GOVT 2305 2A4

CREDIT
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 hours lecture, 0 hours lab)

MODE OF INSTRUCTION
ONLINE

PREREQUISITE/CO-REQUISITE:
TSI complete for Reading

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:	Christina Gregory
Email:	cgregory@lit.edu
Office Phone:	please contact me via email
Office Location:	please contact me via email
Office Hours:	will be via course collaborate by appointment. Appointments are available on Thursday 2-4 and Friday 2-3

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK AND MATERIALS
American Government 3rd Edition Krutz, Waskiewicz; Free Web Version
https://openstax.org/details/books/american-government-3e

Approved: Initials/date

ATTENDANCE POLICY
It is in the student's best interest to log on at least once a day to review lecture notes, complete course assignments, and take exams. I monitor the amount of time that students spend in Blackboard and the number of logins throughout the week. If you are experiencing difficulties, please be proactive and let me know that you need an extension.

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.

Census Day: October 3
Last day to drop WITH penalty: November 5th

COURSE CALENDAR
In the event anything changes from this syllabus, I will email the entire course via blackboard (so you will have both a message on blackboard an in your email). I try to create some consistency for you. Section assignments and work are almost always due on Sundays of the week they open (please note the section on the constitution is the exception to the rule!). Unit tests (which cover approximately 4 sections each) are due midweek after we complete the unit.

Unless there is a change in the class (e.g. hurricanes), due dates are firm. If something prevents you from completing something and you have documentation, please email me as soon as you are able. Due date flexibility is up to my discretion.

DATE	TOPIC	READINGS (Due on this Date)	ASSIGNMENTS (Due on this Date)
Week 1 (9/23)	Syllabus/Introduction Video Political Socialization Roots of Revolution	Ch. 1 Section 1 & 2 (all items)	Section 1 assignment Section 2 quiz (complete by **Sunday**)
Week 2 (9/30)	Constitution **_Unit 1 quiz due Oct 4_** Supreme Court Cases Core Assessment introductions due **Sunday**	Ch. 2 All items in section 3-4 folders	Constitution section: **Wednesday** Unit 1 Test **FRIDAY** Supreme Court cases **Sunday**
Week 3	Civil Liberties/Rights Federalism	Ch. 4 Ch. 3 All items in section 5-6 folders	All section assignments must be complete by **Sunday**
Week 4	**Unit 2 exam due Oct 15** Legislative Branch	Section folders Ch. 12	Unit 2 Exam due **TUESDAY**

	Executive Branch	Ch. 11	Section assignments due **Sunday**
Week 5	Judicial Branch Interest Groups *Selection of Subject/Topic Due by Sunday*	Ch. 13 Ch. 10 Section folders	Section items completed by Sunday *Selection of Subject/Topic Due by Sunday*
Week 6	**Unit 3 Exam Oct 29** Public Opinion, Polls, and Media	Section folders Ch. 6	Unit Exam due **Tuesday** Section items completed by *Sunday*
Week 7	Political Parties	Ch. 9 Section Folders	Section items completed by Sunday
Week 8	Voting and elections	Section Folder	Section items completed by Sunday
Week 9	Media *Rough Draft Due Monday*	Ch. 8 Section folders	Section items completed by *Sunday*
Week 10	**Unit 4 Exam due Nov 26** Thanksgiving Break Nov 27-29		Unit exam due **Tuesday**
Week 11	College writing	Videos in folder	Section folder completed by **FRIDAY** Final assignment due **FRIDAY**

COURSE EVALUATION
Final grades will be calculated according to the following criteria:
- • Unit Tests (4 total) ……………………………..…50%
- • Core Assessment……………….20%
- • Section Quizzes/assignments……….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

Be respectful of your classmates and of your instructor. As this is an online course, it is best practice to remember that it can sometimes be difficult to read tone in written messages. Please give each other the benefit of the doubt. Emails to your professor should begin with a salutation (Dear Dr. Gregory is perfectly fine) and should be signed with your name.