

**University of North Texas--Department of Political Science—American Government**

**PSCI 1040 Sections 008 & 011—NextGeneration—Fall 2010**

**Professor:** Dr. Kimi Lynn King **e-mail:** [kking@unt.edu](mailto:kking@unt.edu) **office:** 148 Wooten Tu/Th 8:30-9:30 am; Tu/Th 11am 12:30 pm; W 10-1& by appointment **phone:** 940.565.4984 / 940.565.2276

**1040.008 Class:** Tu/Th - 12:30-1:50 pm – Lyceum      **1040.011 Class:** Tu/Th - 3:30-4:50 pm - Bio 117

**Teaching Assistants:** You each have an assigned T.A. depending on your Team assignment (check online).

<b>Section 008</b>	Name	Email	Wooten Office #	Office hours	Office phone
Teams 1-9	Nick Higgins	<a href="mailto:nicholashiggins@my.unt.edu">nicholashiggins@my.unt.edu</a>	140	Tu/Th 11-12:30 pm & 2-3:30 pm	565.2218
Teams 10-18	Nicholas Drummond	<a href="mailto:NicholasDrummond@my.unt.edu">NicholasDrummond@my.unt.edu</a>	331	M 1-4 pm & Tu/Th 11-12:30 pm	369.8733
Teams 19-27	Tatyana Kelman	<a href="mailto:tatyanakelman@my.unt.edu">tatyanakelman@my.unt.edu</a>	173B	W 1-4 pm & Th 2-5 pm	891.6806
Teams 28-36	Stephanie Murphy	<a href="mailto:stephaniemurphy@my.unt.edu">stephaniemurphy@my.unt.edu</a>	337	M/W 12:30-2:30 pm & F 9-11 am	891.6807
Teams 37-45	Anna Pechenina	<a href="mailto:annapechenina@my.unt.edu">annapechenina@my.unt.edu</a>	136	M 1-3pm & M/Th 10am-12pm	565-2335

<b>Section 011</b>	Name	Email	Office #	Office hours	Office phone
Teams 1-11	Nick Higgins	<a href="mailto:nicholashiggins@my.unt.edu">nicholashiggins@my.unt.edu</a>	140	Tu/Th 11-12:30 pm & 2-3:30 pm	565.2218
Teams 12-21	Travis Hadley	<a href="mailto:travishadley@my.unt.edu">travishadley@my.unt.edu</a>	173B	M/W/F 10-12	891.6806

The teaching assistants (TAs) and the Supplemental Instructor (SI) are your first line of defense in this class to help you pass. Any procedural issues should *first* be discussed with your T.A. and then with me. **KNOW WHO THEY ARE!!** If you have a complaint, contact me after you have spoken to the T.A.

**Required Texts:**

**1) Benjamin Ginsberg, Theodore Lowi, and Margaret Weir. 2009. *We the People: An Introduction to American Politics (7<sup>th</sup> Texas Edition)*, by Benjamin Ginsberg, Theodore J. Lowi, and Margaret Weir [hereinafter Ginsberg et al. or GLW].** Also at Willis Library under Dr. King-2 hour reserve (stays in the library and you must show ID). You have the correct one if it includes Anthony Champagne & Edward J. Harpham.

*Options to buy the textbook:*

Option 1: Buy a hard copy in the bookstores—Discounted paperback edition \$98.75 (new) & \$74.25 (used)

Option 2: Buy a hard copy online through Norton Student Store--\$117.50 (new hardback) (paperback not available from the Student Store). Free shipping [www.norton.com/students/disciplines/polisci/welcome.php](http://www.norton.com/students/disciplines/polisci/welcome.php) (click on "We the People An Introduction to American Politics Seventh Editions: Full, Shorter, Texas and Essentials"; click on "order this book" on the left side; scroll down to "We the People: An Introduction to American Politics 7e Texas" and add to cart (ISBN-13: 978-0-393-93239-3)

Option 3: Buy the eBook-\$47 (credit card needed) (retains the content of the print book and replicates actual pages for easy reading) [www.wwnorton.com/orders/intellipay/accessPurchase.asp?site=wtp7e\\_texas\\_ebook](http://www.wwnorton.com/orders/intellipay/accessPurchase.asp?site=wtp7e_texas_ebook) Texas Edition. For obvious reasons, the book CANNOT be re-sold.

**2) Cox, Gloria C., and Richard S. Ruderman (editor). 2011 (8th ed.). *Perspectives on American and Texas Politics: A Workbook for Political Science 1040* Denton, (Pearson) [hereinafter WB for Workbook].**

Bookstores are selling the workbook for \$26.75. Also on reserve at the library. **Do Not Buy Used! This book also cannot be re-sold. Do not purchase it used.**

**Required Newspaper:** *The New York Times* available: 1) by subscription including on-campus lockboxes (Union & Wooten hall) and home delivery-call 888-698-2655 / [www.nytimes.com/student](http://www.nytimes.com/student); 2) online [www.nytimes.com](http://www.nytimes.com); and 3) at Willis Library.

**Required on the Web:** <http://ecampus.unt.edu> All course materials are on Blackboard Vista (WEBCT).

**Required Hardware:** You must purchase a Turning Point Response Card (aka “clicker”)—available at the bookstore and be sure that the brand is *Turning Point Technology* (*important because others are not compatible!*). Clickers allow students to answer interactive questions with the push of a button. Clickers are used for attendance as well as class exercises. **WE USE CLICKERS EVERY DAY FOR THIS COURSE! BRING THEM TO CLASS BEGINNING THE FIRST WEEK!**

*Purchasing a Turning Point Response Card* – Ask at the bookstore and get the clicker for Political Science (it looks like a small garage door opener) (there are different types so be careful).

Regular Clicker \$28.25 used - \$37.50 new

Clicker with LCD (for reading confirmation) \$40 new - \$30 used (none available because brand new product)

There are iPhone, iTouch, iPad, and Blackberry applications, but they have not been used routinely in our classroom because of cost and computer interface issues. If you try this option, you do so at your own risk.

If you have questions or concerns, Marianne Fleischmann at the bookstore can assist you. Be sure to keep your receipt in case of a problem; the bookstore will not fix or replace your clicker without an original receipt! Finally, if it is used you may want to purchase spare battery for your clicker. It is a round flat *medical* battery. Check with the bookstores about which ones you need for the clicker.

**Next Generation Course:** This section of PSCI 1040 is a Next Generation (NextGen) course re-design intended to promote higher-level student learning, facilitated by increased levels of student engagement. The course relies upon a “blended learning approach” which combines face-to-face instruction through traditional lecture format, computer-mediated instruction in an online environment using Blackboard Vista, small group learning experiences, and student response systems (“clickers”) during class to improve the quality and retention of learning. Some of the in-class lecture materials are placed online in power point slides within the learning modules for each of the three units to provide more classroom time to engage students in advanced interactive experiences not typically available in large classroom environments and to reduce the attrition and failure rates of students which typically accompany large classes. The use of multi-media technology and the discipline to pace yourself through the class projects and online environment is vital for success. Please carefully review the syllabus TODAY to see what is expected of you, and if you do not believe that you are comfortable with this format, you need to drop this course and find another more appropriate class for your learning needs.

**Intervention Service:** This section will be using an Intervention Service provided by the Program for Academic Readiness. You may be contacted during the semester by a student interventionist if you fail to complete required assignments. Your personal information will be protected by FERPA (federal privacy) guidelines.

**IRB Participation:** This class is part of a study to examine teaching effectiveness in the NextGen environment. We will be discussing what your participation means in-class. You have the option of refusing to have your data included in the scientific studies. Please note: **THIS DOES NOT MEAN THAT YOU WILL NOT BE PARTICIPATING IN THE EXERCISES. YOU MUST COMPLETE THESE ASSIGNMENTS AS PART OF THE COURSE.** Not giving your permission only means that we do not use your data when publishing research.

**Objectives:** This course is designed to examine the key elements and institutions of the U.S. political system. The framework for evaluating our unique federal and state structure considers the institutions established by the framers of the U.S. Constitution and the subsequent changes in these structures by political participants. The state of Texas has a unique historical and political importance within the development of the U.S. political system. As a result, we highlight the similarities and differences between federal and state politics, institutions, and public policy. By the end of the course you should be able to do the following:

\* understand basic concepts of American government and our democratic institutions;

- \* understand the frameworks, similarities & differences of each institution;
- \* understand how our institutions have changed over time;
- \* understand the political roles of leaders within each of the institutions;
- \* understand the policy priorities that institutions emphasize;
- \* understand inter- and intra-institutional conflicts;
- \* understand the histories and interpretations of the U.S. and Texas Constitutions;
- \* understand how constitutions contribute to socio-political change;
- \* understand federalism as compared to other forms of government;
- \* discuss current policy issues;
- \* discuss arguments both for and against the adoption of certain policies;
- \* formulate policy arguments about federal and state issues on the U.S. agenda;
- \* explain “who gets what, when and how” within the structure of the U.S. system;
- \* explicate the policy priorities that institutions emphasize;
- \* explain how political scientists examine and study policy processes;
- \* discuss current policy issues facing our federal and state systems;
- \* discuss arguments both for and against the adoption of certain policies;
- \* discuss how political scientists examine conflict and consensus among participants;

**Course Policies:** First, this class operates under a "no-excuse" policy and a taxpayer theory of education. You should take full advantage of the democracy you paid for with tuition, and you have rights and responsibilities as a member of the community. Seek out assistance if you have issues with the course and learn to help yourself, as well as others as you go through this class. All materials are to encourage student engagement and to develop an “active citizenry”. Materials (including notes) are copyrighted, and no one is authorized to sell, distribute, or otherwise make available any course products for economic benefit.

Second, if you have unique learning needs or are physically challenged, every attempt will be made to make reasonable accommodations for your requests. You should see me by the end of the first week of class so we can make appropriate arrangements. This class operates in accordance with the Office of Disability requirements at the University of North Texas and pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act (1990) (please see attached).

Third, please consult and sign the policy regarding academic honesty at the end of the syllabus. You are on notice that you are subject to all university penalties for cheating and plagiarism. Disrupting the classroom environment is also grounds for an "F". See <http://library.camden.rutgers.edu/EducationalModule/Plagiarism/> if you are not sure what constitutes plagiarism. Having other students complete your assignments, submit online materials, or click in for you in class is also grounds for adverse actions. Students can study together, play the games, and do the interactive terms and definitions (and obviously I encourage group interaction through the Team Projects)! When it comes to assessments, assignments, quizzes, and tests, however, you must do your own work.

Fourth, the schedule below outlines the topics, readings, and assignments. All material must be read in advance of the date assigned, and all online assignments are due by Friday at 11:59 pm on the week where the material is listed as due (except for NY Times quizzes due by 11:59 pm that Thursday assigned). **DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE TO SUBMIT THINGS BECAUSE TECHNOLOGY CAN BE WACKY!!!** You are expected to read and to prepare for class discussions and there are on-the-spot questions over the material in class. **Even if there is no assigned reading on a given day, you are expected to attend class unless directed otherwise.** We do an in-class exercise with clickers every class, so you need to be prepared. We also discuss current issues from *The New York Times*, so read it!

Fifth, as part of the NextGen experience, class time has activities to emphasize key areas that you should study, and success is linked to regular attendance and responsible behavior. Get yourself to class on-time, meet at designated times with your teammates, communicate to involved parties if you are delayed, meet deadlines, and in general, help each other out. Each student is individually graded by their fellow teammates for each unit project, so earn your “A”s by working well with each other. During regular lectures in class time, clicker exercises are tied directly to your grade. If you miss a class, arrive late, zone out, lose yourself in facebook, go twitter happy, or

leave early, you miss percentage points. Plan to attend every class on time, and stay through the end of class and answer all clicker questions. If you have university approved absences, see your T.A. *before* the excused absence.

There are no assigned seats, but you are to be part of a designated “Team” (and teammates may want to sit near each other). On certain class days (involving class exercises), there are designated places where you “meet your team.” These are announced in class when this occurs. Be sure you can see the screen and power point slides. If you arrive early, please move to the middle of the row if at all possible. Mix it up and get to know people!

Sixth, because of the size of the class there are several "do not disturb policies". If you are late or leave early, please do not disturb others. You cannot make up missed “clicker” questions. Do not worry, there are so many it will not make a difference if you miss a few here or there. It is systematically missing that will harm your grade. Folks should not sit in the very last row because this is reserved so I can walk around the class. I do not allow the use of beepers, cell phones, walk-mates, or any other device that makes noise. Please turn these off before class, or else leave these at home. Students whose phones/beepers go off during class are required to “educate” your classmates about U.S. politics. In the past, students have rapped the preamble to the Constitution and drummed the Bill of Rights in front of the entire class! You may read other materials, but do so quietly. If you are bored with lecture and want to "chat" with a neighbor, please do so via paper or online! Newspapers create a ruckus, so please do not read during class. Should you engage in other activities, sleeping, facebooking, twittering, I cannot guarantee I will not make jokes. Students who have complaints about others' disruptive behavior should first talk to the classmate who is causing trouble, and then see the T.A. (who speaks with me about the problem). The potential sanctions for persons who disrupt class or their neighbors include moving you to a different seat or dropping you from the class, to asking you to leave for the day or giving you an "F" for the course. If you bring food or drink to class with you, be sure to dispose of it properly and do not make a mess for your classmates!

Seventh, students are ENCOURAGED to use lap top computers during lectures, but please be sure the audio is off. I reserve the right to revoke the privilege of using the above devices if it interferes with the classroom environment or if it is disruptive to other students. Any student creating a material and substantial disruption will be asked to leave. The audio lectures are available on iTunesU.

Eighth, I offer numerous opportunities for extra credit. Occasionally, lectures on campus or television programs are used for extra credit opportunities (campaign debates, presidential or legislative addresses) and varies by semester. Review the schedule below for opportunities already available! Extra credit is announced in class or on e-mail, and it is posted on Blackboard. There are "expiration dates" for the extra credit, so turn it in by the due date and according to instructions. I reserve the right to refuse you the extra credit if you miss the class when it was assigned, and I give “Good Citizen” extra credit for those who bring things to my attention which help correct confusion or misinformation. Extra credit is a direct replacement for *final* exam points. Example: if you have 8 extra credit points and get an “82” on the final, 8 points are added giving you a 90. Tests are averaged for an overall test score. Please make a copy of ALL extra credit assignments before sending it on Blackboard.

Ninth, we are lean and green, and that means that virtually all assignments, exercises, assessments, quizzes, and (a majority) of test scores are online being tracked in Blackboard Gradebook. The advantage to this is that it saves resources, it is more efficient, and it is more effective. Most grades are returned immediately through the online system. We do NOT return assignments, quizzes, or tests, but you can verify answers by seeing your TA. Keep a copy of all assignments you submit. **If we need to see your work because of a technological glitch, and you cannot provide it, you may not receive credit.** Some work requires TAs grade material online, so there is a slightly later grade return. Material “disappears” on Blackboard after date due and cannot be turned in for credit. You may always turn in assignments early. Even after materials have been returned, please hold on to the work until after you receive a grade from the Registrar. This protects you! **IF YOU DO NOT RECEIVE A GRADE ONLINE FOR ANY PART OF THIS CLASS, SEE YOUR TA WITHIN ONE WEEK OF THE DUE DATE.** We reserve the right to refuse credit if you do not do so. Do not wait until the end of the term!!

If you are taking a pencil and paper exam, the top sheet of the exam is your "receipt" which you have stamped to show you submitted scantron answers. If you are taking a computer (laptop) test, your “receipt” to be stamped is

the paper we give you entering class with the password to be used during the testing period for security clearance. You must present this 'receipt' as proof in the event there is a problem with your test. If you cannot provide the receipt, I reserve the authority to give an appropriate grade or the ability to take a makeup.

Tenth, this course relies heavily on new media teaching technology in its structure. You use it every day that you work on the class. Everyone must use e-mail, the Internet, and Blackboard Vista. <http://www.ecampus.unt.edu>. You need your EUID and all students registered for the class have been added. You are responsible for any assignments or other information that I distribute online. Messages are sent the first and every day of class, so be sure you can access the online materials (hint: edit the paging of your emails to be sure that you can view at least 500 messages—about the number of messages you will receive this semester)! Students who are ideologically opposed to email, the Internet, or those who are technologically challenged should drop the course immediately. You will not do well. If you do not have a message from me when you log on to your Blackboard account, you need to send a message to your T.A. and include your EUID so we can add you to the course.

There are numerous online games and interactive materials which require not just substantive knowledge, but the ability to navigate the online technology. If you are having troubles with computer access, you must contact the Blackboard Vista Help Desk because they are the best personnel to help you in the submission of online materials. They are on-call during scheduled hours. Email: [vista@unt.edu](mailto:vista@unt.edu) Phone: (940) 565-2324 In person: ISB Rm. 119. Inform them of the issue, and they will keep me posted on the issue. When in doubt, university computer labs and assistants there can assist you with problems you have with submitting materials. I will make every endeavor to keep you posted online about any technology issues that occur. Be sure to regularly check your email. Please be patient as we go through this unique process. I reserve the authority to alter assignments as needed if there are technological glitches, and I give students who have solutions to errors in the process Good Citizen extra credit!

Eleventh, the University may cancel classes for emergency reasons (I will inform you via Blackboard Vista). In the event that classes are canceled, and there is a workbook or exam scheduled for that class day, the work will be due on the next class day when we meet. Please consult the policies in the Fall 2010 Schedule of Classes.

Twelfth, you can only take make up exams or quizzes early if you have an approved absence in advance. You cannot take an exam after the class day unless it is approved by your T.A. in advance. You must have a copy of an email granting you permission to do so. Early exams are not available until 3 p.m. the day before the exam is scheduled. If you cannot take the exam before it is given to the class, you have to take it on the "Day for Make-Ups" (during dead week) in room 125 Wooten. You may not make up more than one exam or one New York Times quiz even if you have an excused absence. The makeup test is essay and drawn from the section you missed. The New York Times quiz covers articles from the entire semester. Please bring photo identification, T.A. approval to take the makeup, documentation for the absence, and a pen/pencil.

Finally, this syllabus is not a contract, and I reserve the authority to change requirements by providing you with a forty-eight hour notice of such changes in class and on Blackboard Vista (please note: I have never had to do this). You are responsible for any changes that may occur during the course of the semester.

**Course evaluation: Scale & Percentages** A=90+; B=80-89.9; C=70-79.9; D=60.9-69 F=0-59.9

**1) 3 in-class multiple choice exams = 60%** (20% each exam) - exams are not cumulative

**2) 5 New York Times quizzes = 10%** (2% each quiz)

**3) NextGen Out-of-Class Group exercises = 15%**

\*So You Call This a Democracy? = 5%

\*Power Politics: The Game of Political Smackdown= 5%

\*Moot Court Simulation-Gay Marriage & Health Care=5%

**4) 5 workbook assignments = 5%** (1% each assignment) Submitted in online format

**5) Completion of In-Class NextGen Clicker Exercises = 5%**

**6) Completion of Online NextGen materials & Quizzes = 5%**

Too often students wait until the end of the semester to speak to someone about their grades and how poorly they are doing in class. **THE FIRST TIME YOU RECEIVE AN UNSATISFACTORY GRADE, YOU NEED TO SEEK US OUT. Waiting until the end of the term is TOO LATE!** It becomes very difficult to change your class average once 75% or so of the work has been completed. No matter what is going on in your life, get help.

**Exams:** There are 3 in-class, closed book exams. The exams are 100% multiple choice with 50 questions on each exam and the whole class period for each test. Exams are non-cumulative in the sense that they focus on the specific topics and reading assignments delineated by each section with some overlap between unit concepts. We review every day in class for the exam, so you are expected to bring questions about the material to class. The exam is drawn from approximately 50-60% class lecture/power point slides, 15% NextGen materials (Team Projects & online), 10-15% NY Times, 5% workbook, and 5-10% exclusively from the textbook.

**Exam Options:** You have several options in this class: 1) in-class scantron with paper and pencil, 2) in-class computerized online version of the test using your own laptop which you bring to class, or 3) in a computer lab designated for a limited number of people. On the third day of class, you chose the method in which you will take the 3 exams throughout the semester. You must bring your laptop to class that day if you intend the laptop option.

*1) In-class scantron*-If you chose this option, you take your test in the classroom, at the scheduled day and time of the test on the syllabus, with a hard copy of the exam (4 versions with different questions), a pencil, and a scantron which we provide. The TAs grade your scantron and you receive your grade in approximately 3-5 days.

*2) In-class laptop computer which you provide*-If you have a laptop, you can chose to take your test online in the classroom, at the scheduled day and time of the test on the syllabus using your laptop and power cord (your computer MUST be charged because there are insufficient power outlets). The online test is in Blackboard on a lockdown browser which only allows student access to the test from the classroom and prevents students from Web access. The test is drawn from the same number and randomized set of questions as the hard copy test. At the completion of your test, your grade is sent immediately through Blackboard and uploaded to gradebook.

*3) Designated computer lab*-If you want to take a computerized version of the test, we also have *limited* seating (sign up on a first come, first serve basis) in a computer lab where you log on to Blackboard on a lockdown browser to take the test (student access and test content the same as the in-class laptop option under #2 above). Grades are also sent immediately through Blackboard and uploaded to gradebook.

There are different versions of the exams and questions are randomized online to protect test integrity. You are **required to bring and show identification if asked** at exams. Failure to do can result in a failing grade. When you turn your exam, you get a receipt to prove you took the exam. Please save that for each test.

**The New York Times:** Our political system is intertwined with current events, both domestic and international. As such, you are expected to subscribe or otherwise regularly read *The New York Times* to provide a national perspective on current events. Exam and quiz questions are drawn from articles in the "National", "International" sections of the paper. Approximately 5-7 questions appear on each exam, in addition to the 5 online quizzes (10 multiple choice questions per quiz). Quizzes on Blackboard Vista are under the 'New York Times' tab on the Course Content page and appear according to schedule (from the beginning of class onward until 11:59 pm that night). Class is dismissed early for you to complete 10 questions with only one attempt per quiz.

I cover "major" events and email "hints" to you regarding what articles you should read. You receive a daily set of Blackboard email "hints" about news stories to help identify the article and its key points to learn. Students who can answer the hint questions typically do well on the quizzes and tests. News "happens" over a period of days, so paying attention to news in general helps during this course. Students who do best, read the paper daily and follow the news cycle. Hints are sent Monday through Friday (including Dead Week). No hints are sent on the weekend, during finals week, or breaks (Labor Day, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Thanksgiving and spring break). You may subscribe to hard copy available in hard copy on-campus (Union or Wooten) or via home delivery. Students who subscribe receive instructions on Blackboard during the first week of class.

**Workbook Assignments:** There are 5 workbook assignments, and each one consists of 3 different exercises submitted online. The workbook assignments are on Blackboard under each unit where they are assigned. You must still purchase the workbooks as they contain readings and instructions necessary to complete the assignments. See your TA in advance if you have a problem meeting the regularly scheduled deadline. You may, but do not have to consult with other students when completing workbook assignments prior to the beginning of class when each assignment is due. Each student, however, is required to submit his/her own copies of the workbook assignments (you cannot submit one assignment for a group). Be careful you do not get "burned" by sharing the work. If you rely on someone else and lose points, there is nothing I can do.



**Assignments & Schedule-Tu/Th refers to the week day of the week due; GLW refers to the Ginsberg, et al. text, WB refers to Cox Workbook, & NYT refers to New York Times.**

#### **Week 0 (Thurs Aug 26 only)**

**Lecture:** Welcome to All Politics All the Time: Course Requirements, “Blended Courses”, Intellectual Expectations, Policies, and course materials

**Reading:** Th-Syllabus & Blackboard requirements

**NextGen and Online:** Th-get on <http://ecampus.unt.edu> today to check extra credit email from Dr. King & to do the Blackboard Tutorial if needed

Th-begin the “Start Here” module online

Th-register your clicker online in Blackboard

Th-sign up for NYT -- reading begins Mon [www.nytimes.com](http://www.nytimes.com)

#### **Week 1 (Aug 30-Sept 3)**

**Lecture:** Student Success: Syllabus, Clickers; Blackboard Vista, Teams & NY Times

Tu-return syllabus sheet indicating you understand the blended learning, academic honesty & plagiarism policy

Tu-begin using clickers in class today so bring them to class for extra credit points!

Th-**BRING LAPTOPS TO CLASS IF YOU ARE TAKING TESTS via LAPTOP!** (otherwise bring a pencil)!

Th-all kinds of extra credit opportunities in class-bring clickers, pencils & laptops!

**Reading:** Mon-NYT hints begin today-check Blackboard email from Dr. King for hints

Tu- GLW Ch. 1 “American Political Culture”

Tu- WB Ch. 1 “Liberty and Security: The Philosophical Foundations of American Democracy”

**NextGen and Online:** Complete the “Start Here” module online and submit any required materials

Begin reviewing online games to study online content

#### **Week 2 (Sept 6-10 —no classes Mon Sept 6 for Labor Day, but we meet Tu/Th!)**

**Lecture:** Culture Vultures

**Reading:** Tu- GLW Ch. 19 “The Political Culture, People and Economy of Texas”

Tu- WB Ch. 2 “American Political Culture and National Security”

**NextGen and Online:** Begin the Unit 1 NextGen games

Mon-NY Times subscriptions begin (if you subscribe, you are sent the code on Blackboard)

Review the materials for Team Project Unit 1 - “So You Call This a Democracy”

Th-NYT Quiz #1 (covers NYT from Mon Aug 30-Tues Sept 7)

#### **Week 3 (Sept 13-17)-NEXT GEN WEEK-FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS FOR ASSIGNMENT**

**Lecture:** So You Call This a Democracy

**Reading:** Tu- GLW Ch. 2 “The Founding and The Constitution,” GLW Ch. 20 “The Texas Constitution,”

Tu- WB Ch. 3 “Constitutional Freedom: The Tension Between Security and Liberty”

**NextGen and Online:** Continue the Unit 1 NextGen games

Tu-Team Project Unit 1 – Meet with teams to discuss “So You Call This a Democracy” (each team arranges its own meeting place-you can meet in the class room or in spaces around it as well)

Th-Team Project Unit 1 - “So You Call This a Democracy” – Continued from Tuesday (each team arranges its own meeting place-you can meet in the class room or in spaces around it as well)

Th-WB assignment #1-exercise #1-5; exercise #2-3; exercise #3-4 (3 exercises total)

#### **Week 4 (Sept 20-24)**

**Lecture:** Uncle Sam versus the Nifty Fifty

**Reading:** Tu- GLW Ch. 3 “Federalism,”

Tu- WB Ch. 4 “Evolving American Federalism”

**NextGen and Online:** Continue Unit 1 NextGen games

Tu-Team Project Unit 1 - “So You Call This a Democracy”

Tu-Last day to notify instructor about religious holiday absences

Th-New York Times Quiz #2 (covers NYT from Weds Sept 8 –Tues Sept 21)



### **Week 5 (Sept 27-Oct 1)**

**Lecture:** Home Grown & Home Rule

**Reading:** Tu- GLW Ch. 26 “Local Government in Texas”

**NextGen and Online:** Tu-Unit 1 Online NextGen games and assessment

**Exam:** Th-First Exam—Sep 30 (argh!)-covers GLW 1, 19, 2, 20, 3, 26 / WB Ch. 1, 2, 3, 4 / NYT from Weds Sept 22-Tues Sept 28

### **Week 6 (Oct 4-8)**

**Monday is last day to register to vote for November elections!!**

**Lecture:** I'm Just a Bill

**Reading:** Tu- GLW Ch. 12 “Congress,”

Tu- WB Ch. 5 “Representation and Religion”

**NextGen and Online:** Begin Unit 2 online NextGen games

Th-WB assignment #2 (all 3)-exercise #5-2; exercise #5-4; exercise #5-6 (3 exercises total)

### **Week 7 (Oct 11-15)**

**Lecture:** The Biennial Animal

**Reading:** Tu- GLW Ch. 23 “The Texas Legislature”

**NextGen and Online:** Continue Unit 2 online NextGen games

Th-New York Times Quiz #3 (covers NYT from Weds Sept 29-Tues Oct 12)

### **Week 8 (Oct 18-22) NEXT GEN WEEK- FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS FOR ASSIGNMENT**

**Monday is first day to early vote: sign up to carpool with Dr. King!!**

**Lecture:** Power Politics

**Reading:** Tu- GLW Ch. 13 “The Presidency,”

WB Ch. 6 “Understanding Presidential Power”

**NextGen and Online:** Continue Unit 2 online NextGen games

Tu-Team Project Unit 2 – Meet with teams to play Power Politics: The Game of Political Smackdown-Silver Eagle Suite (Union during class time)

Th-Team Project Unit 2 – Meet with teams to play Power Politics: The Game of Political Smackdown (each team arranges its own meeting place-you can meet in the class room or in spaces around it as well)

Th-WB assignment #3-exercise #6-1; exercise #6-3; exercise #6-5 (3 exercises total)

### **Week 9 (Oct 25-29)**

**Friday is last day of early voting – miss the lines!!**

**Lecture:** Wrapped in Red Tape

**Reading:** Tu- GLW Ch. 14 “Bureaucracy in a Democracy,”

Tu- WB Ch. 7 “From Criticism to Understanding: The Federal Bureaucracy”

**NextGen and Online:** Continue Unit 2 online NextGen games

Tu-Due-Online critique of Team Project Unit 2 - Power Politics

Th-New York Times Quiz #4 (covers NYT from Weds Oct 13-Tues Oct 26)

**Extra Credit:** Th-Halloween Extra Credit-Class votes for the “Best Political Costume”

### **Week 10 (Nov 1-5)**

**Election Day Tuesday – Nov 2 – Get out the VOTE!!!**

**Lecture:** Crooks, Dorks and the Comatose (thanks Molly Ivins!)

**Reading:** Tu- GLW Ch. 24 “The Texas Executive Branch”

**NextGen and Online:** Tu-Due-Unit 2 Online NextGen games and assessments

**Exam:** Th-Second Exam—Nov 4 (yagh)! covers GLW 12, 23, 13, 14, 24 / WB Chps. 5, 6, 7 / NYT from Weds Oct 27-Nov 2)

**Week 11 (Nov 8-12)**

**Lecture:** Runaway Judiciary? (thanks Phyllis Schlafly!)

**Reading:**

Tu- GLW Ch. 15 “The Federal Courts,”

Tu- WB Ch. 8 “How did the Supreme Court Get to be ‘Supreme’”

**NextGen and Online:**

Begin Unit 3 online NextGen games

Th-WB assignment #4 due-exercise #8-1; exercise #8-3; exercise #8-4 (3 exercises total)

**Week 12 (Nov 15-19)**

**Lecture:** Justice, Southern Style

**Reading:**

Tu- GLW Ch. 25 “The Texas Judiciary”

Tu- WB Ch. 9 “A Wall of Separation? The Paradox of How Church and State Can Be Separated, Yet Intertwined”

**NextGen and Online:**

Continue Unit 3 online NextGen games

Th-New York Times Quiz #5 (covers NYT from Weds Nov 3-Tues Nov 16)

**Week 13 (Nov 22-26) Thanksgiving Week**

**Lecture:** No class b/c online content day

**Reading:**

Tu- WB Ch. 10 “The Quest for Equality: Civil Rights for the Disabled”

**NextGen and Online:**

Continue Unit 3 online NextGen games

Tu-WB assignment #5 due-exercise #9-1; exercise #9-4; exercise #10-3 (3 exercises total)

**There will be NY Times hints Nov 22—Nov 24 (M, Tu, W)**

**No Tuesday class (Nov 23) to make up for all your out of class NextGen work!**

**No classes or NY Times hints Thurs Nov 25 or Fri. Nov 26-Thanksgiving!**

**Week 14 (Nov 29-Dec 3) NEXTGEN WEEK-FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS FOR ASSIGNMENT**

**Lecture:** How to Please the Court

**Reading:** Tu-Reading Assignments: GLW Ch. 4 “Civil Liberties,”

**NextGen and Online: Continue Unit 3 online NextGen games**

Tu- Team Project Unit 3 – How to Please the Court

Th- Team Project Unit 3 – How to Please the Court

**Week 15 (Dec 6-10) DEAD WEEK! NEXTGEN WEEK-FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS FOR ASSIGNMENT**

M & Tu-8am-3 pm—makeup quizzes and tests must have approved reason in advance-see T.A.-rm. 125 Wooten

**Lecture:** How to Please the Court / Final lecture

**Reading:** Tu- GLW Ch. 5 “Civil Rights”

**NextGen and Online:** Tu-Due -Unit 3 online NextGen games and assessment

Th-Due-Critique for Team Project Unit 3 – How to Please the Court

**Week 16 (Dec 13-17) FINALS WEEK!!**

**Section 008: Tuesday Dec 14, 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.**

**Section 011: Thursday Dec 16, 1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.**

Final exam covers GLW 15, 25, 4, 5 / WB 8, 9, 10 / NYT Weds Nov 18-Thurs Dec 10 (no NY Times on Reading Day). Finals scheduled in accordance with University policy, and you must have the Dean’s permission to take an exam early (remember, the final is NOT cumulative).

**Academic Integrity. (See UNT Policy 18.1.16 at  
[http://www.unt.edu/policy/UNT\\_Policy/volume3/18\\_1\\_16.pdf](http://www.unt.edu/policy/UNT_Policy/volume3/18_1_16.pdf))**

**I. Categories of Academic Dishonesty.**

**A. Cheating.** The use of unauthorized assistance in an academic exercise, including but not limited to:

1. use of any unauthorized assistance to take exams, tests, quizzes or other assessments;
2. dependence upon the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems or carrying out other assignments;
3. acquisition, without permission, of tests, notes or other academic materials belonging to a faculty or staff member of the University;
4. dual submission of a paper or project, or re-submission of a paper or project to a different class without express permission from the instructor;
5. any other act designed to give a student an unfair advantage on an academic assignment.

**B. Plagiarism.** Use of another's thoughts or words without proper attribution in any academic exercise, regardless of the student's intent, including but not limited to:

1. the knowing or negligent use by paraphrase or direct quotation of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgement or citation.
2. the knowing or negligent unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or by an agency engaged in selling term papers or other academic materials.

**C. Forgery.** Altering a score, grade or official academic university record or forging the signature of an instructor or other student.

**D. Fabrication.** Falsifying or inventing any information, data or research as part of an academic exercise.

**E. Facilitating Academic Dishonesty.** Helping or assisting another in the commission of academic dishonesty.

**F. Sabotage.** Acting to prevent others from completing their work or willfully disrupting the academic work of others.

**II. Available Academic Penalties**

The following academic penalties may be assessed at the instructor's discretion upon determination that academic dishonesty has occurred. Admonitions and educational assignments are not appealable.

**A. Admonition.** The student may be issued a verbal or written warning.

**B. Assignment of Educational Coursework.** The student may be required to perform additional coursework not required of other students in the specific course.

**C. Partial or no credit for an assignment or assessment.** The instructor may award partial or no credit for the assignment or assessment on which the student engaged in academic dishonesty, to be calculated into the final course grade.

**University of North Texas- Statement of ADA Compliance**

The Political Science Department cooperates with the Office of Disability Accommodation to make reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. Please present your written accommodation request on or before the sixth class day (beginning of the second week of classes).

### **Statement of Blended Learning**

I acknowledge that this is a blended learning course which relies on integrating face-to-face lectures and online course materials with interactive exercises to engage students as active learners. I recognize that the use of technology and that full participation in team projects are both necessary for successful results. I acknowledge that data from this course indicates students improve grade results and have lower rates of dropping and withdrawal. I am comfortable with using multi-media platforms, both in and out of the classroom and have opted for this course format over a traditional, lecture-format course.

This certifies that I have read the syllabus and understand the requirements for the course, the Policy on Cheating and Plagiarism, as well as the statements on ADA Compliance and Blended Learning. I agree to abide by academic honesty outlined by the Center for Student Rights & Responsibilities [www.unt.edu/csrr/](http://www.unt.edu/csrr/) and have read the material about my rights and the sanctions that can be imposed if I violate the student code of conduct. I verify that all work done in this class will be my own and that I will cite or quote sources when I draw from other authors' material. I will present accurate and truthful information to teaching personnel about class related issues. Furthermore I understand that violating the policy will result in an automatic "F" for the course and referral to the Dean of Students for disciplinary proceedings and dismissal.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_