



## **American & Texas Government: Behavior**

### **INET PSCI 2305.801**

### **Spring 2024 (3wk Winter Session; Dec. 18--Jan. 12)**

Instructor: Prof. Andrew J. Enterline

Dept. of Political Science

Email: Canvas Email System Only

## **Course Description**

This course provides the student with an introduction to American and Texas politics. The course focuses primarily on political behavior, including voting, interest groups, political parties, elections, and the media.

## **Syllabus Revisions**

I reserve the right to revise this syllabus during the semester. I will alert you to these revisions (save for the minor), which mostly likely occur early in the semester.

## **Teaching Assistant**

The following Dept. of Political Science graduate student is assigned as a Teaching Assistant (TA) for the course:

- **Sung Min Yun**

Communication with your TA regarding the course is through the Canvas Email system only.

## **Communication**

During the semester we use Canvas Email exclusively to communicate, so you need to use it and be alerted to messages in it. Briefly, if you are logged into Canvas, the "Inbox" for the Canvas Email is located on the left-hand, vertical toolbar. Click on "Inbox", click on the button "compose new message", and then select me (Enterline) or your assigned TA in the drop down menu in the "To" field. You should make sure that your alerts in Canvas are enabled, so that you are alerted to any emails, announcements, changes to the Canvas shell for our course, etc.

# General Course Format

The online format of the course affords a significant degree of flexibility for the student and the course structure is designed with this goal in mind. The following components graded during the course:

1. Soomo Webtext & PSCI Workbook (and exercises embedded therein); and
2. Two Exams (1 Midterm & 1 Final, the latter non-cumulative).

There will be no formal lectures (synchronous or asynchronous) in the course. The student's work in the course is anchored to the webtext and PSCI Workbook and exercises therein. Upon completion, the webtext and exam grades are automatically logged into Canvas Grades. The two exams are completed by the student online via Canvas Quizzes.

## Soomo/PSCI Webtexts (50% of Final Course Grade)

The required materials for the course are as follows:

**2305 Department Bundle V4: U.S. and Texas Politics with 2305 Workbook (CIAG 14e, TexPol 11e, 2305 Workbook 7e)**

Jocelyn Evans & Kristy Michaud / The Texas Politics Project

Net Price: \$78.75

ISBN13: 978-1-954890-60-2

Soomo provides a free trial period that enables students to access the first three chapters of the webtext. This free trial allows you to complete assigned webtexts as the semester begins. However, once the free trial expires, you must purchase the webtext license to complete the exercises and log your grades in Canvas Grades. You can purchase access at the UNT bookstore or via Soomo directly through the course link.

The Webtext exercises are useful because they require the student to move through the material gradually. Additionally, the material covered in the exercises comprises the bulk of the questions on the two exams. So, gradual absorption of the course material serves to prepare the student for each exam.

Each set of exercises is worth 100 points and is due at 11:59 pm on the assigned date (see the course calendar, below; or the date posted in Canvas Assignments).

**Please Note: It is important that you complete the webtext exercises once you begin a chapter. Do not log out of the system mid-exercise, wander away for lengthy periods of time, etc., or you grade may not be logged correctly in Canvas. If you encounter difficulties with the Webtext, please consult with the Soomo help available features therein.**

**Please Note:** It is the student's responsibility to alert their TA of missing or erroneous webtext grades within 48 hrs. of their due date in Canvas Assignments. Put differently, the student cannot return after the 48 hr window and argue that a given webtext was completed and Canvas failed to log the grade accordingly.

## **Midterm & Final Exams (25% Each [50% Total] of Final Course Grade)**

There will be two exams in this course:

- Midterm Exam on **Friday, Dec. 29 by 11:59 pm**; and
- Final Exam (does not include material from the Midterm Exam) on **Friday, Jan. 12 by 11:59 pm**.

Each exam requires that the student answer multiple-choice questions drawn primarily from the required webtext readings. Each exam will be taken by the student online via Canvas on the appointed date and completed at the student's discretion between 6am--11:59pm on said date. A lockdown browser will not be employed. Each exam is an individual exercise, so you are to do your own work with your own brain. Put differently, do not collaborate with anyone or any machine.

**Please Note:** In order to maintain the integrity of the exams, no early exams will be administered under any circumstances.

## **Missed Exams, Webtext Exercises, Etc.**

Permission to complete missed exams, webtext exercises, and the policy-letter will be provided only in the case of a documented excuse acceptable to the UNT Dean of Students and evaluated as such. In such cases, please email your assigned TA via Canvas Email.

## **Posting Grades in Canvas**

Grades will be reported via Canvas Grades. We do our best to keep the grade book up to date. Please let your assigned TA know if you detect any issues or problems in the grade book. It is your responsibility to police the grades in Canvas Grades. A missing or erroneous grade must be reported to your assigned TA within 48 hrs. of the due date for the given assignment.

## **Your Final Course Grade (Numeric)**

Canvas will weight your Assignments (i.e., Midterm Exam, Final Exam, Policy-maker Letter, Soomo Webtext and Survey) in Grades. The final column in Canvas Grades, labeled "Total", should reflect this weighting and your progress as the semester progresses.






## **Your Final Course Grade (Letter)**










At the semester's conclusion the "Final Course Letter Grade" is the grade that will be uploaded to the UNT Registrar's EIS grade system. This letter grade will never be lower than the standard corresponding numeric value that I compute for the course and that is show in Canvas (e.g., you earned a numeric value of 95, but I awarded you a letter grade of "C"). However, this letter grade may be greater than the standard corresponding numeric value (e.g., you earned a numeric value of 79---in the high "C" range in terms of a letter grade---but I awarded you a letter grade of "B").










## UNT Policies









Please familiarize yourself with the University's policies here: [UNT Policies](https://unt.instructure.com/courses/75226/pages/unt-policies)  
(<https://unt.instructure.com/courses/75226/pages/unt-policies>)

## Course Summary:

Date	Details	Due
Thu Dec 28, 2023	 <a href="https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98044/assignments/2018351"><u>Chapter 10: Texas: Interest Groups</u></a> ( <a href="https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98044/assignments/2018351"><u>https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98044/assignments/2018351</u></a> )	due by 11:59pm
	 <a href="https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98044/assignments/2018352"><u>Chapter 11: Workbook: Interest Groups</u></a> ( <a href="https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98044/assignments/2018352"><u>https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98044/assignments/2018352</u></a> )	due by 11:59pm
	 <a href="https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98044/assignments/2018342"><u>Chapter 1: Public Opinion</u></a> ( <a href="https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98044/assignments/2018342"><u>https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98044/assignments/2018342</u></a> )	due by 11:59pm
	 <a href="https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98044/assignments/2018343"><u>Chapter 2: Texas: Political Culture</u></a> ( <a href="https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98044/assignments/2018343"><u>https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98044/assignments/2018343</u></a> )	due by 11:59pm
	 <a href="https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98044/assignments/2018344"><u>Chapter 3: Workbook: Public Opinion</u></a> ( <a href="https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98044/assignments/2018344"><u>https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98044/assignments/2018344</u></a> )	due by 11:59pm

Date	Details	Due
	 <b><u>Chapter 4: Voting and Political Participation</u></b> <a href="https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98044/assignments/2018345">https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98044/assignments/2018345</a>	due by 11:59pm
	 <b><u>Chapter 5: Texas: Elections, Voting, and Campaigns</u></b> <a href="https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98044/assignments/2018346">https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98044/assignments/2018346</a>	due by 11:59pm
	 <b><u>Chapter 6: Workbook: Political Participation</u></b> <a href="https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98044/assignments/2018347">https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98044/assignments/2018347</a>	due by 11:59pm
	 <b><u>Chapter 7: The Media</u></b> <a href="https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98044/assignments/2018348">https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98044/assignments/2018348</a>	due by 11:59pm
	 <b><u>Chapter 8: Workbook: The Mass Media</u></b> <a href="https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98044/assignments/2018349">https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98044/assignments/2018349</a>	due by 11:59pm
	 <b><u>Chapter 9: Interest Groups</u></b> <a href="https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98044/assignments/2018350">https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98044/assignments/2018350</a>	due by 11:59pm
Fri Dec 29, 2023	 <b><u>Midterm Exam</u></b> <a href="https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98044/assignments/2019558">https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98044/assignments/2019558</a>	due by 11:59pm
Fri Jan 5, 2024	 <b><u>Chapter 10: Texas: Interest Groups</u></b> ( <a href="https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98044/assignments/2018351">https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98044/assignments/2018351</a> ) (7 students)	due by 11:59pm
	 <b><u>Chapter 11: Workbook: Interest Groups</u></b> <a href="https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98044/assignments/2018352">https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98044/assignments/2018352</a> (7 students)	due by 11:59pm

Date	Details	Due
	 <b><u>Chapter 4: Voting and Political Participation</u></b> <a href="https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98044/assignments/2018345">https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98044/assignments/2018345</a> (4 students)	due by 11:59pm
	 <b><u>Chapter 5: Texas: Elections, Voting, and Campaigns</u></b> <a href="https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98044/assignments/2018346">https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98044/assignments/2018346</a> (4 students)	due by 11:59pm
	 <b><u>Chapter 6: Workbook: Political Participation</u></b> <a href="https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98044/assignments/2018347">https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98044/assignments/2018347</a> (4 students)	due by 11:59pm
	 <b><u>Chapter 7: The Media</u></b> <a href="https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98044/assignments/2018348">https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98044/assignments/2018348</a> (7 students)	due by 11:59pm
	 <b><u>Chapter 8: Workbook: The Mass Media</u></b> <a href="https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98044/assignments/2018349">https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98044/assignments/2018349</a> (7 students)	due by 11:59pm
	 <b><u>Chapter 9: Interest Groups</u></b> <a href="https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98044/assignments/2018350">https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98044/assignments/2018350</a> (7 students)	due by 11:59pm
	 <b><u>Midterm Exam</u></b> <a href="https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98044/assignments/2019558">https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98044/assignments/2019558</a> (9 students)	due by 11:59pm
Thu Jan 11, 2024	 <b><u>Chapter 12: Political Parties</u></b> <a href="https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98044/assignments/2018353">https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98044/assignments/2018353</a>	due by 11:59pm
	 <b><u>Chapter 13: Texas: Political Parties</u></b> <a href="https://unt.instructure.com">https://unt.instructure.com</a>	due by 11:59pm

Date	Details	Due
	<a href="#"><u>/courses/98044/assignments/2018354</u></a>	
	 <b><a href="#"><u>Chapter 14: Workbook: Political Parties</u></a></b> <a href="https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98044/assignments/2018355"><u>(https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98044/assignments/2018355)</u></a>	due by 11:59pm
	 <b><a href="#"><u>Chapter 15: Elections and Campaigns</u></a></b> <a href="https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98044/assignments/2018356"><u>(https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98044/assignments/2018356)</u></a>	due by 11:59pm
	 <b><a href="#"><u>Chapter 16: Workbook: Elections and Campaigns</u></a></b> <a href="https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98044/assignments/2018357"><u>(https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98044/assignments/2018357)</u></a>	due by 11:59pm
	 <b><a href="#"><u>Chapter 17: Public Policy</u></a></b> <a href="https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98044/assignments/2018358"><u>(https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98044/assignments/2018358)</u></a>	due by 11:59pm
	 <b><a href="#"><u>Chapter 18: Texas: Public Policy</u></a></b> <a href="https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98044/assignments/2018359"><u>(https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98044/assignments/2018359)</u></a>	due by 11:59pm
	 <b><a href="#"><u>Chapter 19: Workbook: Domestic Policy</u></a></b> <a href="https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98044/assignments/2018360"><u>(https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98044/assignments/2018360)</u></a>	due by 11:59pm
	 <b><a href="#"><u>Chapter 20: Workbook: Foreign Policy</u></a></b> <a href="https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98044/assignments/2018361"><u>(https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98044/assignments/2018361)</u></a>	due by 11:59pm
Fri Jan 12, 2024	 <b><a href="#"><u>Final Exam</u></a></b> <a href="https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98044/assignments/2019559"><u>(https://unt.instructure.com/courses/98044/assignments/2019559)</u></a>	due by 11:59pm