

POLS 10 American Government

I reserve the right to make changes to the syllabus as needed. I will send out notification if changes are made.

Semester & Year:	Fall 2012
Course ID and Section Number:	POL 10 D2204
Number of Credits/Units:	3
Day/Time:	Monday-Wednesday 02:05PM – 03:30PM, Del Norte Main
Location:	Bldg, Room 29
Instructor's Name:	Jennifer Gardner
Contact Information:	Instructor Contact Information: Phone: 707-487-0165 or 707-951-4289 (cell) Email: jennifergardner21@gmail.com or jennifer-gardner@redwoods.edu *I prefer email but it is ok to call if you need immediate help. I usually check my email a few times a day and try to respond very quickly to any questions or concerns (usually less than 24 hours). <i>If you do not receive an answer to your email within 24 hours, please call to make sure your email was received.</i> I am also fine with students sending me questions via text to my cell. However, make sure you clearly identify who you are and what class you are in.
Course Description:	A course addressing both the philosophic roots and the contemporary operation of American national, state, and local government. Specific topics include constitutional development, federal-state relations, and the rights and obligations of citizens under both the federal and the California constitutions.
Student Learning Outcomes:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Explain the history and philosophy of the Constitution, politics, and government in the United States.2. Identify the major provisions of the California and US Constitution.3. Compare the three branches of California and US Government, and related political institutions.4. Outline the relationship between the states and national government (ie. federalism).5. Analyze contemporary issues facing California and the US system of government.
Special accommodations:	
Everyone deserves a learning environment that can maximize their strengths, therefore,	

students with the appropriate paperwork from the office of Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSPS) should notify the instructor of any accommodations they require. Please notify the instructor as soon as possible so that such arrangements can be made in a timely fashion.

If you have a disability or believe you might benefit from disability related services and may need accommodations, please see me or contact DSPS. Through DSPS students can request alternative media.

Del Norte	Eureka	Mendocino
707-465-2324	707-476-4280	707-962-2368

College of the Redwoods complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act in making reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. Please present your written accommodation request at least one week before the first test so that necessary arrangements can be made. No last-minute arrangements or post-test adjustments will be made. If you have a disability or believe you might benefit from disability related services and may need accommodations, please see me or contact Disabled Students Programs and Services. Students may make requests for alternative media by contacting DSPS.

Academic Misconduct: Cheating, plagiarism, collusion, abuse of resource materials, computer misuse, fabrication or falsification, multiple submissions, complicity in academic misconduct, and/ or bearing false witness will not be tolerated. Violations will be dealt with according to the procedures and sanctions proscribed by the College of the Redwoods. Anyone caught cheating or plagiarizing will *automatically fail* that component of the course and may also, at the instructor's discretion, be assigned a failing grade in the course. All students caught cheating or plagiarizing, regardless of the nature or severity of the offence, will be referred to the Vice President of Student Services and may be subject to additional college-level sanctions, which, depending, on the nature of the offense, can include suspension or expulsion from the College.

The student code of conduct is available on the College of the Redwoods website at:
<http://redwoods.edu/District/Board/New/Chapter5/AP%205500%20Conduct%20Code%20final%2002-07-2012.pdf>

Additional information about the rights and responsibilities of students, Board policies, and administrative procedures is located in the college catalog and on the College of the Redwoods

homepage.

College of the Redwoods is committed to equal opportunity in employment, admission to the college, and in the conduct of all of its programs and activities.

Drop Policy:

- Students who miss more than one class prior to census day, or who miss the first day of class, will be dropped from the course.
- I reserve the right to drop a student from the course for excessive absences up to week ten. Excessive absence is defined as missing six or more classes.

REQUIRED COURSE MATERIAL:

Challenge Of Democracy, 11th ed.

Janda

ISBN 0-495-90618-2

California Government, 5th ed.

Korey

ISBN 0-547-04193-4

COURSE RECOMMENDATIONS AND EXPECTATIONS

Recommendations: I highly recommend students are eligible or have taken English 1. This course does involve writing essays and you are required to use citations (MLA, APA or Chicago Manual of Style). You are required to not only provide a bibliography or works cited page, but also endnotes, footnotes or in-text citations throughout your writing assignments.

Instructor Expectations: Students should be aware that a considerable amount of reading, web research, and other work will be required as preparation for each class session. It is anticipated that, in order to receive a passing grade, a minimum of 3 to 5 hours will be required to prepare for each class session. Additional time will be needed to prepare for the mid-term, final, complete homework and writing assignments and specific in-class assignments. At a minimum, students are expected to:

1. Prepare carefully before coming to class. Preparation includes doing the assigned reading, completing any assignments, thinking about the material, and bringing questions and comments to class.
2. Expect that most of the work will be interesting and stimulating, and contribute to making it so.
3. Keep abreast of current events. This includes regularly reading the news section of at least one newspaper.

4. Show up on time. Do not make other appointments during class hours.

Please note that the issues covered in the course are, by their nature, controversial, and therefore can arouse deep feelings. In our quest to understand all sides of these hotly contested issues we need to respect the rights of others to hold and express their beliefs.

Supplemental readings are listed for some weeks. Additional readings and/or activities will be assigned and handed out in class from time to time. It is the student's responsibly to know what readings/activities are assigned. The readings and handouts are intended to help broaden your understanding of classroom discussion.

Course Outline & Dates:

You will need to attend class (or contact a fellow student if you miss class) to find out which chapter we will be reviewing and having a pop quiz on for each class. The due dates for the papers and exams are fixed, but the rest will just depend on how quickly we get through each chapter. There will be an in-class pop quiz (multiple choice) or in-class assignment for each chapter.

FALL SCHEDULE:

Classes Begin Aug 25
All-college Holiday (Labor Day) Sep 3
Census Day Sep 10
All-college Holiday (Veterans' Day) Nov 12
All-college Holidays (Thanksgiving) Nov 22 and 23
No classes Nov 24
Final Exams Dec 10-15

Unit 1:

Additional handouts may be given as part of required reading.

Janda Chapter 1: Freedom, Order or Equality?

Handout: *Classic v New Liberalism*

Pop Quiz 1

Janda Chapter 2: Majoritarian or Pluralist Democracy?

Pop Quiz 2

Janda Chapter 3: The Constitution
Pop Quiz 3

Korey Chapter 1: America, Only More So/Chapter 2: The State Constitution and “Hybrid Democracy”

Janda Chapter 4: Federalism
Handout: *States and Federalism*
Pop Quiz 4

Korey Chapter 9: Local Governments and Tribal Governments
Janda Chapter 5: Public Opinion and Political Socialization
Pop Quiz 5

Janday Chapter 6: The Media
Korey Chapter 3: Public Opinion and the Media
Pop Quiz 6

Janda Chapter 7: Participation and Voting
Pop Quiz 7

Janda Chapter 8: Political Parties
Korey Chapter 4: Political Parties
Handouts: *National Conventions: What is the purpose?*
Redistricting Debates
Pop Quiz 8

Janda Chapter 9: Nominations, Elections, and Campaigns
Korey Chapter 5: Campaigns and Elections
Pop Quiz 9

Janda Chapter 10: Interest Groups
Handout: *Campaign Finance Debate*
Pop Quiz 10

Janda Chapter 11: Congress
Korey Chapter 6: The State Legislature
Handout: *Gridlock in Washington: Is Congress too polarized to act?*
Pop Quiz 11

Paper #1 Due Friday, October 5th @ 11:00 p.m. (turn in on MyCR in the assignment link)

Midterm Thursday, October 18

Unit 2:

Janda Chapter 12: The Presidency
Korey Chapter 7: The State’s Plural Executive

Handout: *Presidential Power*
Pop Quiz 12

Janda Chapter 13: The Bureaucracy
Handout: *Pros and Cons of Privatizing Government Functions and Outsourcing, Insourcing and Rightsourcing*
Pop Quiz 13

Janda Chapter 14: The Courts
Korey Chapter 8: the Courts, Constitutions, and Corrections
Pop Quiz 14

Janda Chapter 15: Order and Civil Liberties
Pop Quiz 15

Janda Chapter 16: Equality and Civil Rights
Pop Quiz 16

Janda Chapter 17: Policymaking
Pop Quiz 17

Janda Chapter 18: Economic Policy
Korey Chapter 10: Financing California Government
Pop Quiz 18

Janda Chapter 19: Domestic Policy
Pop Quiz 19

Janda Chapter 20: Global Policy
Gerston Chapter 9: California's Local Governments: Politics at the Grassroots
Pop Quiz 20

Paper #2 Due Friday, November 30th @ 11:00 p.m. (turn in on MyCR in the assignment link)

Final Exam Wednesday, December 12

ASSINGMENTS AND GRADING:

Written Paper 1 and 2: 75 points each (150 total)
Pop Quizzes/In-class assignments: 10-15 points each (140 points total required)
Midterm/Final: 130 Midterm/ 130 Final
Total: 550 points

Paper 1 and 2: The details of these written assignments will be handed out in class and will also be posted in MyCR. Each is worth 75 points. These will be available under the assignment link

(full description of the assignment and its requirements will be posted there). For the assignments I require double spaced, size 12 font, Times New Roman or Calibri black font only. **You must cite the source of all information used in your paper (MLA, APA or Chicago). You must provide citations throughout the body of your paper using one of these citation styles. A bibliography or works cited page is ALSO required in addition to the citations within the body of the paper.**

Pop Quizzes: The pop quizzes will be short, multiple choice quizzes that you will take at the end of the class period. You must be present in class to take the quiz. For some chapters an in-class assignment will be given in place of a pop quiz. Make-ups will not be allowed. There will be a total of 200 points made available to you as part of pop-quiz or in-class assignments. However, you only have to accumulate 140 “pop quiz” points. That means you can miss a few quizzes or in-class assignments and still collect 140/140 points.

Midterm/Final: The midterm and final will be made up of term definitions and essay questions. A study guide will be provided at least two weeks in advance (if not earlier).

Grade Scale:

100-93 A
92-90 A-
89-85 B+
84-83 B
82-80 B-
79-75 C+
74-70 C (the college does not include C-)
69-60 D
59- F