Professor: M. Gritter
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Office: RAS 213A
Office Phone: 325-942-2262
OFFICE HOURS: MTW 12-4 via Blackboard Collaborate
REQUIRED TEXTBOOK.
I have assigned one textbook for this course and it is McGraw Hill AMGOV and it is available at the bookstore.

COURSE OBJECTIVE AND LEARNING OUTCOMES
This course is part of the ASU Core, the following learning outcomes will be sought throughout the course as part of the Core Curriculum.
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 Federal government.
SR: Students will gain and be able to demonstrate a basic knowledge of Federal government.
PR: Students will exhibit the skills necessary to understand and evaluate political outcomes.

EXAMINATIONS AND MEANS OF ASSESSMENT
Film Review/Paper (20%)
Each student will write a short 2-3 page paper. The paper can either be a review of one of the below films or a reflection on how the class impacts your major and your life. The films that can be utilized are: All the King’s Men, The American President, Catching Fire, Charlie Wilson’s War, The Contender, Dr. Strangelove, Frost/Nixon, Game Change, Gangs of New York, The Giver, Good Night and Good Luck, The Greenbook, The Help, The Hunger Games, J. Edgar, JFK, Milk, Network, Nothing But the Truth, Primary Colors, V for Vendetta, W and Zero Dark Thirty. The paper is not a film review, rather the assignment calls for you to 1) Briefly describe the film, 2) Describe the political institutions and mechanism in the film, 3) State how you think the film relates specifically to the course. Papers should be well written, clear and address each of the 3 areas listed above.

Students unable to watch a film may complete a 2-3 page paper that explores 1) How their major relates to the course, 2) How the course relates to their life and 3) Specific examples of how American political institutions shape the opportunities in their major and in their life. Papers that are vague and do not show a serious effort to engage with the topic will lose points. Any violation of academic honesty will result in a 0 for the assignment.

Complete prompts for each assignment will be posted early in the semester. Late papers will be reduced one full letter grade for every day that they are late.

Exams (20% Each): I will administer two exams consisting of short answer questions and fill in the blanks. Questions will be drawn from the readings and power points. A review sheet will be given prior to each exam through Blackboard. Students will have 60 minutes to complete each exam and will be locked out after that period. EXAMS WILL BE ADMINISTERED THROUGH BLACKBOARD. MAKEUP EXAMS WILL BE ALLOWED FOR DOCUMENTED MEDICAL REASONS ONLY.

Final Examination (20%): I will administer a comprehensive final exam consisting of short answer and fill in the blank questions. Questions will be drawn from the readings and power
points. A review sheet will be given prior to each exam through Blackboard. Student will have 120 minutes to complete the final and will be locked out after that period. EXAMS WILL BE ADMINISTERED THROUGH BLACKBOARD. MAKEUP EXAMS WILL BE ALLOWED FOR DOCUMENTED MEDICAL REASONS ONLY.

Discussion Board Postings (20%) Each student will complete a short 250 word discussion board posting for each module in the course. Assignments will be posted on Blackboard and will be submitted through turnitin on the course Blackboard site.

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

General Policies related to this course:

All students are required to follow the policies and procedures presented in these documents:

Angelo State University Student Handbook

Angelo State University Catalog

Student Disability Services:

ASU is committed to the principle that no qualified individual with a disability shall, on the basis of disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services, programs or activities of the university, or be subjected to discrimination by the university, as provided by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments of 2008 (ADAAA) and subsequent legislation.

Student Disability Services is located in the Office of Student Affairs, and is the designated campus department charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing requests for reasonable accommodations based on a disability. It is the student’s responsibility to initiate such a request by contacting an employee of the Office of Student Affairs, in the Houston Harte University Center, Room 112, or contacting the department via email at ADA@angelo.edu. For more information about the application process and requirements, visit the Student Disability Services website at www.angelo.edu/ADA. The employee charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing accommodation requests is: Ms. Dallas Swafford

Director of Student Disability Services 325-942-2047dallas.swafford@angelo.edu Houston Harte University Center 112

Title IX

Angelo State University is committed to providing and strengthening an educational, working, and living environment where students, faculty, staff, and visitors are free from sex
discrimination of any kind. In accordance with Title VII, Title IX, the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act (SaVE), and other federal and state laws, the University prohibits discrimination based on sex, which includes pregnancy, and other types of Sexual Misconduct. Sexual Misconduct is a broad term encompassing all forms of gender-based harassment or discrimination and unwelcome behavior of a sexual nature. The term includes sexual harassment, nonconsensual sexual contact, nonconsensual sexual intercourse, sexual assault, sexual exploitation, stalking, public indecency, interpersonal violence (domestic violence or dating violence), sexual violence, and any other misconduct based on sex.

You are encouraged to report any incidents involving sexual misconduct to the Office of Title IX Compliance and the Director of Title IX Compliance/Title IX Coordinator, Michelle Boone, J.D. You may submit reports in the following manner:

Online: [www.angelo.edu/incident-form](http://www.angelo.edu/incident-form)

Face to Face: Mayer Administration Building, Room 210

Phone: 325-942-2022

Email: michelle.boone@angelo.edu

Note, as a faculty member at Angelo State, I am a mandatory reporter and must report incidents involving sexual misconduct to the Title IX Coordinator. Should you wish to speak to someone in confidence about an issue, you may contact the University Counseling Center (325-942-2371), the 24-Hour Crisis Helpline (325-486-6345), or the University Health Clinic (325-942-2171).

For more information about resources related to sexual misconduct, Title IX, or Angelo State’s policy please visit: [www.angelo.edu/title-ix](http://www.angelo.edu/title-ix).

Religious Holidays:

A student who intends to observe a religious holy day should make that intention known in writing to the instructor prior to the absence. See ASU Operating Policy 10.19 Student Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Day for more information. It is policy that incomplete grades be reserved for student illness or personal misfortune. Please contact faculty if you have serious illness or a personal misfortune that would keep you from completing course work. Documentation may be required. See ASU Operating Policy 10.11 Grading Procedures for more information.

Student Conduct Policies:
Academic Integrity

Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in all work. Any student found guilty of any form of dishonesty in academic work is subject to disciplinary action and possible expulsion from ASU.

The College of Science and Engineering adheres to the Statement of Academic Integrity

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is a serious topic covered in ASU’s Academic Integrity policy in the Student Handbook. Plagiarism is the action or practice of taking someone else’s work, idea, etc., and passing it off as one’s own. Plagiarism is literary theft.

In your discussions and/or your papers, it is unacceptable to copy word-for-word without quotation marks and the source of the quotation. It is expected that you will summarize or paraphrase ideas giving appropriate credit to the source both in the body of your paper and the reference list.

Papers are subject to be evaluated for originality via Turnitin. Resources to help you understand this policy better are available at the ASU Writing Center.

Copyright Policy

Students officially enrolled in this course should make only one printed copy of the given articles and/or chapters. You are expressly prohibited from distributing or reproducing any portion of course readings in printed or electronic form without written permission from the copyright holders or publishers.

Course Syllabus Statement on Required Use of Masks/Facial Coverings by Students in Class At Angelo State University

As a member of the Texas Tech University System, Angelo State University has adopted the mandatory Facial Covering Policy to ensure a safe and healthy classroom experience. Current research on the COVID-19 virus suggests there is a significant reduction in the potential for transmission of the virus from person to person by wearing a mask/facial covering that covers the nose and mouth areas. Therefore, in compliance with the university policy students in this
class are required to wear a mask/facial covering before, during, and after class. Faculty members may also ask you to display your daily screening badge as a prerequisite to enter the classroom. You are also asked to maintain safe distancing practices to the best of your ability. For the safety of everyone, any student not appropriately wearing a mask/facial covering will be asked to leave the classroom immediately. The student will be responsible to make up any missed class content or work. Continued non-compliance with the Texas Tech University System Policy may result in disciplinary action through the Office of Student Conduct.

Withdrawal from the Course
The last day to drop a course will be September 18, 2020.
COURSE OUTLINE

Block 1: The Constitution
READINGS: AMGOV, Chapter 2
Posting 1 Due 8/24

Block 2: The Legislative Branch
READINGS: AMGOV, Chapter 11
Posting 2 Due 8/31

Block 3: The Executive Branch
READINGS: AMGOV, Chapter 12
Posting 3 Due 9/7

Exam 1 Available 9/9-9/10 on Blackboard

Block 4: The Judicial Branch
READINGS: AMGOV, Chapter 14
Posting 4 Due 9/14
Film Paper Due 9/18

Block 5: Civil Liberties and Civil Rights
READINGS: AMGOV, Chapters 4, 5
Posting 5 Due 9/21

Exam 2 Available 9/23 and 9/24

Block 6 Policies: Foreign Policy and Public Policy
READINGS: AMGOV, Chapters 15, 16
Posting 6 Due 9/28

Final Available 10/1 and 10/2 on Blackboard