

POLSCI 1101E: Introduction to American Government

Summer 2024 Thru Session June 6 – July 31

Dr. Audrey A. Haynes

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Virtual Office Hours: By appointment; I will be available to you via our course communications (email/chat). The BEST way to reach me quickly is through my email: polaah@uga.edu. I generally will respond within a few hours but no later than 24 hours. If you do not hear from me, email me again. Why?

There is likely a problem with the email. **If you receive an email from the eLC class list (to all) you cannot reply back to it. You must start a new email either to my direct email address or within eLC. TA emails are available on our eLC home page.**

Course Description: This course is concerned with government and politics in the United States, primarily at the national level, but attention will be given to state and local government, particularly the nature of Georgia's Constitution. We will examine the institutional rules and human behaviors that shape government, the operation of elections, the development of parties and interest groups, public opinion, and the functioning of Congress, the presidency, and the courts. An historic overview of the topics will shed light on how the current system has evolved. This is important since the foundation of our system and the rules and norms established early have a great impact on how the government performs what policies it produces and how its citizens relate to it. And it also helps us understand where our weaker institutional spots are and whether or not they can withstand challenges such as external propagandizing, polarization, political marketing, and shocks to the system, as well as increased cynicism from the citizenry.

We will also focus our attention on current political, social and economic events and discuss how they relate to the governmental concepts we will be studying. During this time, we will also discuss a variety of theories of, and perspectives on government. At times, I will post news articles or bits of information on the Announcement board or the Discussion board, and your thoughts are welcome and expected.

Specific topics and the time at which they will be covered, as well as your assigned reading can be found on the calendar on this course's eLC portal.

Prerequisites of the Course: None

Technical requirements of the course: If you are able to access the Internet on a regular basis, you meet the technical requirements for the course. It is important that you have **reliable Internet service**, particularly as the tests are time sensitive. You also need a **reliable laptop or desktop computer**. I would not suggest taking tests or quizzes on your phone. It is not reliable, particularly for the short answer questions – and often when your test is submitted via phone, answers are left blank. If that is all you have, then let me and your TA know.

Course objectives: At the start of each of our content modules, you will see a list of course objectives. They range from general understanding of a process to very specific skills (such as being able to determine what type of collective action problem is being

described or predicting the outcome of a political situation. Please make sure to read through these objectives. They will correspond to the learning outcomes/assessments. At the end of the semester look back and them and let me know if you feel that you have not achieved competency in those objectives. We will make sure you do.

Course textbook: **Logic of American Politics 8th edition**. You may purchase the electronic version or the paper text, whichever text you feel more comfortable working with for your course reading. There is an 11th edition, but do not purchase it. We are keeping costs low this semester and using **the 8th edition**. It covers everything we will need for this class. It does not cover the Trump and Biden administrations. But the fundamentals are all there, including polarization. If you would like to simply talk about politics, I am always available via Zoom or on campus (with some consideration to time zones).

You may purchase the hard copy of the textbook through whatever online bookstore you prefer, order it through UGA's bookstore, but it must be this book:



The Logic of American Politics (8th edition)
Samuel Kernell, Gary C. Jacobson, Thad Kousser, and Lynn Vavreck
CQ Press
Paperback or e-version
Published: March 21, 2017

ISBN: 1506358667 (print) 1506385184 (ebook)

You may purchase or rent the textbook. But do not trust any site that is not a confirmed business such as Amazon, Barnes and Noble, Chegg.com, Textbooks.com, etc. If you see a higher price, it is likely you are purchasing the 9th edition. Some specific questions on my tests will not be in the 9th edition as there are some changes. Not a tremendous number, but enough.

Back to results

The Logic of American Politics (Eighth Edition) 2nd Edition
by Samuel Kernell (Author), Gary C. Jacobson (Author), Thad Kousser (Author), Lynn Vavreck (Author)
★★★★☆ 18 customer reviews

Paperback
\$19.71 - \$100.70

Other Sellers
from \$19.44

Rent
Due Date: Dec 16, 2019 [Rental Details](#)
• FREE return shipping at the end of the semester.
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less dependable. I do not know. So order early. You may also find a full pdf on line if you look very carefully. If any website seems sketchy, stay away from it. But some are scams- particularly some pdf downloads. **I will provide a link to a 8th edition pdf that was available online for those of you who cannot purchase your text at this time.** That way you have it available at the start of the class.

See logic of American politics 8th edition

Sponsored ⓘ

Book Title	Price	Condition	Source	Shipping
The Logic of American...	\$27.04	Used	Barnes & Noble	
The Logic of American Politi...	\$19.95		books2college	
The Logic of American Politi...	\$19.99		DigitalBookDepot	Free shipping
The Logic of American Politi...	\$19.96	Used	ValoreBooks.com	
E-Books The Logic of...	\$10.00		Duran Books	Free shipping

Online Learning Environment: This course is hosted on UGA eLC. If you have any issues at any point, make sure to contact:

EITS Help Desk: helpdesk@uga.edu or 706.542.3106.

Business hours are 8am - 10pm (Mon-Thurs), 8am-6pm (Fri), and 1pm-7pm (Sat-Sun)

Go the University System of Georgia Desire2Learn Online Help Center at <http://D2Lhelp.view.usg.edu>. From this site, you can search the Knowledge Base, browse popular articles, or click the link for live support (24x7x365) in the scrolling news area.

Grading and Assignments:

Your grade for this course will be determined by your scores on your practice tests, tests, quizzes and essays, and your participation via the discussion board.

Each count toward a percentage of your grade. To see the distribution of weight for each assessment, simply go to the Grades link on the course page and review the list of assessments and their individual and group weights.

Each module has a number of assignments that are graded and ends with a module exam. All assignments are open book/open note. You may work at ahead, but you must meet several progress checkpoints throughout the semester. USE of AI is prohibited for this class. Your work should be your own. You may not utilize someone else's work, AI support, or any Google sources (unless the assignment says you are allowed). Your information source is your textbook, the lecture videos, email and announcement content, linked reading, linked videos. It is all provided for you in the CHECKLIST for each module.

Grades:

Practice quizzes	20%
Concept, video, other quizzes	25%
Discussion assignments	20%
Exams	35%
Total:	100%

Grade scale:

A	93.0000 and above
A-	92.9999 to 90.0000
B+	87.0000 to 89.9999
B	86.9999 to 83.0000
B-	82.9999 to 80.0000
C+	77.0000 to 79.9999
C	76.9999 to 70.0000
D	65.0000 to 69.9999
F	64.9999 and below

THERE IS NO ROUNDING OR CURVING AT THE END OF THE SEMESTER.

Learning Activities: In this course your learning activities consist of the following: reading your text, viewing/listening to course lectures, playing games, taking practice quizzes, discussing relevant topics on the discussion board with your professor, TAs and your peers, completing your tests and discussion essays, and viewing relevant videos. Almost all activities are graded.

Course outline and schedule: The course is outlined extensively on its eLC course site. The schedule is located on the calendar. If you have any questions at all about the schedule, please contact Dr. Haynes immediately. Each module has a Checklist that has all your tasks listed, with links and directions. That is the ONLY place in each module you need to look.

General Schedule – 38 days of class, June 6-July 31

Example schedule for Introduction to American Government POLS1101e

Start Module Includes **First Discussion**

Module 1: Why Government?

Module 2: Constitutional Foundations

Module 3: Federalism

Checkpoint 1 June 23 by midnight have modules 1-3 complete

Module 4: Legislative Branch

Module 5: Executive Branch

Module 6: Judicial Branch

Checkpoint 2 July 12 by midnight have modules 4-6 complete

Module 7: Voting

Module 8: Political Parties

Module 9: Interest Groups

Module 10: Georgia Constitution

Second Discussion on Media Bias

Checkpoint 3 August 1 by midnight have Module 7-10 complete.

YOU ARE DONE!!

Classes begin June 6, 2024

Classes End July 31, 2024 (No final exams)

Make-Up Policy

If you are called to jury duty or have a verified medical illness or emergency, that will count as an excused absence from the e-course. If you must be offline for a while, make sure you communicate the situation so we can figure out a workaround, if possible. This class is generally self-paced, but you must make progress in some consistent manner AND you must meet the major deadlines set for you.

Attendance Policy

There is no set attendance policy, however I will check and see if you are logging into the course. Students who do not log in for 5 days will receive an email reminder. Not logging in for an extended period is grounds for dropping a student for non-attendance, particularly if you are not completing any of the work.

University Honor Code and Academic Honesty Policy:

All academic work must meet the standards contained in “A Culture of Honesty.” All students are responsible to inform themselves about those standards before performing any academic work.

<https://ovpi.uga.edu/academic-honesty/academic-honesty-policy/student-honor-code>

Students with Disabilities

Students with disabilities who require reasonable accommodations to participate in course activities or meet course requirements should contact the instructor or designate during regular office hours or by appointment.

NOTE: *The course syllabus is a general plan for the course; deviations announced to the class by the instructor may be necessary.*

Agreement: By enrolling in this course, you agree to adhere to these policies linked above and to do your best to be a good, productive, and **honest** student. You also agree to work with Dr. Haynes to make sure that you have a positive learning experience and a rewarding course outcome and that you will not neglect to stay on top of your work. Nor will you interact with your peers to collaborate on any exams, essays or projects unless they are clearly designated as group projects or work.

Given this is an online course that moves quickly, if you have any issues regarding test dates (such as a conflict, or you become ill during a portion of the course) it is imperative that you communicate with me (Dr. Haynes) and/or your assigned Teaching Assistant, and work out any issues. Your instructor (me) will try to be flexible given the online nature of this course, which may be new to some of you. Good luck and get started!

