POLITICAL SCIENCE 001

Political Science 001: The Government of the United States 3.00 units (UC: CSU)

WHO:
Prof. Eva Nagler. Section 1748

WHEN:
T Th 1:00 - 2:25 pm.
Office hours: after every class or by app't.

WHERE:
Building GC 420

HOW:
You can reach me by email or voice mail naglerep@wlac.edu or (310) 287-4200 x 8023

Course Description
This course examines the principles, institutions, and divisions of power in the government of the
United States. The government of California is introduced for comparison and contrast.
This course meets the U.S. Constitution requirement.

Course Objectives
Upon completion of this course you will be able to:
Describe the forces inside and outside government that play a role in the shaping of public policy,
Grasp the underlying principles embedded in America's Founding documents,
Understand the political values that unite us and the ideologies that divide us as a nation.
Explain why the United States is not a democracy but a constitutional republic.

Required Reading
   By Schmidt, Shelley, Bardes (shrink-wrapped with)
   California Government Fifth Edition
   by John Korey
2. All instructor handouts, and lecture notes.

Grading
This course is divided into four parts. Each part will be followed by an objective exam for a total of four
in-class EXAMS. The questions will be multiple choice, matching, or true/false. Bring a scantron (up to
100 questions) and a #2 pencil to each exam. 100 points each.
There will be one post-election report, covering one aspect of the 2014 congressional elections. A choice of
specific topics with guidelines will be provided. 100 points.

Other Policies
Students are expected to comply with the "standards of student conduct" described in the current
catalogue. Note especially Board Rule 9803.28 which relates to academic dishonesty. Specific details
are available online at www.lattc.edu.
Three or more unexcused absences may result in a lowered grade, exclusion, or failure.
However, up to 50 points may be earned for perfect attendance and outstanding class participation.
Student Learning Objectives

Learning to analyze, evaluate and assess what you hear and read is what we mean by critical thinking. Along with good communication skills, these are two important SLO's- Student Learning Objectives- we will pursue this semester.

Student Success Center and Disability Support Services
To further your success, reinforce concepts, and achieve the Student Learning Outcomes (SLO’s) for this course, I refer you to the Student Success Center in C building. There you will find free tutoring in reading, writing and exam taking.
Students with Disabilities who need assistance or accommodation should contact me and should be aware of our DSPS center located in SSB 320. The phone number is 310 287 - 4420.
# Fall 2014 Schedule  Pol. Sci. 01
## Section 1748

**Part I: Founding Documents**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 1: Sept. 2 – Sept. 4</th>
<th>Topics</th>
<th>Read</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Welcome and Overview</td>
<td>AG-Ch. 1 and 2</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Key concepts and definitions</td>
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<td>Enduring Principles</td>
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<tr>
<th>Week 2: Sept. 9 – Sept. 11</th>
<th>Topics</th>
<th>Read</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Declaration of Independence</td>
<td>AG-Ch. 3</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The U.S. Constitution</td>
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<td></td>
<td>The Bill of Rights</td>
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<tr>
<th>Week 3: Sept. 16 – Sept. 18</th>
<th>Topics</th>
<th>Read</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>California’s constitution</td>
<td>CG Ch 1 &amp; 2</td>
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<td>The American System: “A republic, if you can keep it.”</td>
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<th>Week 4: Sept. 23 – Sept. 25</th>
<th>Topics</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Review</td>
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<td>EXAM 1</td>
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Part II: Politics in Action

Week 5:  Topics  Interest Groups
          Political Parties
Sept. 30 – Oct. 2
          Read  AG-Ch. 7

Week 6:  Topics  Campaigns and Elections
Oct. 7 – Oct. 9
          Read  AG Ch.8

Week 7:  Topics  Review
Oct. 14 – Oct 16  EXAM 2
Part III: Government in Action:
The Elected Branches

Week 8:
Topics Congress
Oct. 21 – Oct. 23 AG - CH.9

Week 9:
Topics The Presidency
Oct. 28 – Oct. 30

Read AG-Ch. 10

Week 10:
Topics Bureaucratic Politics
CA’s “Plural Executive”
Nov. 4 – Nov. 6 Read CG Ch. 7

Week 11:
Nov. 11 VETERAN’S Day NO Class
Nov. 13
Library
Research
Day

NO Class

Week 12

Nov. 18 – Nov. 20

Report Due
Exam 3

Part IV:
Civil
Liberties,
Civil Rights,
and the
Courts

AG CH. 4 and AG 5

Week 13

Nov. 25

No Class

Nov. 27
THANKSGIVING

P. 6
Week 14
Dec. 2 – Dec. 4

Order and Equality
AG CH. 12

Week 15
Dec. 9 – Dec. 11

The Unelected Branch

Week 16  DEC. 18  EXAM  4  1:45 P.M. – 3:45 P.M.