2021 Winter Mini-Session
Texas Government 2306 (DM3)

Introduction:
Welcome to Political Science 2306/Texas Government. The purpose of this course is to help you gain a better understanding of the Texas government system and structure. In addition to a history of Texas politics, we will look closely at the political culture, policies, traditions, and various traits that make Texas unique. We will also examine the relationship between the Lone Star State and the Federal Government.

Instructor Info:
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Objectives Course Objectives:
1. Explain the origin and development of the Texas constitution.
2. Describe state and local political systems and their relationship with the federal government.
3. Describe separation of powers and checks and balances in both theory and practice in Texas.
4. Demonstrate knowledge of the legislative, executive, and judicial branches of Texas government.
5. Evaluate the role of public opinion, interest groups, and political parties in Texas.
6. Analyze the state and local election process.
7. Identify the rights and responsibilities of citizens.
8. Analyze issues, policies and political culture of Texas.

Free Online Textbook:
www.oercommons.org/courseware/8435

Grades will be based on the following criteria:
1. Each Writing Assignment (3) is worth 75%
2. Each Exam (3) is worth 25%

Grading Scale: A - 90% B - 80% C - 70% D - 60% F - Less than 60%

Course Schedule:
Week 1: Read Units 1-3. Complete a 750-word paper and Exam by Friday, January 8th by 11:59 PM.
Week 2: Read Units 4-6. Complete a 750-word paper and Exam by Friday, January 15th by 11:59 PM.
Week 3: Read Units 7-9. Complete a 750-word paper and Exam by Friday, January 22nd by 11:59 PM.
**Class Expectations:**
Due to the quick and online nature of this course, late work will not be accepted. It is important for you to communicate with the instructor if there are submission issues or if you are having hardships. IT is available to help with any problems that arise with technology or software.

**Honor Code:**
Angelo State University expects its students to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their academic pursuits. Students are responsible for understanding the Academic Honor Code, which is contained in both print and web versions in the Student Handbook.

**Persons with disabilities:**
Students who may warrant academic accommodations must contact the Student Life Office, Room 112 in the University Center, in order to request such accommodations prior to any accommodations being implemented. You are encouraged to make this request early in the semester so that appropriate arrangement can be made.

**Course Syllabus Statement on Required Use of Masks/Facial Coverings by Students in Class:**
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.

**Title IX at Angelo State University:**
The University prohibits discrimination based on sex, which includes pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity, and other types of Sexual Misconduct. Sexual Misconduct is a broad term encompassing all forms of gender-based harassment or discrimination including: sexual assault, sex-based discrimination, sexual exploitation, sexual harassment, public indecency, interpersonal violence (domestic violence and/or dating violence), and stalking. As a faculty member, I am a Responsible Employee meaning that I am obligated by law and ASU policy to report any allegations I am notified of to the Office of Title IX Compliance.
Students are encouraged to report any incidents of sexual misconduct directly to ASU’s Office of Title IX Compliance and the Director of Title IX Compliance/Title IX Coordinator at:

**Michelle Boone, J.D.**  
Director of Title IX Compliance/Title IX Coordinator  
Mayer Administration Building, Room 210  
325-942-2022  
michelle.boone@angelo.edu

**You may also file a report online 24/7 at** [www.angelo.edu/incident-form](http://www.angelo.edu/incident-form).

If you are wishing to speak to someone about an incident in confidence you may contact the University Health Clinic and Counseling Center at 325-942-2173 or the ASU Crisis Helpline at 325-486-6345. For more information about Title IX in general you may visit [www.angelo.edu/title-ix](http://www.angelo.edu/title-ix).