Welcome to Political Science 2306. This course will cover the various inputs to the Texas governmental system from federalism to civil rights and public opinion. This fall course will move quite quickly and attention to detail and blackboard announcements will be critical in your success.

**Required Reading:**

The textbook is available in the ASU bookstore, but may be purchased wherever you please. Access code is not required.

I will occasionally upload YouTube videos and independent PDF’s to supplement your readings.

**Assignments:** This course will have weekly sections and will be open from Sunday thru Saturday, however you will have 1 hour to complete your exams once you’ve started and “do-overs” will not be allowed. Exams will be every other week. Beginning with the Exam 1 due Sept. 7th. In other words, exams will cover two weeks worth of assignments and readings.

**Here is an example on how the schedule will be set up:**

- **Week 1 (August 25-31),** You will be responsible for reading everything for “Chapter 1” and completing/submitting your discussion response.
- **Week 2 (Sept. 1-7),** you will be responsible for “Chapter 2” and all of its content. Exam 1 and your discussion topic will be due.
  
Please note: You will receive announcements via email each Sunday setting up each week.

It is your responsibility to find a reliable connection/computer. I strongly discourage doing your exams on your smart phones. Each exam will have 10 multiple-choice questions based on your reading, but you are encouraged to research information to help find the most accurate responses.

In addition to exams, there will be a discussion question posed and you must participate to receive credit. Simply reiterating what someone else posted will not be accepted. Use your critical thinking skills and answer with proper grammar. No slang or jargon please. Each response should be a MINIMUM of 5 sentences, no less. More is ok, but don’t write a novel.

Lastly, there will be a research paper due no later than Sunday, December 1st at 11:59PM. The paper should be a minimum of 5 pages and no more than 10. A cover
page is not necessary. The format is up to you, however, please double space and use a 12-point font size. Anything less than 5 pages cannot make better than a C. A's and B's will only be granted to 5 complete pages and more. You have two choices for paper topics. Choose only one! Also, the papers will be submitted through “Turn-it-in” on blackboard. This will check for plagiarism, so please cite your sources as plagiarism will result in an automatic F.

**Topic One:** Describe and discuss the six flags over Texas. How did multiculturalism and revolution mold early Texas and contribute to what we see today? Do you believe Texas is truly unique and independent in elections and public policy matters? Explain and be thorough.

**Topic Two:** Describe and discuss the Texas legislature. How does it function? Who serves as your representatives? What were some of the public policy issues facing our most recent session? Discuss public policy and the various stages discussed in the text. Explain and be thorough.

Papers must be submitted through Blackboard. Emailed versions are not acceptable. **Please note that the paper will serve as your final exam.**

In summation your grade breakdown will be as follows:

- 8 Exams – 40% of your total grade
- 16 Discussion Question Responses – 20% of your total grade
- 1 Research Paper – 40% of your grade

Please do not hesitate to contact me via email at: **Gustavo.Campos@angelo.edu**