

American & Texas Government: Institutions
PSCI 1040.003
Spring 2015
TR: 11–12:20 p.m. (AUDb100)

Description

This course will provide the student with an introduction to American and Texas politics. The course will focus primarily on the institutions central to federal and state decision making, including the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of government, as well as civil rights and liberties.

Prof. Andrew J. Enterline

Email: Within Blackboard Learn email system

Phone: 940.565.2313

Office: Wooten Hall 145

Office Hours: Tuesday: 1–4:00 & by appt.

Teaching Assistants

You are assigned to a teaching assistant (TA) according to the alpha order of your last name. The four TAs assigned to the class are as follows:

Head Teaching Assistant (student last names A–F): **Melissa McKay**

Email: Within Blackboard Learn email system

Office: Wooten Hall 142

Office Hours: W 11am–2pm & by appt.

Teaching Assistant (student last names G–N): **Timothy Haglund**

Email: Within Blackboard Learn email system

Office: Wooten Hall 169

Office Hours: TR, 9:30–11am & by appt.

Teaching Assistant (student last names M–Z): **Rachel Kamman**

Email: Within Blackboard Learn email system

Office: Wooten Hall

Office Hours: 9:30–10:50am & by appt.

Supplemental Instruction

We are fortunate to have two members of the UNT Supplemental Instruction (SI) program to assist you in your course preparation. Our SIs are as follows:

Supplemental Instructor: **Veronica Partridge**

Email: Within Blackboard Learn email system

Supplemental Instructor: **Rachel Montgomery**

Email: Within Blackboard Learn email system

Veronica & Rachel will be in contact with you via the Blackboard system to arrange study sessions.

Communication

Please use the email facility within UNT's Blackboard system to communicate with the appropriate TA and/or Enterline, as it provides a clear subject line identification and will elicit a prompter response.

Books

Required reading material is as follows:

1. Ginsberg, Lowi, Weir, Tolbert, Champagne and Harpham. *We the People*. 9th Texas Edition. Norton. ISBN-13: 978-0393124385 (\$110). Available from the UNT bookstore and is referred to as “Ginsberg” in the course calendar, below. The ebook version of this text can be purchased at the following URL:
<http://books.wwnorton.com/books/detail.aspx?ID=4294975526>
(180-day rental, \$50). Free online study material is available from Norton at the following URL:
<http://www.wwnorton.com/college/polisci/we-the-people9/texas/welcome.aspx>.
If you own the hardbound version of the text, you need not bring this book to lecture (it’s heavy); and
2. *Our Documents: 100 Milestone Documents from the National Archives*. The National Archives. Oxford University Press (July 4, 2006). ISBN-13: 978-0195309591 (\$30). Available from the UNT bookstore and is referred to as “Our Documents” in the course calendar, below. You *should* bring Our Documents to Thursday lectures.

Attendance

No formal attendance will be taken during lecture. As you are attending UNT to learn, you are expected to attend lecture. However, as adults, the choice to do so is yours (however, see discussion in the subsections on Quizzes & Exams regarding the potential hazards for failing to attend.) Each attending student is required to have in its possession a #2 pencil suitable for marking scantrons.

Quizzes

There will be two unannounced quizzes during the semester, one prior to the midterm exam and the second following the midterm exam and prior to the final exam. The quizzes will require the student to answer a short battery of multiple-choice questions drawn from the texts and lecture (including multi-media.) Each quiz will contribute 5% (i.e., 10% total) to each student's final grade. Scantron sheets will be furnished to each student for each quiz. Students are responsible for furnishing a valid UNT Identification Card corresponding to their quiz submission and a #2 pencil for completing the scantron.

Exams

There will be **2 exams** in this course: One midterm exam on **Tuesday, March 10**, and a final exam on **Tuesday, May 12, 10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m., AUDb100**. Each exam requires that the student to answer multiple-choice questions drawn from the required readings and lecture (including multi-media.) A review session will be held during the lecture period immediately prior to each exam and marked on the calendar. Scantron sheets will be furnished to each student during each exam. Students are responsible for furnishing a valid UNT Identification Card corresponding to their own exam submission and a #2 pencil for completing the scantron. Each exam will contribute 45% to each student's final course grade (90% total.)

Make-ups

Makeup exams and quizzes should be arranged through your TA and will be furnished only in the case of a documented excuse accepted to the UNT Dean of Students.

Posting of Grades

Grades on quizzes exams will be posted on UNT's Blackboard site.

Winter Weather

When winter weather occurs in late January and February, please monitor your Blackboard and MyUNT email accounts for messages from me regarding lecture. Due to commuting hazards, I may cancel lecture prior to any declaration by the UNT Registrar.

Course Calendar

Week 1 (1/20)	Course Introduction
Week 1 (1/22)	Ginsberg, American Political Culture, Ch. 1 Our Documents: Lee Resolution; Declaration of Independence (Thursday)
Week 2 (1/27-29)	Ginsberg, The Founding and the Constitution, Ch. 2 Our Documents: Virginia Plan; The Constitution; Bill of Rights (Thursday)
Week 3 (2/3-5)	Ginsberg, Federalism, Ch. 3 Our Documents: Federalist Papers; McCulloch v. Maryland; 16th Amendment; Social Security Act (Thursday)
Week 4 (2/10-12)	Ginsberg, Civil Liberties, Ch. 4 Our Documents: Alien and Sedition Acts (Thursday)
Week 5 (2/17-19)	Ginsberg, Civil Liberties, Ch. 4 Our Documents: Emancipation Proclamation (Thursday)
Week 6 (2/24-26)	Ginsberg, Civil Rights, Ch. 5 Our Documents: 13th, 14th, 15th & 19th Amendments; Civil Rights Act; Brown v. Board of Education; Voting Rights Act; (Thursday)
Week 7 (3/3)	Leftovers (no extra readings)
Week 7 (3/5)	Exam Review
Week 8 (3/10)	MIDTERM EXAM
Week 8 (3/12)	No Lecture
Week 9 (3/16-20)	SPRING BREAK

Week 10 (3/24-26)	Ginsberg, Congress, Ch. 12 Our Documents: Gibbons v. Ogden (Thursday)
Week 11 (3/31-4/2)	Ginsberg, The Presidency, Ch. 13 Our Documents: Monroe Doctrine; The Four Freedoms; Truman Doctrine; Executive Order 9981; Executive Order 10730 (Thursday)
Week 12 (4/7-9)	Ginsberg, The Federal Courts, Ch. 15 Our Documents: Federal Judiciary Act; Marbury v. Madison; Scott v. Sanford; Plessy v. Ferguson (Thursday)
Week 13 (4/14-16)	Ginsberg, The Texas Constitution, Ch. 20 Ginsberg, Texas Political Culture, Ch. 19 Our Documents: Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo (Thursday)
Week 14 (4/21-23)	Ginsberg, The Texas Legislature, Ch. 23
Week 15 (4/28-30)	Ginsberg, The Texas Exec. Branch & Judiciary, Ch. 24, 25
Week 16 (5/5)	Wrap-up
Week 16 (5/7)	Exam Review
Week 17 (5/11-15)	FINAL EXAM: Tuesday, May 12, 10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m., AUDb100

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Course drop information: see schedule at –
<http://essc.unt.edu/registrar/schedule/scheduleclass.html>

Policies on academic dishonesty:
<http://www.vpaa.unt.edu/academic-integrity.htm>

Department Statement of ADA compliance

The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation.

Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for *every* semester and must meet with *each* faculty member prior to implementation in each class. For additional information see the Office of Disability Accommodation website at <http://www.unt.edu/oda>. You may also contact them by phone at 940.565.4323.

University of North Texas -- Department of Political Science POLICY ON CHEATING AND PLAGIARISM

The UNT Code of Student Conduct and Discipline defines cheating and plagiarism as the use of unauthorized books, notes, or otherwise securing help in a test; copying others' tests, assignments, reports, or term papers; representing the work of another as one's own; collaborating without authority with another student during an examination or in preparing academic work; or otherwise practicing scholastic dishonesty.

Normally, the minimum penalty for cheating or plagiarism is a grade of "F" in the course. In the case of graduate departmental exams, the minimum penalty shall be failure of all fields of the exam. Determination of cheating or plagiarism shall be made by the instructor in the course, or by the field faculty in the case of departmental exams.

Cases of cheating or plagiarism on graduate departmental exams, theses, or dissertations shall automatically be referred to the departmental Graduate Studies Committee. Cases of cheating or plagiarism in ordinary coursework may, at the discretion of the instructor, be referred to the Undergraduate Studies Committee in the case of undergraduate students, or the Graduate Studies Committee in the case of graduate students. These committees, acting as agents of the department Chair, shall impose further penalties, or recommend further penalties to the Dean of Students, if they determine that the case warrants it. In all cases, the Dean of Students shall be informed in writing of the case.

Students may appeal any decision under this policy by following the procedures laid down in the UNT Code of Student Conduct and Discipline.

University of North Texas -- Department of Political Science
POLICY ON ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

The Political Science Department adheres to and enforces UNT's policy on academic integrity (cheating, plagiarism, forgery, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty and sabotage). Students in this class should review the policy (UNT Policy Manual Section 18.1.16), which may be located at http://policy.unt.edu/sites/default/files/untpolicy/pdf/7-Student_Affairs-Academic_Integrity.pdf. Violations of academic integrity in this course will be addressed in compliance with the penalties and procedures laid out in this policy. Students may appeal any decision under this policy by following the procedures laid down in the UNT Policy Manual Section 18.1.16 "Student Standards of Academic Integrity".

Acceptable Student Behavior:

Student behavior that interferes with an instructor's ability to conduct a class or other students' opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Center for Student Rights and Responsibilities to consider whether the student's conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The university's expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including university and electronic classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The Code of Student Conduct can be found at <https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct>.