

Oklahoma State University Institute of Technology
Online Common Syllabus
Spring 2018

POLS1113 US Government

This course provides an overview of the American constitutional government. The role of the political parties and pressure groups, the legislative, executive, and judicial branches, and the role of national government in foreign policy, fiscal-monetary policies, and civil rights are examined.

Course Purpose:

The purpose of this course is to become aware of the American constitutional government and how it functions.

Type of Course: Theory.

Credit Hours: 3; Total clock hours of theory per semester: 45;

Total clock hours of lab per semester: 0; Total clock hours of clinical per semester: 0.

Class Length: Full Semester

Class Format: Online

Class Days and Times: NA

Prerequisites: None.

Instructor Name: Steven Rubert

Instructor Phone: (918) 293-4864

Office: NCAT 103A

Instructor Email: steven.rubert@okstate.edu

Contact: My preferred method of contact is e-mail. Please allow 24-48 hours to return your correspondence during the normal work week.

Instructor's Office Hours: All times CST

M- 8:30-11:30 a.m., 12:30-1:30 p.m.

Tu- 8:30-9:30 a.m.

W- 8:30-11:30 a.m., 12:30-1:30 p.m.

Th- 8:30-9:30 a.m.

F- 8:30-11:30 a.m., 12:30-1:30 p.m.

School Name: Arts & Sciences

School's Main Phone: 918-293-4772

REQUIRED TEXT, REFERENCES, AND MATERIALS

Texts: Turner, Charles C. *Introduction to American Government*, BVT Publishing, ISBN: 978-1-5178-0222-6

References: None required other than those available in the library and on the Internet

Materials: Notebook paper, pen, pencil; access to computer to type all papers and for research

Uniform/Tools: NA

Estimated Cost for Materials: approx. \$ 120

Estimated Cost for Uniform/Tools: NA

Optional Resources: NA

Upon completion of the course, students should:

Course Objectives	Assessment of Objectives
Critically analyze federalism and its impact not only on individuals but on businesses as well.	Daily Assignments, Assessment*
Demonstrate the basic concepts of democracy and its effects on individual rights and industry.	Evaluations, Weekly Reading Responses, Assessment*
Analyze and interpret the Constitution and understand its effects on individuals, states, industry, and the federal government.	Evaluations, Weekly Reading Responses, Assessment*
Analyze the branches of government and how their actions directly impact individual rights and interests.	Evaluations, Weekly Reading Responses, Assessment*
Develop cognitive research skills, critical thinking skills to interpret and verify information and facts from a variety of sources.	Evaluations, Weekly Reading Responses, Assessment*
Analyze historical events to better understand the causes of modern events and conflicts and their effects on industry.	Evaluations, Weekly Reading Responses, Assessment*

Aspects of the course objective assessments may be used in the university's assessment of student learning. If applicable, an asterisk (*) above indicates this assignment is used in the university assessment program.

COURSE ACTIVITIES

- In this course students will:
- Participate in online discussions of readings and view videos that support instruction.
- Participate in in-class activities outside of discussion to enhance the learning experience.
- Compose evaluations that demonstrate understanding of the course material.
- Take quizzes/exams.
- Demonstrate a sense of community responsibility and a work ethic that is based on consistent class attendance and punctuality.
- Utilize the online classroom including turning in all assignments using the dropbox feature.

EVALUATION - GRADES WILL BE BASED ON THE QUALITY AND COMPLETION OF THESE TASKS:

Reading Responses.....	300 points
Evaluations (3).....	300 points
Assessment Essay*.....	200 points
Exams (2).....	200 points
Total	1000 points

OSUIT Grading Scale
A = 90%-100%
B = 80%-89%
C = 70%-79%
D = 60%-69%
F = 59% & below

*The student’s grade for this assignment will be used in the university’s assessment of student learning. A 70% competency or higher receives a Pass rating. This Pass/Fail rating is independent of the student’s course grade.

Daily and/or weekly quizzes, small weekly assignments and similar type projects: Normal return time to student by next class meeting or no later than one (1) week.

Extensive assignments, large lab projects, extensive quizzes, exams and similar type projects: Normal return time to students in one (1) to two (2) weeks.

RECOMMENDED STUDENT COMPETENCIES/SKILLS

1. Basic computer skills including the ability to view videos, post in discussion forums, as well as the ability to use Word and PowerPoint.
2. Manage time effectively.

AUTHORIZED TOOLS

This is an online class meaning access to the site is a must. To access this tool, login in to my.okstate.edu or login to the “online classroom” at the OSUIT home page. Stay in touch with course assignments and events by going to this site daily. Make sure you check your email frequently because sometimes I try to get in touch with you through this tool. Only assignments submitted through the dropbox in the online classroom will be graded unless otherwise stated (no e-mailed assignments will be accepted). Students may use any/all course materials, including books and notes, while participating in classroom activities. All quizzes and written assignments

are to be completed independently; no collaboration with classmates is permitted and any instance of such will be considered academic dishonesty.

LATE WORK

If you do not turn in an assignment by the posted due date (regardless of reason), your work is late. You can turn in one (1) assignment late for full earned credit. The late assignment cannot be used for the final exam or bonus assignments and must be turned in no later than one week from the original due date. I will not accept late work after this date. If you do not use your late assignment you will be given 10 bonus points at the end of the semester.

TESTING

We will test using the “Quizzes” tab in the online classroom. Resources will be provided and can be used on these assignments.

OTHER LAB AND CLASSROOM POLICIES

INTERACTION WITH YOUR PEERS

Each week, you will be required to post one original written response to the assigned reading and two responses to your peers on the discussion board within the Online Classroom (D2L).

Required: One original reading response and two responses to peers per weekly discussion

Original response – By Thursday 11:59 p.m. Central

Two peer responses – By Sunday 11:59 p.m. Central

INTERACTION WITH YOUR INSTRUCTOR

In addition to online office hours through Blackboard Collaborate (as indicated on the first page of this syllabus), you can also expect me to provide:

- input to discussion threads (I will follow all discussion threads and participate as needed, however discussion threads are primarily for peer-to-peer discussion and analysis)
- additional information and updates about the course as needed through e-mails and the News feature in the Online Classroom (D2L)
- detailed analysis, feedback and explanation of grades according to the following schedule

ONLINE COURSE INTERACTION

OSUIT requires all online courses to include interaction between students, peers and instructors. Our online courses use a variety of tools to build a community of learners and strengthen engagement between students and their peers, as well as between students and the instructor. Communication tools used in courses may include Discussion, News, and Email. Read the syllabus completely to determine which of these methods you, your classmates and your instructor will use for interaction.

General guidelines for student conduct while interacting within an online course include: (1) Use proper language in all communications; (2) Harassment of any type will not be tolerated; (3) No jokes, insults or threats of an offensive nature.

For more information, go to: <http://osuit.edu/center/netiquette>

SYLLABUS ATTACHMENT

View the Syllabus Attachment, which contains other important information, by visiting http://osuit.edu/center/student_syllabus_information

Course Schedule			
Course Outline Schedule	Topic	Assignment	Due Date
1/4-1/5	Syllabus, Calendar, Class Introductions	Class Introduction Post	1/7
1/8-1/12	Book Introduction	Paradox of Democracy Eval Reading Response/Replies	1/28 1/14
1/15-1/19	Chapter 1	Reading Response/Replies	1/21
1/22-1/26	Constitution	Reading Response/Replies	1/28
1/29-2/2	Chapter 2	Confirmation Bias Evaluation Reading Response/Replies	2/18 2/4
2/5-2/9	Chapter 4	Reading Response/Replies	2/11
2/12-2/16	Current Event and Exam 1	Exam 1 Reading Response/Replies	2/18 2/18
2/19-2/23	Chapter 8	Election Evaluation Reading Response/Replies	3/11 2/18
2/26-3/2	Chapter 9	Reading Response/Replies	3/4
3/5-3/9	Chapter 10	Reading Response/Replies	3/11
3/12-3/16	Chapter 12	Reading Response/Replies	3/18
3/19-3/23	Spring Break		
3/26-3/30	Current Event and Exam 2	Exam 2 Reading Response/Replies	4/1 4/1
4/2-4/6	Current Event	Assessment Analysis Reading Response/Replies	4/8 4/8
4/9-4/13	Current Event	Reading Response/Replies	4/15
4/16-4/20	Current Event	Final Reading Response	4/19

Schedule is subject to change at instructor discretion.