

# POLITICAL SCIENCE 001

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

WHO: Professor Eva Nagler . Section 1734

WHEN: M T W Th 10:45 AM to 1:20 PM

WHERE: Building GC 420

HOW: You can reach me by email or voice mail

naglerep@wlaac.edu ( 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:

1. Describe the forces inside and outside government that play a role in the shaping of public policy.
2. Grasp the underlying principles embedded in America's Founding documents.
3. Understand the political values that unite us and the ideologies that divide us as a nation.
4. Explain why the United States is not a democracy but a constitutional republic.

## Required Reading

1. *American Government and Politics Today: Brief Edition 2012 – 2013*  
By Schmidt, Shelley, Bardes (shrink-wrapped with)
  2. *California Government Fifth Edition*  
by John Korey
  3. All instructor handouts, and lecture notes.
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## 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 5 minute oral report**, asking you to summarize opposing points of view on a current issue facing Congress or the Supreme Court. Guidelines will be provided. **100 points.**

## Other Policies

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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](http://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 for Section 1734**

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. They will be the focus of your current policy reports.

These reports will be presented during Part 2 and Part 3 of the course.

## ***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.

**Class Schedule****Winter 2014****Section 1734**

<b>DATES</b>	<b>TOPIC</b>	<b>CHAPTERS</b>	
<b>1 January 6 -9</b>	Founding Documents :	AG 1, 2, 3	
	Founding Principles	CG 1, 2	<b>EXAM 1</b>
<b>2 January 13 - 16</b>	<b>Politics in Action :</b>	AG 7, 8, CG 3	
	Interest Groups, Political Parties Elections and the Media		<b>EXAM 2</b>
<b>3 January 20 MLK January 21 - 23</b>	<b>Government in Action:</b>		
	Congress, the Presidency, the The Bureacracy	AG 9, 10, 11,	
<b>4 January 27 – 30</b>	<b>CA's Plural Executive</b>	CG 4,5	<b>EXAM 3</b>
<b>5 Feb. 3 - Feb 6</b>	<b>Civil Liberties , Civil Rights, The Courts</b>	AG 4, 5, 12	<b>EXAM 4</b>