

Syllabus for POLSC 10 US Government and Politics		
Semester & Year	Spring 2019	
Course ID and Section #	POLSC-10-E5090	
Instructor's Name	John Schutt	
Number of Credits/Units	3	
Contact Information	<i>Office location</i>	
	<i>Office hours</i>	Before and after class/by appointment
	<i>Phone number</i>	702-561-5268
	<i>Email address</i>	John-schutt@redwoods.edu
Textbook Information	<i>Title & Edition</i>	1. American Government Power and Purpose Brief 14 th ED 2. Governing California 6 th ED
	<i>Author</i>	1. Lowi, Ginsberg, Shepsle, Ansolabehere 2. Anagnoson, Bonetto, Buck, Deleon, Emry, Kelleher, Koch
	<i>ISBN</i>	1. 978-0-393-28377-8 2. 978-0-393-60369-9
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. 		
Necessary Computer Skills		
All papers and essays are required to be type written using the APA format.		
Technology Requirements (computer, other hardware, and software)		
Technology Support		
<i>[instructor: identify your role in providing technology support]</i>		
Before contacting Technical Support please visit the Online Support Page . For password issues with Canvas, Web Advisor or your mycr.redwoods.edu email, contact Technical Support or call 707-476-4160 or 800-641-0400 ext. 4160 between 8:00 A.M. and 4:00 P.M., Monday through Friday.		
Student Access		
Students will have access to this course that complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and College of the Redwoods policies. Course materials will include a text equivalent for all non-text elements; videos will include closed		

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captioning, images will include alt-tags, and audio files will include transcripts. Text will be formatted for use with screen readers. All course materials will be understandable without the use of color. Hyperlinks will use descriptive and meaningful phrases instead of URLs.

Students who discover access issues with this class should contact the instructor and [Director of Distance Education](#).

Special Accommodations

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 at 707-476-4280.

Regular Effective Contact and Substantive Interaction

[instructor: Describe how you will initiate regular effective contact and maintain substantive interaction by including elements such as timely and substantive feedback on course assignments, threaded discussion forums, weekly announcements, instructor-prepared materials in addition to publisher-created materials to create a virtual equivalent of face-to-face classes, etc. Your description must be consistent with the methods of Regular Effective Contact in the DE Course Proposal form.]

Academic Support and Resources

Academic support is available at [Counseling and Advising](#) and includes academic advising and educational planning, [Academic Support Center](#) for tutoring and proctored tests, and [Extended Opportunity Programs & Services](#), for eligible students, with advising, assistance, tutoring, and more. The following resources are available to support your success as a student:

- [CR-Online](#) (Resources for online students)
- [Library](#) (including online databases)
- [Canvas help and tutorials](#)
- [Online Student Handbook](#)

Contact Information

Students are welcome to contact me at the above listed email or by using my cell phone number listed above.

Proctoring

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Preferred name in Canvas

Students have the ability to have an alternate first name appear in Canvas. Contact [Admissions & Records](#) to request a change to your preferred first name. Your Preferred Name will only be listed in Canvas. It does not change your legal name in our records. See the [Student Information Update form](#).

Academic Honesty

In the academic community, the high value placed on truth implies a corresponding intolerance of scholastic dishonesty. In cases involving academic dishonesty, determination of the grade and of the student's status in the course is left primarily to the discretion of the faculty member. In such cases, where the instructor determines that a student has demonstrated academic dishonesty, the student may receive a failing grade for the assignment and/or exam and may be reported to the Chief Student Services Officer or designee (See: [The Student Code of Conduct](#)). 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 website](#).

Disruptive Classroom Behavior

Student behavior or speech that disrupts the instructional setting will not be tolerated. Disruptive conduct may include, but is not limited to: unwarranted interruptions; failure to adhere to instructor's directions; vulgar or obscene language; slurs or other forms of intimidation; and physically or verbally abusive behavior. In such cases where the instructor determines that a student has disrupted the educational process a disruptive student may be temporarily removed from class. In addition, he or she may be reported to the Chief Student Services Officer or designee (See: [The Student Code of Conduct](#)).

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 website](#).

Emergency Procedures for College of the Redwoods:

RAVE – College of the Redwoods has implemented an emergency alert system. In the event of an emergency at the college you can receive an alert through your personal email and/or phones at your home, office, and cell. Registration is necessary in order to receive emergency alerts. Please go to <https://www.GetRave.com/login/Redwoods> and use the "Register" button on the top right portion of the registration page to create an account. During the registration process you can elect to add additional information, such as office phone, home phone, cell phone, and personal email. Please use your CR email address as your primary Registration Email. Your CR email address ends with "redwoods.edu." Please contact Public Safety at 707-476-4112 or security@redwoods.edu if you have any questions.

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.

Endorsed by the DE Planning Committee April 27, 2018.

College of the Redwoods

John W. Schutt Jr.
Politics 10

Email: john-schutt@redwoods.edu
Spring 2019

Course Description

The goal of this course is to provide you with a relevant understanding of how our government operates by describing the basic ideas, structure, and influences on our government and how politics work. Specific topics include constitutional development, federal-state relations, and the rights and obligations of citizens under both the federal and California constitutions. We will explore how influence directs policy and outcomes from groups such as political parties, political action committees (PACs), media, special interests, and the general public. You will become familiar with policies, foreign and domestic, and how policy is made. We will discuss current news events such as terrorism, healthcare, and the 2016 presidential election showing how they connect with the many institutions within our political system.

Class format consists of lecture, discussions, and activities.

Required texts: American Government: Power & Purpose, Brief 14th Edition,
ISBN 978-0-393-28377-8 Authors: Lowi, Ginsberg, et al.
Also available as an eBook.

Governing California, 6th Edition
ISBN 978-0-393-60369-9

There will also be various articles and handouts that will either be provided, placed on Canvas and/or a link will be given.

Expectations:

1. Class will begin on time each Monday and Wednesday. Please be ready on time and prepared to discuss the assigned readings.
2. You are expected to take the midterm, final, and all quizzes on the dates they are scheduled. Only under the most extreme of circumstances, to be determined by the instructor, will there be any deviation.
3. Cellphones will not be used during class; this includes texting and messaging on a computer. Please turn your cellphone ringers off prior to class. If you are found to be disruptive with your phone you will be asked to leave and will lose participation credit for that specific session.
4. Cheating, plagiarism, collusion, abuse of resource materials, computer misuse, fabrications or falsifications, 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. Students caught plagiarizing or cheating on exams will receive an "F" in the course.

5. US Government & Politics is one of the most engaging classes offered at College of the Redwoods. We will be discussing politics and fellow students will offer their beliefs and opinions, this may be the only time you will ever be given this opportunity. Politics brings out the best or worse in all of us; this means there will be no derogatory words or actions toward the instructor or another student based on political views or beliefs. I ask that you help maintain our class as a forum for thoughtful, respectful, and true discussion. Any behavior that is deemed inappropriate will result in consequences as outlined in the Student Code of Conduct, see <http://www.redwoods.edu/district/board/new/chapter5/ap5500.pdf>

Assignments

Students will find 6 articles related to current political issues facing the U.S. or California and **write no more than a two page response**. The response will include:

What is the basic message of the article?

What works or does not work within the article?

How does this article affect your views or the candidate you support/or do not support?

Is the issue addressed in the article relevant to the tenor of the current political discourse?

Be sure to properly cite the article, if you are not aware of the proper way to cite a political science source you can go to this site: <http://citesource.trincoll.edu/apsa/apsa.html>

Grading

Four Quizzes	20 points each (80)
Six Article Assignments	10 points each (60)
Class Participation	up to 15 total points
Midterm	45 points
Final	60 points

Total of 260 points

Extra Credit

Proof of voter registration (5 points)

If class participation becomes a priority of the students as a whole and the students have clearly done all the assigned readings (evident by quiz scores and in class discussions), then the class participation points will increase and the final exam points will decrease.

Monday	Wednesday
Jan. 21 No Class Martin Luther King Day	Jan. 23 Founders/Government/Federalist Papers
Jan. 28 First media assignment due. A.G. Ch. 1 & CA Ch. 1	Jan. 30 Constitution- U.S. & CA A.G. Ch. 2 & CA Ch. 2
Feb. 4 Quiz Constitution cont.	Feb. 6 Federalism A.G. Ch. 3 & CA Ch. 9
Feb. 11 Federalism cont. / Legislative Branch	Feb. 13 Legislative Branch A.G. Ch. 5 & CA Ch. 5
Feb. 18 No Class- President's Day	Feb. 20 Legislature cont.
Feb. 25 Quiz The Presidency A.G. Ch. 6 & CA Ch. 6	Feb. 27 Executive Branch/Bureaucracy A.G. Ch. 7
Mar. 4 Executive Bureauc Cont.	Mar. 6 Public Policy A.G. Ch.13
Mar. 11 Review?	Mar. 13 MIDTERM
Mar. 18 – Spring Break No Class	Mar. 20 – Spring Break No Class
Mar. 25 Civil Liberties/Civil Rights A.G. Ch. 4	Mar. 27 Civil Liberties/ Civil Rights Cont.
Apr. 1 Judicial Branch A.G. Ch.8 & CA Ch. 7	Apr. 3 Judicial Branch Cont.
Apr. 8 Quiz Public Opinion/Polling/ Media A.G. Ch. 9	Apr. 10 Elections A.G. Ch. 10 & CA Ch. 4
Apr. 15 Elections and the Electoral College	Apr.17 Political Parties A.G. Ch. 11
Apr. 22 Quiz Interest Groups/ James Madison A.G. Ch. 12 & CA Ch.3	Apr. 24 Public Policy A.G. Ch. 13 & CA Ch. 10
Apr. 29 Public Policy/ Foreign Policy A.G. Ch. 14	May 1 Foreign Policy
May 6 Final day to turn in media assignments. Foreign Policy/ Middle East	May 8 TBA/ Midterm Review
May 13 Final Exam Week	

