POLS 2305: Federal Government
Online Format
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Required Texts:
2. Additional readings linked on Blackboard in the Lessons.

Course Description: THE PEOPLE OF TEXAS, speaking through their State Constitution, have
determined that all citizens, in order to properly perform the duties of citizenship, need to be familiar with
the Constitution of the United States and Texas State Constitution. To fulfill this need, Texas Law
requires that six semester hours dedicated to that purpose be completed by all students attending
institutions of higher learning receiving state funds. Here at Angelo State University, this requirement is
met by taking POLS 2305 and 2306.

This course will familiarize students with the principles, structures, processes, and policy debates
of U.S. Federal Government.

Course Requirements:

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<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Factor of Course Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Discussions</td>
<td>35%</td>
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<td>2. Quizzes</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<td>3. Essay Exams</td>
<td>35%</td>
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<td>4. Movie Blog</td>
<td>Extra Credit</td>
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Weekly Discussion Threads: Initial robust responses due every Wednesday; all follow-up responses for
that week must be completed by Saturday.
Weekly Quizzes: Each Lesson has a timed multiple choice quiz, which must be completed no later than
Wednesday of that week.
3 Essay Exams: Given at the end of Lessons 4, 9, and 15.
Extra Credit Movie Blog: All extra credit must be completed and posted by Monday, 12/2.

Course Outline - each lesson corresponds to a week in the semester, Lesson One beginning on 8/26,
Lesson Fifteen ending 12/7.

Lesson One – Mass Media
Lesson Two – Public Opinion and Political Parties
Lesson Three – Campaigns and Elections
Lesson Four – Freedom and Democracy
    First Exam
Lesson Five – The Constitution
Lesson Six – Federalism
Lesson Seven – Citizenship and Civic Culture
Lesson Eight – Civil Liberties
Lesson Nine – Civil Rights
Course Policies

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY
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.

This course has a **zero tolerance policy** for any and every instance of cheating, plagiarism, or any other form of academic dishonesty. “Zero tolerance” means automatic failure for the entire course.

DEADLINES
Unless otherwise specified, due dates are defined as any time before the end of the designated day (i.e., 11:59:59pm, Central Standard Time). Anything submitted after that time will not be accepted. Students are encouraged to complete their work early and not wait until the last minute.

Discussion Thread deadlines cannot be extended for any reason. Extensions for quizzes and exams will be granted only for documented emergencies.

WITHDRAWAL FROM THE COURSE
The last day to drop a course or to withdraw from the University will be October 31, 2019.

ASU Student Learning Objectives

**Critical Thinking Skills (CT)**
CT1. Gather, analyze, evaluate, and synthesize information relevant to a question or issue.
CT2. Develop and demonstrate a logical position (i.e. perspective, thesis, hypothesis) that acknowledges ambiguities or contradictions.

**Communication Skills (CS)**
CS1. Develop, interpret, and express ideas through effective written communication.
CS2. Develop, interpret, and express ideas through effective oral communication.

**Social Responsibility (SR)**
SR1. Demonstrate intercultural competence.
SR2. Demonstrate knowledge of civic responsibility.
SR3. Demonstrate the ability to engage effectively in the campus, regional, national or global communities.

**Personal Responsibility (PR)**
PR1. Demonstrate the ability to evaluate choices, actions and consequences as related to ethical decision-making.