WEST LOS ANGELES COLLEGE

POLITICAL SCIENCE 001 – THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES:
This course meets the U.S. Constitution requirements for transfer to UC or CSU. (3 units)

Instructor: Mark Susuki
E mail: susukid@wlac.edu
Class Hours: Tuesday and Thursday - 9:35 am – 12:55 pm
Office Hours: TBA
Location: MSA 003
Section: 1737
Lecture: 6 hours per week
Disclaimer: Syllabus schedule subject to change without notice

REQUIRED TEXTS:
American Government/California Government (Custom Bundle)
By: Shelley, Barde, and Schmidt – ISBN 97812853300
Price: $124.00 new – (prices subject to change)
Photos: See announcement for an image of the text books

COURSE DESCRIPTION:
This course studies the United States political system: theory; structure, functions of national, state and local government. This course meets U.S. Constitution requirements for transfer to UC or CSU.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:
Institutional SLO’s
1. Communication
2. Civic Responsibility

Program SLO’s
1. Take an informed position on a political issue, candidate or situation and support your position with objective, logical, effective debate and discussion.
2. Seek out and engage in civic opportunities that broaden perspectives and increase one’s responsibility to family and community

CLASSROOM POLICIES:
1. Attending all scheduled class meetings is mandatory
2. Cheating on examinations will result in failure of the examination
3. Be on time to class and be ready to learn
4. All cellular phone will be shut off. If you have young children or a care giver, you may have your phone live
5. Keep up your reading!

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY POLICY:
This syllabus refers to the LACCD student code of conduct as it relates to student dishonesty (Board Rule 9803.28) as follows: “Violations of academic integrity of any type by a student provides grounds for disciplinary action by the instructor or college. Violations of Academic Integrity include, but are not
limited to, the following actions: 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. For more information on the Standards of Student Conduct refer to the college catalog available in hardcopy and online at www.lattc.edu.”

**DIABLED STUDENTS PROGRAM & SERVICES:**
Students should also contact the Disabled Student Programs & Services (DSPS) center located in Student Services Building (SSB 320) or call (310) 287-4450. If you require specific services you must make an appointment and receive a DSPS form. You will then bring me the receipt form listing what requirements are needed.

**WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS:**
Written assignments will be submitted electronically. Submit your electronic documents via a file on the Etudes format. It is your responsibility to resubmit the document in the above three methods and on time.

**ATTENDANCE POLICY:**
Students are expected to attend every class meeting, to arrive on time and stay throughout the class period. Students may be excluded from class for excessive tardiness, for failure to attend class the first day or during the entire first week of the class, or if the total number or absences exceed the twice the number or hours the class meets per week, missed/makeup examinations and assignments and late assignments/extensions.
1. Students should contact the instructor when they are absent for emergency reasons
2. Come to class on time since it disrupts the class tempo and is not fair to your fellow students
3. Students are responsible for dropping a class that they stop attending. If the class is not dropped, the student may receive an “F” in the class and be responsible for enrollment fee.

**IMPORTANT DATES:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>HOLIDAY</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 07, 2015</td>
<td>Labor Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 11, 2015</td>
<td>Veteran’s Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 26 - 29, 2015</td>
<td>Thanksgiving</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS:**
If you drop out, quit, and or dismissed from WLAC, be aware of your enrollment status.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>FUNCTION</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>November 02, 2015</td>
<td>Last day to add a class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 02, 2015</td>
<td>Last date to drop a class and not owe enrollment fees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 02, 2015</td>
<td>Last date to drop a class without a “W” on your record</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 04, 2015</td>
<td>Last date to drop a class with a “W” on your record</td>
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**NEW REPEAT POLICY EFFECTIVE SUMMER 2012:**
Effective summer or 2013, the rules have changed for repeating courses. You may attempt a course only three (3) times (up to 3 W’s or 3 D’s or 3 F’s or any combination of W’s, D’s and F’s) “W’s” will count towards attempts at any one course. After three (3) attempts the state will not pay the college for a student to take the course. If a student drops by the “drop without a W date it is not counted against the 3 attempts to pass a class. If you think it is likely you will not pass a class, drop the class before the “W” penalty date.

**FINAL EXAMINATION POLICY:**
Final examinations are required of all classes and are required to be given within the designated final examination period.
- A two hour period is scheduled for each examination.
- Final Examinations must be held on the DAY AND TIME SCHEDULED and in the regularly assigned classroom.
- No course or student is exempt from final examinations. The final examinations will be held on the last on-campus meeting day of the class.

**GRADING AND TEST POLICIES:**
You will be expected to complete the written assignments and take all examinations online. The examinations will include two tests, a midterm examination and the final examination and 8 quizzes. You will also be responsible for the eight discussions.

**EXAMINATION SCHEDULE AND DATES:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Discussion or Assessment</th>
<th>Point Value</th>
<th>Date Assigned</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Weekly Discussions X 8 weeks 10 points each</td>
<td>80 points</td>
<td>By week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quiz 1 5 questions from the course syllabus</td>
<td>20 points</td>
<td>October 27 – 29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quiz 2 25 question quiz from Chapters 1 - 2</td>
<td>25 points</td>
<td>November 3 - 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quiz 3 25 question quiz from Chapters 3 - 4</td>
<td>25 points</td>
<td>November 10 - 12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quiz 4 25 question quiz from Chapters 5 - 6</td>
<td>25 points</td>
<td>November 17 - 19</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quiz 5 25 question quiz from Chapters 7 - 8</td>
<td>25 points</td>
<td>November 24 - 26</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quiz 6 25 question quiz from Chapters 9 - 10</td>
<td>25 points</td>
<td>December 1 - 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quiz 7 25 question quiz from Chapters 11 - 12</td>
<td>25 points</td>
<td>December 8 - 10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quiz 8 25 question quiz from Chapters 13 - 14</td>
<td>25 points</td>
<td>December 15 - 17</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Midterm and Final Examination to be done in class</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Midterm Examination</td>
<td>120 points</td>
<td>November 19, 2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Examination</td>
<td>125 points</td>
<td>December 17, 2015</td>
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**GRADING MATRIX:**
Your final grade can be determined by following this simple grading matrix

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>A</th>
<th>B</th>
<th>C</th>
<th>D</th>
<th>F</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Political Science 001 Section 1737 Grading Matrix</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Grade</td>
<td>500-450</td>
<td>449-400</td>
<td>399-349</td>
<td>348-300</td>
<td>299 and below</td>
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### ACADEMIC COURSE WORK - Subject to change without notice:

#### The Fall Semester 2015 by Week

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Subject and Content</th>
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</table>
| Week 1 | October 27 – 29 | **Special:** Introductions  
 **Lecture:** Chapter 1 - The Democratic Republic  
 Democracy and other forms of government  
 What kind of democracy do we have?  
 Political Ideologies  
 **Homework:** Key Words vocabulary  
 **Lecture:** Chapter 2 - The Constitution  
 The colonial background  
 The colonial response  
 Declaring Independence  
 Drafting and final Document  
 The Bill of Rights  
 **Homework:** Key Word vocabulary  
 **Reading:** Complete Chapter 1 and 2, review chapter summaries, and key terms and definition  
 **Discussion #1:** Discussion & Private Messages, post your welcome “Hello to Everyone” statement |
| Week 2 | November 03 – 05 | **Lecture:** Chapter 3 – Federalism  
 The constitutional basis for American federalism  
 States’ rights and the road to civil war  
 **Homework:** Key Word vocabulary  
 **Lecture:** Chapter 4 - Civil Liberties  
 The Bill of Rights  
 The rights of privacy  
 **Homework:** Key Word vocabulary  
 **Reading:** Complete Chapter 3 and 4, review chapter summaries, and key terms and definition  
 **Discussion #2:** Discussion & Private Messages, post your comments to the instructor’s question |
| Week 3 | November 10 – 12 | **Lecture:** Chapter 5 - Civil Rights  
 Slavery in America  
 The Civil Rights Movement  
 Women’s rights  
 Immigration  
 **Homework:** Key Word vocabulary  
 **Lecture:** Chapter 6 - Public Opinion  
 How public opinion if formed  
 Political preferences and voting  
 Behavior Technology and opinion polls  
 **Homework:** Key Word vocabulary  
 **Reading:** Complete Chapter 5 and 6, review chapter summaries, and key terms and definition  
 **Discussion #3:** Discussion & Private Messages, post your comments to the instructor’s question |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Subject and Content</th>
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</thead>
</table>
| Week 4 | November 17 – 19 | Lecture: **Chapter 7 - Interest Groups**  
Types of interest groups  
What makes an interest group powerful?  
Regulating Lobbyists  
Homework: Key Words vocabulary  
Special: **Midterm Examination**  
**Chapter 8 – Political Parties**  
The two major U.S. parties today  
Role of minor parties in U.S. Politics  
Mechanisms of political change  
Homework: Key Word vocabulary  
Reading: Complete Chapter 7 and 8, review chapter summaries, and key terms and definition  
Discussion #4: Discussion & Private Messages, post your comments to the instructor’s question |
| Week 5 | November 24 – 26 | Lecture: **Chapter 9 – Campaign, Elections, and the Media**  
Who wants to be a candidate?  
Financing the Campaign  
The media and politics  
Homework: Key Words vocabulary  
Lecture: **Chapter 10 – The Congress**  
The nature and functions Of congress  
The powers of congress  
Congressional apportionment  
How a bill becomes a law  
Homework: Key Word vocabulary  
Reading: Complete Chapter 9 and 10, review chapter summaries, and key terms and definition  
Discussion #5: Discussion & Private Messages, post your comments to the instructor’s question |
| Week 6 | December 01 – 03 | Lecture: **Chapter 11 – The President**  
The many roles of the president  
Special uses of presidential power  
The vice presidency  
Homework: Key Word vocabulary  
Special: Review for Test Number Two  
Lecture: **Chapter 12 – The Bureaucracy**  
The nature of Bureaucracy  
The organization of the Federal Bureaucracy  
Modern attempts at bureaucratic reform  
Homework: Key Word vocabulary  
Reading: Complete Chapter 11 and 12, review chapter summaries, and key terms and definition  
Discussion #6: Discussion & Private Messages, post your comments to the instructor’s question |
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Subject and Content</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 7</td>
<td>December 08 – 10</td>
<td><strong>Lecture: Chapter 13 – The Courts</strong>&lt;br&gt;Sources of American Law&lt;br&gt;The federal court system&lt;br&gt;The selection of federal judges&lt;br&gt;What checks our courts?&lt;br&gt;<strong>Homework:</strong> Key Word vocabulary&lt;br&gt;<strong>Lecture: Chapter 14 – Domestic and</strong>&lt;br&gt;The policy making process&lt;br&gt;Health Care&lt;br&gt;Immigration&lt;br&gt;Environmental policy&lt;br&gt;<strong>Special:</strong> Review for Final Examination&lt;br&gt;<strong>Homework:</strong> Key Word vocabulary&lt;br&gt;<strong>Reading:</strong> Complete Chapter 13 and 14, review chapter summaries, and key terms and definition&lt;br&gt;<strong>Discussion #7:</strong> Discussion &amp; Private Messages, post your comments to the instructor’s question</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 8</td>
<td>December 15 – 17</td>
<td><strong>Lecture: Chapter 15 – Foreign Policy</strong>&lt;br&gt;Facing the world: foreign and&lt;br&gt;Defense policy&lt;br&gt;Challenges in world politics&lt;br&gt;Who makes foreign policy?&lt;br&gt;<strong>Homework:</strong> Key Word vocabulary&lt;br&gt;<strong>Reading:</strong> Complete Chapter 15, review chapter summaries, and key terms and definition&lt;br&gt;<strong>Discussion #8:</strong> Discussion &amp; Private Messages, post your comments to the instructor’s question&lt;br&gt;<strong>Special:</strong> Final Examination December 17, 2015&lt;br&gt;9:15am – 11:15am MSA 003</td>
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**Notes:**