Wednesday, May 08, 2019			
		Thursday, May 09, 2019	7:45 am-10:00 am		
		April 26 th , 2019: Drop Date	Total Contact Hours		48 hrs.