

**POLITICAL SCIENCE 2305
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT DUAL CREDIT**

Instructor: Patsy Moore
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Conference 2:05 – 3:35 A day

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Course Description:

Introduction to the theory and practice of politics and government in America at the national, state, and local levels. Topics include political theory, the United States constitutions, federalism, political participation and elections. This course also includes civil liberties and civil rights, political parties and interest groups.

Course Objectives

1. Students will critically evaluate the American political environment and explain the origin and development of the United States Constitution.
2. Students will demonstrate understanding of the U. S. political system and understand and evaluate political outcomes.
3. Students will demonstrate knowledge of the America federal system and how it divides and shares powers between the central and state governments.
4. Students will exhibit the skills necessary to evaluate the role of public opinion, interest groups, political parties, campaigns and elections in the American political system.
5. Students will describe the rights and responsibilities of citizens and be able to comment on the role of civic engagement in U.S. politics and political culture.
6. Student will analyze political issues, demonstrate critical thinking skills, and develop a critical approach to the study of government.

This course fulfills not only the American Government graduation requirement for SFDR-CISD, but also fulfills one-half of the American Government requirement for a bachelor's degree from a state university in Texas. This course is fully transferable to other colleges and universities. Because credit is given for both high school and college, students are expected to work harder than if they were to take a "regular" high school government class. Therefore, the expectations for students will be high; however, the rewards will also be significant.

Course Material:

Edwards, Wattenberg, Lineberry R., *Government in America*, 17th ed. Boston; Pearson Publication, 2002. (ISBN: 0-321-08777-1). Copies are available for student checkout in the DRHS library book room.

Students will also need:

- Binder with 7 dividers, ruled paper, pens, pencils and highlighters
- You may bring your tablet to class, but you may only use it at times approved by the instructor.
- It is strongly suggested that you have a planner to help you stay organized with assignments and due dates.

Student Evaluation:

Study Guide	10%
Quizzes	20%
Special Assignments	10%
Participation/Misc. assignments	10%
Unit Exams	40%
Final	10%

Grades

ASU	Numeric
A	90-100
B	80-89
C	71-79
D	70
F	69 and below

Angelo State University has three possible academic status levels for students:

- Academic Good Standing- GPA of 2.0 or higher
- Academic Probation- GPA of less than 2.0
- Academic Suspension- GPA of less than 1.35 after a period of academic probation

NOTE: GPA, Academic Probation and Academic Suspension WILL affect your ability to register for classes at ASU and eligibility for financial aid (wherever you enroll in the future)

NOTE: Six week averages will not appear on DRHS Report Card.

Course Format:

The course will be conducted in a lecture/seminar manner. All students will be expected to keep up with their reading and to demonstrate their preparedness by active participation in class discussions.

You are expected to attend all classes in their entirety. **Excessive tardiness/absences may jeopardize your final grade.**

Blackboard:

The teaching of this course is integrated with the Blackboard platform. You should familiarize yourself with the course website on Blackboard.

To access Blackboard you must have an ASU email account and be registered for this course.

To login go to <https://blackboard.angelo.edu/> and type in your ASU userid and password. Please try to access Blackboard as soon as possible to make sure that you are enrolled in the course and that you understand the various features of the Blackboard course site.

Grades due: May 13, 2022

WITHDRAWAL FROM THE COURSE

The last day to drop a course or to withdraw from the University is April 29, 2022.

All Units will include the following:

Reading of assigned textbook chapters & notes: Students will be expected to independently read, and take notes on assigned chapters in the course text, 1 chapter on average per week.

Lecture & Discussion: Students will participate in class discussions based on course topics, focusing on the most vital issues and structured to illustrate the issues of historical causality and continuity/change over time. Discussion will also assess student's prior knowledge and comprehension of assigned readings.

Special Assignments: Students will have special assignments. Examples of such assignments are op-eds, debates and spider web discussions.

Chapter Quizzes: Students will have a quiz at the start of every chapter over assigned reading and vocabulary.

Unit Test: Following each unit the students will take an exam to assess comprehension and retention of the unit information. The exams will be timed.

Student Contributions

All students who participate in Dual Credit Government are expected to read analytically and critically. **Students will be responsible for reading at least one chapter of a college level text and taking notes over the material each week.** Time management, reading comprehension, critical thinking, note taking, and the ability to see the "big picture" and its component parts are skills need for success.

The student is expected to:

- Attend classes daily, be prepared and be on time
- Pay attention and take proper notes from class lectures, readings and videos
- Complete and turn in all homework and assignments on time
- Be present for all exams
- Respect the views of others in the class at all times
- Students are expected to share their work with the class, both in small and whole group settings.
- Access Blackboard for assignments/supplemental materials
- Spend time outside of class studying and preparing for class

CLASS POLICIES

1. EVERY STUDENT MUST:

- Come to class prepared. Being prepared for class means having in your possession the following items: your folder, textbook, pen and any assignments that are due.
- Students will be required to keep all class material in a binder.

2. QUIZZES AND EXAMS

- There will be chapter quizzes and comprehensive exams over each unit of study.
- Exams are always announced in advance. Pay attention to Blackboard announcements and Remind notifications.
- All students are expected to take the quiz or exam if they are present in class on the day it is administered, regardless of an absence on the prior day of class.
- Makeup quizzes or exams due to an absence are to be completed by appointment. This appointment must be made and completed within one week after you return to school. If this is not accomplished the result will be a zero for that test. The responsibility for makeup is entirely yours.
- Students may not re-take quizzes or exams.

3. ASSIGNMENTS / HOMEWORK

- Homework assignments are due at the beginning of the period.
- Individual questions about assignments, grades, paper comments, etc. should be handled before or after class.

4. LATE WORK

- Late assignments will be accepted for up to 2 class days after the assignment was due, but will only receive a maximum of half credit.
- Work turned in late on the day it is due will receive a 15% deduction. This is in effect for work completed late in or after class or work forgotten at home.

5. ABSENCES / MAKE UP POLICY

- It is the responsibility of the student to get all assignments missed during an absence. All makeup assignments must be turned in within two class days of the absence.
- All assignments given prior to any absence (excused or not) are due the day you return, NOT the day after. Basically, if you know about it, you are responsible for it.
- Quizzes or exams will be made up during an appointed time set up between the student and the teacher (Appointment must be made the day you return). Exams and quizzes must be made up after school and be

completed within one week after you return to school. If this is not accomplished the result will be a zero for that test.

- A single day or period absence will not excuse you from any quiz or exam scheduled for the day you return.

6. Tardy Policy

Students are expected to follow the high school tardy policy.

7. CELL PHONES & ELECTRONIC DEVICES

- Cell phones may not be accessed during Dual Credit Government. Students will place their phone in the designated area before the tardy bell. You will retrieve your phones 3 minutes before the bell rings.
- If you refuse to follow the rules your cell phone will be confiscated and turned in to the office.
- You will be expect to turn in your smart watch during quizzes and exams.

8. BATHROOM POLICY

The bathroom should be used before and after class – not during.

9. OFFICE HOURS / APPOINTMENTS

- I tend to be in my room most days after school. Feel free to come by and see me or make an appointment if you need help with an assignment or have any concerns you would like to discuss with me.

Academic Honesty Statement

Academic misconduct includes cheating, plagiarism, collusion, falsifying academic records, misrepresenting facts, violations of published professional ethics/standards, and any act or attempted act designed to give unfair academic advantage to oneself or another student. Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Cheating on any assignment or exam will result in a grade of "0" with no opportunity of makeup. See the Angelo State University Handbook, Part II B: Academic Integrity 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.

The Office of Student Affairs is the designated campus department charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing requests for reasonable accommodations based on a disability, and it is the student's responsibility to initiate such a request by contacting: Ms. Dallas A. Swafford, Director of Student Disability Services, (325) 942-2047 or dallas.swafford@angelo.edu.

Title IX

Angelo State University is committed to the safety and security of all students. If you or someone you know experience sexual harassment, sexual assault, domestic or dating violence, stalking, or discrimination, you may contact ASU's Title IX Coordinator: Michelle Nicole Boone, J.D., Director of Title IX Compliance, (325) 486-6357 or michelle.boone@angelo.edu.

Student Absence for Observance of a Religious Holy Day

A student who intends to observe a religious holy day should make that intention known in writing to the instructor prior to the absence. A student who is absent from classes for the observance of a religious holy day shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment scheduled for that day within a reasonable time after the absence.

Readings Assignments

Weeks 1-3	Intro to American Government Constitution Federalism EXAM #1	Chapter 1 Chapter 2 Chapter 3
Weeks 4-5	Civil Liberties Civil Rights EXAM #2	Chapter 4 Chapter 5
Weeks 6-7	Public Opinion & Political Action Mass Media and Political Agenda EXAM #3	Chapter 6 Chapter 7
Weeks 8-9	Political Parties Interest Groups EXAM #4	Chapter 8 Chapter 11
Week 10-11	Nominations and Campaigns Elections and Voting Behavior EXAM #5	Chapter 9 Chapter 10
Week 12-14	Congress The Presidency The Federal Bureaucracy EXAM #6	Chapter 12 Chapter 13 Chapter 15
Week 15	The Federal Courts	Chapter 16

***If it is necessary to revise any portion of this syllabus, the instructor will inform you in advance of any changes. ***

