

South Plains College/Muleshoe High School

The Federal Government

Government 2305
John Gulley

Fall 2019

Common Course Syllabus: Government 2305

DEPARTMENT: Social Science

DISCIPLINE: Government

COURSE NUMBER: GOVT2305372161S

COURSE TITLE: American Government, Organization

CREDIT: 3 Lecture, 0 Lab: Satisfies a core curriculum requirement? Yes, Social Science and ALL Undergraduate Degrees

PREREQUISITES: TSI compliance in Reading

CAMPUS: Muleshoe High School

TEXTBOOK: *We the People, 12th edition*, Ginsberg, Lowi, Weir and Tolbert, Campbell ISBN 9780393644326

COURSE SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS: Each instructor will attach his/her course with specific instructions. :

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course is a survey of fundamental principles of political science, including the American system of government and the origins and development of the constitution of the United States. This course satisfies the Legislative requirements for teacher certification.

COURSE PURPOSE: To acquaint students with the specifics of the development of the U.S. Constitution and the party systems of the nation. The primary goal is to promote critical thinking in understanding of the operation of the US government. Fundamentally, the course promotes general understanding of a body of knowledge any literate person should possess about the government of his or her own country.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS: To maximize a student's potential to complete this course, he/she should attend all class meetings, complete all homework assignments and examinations in a timely manner, and complete all other projects or papers as assigned in the instructor's specific instructions.

COURSE EVALUATION: See the instructor's course information sheet for specific items used in evaluating student performance.

ATTENDANCE POLICY: Whenever absences become excessive and in the instructor's opinion, minimum course objectives cannot be met due to absences, the student will be withdrawn from the course. Each instructor will have additional information about attendance on his/her course information sheet.

DIVERSITY STATEMENT: In this class, the teacher will establish and support an environment that values and nurtures individual and group differences and encourages engagement and interaction. Understanding and respecting multiple experiences and perspectives will serve to challenge and stimulate all of us to learn about others, about the larger world and about ourselves. By promoting diversity and intellectual exchange, we will not only mirror society as it is, but also model society as it should and can be.

SPC STANDARD DISABILITY STATEMENT: Any students who, because of a disability, may require special arrangements in order to meet the course

requirements should contact the instructor as soon as possible to make and necessary arrangements. Students must present appropriate verification from the SPC Disability Service Office during the instructor's office hours. Please note that instructors are not allowed to provide classroom accommodations until appropriate verification from the SPC Disability Service Office has been provided. For more information, you may contact the Disability Services Office (located in the Health & Wellness Center) at 806-716-2529 or

visit <http://www.southplainscollege.edu/health/disabilityservices.php>.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY, HARRASSMENT, AND NON-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT: South Plains College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age in its programs and activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Vice President for Student Affairs, South Plains College, 1401 College Avenue, Box 5, Levelland, TX 79336. Phone number 806-716-2360. South Plains College is dedicated to providing a safe and equitable learning environment for all students. Discrimination, sexual assault, and harassment are not tolerated by the college. The Health and Wellness Center offers confidential support (806-716-2529) and Voice of Hope has a 24-hour hotline: 806-763-7273. You are encouraged to report any incidents online at <http://www.southplainscollege.edu/about/campussafety/complaints.php>.

PREGNANCY ACCOMMODATION STATEMENT: If you are pregnant, or have given birth been within six months, under Title IX you have a right to reasonable accommodations to help continue your education. Students who wish to request accommodations must contact the Health and Wellness Center at 806-716-2529 to initiate the process.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES: 1. Recognize the differences between the New Jersey and Virginia Plans. 2. Identify the major components of Articles I, II, and III of the U.S. Constitution. 3. Explain the major components of the Bill of Rights. 4. Define federalism and its constitutional basis between the national and state governments. 5. List differences between the U.S. House of Representatives and the Senate. 6. Describe the powers of the president as established in the Constitution.

GOVT 2305: The Federal Government

Term:

Fall 2019

Instructor:

John Gulley

Room:

212, Muleshoe High School

Conference Hours:

7:45-7:55 a.m., 3:35-4:00 p.m., or by appointment

Phone:

School: (806) 272-7303 Home: (806) 925-6465 Cell: (806) 946-7326

E-mail:

jgulley@muleshoeisd.net

Text:

We the People, 12th edition, Ginsberg, Lowi, Weir, Tolbert, and Campbell ISBN 9780393644326

Course Requirements and Grades:

<u>Periodic Examinations,</u>	
Including Inquizitive:	40%
<u>Homework/Projects/</u>	
<u>Participation:</u>	20%
<u>News Summaries:</u>	20%
<u>Final Exam:</u>	20%
(Descriptions follow)	

Periodic Examinations

Generally, these will follow the completion of each chapter.

Homework/Projects/Participation

Will include, but will not be limited to, brief projects/activities related to each Chapter studied, described in a separate handout.

News Summary Instructions:

1. Summaries will be turned in **one week** before the end of each six weeks. Due dates this semester are:

September 20

October 25

December 13

2. The summary will consist of **2 paragraphs**. Please use Times New Roman font, 12 point, totaling not more than **one typed page**:
 - i. **Paragraph 1: summarize** the article **in your own words**. You may quote *brief* passages, but the purpose of this paragraph is to demonstrate that you understand the article well enough to **explain what it says in your own words**.
 - ii. **Paragraph 2:** explain how the information contained in the article applies to what we have studied so far in this course. Tie the vocabulary and information from the textbook to the article. For example, how does the article relate to Checks and Balances, Social Contract Theory, or the ideas of the founding fathers? How does the article illustrate the enumerated powers of the President, Congress, or Supreme Court? **You should only include things which we have already studied in class.** The article should demonstrate a practical, current application of what we study to the “real world”.
 - iii. On a second page, securely attach a copy of the article read, and write on the sheet the source from which it was obtained and the date of publication. **WARNING: If you use an internet source, it must be approved in**

advance by the instructor—many websites are not legitimate news sources.

4. Students should write in formal written English.

Semester Test:

Students taking the course for credit from South Plains College will be required to take the Semester Test/Final Exam, which will count as **20% of the semester grade.**

Attendance:

Students who are absent should make arrangements to come to tutorials after their return to make up missing grades. Excessive absences may result in the denial of credit from South Plains College.

Grade Posting:

Grades are always posted as soon as possible on the bulletin board in the classroom by your student number and in order of average (**not** in alphabetical order, to protect your privacy.)

Special Needs:

Any student, who because of a disabling condition may require some special arrangements in order to meet course requirements, should contact the course instructor as soon as possible so that the necessary accommodations can be made. Any student who anticipates a need for accommodations must contact the Special Service Office.

Statement of Nondiscrimination:

It is the policy of this instructor not to discriminate on the basis of age, color, disability, ethnicity, gender, national origin, race, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status. In addition to complying with federal and state equal opportunity laws and regulations and/or resolutions of professional organizations in education and psychology, my diversity policy declares harassment based on individual differences to be inconsistent with my instructional mission and educational goals.

In this class, the instructor will establish and support an environment that values and nurtures individual and group differences and encourages engagement and interaction. Understanding multiple perspectives will serve to challenge and stimulate all of us to learn about others, about the larger world, and about ourselves. By promoting intellectual exchange, we will come to understand the reasons for the differences in politics and society, and the values and beliefs which underlie our democratic institutions.

Academic Dishonesty Policy:

Academic dishonesty is the cardinal sin of college. Remember, I do not have to have “proof” that you are cheating. My suspicions are quite sufficient for your removal from this class. Therefore, during any quizzes and/or exams, your eyes need to remain on your own paper. I will watch for wandering eyes and if I think someone is cheating, action will be taken. Working on projects or studying together is encouraged; however, your answers need to be your own. Again, it will be up to my discretion to decide if work has been copied.

Course Content: In order to adequately deal with this amount of material, a considerable amount of reading, research and thought is required. Our textbook is. *We the People, 12th edition*, Ginsberg, Lowi, Weir, Tolbert, and Campbell ISBN 9780393644326

Department: Social Sciences

Discipline: Government