

**Oklahoma State University Institute of Technology**  
**Face-to-Face 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 Days and Times:** MWF 1:30- 2:25 p.m.

**Prerequisites:** None.

**Instructor Name:** Steven Rubert

**Instructor Phone:** (918) 293-4864

**Office:** NCAT 103A

**Instructor Email:** [steven.rubert@okstate.edu](mailto: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:**

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.

**Division Name:** Arts & Sciences

**Division'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:**

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

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:

- Contribute to small- and large-group discussions regarding governmental topics.
- View videos portraying different aspects of government.
- Participate in group activities involving the U.S. Constitution.
- Take part in class debate regarding specific governmental issues.
- Participate in internet activities related to U.S. government institutions.

## **EVALUATION - GRADES WILL BE BASED ON THE QUALITY AND COMPLETION OF THESE TASKS:** *(NOTE-Please indicate the course specific evaluations. List*

*assignment(s) used in the university's assessment of student learning as separate line items and marked with an asterisk.)*

Daily Assignments.....	200 points
Evaluations (3).....	300 points
In-class Analysis*.....	200 points
Exams (2).....	200 points
Group Project.....	100 points
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>1000 points</b>

<b>OSUIT Grading Scale</b>
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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**

Students are expected to cooperate in maintaining a classroom environment conducive to learning. Courteous and respectful behavior will be expected from all students each day. All cell phones, MP3 players, etc. should be turned off. The use of tobacco in any form in university buildings is prohibited.

## **LATE WORK**

When a deadline is set for an assignment, this means it is due **in the online classroom before the deadline assigned**. If you do not turn in the assignment into the appropriate dropbox (regardless of reason), your work is late. You can turn in one late assignment no later than one week from the

original due date. This cannot be used during the last week of the semester, on daily assignments or on bonus assignments. If you do not use the late assignment then you will be given 10 bonus points at the end of the semester.

I will take attendance every day. On most days, we will have in-class activities /participation points. If you are not in class for these, you miss the points for that activity and **these cannot be made up**. Also, those who attend class regularly have the benefit of knowing about the assignments in-depth. If you must miss class, you are responsible for any missed work or assignments made for that day (participation points cannot be recalled). Email or call me, or one of your classmates, **before** the next scheduled meeting so you will be prepared for the next class. Also, check our online classroom for timely announcements regarding class and assignments.

### **TESTING**

We will test in a computer lab via the online classroom, and each student must be in attendance in order to receive the password to unlock the test. I will announce the testing room typically about one week before our test date.

### **OTHER LAB AND CLASSROOM POLICIES**

I use the online classroom as a supplement to the classroom setting. To access this tool, login in to <https://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. **Unless otherwise stated, only assignments turned in via the online classroom dropbox will be graded (no-e-mailed assignments).**

### **SYLLABUS ATTACHMENT**

View the Syllabus Attachment, which contains other important information, by visiting [http://osuit.edu/center/student\\_syllabus\\_information](http://osuit.edu/center/student_syllabus_information)

<b>Course Schedule</b>			
<b>Course Outline Schedule</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Assignment</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
1/4-1/5	Syllabus, Calendar, Introduction, Chapter 1		
1/8-1/12	Introduction, Chapter 1	Paradox of Democracy Evaluation	1/28
1/15-1/19	Chapter 1, Constitution		
1/22-1/26	Constitution, Chapter 2	Confirmation Bias Evaluation	2/11
1/29-2/2	Chapter 2, Chapter 4	Group Projects	10/16-18
2/5-2/9	Test Review, Exam 1	Exam 1	2/7
2/12-2/16	Chapter 8	Election Evaluation	3/4
2/19-2/23	Chapter 9, Chapter 10		
2/26-3/2	Chapter 10, Chapter 12		
3/5-3/9	Test Review, Exam 2	Exam 2	3/7
3/12-3/16	Group Project Prep, In-class Analysis	In-class Analysis Group Projects	3/14 4/2-4/13
3/19-3/23	Spring Break		
3/26-3/30	Group Project Prep Week		
4/2-4/6	Group Projects		
4/9-4/13	Group Projects		
4/16-4/20	Makeup Presentations		

Schedule is subject to change at instructor discretion.