

## Course Information

Semester & Year: Fall 2019
Course ID & Section #: POLSC 10 E7359
Instructor's name: Joe Brookshire
Day/Time M/W 10:05 – 11:30
Location AJ 108
Number of units: 3

## Instructor Contact Information

Office location TBA
Office hours: Before class or by appointment
Phone number: 707 476 3070
Email address:joe-brookshire@redwoods.edu

## Required Materials

Textbook Title: American Government: a brief Introduction
Edition:15e
Author: Lowi, Ginsberg, et al
ISBN: 978 0 393 67434
Textbook Title: Governing California in the 21 <sup>st</sup> Century
Edition: 7 <sup>th</sup>
Author: Anagnoson, et al
ISBN: 978 0 393 675368

## Catalog 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.

## Course Student Learning Outcomes

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

## Evaluation & Grading Policy

**1. Frequent Quizzes – 30%** are based on the texts, lectures, discussions, activities, videos: everything that we cover in class. They are short essay, multiple-choice, true/false, identification or a mix of these. Double Quizzes (2X) count as two. There are no make-ups. Let me know in advance if you need to take a quiz early. Quizzes are given at the start of class. Late arrivals will miss the quiz. The two lowest scores (or two missed quizzes) are dropped at the end of the semester.

**2. Exams – 50%** are primarily essay tests. They may include questions that are similar to quiz items.

**Midterm 25% The Midterm** covers Chapters 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7 and part of 13 and in the American Government text and sections of the California text. It is an essay exam, but also has some of the types of questions that are found on quizzes.  
**Reserve Wednesday, October 16.**

**Final Exam 25% The Final** covers chapters 4, 8, 9, 10, 11 and part of 12 in the American Government text, sections of the California text, and discussions. Its focus is post-midterm; its format is similar to the midterm.

Be absolutely certain to **reserve Wednesday, December 18 at 1:00** for our final.

**3. Papers – 20%**Two papers are assigned and are expected to be submitted in class on or by the scheduled dates. Late submissions lose points. See instructions of each for details.

**Scales:** This section of US Government & Politics uses the following grading scale:

A = 92 to 100	B+ = 87 to 89.4	C+ = 77 to 79.4	D = 59.5 to 69.4	F = Below 59.5
A- = 89.5 to 91.9	B = 82 to 86.9	C = 72 to 76.9		
	B- = 79.5 to 81.9	C- = 69.5 to 71.9		

Extra Credit is not available. However, points earned in activities raise midterm or final exam scores.

[Prerequisites/co-requisites/ recommended preparation](#)

None

[Special accommodations statement](#)

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.

[Student feedback policy](#)

Students will receive timely and substantive feedback on all course work. Every effort will be made to return all work to students at the subsequent class meeting.

[Student Accessibility Statement and Academic Support Information](#)

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.