

GOVT 2305 (9M8_202490)

CREDIT

3 Semester Credit Hours

MODE OF INSTRUCTION

Fully Online

PREREQUISITE/CO-REQUISITE:

TSI Complete for Reading



**LAMAR INSTITUTE
OF TECHNOLOGY**

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Origin and development of the U.S. Constitution; structure and powers of the national government including the legislative, executive, and judicial branches; federalism; political participation; the national election process; public policy; civil liberties and civil rights.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to

1. Explain the origin and development of constitutional democracy in the United States.
2. Demonstrate knowledge of the federal system.
3. Describe separation of powers and checks and balances in both theory and practice.
4. Demonstrate knowledge of the legislative, executive, and judicial branches of the federal government.
5. Evaluate the role of public opinion, interest groups, and political parties in the political system.
6. Analyze the election process.
7. Describe the rights and responsibilities of citizens.
8. Analyze issues and policies in U.S. politics.

INSTRUCTOR CONTACT INFORMATION

Instructor:	Christopher Bates
Email:	clbates@lit.edu
Office Phone:	Instructor's Office Phone #: 409-880-8191
Office Location:	TC GEDs Office: Room 116
Office Hours:	By Appointment

Approved: **Initials/date**

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK AND MATERIALS

Power Points and other Resources available location in Course Sections

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Students need to be logging into the course 4-5 times a week

DROP POLICY

If you wish to drop a course, you are responsible for initiating and completing the drop process. If you stop coming to class and fail to drop the course, you will earn an "F" in the course.

COURSE CALENDAR

SECTION	Assignment Name/Topic	ASSIGNMENTS (Due on this Date)
1	Section 1: Political Socialization Assignment Section 1: Discussion Core Assessment Groups Assigned	9-4-2024 9-4-2024 9-6-2024
2	Section 2: Discussion Section 2 Quiz	9-11-2024 9-11-2024
3	Section 3-Articles of Confederation Assignment Section 3: Discussion Core Assessment Topic Selected	9-18-2024 9-18-2024 9-20-2024
4	Unit 1 Exam Section (1-3) Section 4: Quiz Section 4: Discussion	9-22-2024 9-25-2024 9-25-2024
5	Section 5: Discussion Section 5: Know Your Rights	10-2-2024 10-2-2024
6	Section 6: Quiz Section 6: Discussion	10-9-2024 10-9-2024
7	Unit 2 Exam Section (4-6) Section 7: Discussion	10-13-2024 10-16-2024
8	Core Assessment "Rough Draft" Section 8: Discussion Section 8: Quiz	10-20-2024 10-23-2024 10-23-2024
9	Section 9: Discussion	10-30-2024
10	Section 10: Discussion	11-6-2024
11	Unit 3 Exam Section (7-10) Section 11: Discussion	11-10-2024 11-11-2024
12	Section 12: Political Parties Core Assessment: Final Draft	11-20-2024 11-20-2024
13	Work On Core Assessment/Class Project	Nothing Due
14	Section 14: Media Assignment	12-4-2024

	Core Assessment	12-6-2024
15	Unit 4 Exam Sections (11-14)	12-9-2024

COURSE EVALUATION

Final grades will be calculated according to the following criteria:

- Tests.....50%
- Core Assessment Assignment.....20%
- Daily Grades/Quizzes.....30%

GRADE SCALE

- 90-100 A
- 80-89 B
- 70-79 C
- 60-69 D
- 0-59 F

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

The latest technical requirements, including hardware, compatible browsers, operating systems, etc. can be online at <https://lit.edu/online-learning/online-learning-minimum-computer-requirements>. A functional broadband internet connection, such as DSL, cable, or WiFi is necessary to maximize the use of online technology and resources.

DISABILITIES STATEMENT

The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 are federal anti-discrimination statutes that provide comprehensive civil rights for persons with disabilities. LIT provides reasonable accommodations as defined in the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 504 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, to students with a diagnosed disability. The Special Populations Office is located in the Eagles’ Nest Room 129 and helps foster a supportive and inclusive educational environment by maintaining partnerships with faculty and staff, as well as promoting awareness among all members of the Lamar Institute of Technology community. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Special Populations Coordinator at (409)-951-5708 or email specialpopulations@lit.edu. You may also visit the online resource at [Special Populations - Lamar Institute of Technology \(lit.edu\)](#).

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT STATEMENT

It is the responsibility of all registered Lamar Institute of Technology students to access, read, understand and abide by all published policies, regulations, and procedures listed in the *LIT Catalog and Student Handbook*. The *LIT Catalog and Student Handbook* may be accessed at www.lit.edu. Please note that the online version of the *LIT Catalog and Student Handbook* supersedes all other versions of the same document.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE STATEMENT

Lamar Institute of Technology (LIT) recognizes the recent advances in Artificial Intelligence (AI), such as ChatGPT, have changed the landscape of many career disciplines and will impact many students in and out of the classroom. To prepare students for their selected careers, LIT desires to guide students in the ethical use of these technologies and incorporate AI into classroom instruction and assignments appropriately. Appropriate use of these technologies is at the discretion of the instructor. Students are reminded that all submitted work must be their own original work unless otherwise specified. Students should contact their instructor with any questions as to the acceptable use of AI/ChatGPT in their courses

STARFISH

LIT utilizes an early alert system called Starfish. Throughout the semester, you may receive emails from Starfish regarding your course grades, attendance, or academic performance. Faculty members record student attendance, raise flags and kudos to express concern or give praise, and you can make an appointment with faculty and staff all through the Starfish home page. You can also login to Blackboard or MyLIT and click on the Starfish link to view academic alerts and detailed information. It is the responsibility of the student to pay attention to these emails and information in Starfish and consider taking the recommended actions. Starfish is used to help you be a successful student at LIT.

ADDITIONAL COURSE POLICIES/INFORMATION

Respectful participation in class discussions is expected. At times, students may have differing viewpoints from those of their classmates. Disagreements lead to critical thinking, scholarly debates, and learning, however, disrespect for the opinions of others will not be tolerated.

Discussion Topics

There must be one original substantive post (200 words) AND at least two substantive replies to your classmates' posts (100 words each post) for each graded forum. Correct grammar, capitalization, punctuation, and complete sentences must be used.

The discussion forum grade will be based on points assigned to measure the quality of both the original post and the two response posts. Anything less than 100 words each will receive a zero.

No Discussions will be accepted after the deadline!

The same criterion is used in grading your *response posts to your classmates' discussion posts*. Response posts must contribute something new to the discussion to earn points. In other words, a response consisting solely of "Good post, (classmate's name)!" will receive zero points. The discussion forum

topics will correlate with the reading topics we are covering in the course. The professor views online discussion forums as the equivalent of on-campus classroom discussions, and carefully reads every post to evaluate the quality of its contents. You should therefore make sure to read the assigned material on the forum topic BEFORE submitting your posts.

Attendance Policy

Many of my classes and students are completely online, or Dual Credit/Dual Enrollment Students. As such, it is important that you show activity in Blackboard so that I know you are staying up to date on the course. You need to get into the habit of logging into blackboard no less than 4-5 times a week on different days. Any student who goes more than 5 days without some kind of Blackboard activity should expect an email from me (so that I know you are still working through the content and not getting behind.)

Late Policy

I DO NOT ACCEPT LATE WORK! If any work is late, you will receive a zero. If you have a documented medical emergency on the day of the assignment deadline, I may consider allowing you to complete the missed assignments once a review the medical documentation.

Extra Credit:

I do not give bumps at the end of the semester. This means if you have an 89.999999% you have a B. I DO NOT GIVE EXTRA CREDIT! If you complete the "Original Credit" there is no need for "Extra Credit".