**Introduction:**
Welcome to Political Science 2306/Texas Government. The purpose of this course is to help you gain a better understanding of the Texas government system and structure. In addition to a history of Texas politics, we will look closely at the political culture, policies, traditions, and various traits that make Texas unique. We will also examine the relationship between the Lone Star State and the Federal Government.

**Instructor Info:**
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**Objectives Course Objectives:**
1. Explain the origin and development of the Texas constitution.
2. Describe state and local political systems and their relationship with the federal government.
3. Describe separation of powers and checks and balances in both theory and practice in Texas.
4. Demonstrate knowledge of the legislative, executive, and judicial branches of Texas government.
5. Evaluate the role of public opinion, interest groups, and political parties in Texas.
6. Analyze the state and local election process.
7. Identify the rights and responsibilities of citizens.
8. Analyze issues, policies and political culture of Texas.

**Grades will be based on the following criteria:**
1. Four Multiple Choice Exams. 20 questions. This includes your final. 50%
2. One research paper due on August 8th by 5PM. Criteria and topic to be posted on blackboard. 30%
3. Four Weekly Discussion Responses. 5-10 Sentences. Criteria to be posted on Blackboard. 20%

**Grading Scale:** A - 90% B - 80% C - 70% D - 60% F - Less than 60%

Semester Content Schedule:

A. Week 1:
   - Chapter 1 Intro to Texas History and Politics
   - Chapter 9 Political Parties in Texas
   - *Political Culture and Texas Traditions
   - Exam 1

B. Week 2:
   - Chapter 2 The Texas State Constitution and The Federal American System
   - Chapter 3 The Texas Legislature
   - Chapter 4 The Executive Department and the Office of the Governor
   - Exam 2

C. Week 3:
   - Chapter 7 Voting and Political Participation in Texas
   - Chapter 6 Local Governments in Texas
   - Exam 3

D. Week 4:
   - Chapter 8 Elections and Campaigns in Texas
   - Chapter 11 Public Policy in Texas
   - Exam 4

E. Final Paper due August 8th by 5PM

Honor Code:
Angelo State University expects its students to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their academic pursuits. Students are responsible for understanding the Academic Honor Code, which is contained in both print and web versions in the Student Handbook.

Persons with disabilities:
Students who may warrant academic accommodations must contact the Student Life Office, Room 112 in the 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 arrangement can be made.

Classroom Decorum:
A proper learning environment is one in which all points of view, all questions asked, all questions answered, and various discussion are treated and met with tolerance and respect. Any behavior that disrupts the classroom-learning environment such as late arrivals, early departures, unapproved electronic devices are unacceptable and will be subject to appropriate sanction. Please turn off all cell phones and electronic devices upon entering the classroom. Additionally, cell phones should not be out during lecture times. Laptops are permitted with instructor permission. Recording of lecture is prohibited unless given permission by instructor.