COURSE SYLLABUS
POLS 3304: American Political Development
Prof. Tony Bartl, Spring 2021
tony.bartl@angelo.edu
CLASSROOM: RAS 112
CLASS TIME: TR 9:30-10:45
OFFICE: RAS 215; (325) 486-6107
OFFICE HOURS: TR 10:45am-12:30pm; MW 10am-12pm

THE PURPOSE OF THIS COURSE
This course will explore the American polity by examining its basic categories, using primary sources, such as founding documents, critical debates, important speeches, Supreme Court opinions, and recent scholarship. Within the basic categories, care will be taken to examine foundational ideas as well as political and institutional change. Ideas, institutions, and history are at the heart of our political investigations in the character of our political order.

The course will be conducted as a seminar with frequent class discussion. You should come to every class prepared to participate in and contribute to an engaging conversation.

Required Text

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Blogs
This assignment entails writing one blog “entry” and two “responses” every week. The class will be divided into groups of three blog partners. Every Tuesday, prior to coming to class, students must post an entry of 600 words or more on the readings assigned for that week. Every Thursday, by the end of the day, students must post 2 responses, each 300 words or more (i.e. one to each of your two partners). No late work will be accepted.

Important: This assignment is *not* for the purpose of summarizing the readings, *cheerleading* your partners, or simply *repeating* what has already been said elsewhere. Please do not do these things.

The idea behind this assignment is to be both a spur to, and a continuation of, the class discussions. The goal is to use this written conversation with your partners to advance the course in a meaningful way, while exercising and developing your ability to write and think clearly. To do this you may find some question or idea in the reading that you wish to explore further. You may make connections or draw distinctions between various readings, or between the ideas of the past and the ideas/practice of the present, or between your opinions and your classmates (or professor’s) opinions--just as long as there is a clear connection to the readings.

Instructions regarding how to post will be put on Blackboard.
**Exams**
There will be a midterm exam and a final exam composed of short answer identifications and essays. All your answers will be written down in bluebooks, and all tests will be administered in our regular classroom. The midterm is scheduled for Thursday, March 18, at the normal class time. The final is scheduled for Thursday, May 13 at 8am in the classroom.

**Attendance**
This course works best when students are present and ready to participate. Attendance therefore is expected and rewarded. Attendance is defined as being present in the classroom, on time, and undistracted. Please do not come to class late or leave the room before the class is over, as this is disrespectful and disruptive to the class. Students will be considered absent not only when they are missing altogether, but also when distracted, late without prior notification to the professor, or who leave early without prior notification to the professor. Good attendance is an important factor of your participation grade.

**Participation**
Students who regularly attend class, come on time and prepared, and intelligently engage in the class discussions will receive the highest grades in this area. Unexplained absence, lateness, lack of preparation, lack of attention, and failure to engage in class discussion will each have a negative effect on your participation grade. Students with more than 5 absences or who use their cell phones in class will receive zero points for this part of their grade.

**GRADING**

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<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<td>Blogs</td>
<td>50%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midterm</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<td>Final</td>
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Grading Scale: A = 90 and above, B = 80-89, C = 70-79, D = 60-60, F = anything below 60

**POLICIES**

Electronic Devices: Use of electronic devices such as cell phones, tablets, and laptops is strictly prohibited. Such devices should not be seen or heard by anyone, including (especially) yourself. Students are to keep these stowed away in the classroom. Violators of this rule will be asked to leave and counted absent.

Students with Disabilities: If you have particular learning needs that are documented with the university’s Student Life Office, please contact let me know so arrangements for testing can be made in advance. See [http://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14216-op-1015-providing-accommodations-for-students-with](http://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14216-op-1015-providing-accommodations-for-students-with). If not yet documented, please contact them at: Rm 112 University Center, (325) 942-2126, Student.Life@angelo.edu
Honor Code: Cheating, plagiarism, and other violations of the honor code will not be tolerated. Any and all violations will result in failure for the entire course, and the violator will be reported to the Office of Student Affairs. See ASU’s policies at http://www.angelo.edu/forms/pdf/honorcode5.pdf

TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE

Week I
I. THE FOUNDING AND THE PRINCIPLES OF GOVERNMENT
1. The Declaration of Independence (1776) Thomas Jefferson
4. The Revolution of Sober Expectations (1975) Martin Diamond

Week II
5. The Small Republic Argument (1787) Centinel
7. The Work of the Constitutional Convention (1787) James Madison
8. Federalist 10 (1787) James Madison
9. Federalist 51 (1788) James Madison
10. The Role of the Rich and the Poor in the Legislature (1787) John Adams
11. On the Character of the Legislator (1778) Alexander Hamilton
12. The Military in a Commercial Republic (1787) Alexander Hamilton
13. Equality and Commerce (1840) Alexis de Tocqueville

Week III
15. Federalist 39 (1788) James Madison
16. McCulloch v. Maryland (1819)
17. The Purposes Served by Local Self-Government (1840) Alexis de Tocqueville
II. POLITICAL PARTIES AND ELECTIONS

20. On Great and Small Parties (1835) Alexis de Tocqueville

21. Political Parties and Constitutional Principles James W. Ceaser

Week IV

22. The Electoral College (1788) Alexander Hamilton


24. Why Great Men Are Not Chosen Presidents (1888) James Bryce


29. Inaugural Address (2017) Donald Trump


Week V

III. CONGRESS AND THE SEPARATION OF POWERS

31. On Congress (1788) Alexander Hamilton and James Madison

32. The Need for Cabinet Government in the United States (1879) Woodrow Wilson


35. Deliberation Defended (1994) Joseph M. Bessette


Week VI

37. War Powers Resolution (1973)

38. INS v. Chadha (1983)


IV. THE PRESIDENCY

40. On the Presidency (1788) Alexander Hamilton

42. Campaign Speech on the Presidency (1960) John F. Kennedy


**Week VII**

44. The Perpetuation of Our Political Institutions (1838) Abraham Lincoln

45. United States v. Curtiss-Wright Export Corporation (1936)

46. The “Stewardship Theory” (1913) Theodore Roosevelt

47. Our Chief Magistrate and His Powers (1916) William Howard Taft


49. Youngstown Sheet and Tube Co. v. Sawyer (1952)

50. Korematsu v. United States (1944)

51. On the Suspension of the Writ of Habeas Corpus (1863) Abraham Lincoln

**Week VIII**


54. Oration in Memory of Abraham Lincoln (1876) Frederick Douglass

**Midterm**

**Week IX**

V. THE JUDICIARY

55. The Role of the Supreme Court (1788) Alexander Hamilton

56. The Problem of Judicial Review (1787) Brutus

57. Against Judicial Review (1815) Thomas Jefferson

58. The Authority of the Supreme Court (1857) Abraham Lincoln

59. Marbury v. Madison (1803)

60. Federalist Constitutionalism and Judicial Independence (2013) Matthew S. Brogdon

61. Eakin v. Raub (1825)

62. Cooper v. Aaron (1958)
Week X

68. Federalist 49 (1788) James Madison

Week XI

VI. POLITICS AND ECONOMICS

70. The New Goals of Politics (1932, 1935, 1941) Franklin Delano Roosevelt
71. The “Great Society” (1964) Lyndon B. Johnson
72. The Green New Deal (2019)
74. Soft Despotism (1840) Alexis de Tocqueville
75. Against Manufacturing (1787) Thomas Jefferson
76. Report on Manufactures (1791) Alexander Hamilton

Week XII

79. Regulation and Liberty (2013) Adam M. Carrington

VII. FOREIGN POLICY AND THE AMERICAN REGIME

80. Federalist 11 (1787) Alexander Hamilton
81. The Monroe Doctrine (1823) James Monroe
82. War Message (1917) Woodrow Wilson

Week XIII

84. Selections from Pacificus and Americanus (1793–1794) Alexander Hamilton
85. Selections from Helvidius (1793) *James Madison*

86. 1989: It Was Too Soon to Celebrate (2019) *James Pontuso*


88. The Moral Basis of International Action (1961) *Joseph Cropsey*

**VIII. LIBERTY AND EQUALITY**


90. Employment Division, Department of Human Resources of Oregon v. Smith (1990)


*Week XIV*

92. Roe v. Wade (1973)


95. Plessy v. Ferguson (1896)


101. The Natural Aristocracy (1813) *Thomas Jefferson*

102. Why So Many Ambitious Men and So Little Lofty Ambition Are to Be Found in the United States (1840) *Alexis de Tocqueville*
University Policies

All students are required to follow the policies and procedures presented in these documents:
Angelo State University Student Handbook
Angelo State University Catalog

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 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 Miller, J.D. You may submit reports in the following manner:

Online: www.angelo.edu/incident-form
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.

Required Use of Masks/Facial Coverings by Students

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.

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.