POLS 2305 - FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

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Office Hours: I do not have an assigned office at Angelo State, but am available by email which I check periodically throughout the day.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK:

The textbook is free of charge and available at the following link:

https://open.umn.edu/opentextbooks/textbooks/american-government

Students can either download the PDF or read the textbook online.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This class is an introduction to Federal government and politics. Online PowerPoint presentations will supplement textbook readings. Postings and exams will assess student learning outcomes.

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND LEARNING OUTCOMES

This course is a 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 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:

EXAMS (100 Points Each – 60% of Total Points): There will be four exams, including a final exam. All exams will be multiple choice. Questions will be drawn from readings and the PowerPoint slides. A review sheet will be posted on Blackboard prior to each exam. **MAKEUPS WILL BE GIVEN FOR DOCUMENTED MEDICAL REASONS ONLY.**

POSTINGS (18 Points Each – 40% of Total Points): Postings of a minimum of 250 words per topic will be due weekly based on prompts provided through Blackboard. Late postings will be reduced by 10% for each day they are late. Any postings with plagiarized materials will not receive credit. **It is the STUDENT’S RESPONSIBILITY to be sure that the submission process in Blackboard is fully complete each week. Failure to complete the submission process can result in a student receiving a ZERO for the assignment.**
GRADING

Angelo State University employs a letter grade system. Grades in this course are determined on a percentage scale. Based on the course as currently projected, the point totals for each grade would be:

A = 90-100%  (603-670 points)
B = 80-89%  (536-602 points)
C = 70-79%  (469-535 points)
D = 60-69%  (402-468 points)
F = 59% and below (401 points or below)

STUDENT ABSENCE FOR OBSERVANCE OF RELIGIOUS HOLY DAYS

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.

INCOMPLETE GRADE POLICY

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.

WITHDRAWAL FROM THE COURSE

The last day to drop a course or withdraw from the University will be April 30, 2021.

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.
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
325/942-2047
dallas.swafford@angelo.edu
Houston Harte University Center 112

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 of 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.
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
- 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.