

Syllabus for Political Science: US Government and Politics		
Semester & Year	Spring 2019	
Course ID and Section #	POLSC-10-V5096	
Instructor's Name	Eli Naffah	
Day/Time	1/19/19 to 5/17/19	
Location	Online	
Number of Credits/Units	4.5 TLU's / 3 units	
Contact Information	<i>Office location</i>	
	<i>Office hours</i>	Friday: 10:00-11:00 am (by appointment)
	<i>Phone number</i>	
	<i>Email address</i>	eli-naffah@redwoods.edu
Textbook Information	<i>Title & Edition</i>	Text 1: The Enduring Democracy, 5 th Ed Text 2: California Politics and Government, 14 th Ed
	<i>Author</i>	Text 1: Dautrich, Kenneth and Yalof, David Text 2: Gerston, Larry and Christensen, Terry
	<i>ISBN</i>	Text 1: 978-1-337-09298-2 Text 2: 978-1-305-95349-9
Course Description		
<p>US Government and Politics addresses 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.</p>		
Student Learning Outcomes		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Explain the history & philosophy of the Constitution, politics, and government in the United States. 2. Identify the major provisions of the California and US constitutions. 3. Compare the three branches of the California and US governments, and related political institutions. 4. Outline the relationship between the states and national government (i.e. federalism). 5. Analyze contemporary issues facing California and the US systems of government. 		
Special Accommodations		
<p>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 Disability Services and Programs for Students. Students may make requests for alternative media by contacting DSPS at 707-476-4280.</p>		

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Necessary Computer Skills

Students must be able to utilize programs such as Microsoft Word.

Technology Requirements (computer, other hardware, and software)

Students must possess or have access to a reliable personal computer.

Technology Support

Before contacting Technical Support please visit the Online Support Page at <http://www.redwoods.edu/online/Help>.

For password issues with Canvas, Web Advisor or your mycr.redwoods.edu email, contact Technical Support at its@redwoods.edu or call 707-476-4160 or 800-641-0400 ext. 4160 between 8:00 A.M. and 4:00 P.M., Monday through Friday.

Faculty Initiated Drop:

Note that students may be dropped from the class for inactivity and insufficient participation in the class (i.e. not taking exams, not submitting course work, etc.)

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. The Student Code of Conduct (AP 5500) is available on the College of the Redwoods website at:

<https://www.boarddocs.com/ca/redwoods/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=ARKSTR7410A2>

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. The Student Code of Conduct (AP 5500) is available on the College of the Redwoods website at:

<https://www.boarddocs.com/ca/redwoods/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=ARKSTR7410A2>

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Regular Effective Contact

This course provides weekly threaded discussion forums which allow students to interact by commenting on other student's posts. Under Files, the instructor has provided weekly lectures to supplement the textbooks. Office hours are available on Fridays from 10:00-11:00am. Instructor is readily available via email.

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): <http://www.redwoods.edu/online>
- Library (including online databases): <http://www.redwoods.edu/library/>
- Canvas help and tutorials: <http://www.redwoods.edu/online/Canvas>
- Student Online Hand Book:
<http://www.redwoods.edu/Portals/72/Documents/Students/CR-OnlineStudentHandbook.pdf>

Course Communication

Instructor is available by email at eli-naffah@redwoods.edu.

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.

Grading:

Weekly Discussion Forums (24)	25%	Written Assignments/Reports (2)	25%
Mid-Term Exam	25%	Final Exam	25%

1. Weekly Discussion Forums: All students will be expected to participate in answering and commenting on all 24 discussion questions. This is an opportunity for all students to discuss the weekly political questions, and to express their opinions. An open forum for political discussion means that all students should feel free to express their opinions and respect the opinions of others. The discussion questions can be found in the *Discussion* section in Canvas.

2. Written Assignments (Reports): There are two (2) written assignments (reports) that should be typed (double-spaced). The written assignments (reports) are identified in the syllabus. Further details on the requirements for each written assignment (report) is provided in the *Assignments* section in Canvas.

3. Mid-Term Exam: The exam will cover course materials (reading assignments, lecture notes, discussion topics, etc) addressed through Lecture 10 (Week 8). The exam is 90 minutes (1 1/2 hours) long, consisting primarily of multiple choice, true-false, and short-answer essay questions. The Exam will appear in the *Quizzes* section of Canvas.

4. Final Exam: The exam will cover course materials (reading assignments, lecture notes, discussion topics, etc) addressed after Lecture 11 (Week 10). The exam is 90 minutes (1 1/2 hours) long, consisting primarily of multiple choice, true-false, and short-answer essay questions. The Exam will appear in the *Quizzes* section of Canvas.

Grading Scale: A=93-100; A-=90-93; B+=87-90; B=83-87; B-=80-83; C+=77-80;

C=70-77; D=60-70; F=below 60

Class Calendar

1/19 *Classes Begin*

2/1 *Last day to Drop Without a "W" & Receive Refund*

2/4 *Census Date*

4/5 *Last day for Student Initiated Withdrawal (W)*

4/5 *Last day for Faculty Initiated Withdrawal (W)*
(due to insufficient class participation)

5/17 *Classes End*

Course Syllabus

Please note that the following course syllabus may be subject to change!

Text 1 [US]: Dautrich, Kenneth and Yalof, David *The Enduring Democracy*, 5th Edition (Boston: Cengage Learning, 2018)

Text 2 [CA]: Gerston, Larry and Christensen, Terry *California Politics and Government*, 14th Edition (Boston: Cengage Learning, 2018)

<u>Week</u>	<u>Lecture</u>	<u>Reading Assignments in Textbooks</u>	<u>Dates</u>
Week 1:	Lecture 1	Introduction to Political Science/US Government & Course Outline (<i>covered in Lecture 1 only, no textbook pages</i>). <u>Note that all Lectures found online under Lessons in the Files section, see the drop down column to the far left of the course site in Canvas.</u>	(1/20-1/26)
	Lecture 2	<u>US</u> : Chapter 1, Introduction to The Enduring Democracy (pages 2-23); <u>CA</u> : Chapter 1 (pages 1-3). <i>Complete Week 1 Discussion Forum Questions</i>	
Week 2:	Lecture 3	<u>US</u> : Chapter 2, The Founding and the Constitution (pages 24-51); <u>CA</u> : Chapter 2 (pages 23-31).	(1/27-2/2)
	Lecture 4	<u>US</u> : Chapter 3, Federalism (pages 52-73); plus pg. 482, Section 10; and pgs. 486-487, Article IV; <u>CA</u> : Chapter 9 (pages 127-137). <i>Complete Week 2 Discussion Forum Questions</i>	
Week 3:	Lecture 5	<u>US</u> : Chapter 4, Civil Liberties (pages 74-104); plus pgs. 490-493, Amend. I thru X; and pg. 495, Amend. XIV, Sec. 1. <i>Complete Week 3 Discussion Forum Questions</i>	(2/3-2/9)
Week 4:	Lecture 6	<u>US</u> : Chapter 5, Civil Rights, Equality, & Social Movements (pages 106-138); plus pg. 495, Amend. XIII. <i>Complete Week 4 Discussion Forum Questions</i>	(2/10-2/16)
Week 5:	Lecture 7	<u>US</u> : Chapter 6, Congress (pages 140-170); plus pgs. 476-482, Sec. 1 thru 9; pg. 487, Art. 5; pgs. 495-496, Amend. XIV; pg. 497, Amend. XVII; and pg. 503, Amend. XXVII;	(2/17-2/23)

		<p><u>CA</u>: Chapter 10 (pages 145-146); Chapter 5, The Legislature (pages 63-79).</p> <p><i>Complete Week 5 Discussion Forum Questions</i></p>	
Week 6:	Lecture 8	<p><u>US</u>: Chapter 7, The Presidency (pages 172-201); plus pgs. 482-485, Art. II; pgs. 494-495, Amend. XII; pgs. 498-499, Amend. XX; pgs. 499-500, Amend. XXII; and pgs. 501-502, Amend. XXV;</p> <p><u>CA</u>: Chapter 10 (pages 143-145); Chapter 7, The Executive Branch (pages 95-110)</p> <p><i>Complete Week 6 Discussion Forum Questions</i></p>	(2/24-3/2)
Week 7:	Lecture 9	<p><u>US</u>: Chapter 8, The Federal Bureaucracy (pages 202-227).</p> <p><i>Complete Week 7 Discussion Forum Questions</i></p>	(3/3-3/9)
Week 8:	Lecture 10	<p><u>US</u>: Chapter 9, The Judiciary (pages 228-261); plus pgs. 485-486, Art. III; pg. 488, Art. VI; and pgs. 493-494, Amend. XI;</p> <p><u>CA</u>: Chapter 6, California Law (pages 81-94).</p> <p><i>Complete Week 8 Discussion Forum Questions</i></p>	(3/10-3/16)
		MID-TERM EXAM	(3/13-3/16)
Week 9:	No Class	Spring Break	(3/17-3/23)
Week 10:	Lecture 11	<p><u>US</u>: Chapter 10, Public Opinion (pages 262-287).</p> <p><i>Complete Week 10 Discussion Forum Questions</i></p>	(3/24-3/30)
		<p><i>REPORT: On Attendance of a City Council or County Board of Supervisors Meeting. (See Assignment 1 online under Assignments section in the drop down column to the far left of the course site in Canvas).</i></p>	Due 4/6
Week 11:	Lecture 12	<p><u>US</u>: Chapter 11, Interest Groups (pages 288-311);</p> <p><u>CA</u>: Chapter 4, Interest Groups (pages 49-62).</p> <p><i>Complete Week 11 Discussion Forum Questions</i></p>	(3/31-4/6)
Week 12:	Lecture 13	<p><u>US</u>: Chapter 12, The Media and American Politics (pages 312-337);</p> <p><u>CA</u>: Chapter 3 (pages 43-47) .</p>	(4/7-4/13)

		<i>Complete Week 12 Discussion Forum Questions</i>	
Week 13:	Lecture 14	<u>US</u> : Chapter 13, Political Parties (pages 338-358); <u>CA</u> : Chapter 1 (pages 3-8); Chapter 2 (pages 17-23).	(4/14-4/20)
	Lecture 15	<u>US</u> : Chapter 13, Voting (pages 358-376); plus pg. 496, Amend. XV; pg. 498, Amend. XIX; pgs. 500-501, Amend. XXIII-XXIV; and pgs. 502-503, Amend. XXVI. <i>Complete Week 13 Discussion Forum Questions</i>	
		<i>REPORT: On Viewing 2 or 3 episodes of Washington Week on PBS-TV or online. (See Assignment 2 online under Assignments section in the drop down column to the far left of the course site in Canvas).</i>	Due 4/27
Week 14:	Lecture 16	<u>US</u> : Chapter 14, Campaigns and Elections (pages 378-411); <u>CA</u> : Chapter 3 (pages 33-43). <i>Complete Week 14 Discussion Forum Questions</i>	(4/21-4/27)
Week 15:	Lecture 17	<u>US</u> : Chapter 15, American Domestic Policy (pages 412-429); <u>CA</u> : Chapter 8, Taxing and Spending (pages 111-126); Chapter 1 (pages 9-15); Chapter 9 (pages 137-141).	(4/28-5/4)
	Lecture 18	<u>US</u> : Chapter 15, American Domestic Policy (pages 429-440); <u>CA</u> : Chapter 10 (pages 146-157). <i>Complete Week 15 Discussion Forum Questions</i>	
Week 16:	Lecture 19	<u>US</u> : Chapter 16, American Foreign Policy (pages 442-469). <i>Complete Week 16 Discussion Forum Questions</i>	(5/5-5/11)
Week 17:		FINAL EXAMINATION	(5/13-5/16)