GOVT 2305 - 2A2

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, please email me (earlier I the week are usually very flexible).
Email is the best way to reach me. Please allow 24 hours, Monday-Friday, for me to respond before emailing about the same issue/question. Messages on blackboard do not automatically alert me I have a message, so it may take me longer to respond.

Approved: Initials/date

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

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 (this is how I monitor for LIT's monitoring requests via starfish). 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/drop with refund: January 31
Last day to drop with Penalty: February 26
** please note these dates have changed due to the late start with the semester because of weather**

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

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 and in your email). I try to create some consistency for you. Section assignments and work are always due on Sundays of the week they open (folders open Monday, everything due by Sunday). Unit tests are due **Wednesday** 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)
Jan 21	Revolution Constitution	Complete lectures and readings in Folders 1-2	Assignment in folders Due by Sunday (1/26)
Jan 27	*Unit 1 test due Wed* Federalism Supreme Court	Complete lectures and readings in Folders 3-4	**Unit 1 test due 1/29** Assignment in folders Due by Sunday
Feb. 3	Civil liberties/rights Legislative Branch *Core assessment due*	Complete lectures and readings in Folders 5-6	Assignment in folders Due by Sunday *Introductions due 2/09*
Feb 10	*Unit 2 Test due Wed* Executive Branch Interest Groups	Complete lectures and readings in Folders 7-8	**Unit 2 test due 2/12** Assignment in folders Due by Sunday
Feb 17	Innocence project Public Opinion *Core assessment due*	Complete lectures and readings in Folders 9-10	Assignment in folders Due by Sunday *Core assessment topics/person due 2/23*
Feb 24	*Unit 3 Test due Wed* Voting Political Parties	Complete lectures and readings in Folders 11-12	Assignment in folders Due by Sunday
March 3	Elections Media ***Unit Test 4 Due SUNDAY***	Complete lectures and readings in Folders 13-14	Assignment in folders Due by Sunday **Unit test 4 due 3/09**
March 10	SPRING BREAK		
March 17	Core Assessment final project LAST DAY OF CLASS MARCH 21		Core assessment due by 5pm March 21st

NOTE: DUE TO THE WEATHER RELATED CLOSURE, EVERYTHING IN WEEKS JAN 21 (unit !) AND JAN 27 WILL BE DUE BY SUNDAY FEB 2ND

Academic Integrity Policy

Academic integrity is essential to the mission of this course and the broader academic community. All students are expected to adhere to the highest standards of honesty and ethical conduct in their academic work. Academic dishonesty, including but not limited to plagiarism, cheating, fabrication, unauthorized collaboration, or facilitating others in dishonest practices, will not be tolerated.

Examples of academic dishonesty include:

- **Plagiarism:** Presenting someone else's ideas, words, or work as your own without proper attribution.
- **Cheating:** Using unauthorized materials or devices during an exam, quiz, or assignment.
- **Fabrication:** Falsifying or inventing information, data, or citations.
- **Unauthorized Collaboration:** Working with others on assignments or exams when collaboration is not allowed.
- **Facilitation:** Helping another student commit academic dishonesty.

Consequences for Academic Dishonesty:
Violations of this policy will result in academic and disciplinary consequences, which may include:

1. Receiving a zero on the assignment, quiz, or exam.
2. Failing the course.
3. Referral to the college's disciplinary process, which may lead to probation, suspension, or expulsion.

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

<u>www.lit.edu</u>. 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
Insert additional course policies/information specific to your section here.