Professor: M. Gritter
E-mail: mgritter@angelo.edu
Office: RAS 221
Office Phone: 325-942-2262
OFFICE HOURS: TR 12:30-5:30

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK
Mora and Ruger’s The State of Texas is the textbook assigned for the course. It is available at the college bookstore and can also be purchased online through www.amazon.com.

COURSE OBJECTIVE AND LEARNING OUTCOMES
This course is part of the ASU core.
CT: Students will develop critical thinking skills and the ability to critically evaluate their political environment.
CS: Students will gain and be able to demonstrate a basic knowledge of Texas government.
SR: Students will gain and be able to demonstrate a basic knowledge of Texas government.
PR: Students will exhibit the skills necessary to understand and evaluate political outcomes.

EXAMINATIONS AND MEANS OF ASSESSMENT
Exams (20% Each): I will administer three exams, including a final exam consisting of short answer questions and fill in the blanks. Questions will be drawn from the readings and PowerPoints. A review sheet will be given prior to each exam through Blackboard. MAKEUPS WILL BE GIVEN FOR DOCUMENTED MEDICAL REASONS ONLY
Postings (40% Total): Eight postings will be required throughout the course. They will be 250 words in length and will be based on a question provided by the instructor.

GRADING SCALE
A - 90% B - 80% C - 70% D - 60% F - Less than 60%

RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCES
Every effort will be made to accommodate all forms of religious observance in compliance with ASU OP 10.19. Students who require additional arrangements to be made should make these known in good time in order that arrangements can be made.

SPECIAL NEEDS
In accordance with OP 10.15 of ASU’s Operating Policies and Procedures, persons with disabilities which may warrant academic accommodations must contact the Student Life Office, Room 112 University Center, in order to request such accommodations prior to any accommodations being implemented. You are encouraged to make this request early in the semester so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY
Angelo State University Honor Code http://www.angelo.edu/forms/pdf/Honor_Code.pdf:
Angelo State University expects its students to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their academic pursuits. Therefore, you are responsible for understanding the Academic Honor Code. Click on the link to access the code.

WITHDRAWAL FROM THE COURSE
The last day to drop a course or to withdraw from the University will be April 2, 2018.

COURSE OUTLINE
1/16 Introduction
Module 1 Texas Political Culture
Posting 1 Due 1/25
Mora and Ruger, Chapter 1

Module 2 Texas Constitution
Posting 2 Due 2/1
Mora and Ruger, Chapter 2
½-2/6 Exam 1

Module 3 Texas Legislature
Posting 3 Due 2/13
Mora and Ruger, Chapter 3

Module 4 Texas Executive Branch
Posting 4 Due 2/20
Mora and Ruger, Chapter 4

Module 5 Texas Judiciary
Posting 5 Due 2/27
Mora and Ruger, Chapter 5
3/7-3/8 Exam 2

Module 6 Political Participation
Posting 6 Due 4/1
Mora and Ruger, Chapters 6-10

Module 7 Public Policy and Financing State Government in Texas
Posting 7 Due 4/15
Mora and Ruger Chapters 11-12

Module 8 Texas is the Future
Posting 8 Due 5/1
Lawrence Wright Reading on Blackboard

FINAL will be available May 9th and May 10th