

Introduction to American Government
Political Science 1101
Fall 2017
Class Meetings: T/TR 9:30 - 10:45am
Instructor: Jeffrey M. Glas, PhD

Contact Information:

Office Hours: T*TH 11am - 12noon
Office Location: 380A Baldwin Hall
Email: Jeffrey.Glas@uga.edu

Course Prerequisites: None

I. Course Description:

This course is a college level introduction to American government. The primary goal of this course is introduce students to the scientific study of politics. To this end the course is designed to provide students with an historical and conceptual background of politics in the United State of America as well as a scientific perspective for understanding the relationships

II. Course Requirements and Graded Evaluation

(2.1) Required Text

Kernell, Samuel, et al. *The logic of American politics, 8th edition*. CQ Press, 2017.
ISBN: 9781506358666

(2.2) Exams

There will be three exams in this class. Each exam is worth 30% of your grade. (The exams together constitute 90% of your final grade)

(2.3) Assignments, Discussion, and Attendance

Learning is an active exercise. Students at all levels of learning and accomplishment benefit when they are actively engaged in class. I will assess your attendance and participation through weekly assignments/quizzes, group activities, and class discussions worth 10% of your final grade.

(2.4) Exam Schedule

First Midterm Exam	30%	September 21 st
Second Midterm Exam	30%	October 19 th
Final Exam	30%	December 12 th
Participation	10%	Weekly

(2.5) Grading

All grades (including final grades) will be assigned following the system depicted below:

A+	≥	98	C+	=	78
A	=	94-97	C	=	74
A-	=	90	C-	=	70
B+	=	88	D	=	60 – 69
B	=	84	F	≤	59
B-	=	80			

III. Course Schedule and Assignments¹

Week 1: The Logic of American Politics	Week of August 14 th
Read Chapter 1	
Week 2: The Constitution	Week of August 21 st
Read Chapter 2	
Week 3: Federalism	Week of August 28 th
Read Chapter 3	
Week 4: Civil Rights	Week of September 4 th
Read Chapter 4	
	Monday, September 4 th – No classes
Week 5: Civil Liberties	Week of September 11 th
Read Chapter 5	
Week 6: Exam 1	Week of September 18 th
Exam 1 – Thursday, September 21 st	
Week 7: Congress	Week of September 25 th
Read Chapter 6	
Week 8: Presidency	Week of October 2 nd
Read Chapter 7	

¹ The course syllabus provides a general plan for the course; deviations may be necessary.

Week 9: Judiciary	Week of October 9 th
Read Chapter 9	
Week 10: Second Exam	Week of October 16 th
Exam 2 – Thursday, October 19 th	
Thursday, October 19 th – Withdrawal Deadline	
Week 11: Public Opinion	Week of October 23 rd
Read Chapter 10	
Friday, October 27 th – Fall Break	
Week 12: Voting, Campaigns, and Elections	Week of October 30 th
Read Chapter 11	
Week 13: Political Parties	Week of November 6 th
Read Chapter 12	
Week 14: Interest Groups	Week of November 13 th
Read Chapter 13	
Week 15:	Week of November 20 th
No Classes – Thanksgiving Break	
Week 16: The Media	Week of November 27 th
Read Chapter 14	
Last Week of Classes	
Week 17: Exam Week	Week of December 4 th
Exam 3 – Tuesday, December 12 th @ 8:00am	