



POLSC-10 U.S. Government and Politics Syllabus

Course Information

Semester & Year: Spring 2022 Course

ID & Section #:

POLSC-10-D3261

Instructor: Stephen McCamman

Course units: 3

Course is Asynchronous (Correspondence)

Instructor Contact Information

Office location or *Online:

Office hours: TBD

Phone number: 707 465 2302

Email address: [Stephen-](mailto:Stephen-Mccamman@redwoods.edu)

Mccamman@redwoods.edu Course Delivered to

Pelican Bay Scholars Program Contact

Arranged via Correspondence

Catalog Description

This course 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 constitution.

Course Student Learning Outcomes

- Explain the history and philosophy of the Constitution, politics, and government in the United States.
- Identify the major provisions of the California and US Constitution.
- Compare the three branches of California and US Government, and related political institutions.
- Outline the relationship between the states and national government (ie. federalism).
- Analyze contemporary issues facing California and the US system of government.

Prerequisites/co-requisites/ recommended preparation n

n/a

Required Textbooks

Textbook: American Government: Power and Purpose Edition:
13th (Brief)

Author: Theodore Lowi and Ben Ginsberg

ISBN: 97839326419

Textbook: Governing California

Edition: 5th

ISBN 9780393938395

Additional/Supplemental readings will be delivered in each week's Course Packet
Supplies: Writing instrument. Lined paper. Notebook, if possible.

Accessibility

College of the Redwoods is committed to making reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. If you have a disability or believe you might benefit from disability-related services and accommodations, please contact your instructor or [Disability Services and Programs for Students](#) (DSPS). Students may make requests for alternative media by contacting DSPS based on their campus location: **Student Support**

Good information and clear communication about your needs will help you be successful. Please let your instructor know about any specific challenges or technology limitations that might affect your participation in class. College of the Redwoods wants every student to be successful.

Semester Calendar

Census Day
 1/31/2022

Census Roster Due Date
 2/7/2022

Lincolns Birthday (District-wide closure)
 2/18/2022

Presidents Day (District-wide closure)
 2/21/2022

Spring Break (No classes)
 3/14/2022 - 3/19/2022

Final Exams
 5/7/2022 - 5/13/2022

Spring 2022 Semester Ends
 5/13/2022

Commencement
 5/13/2022 - 5/14/2022

Grades Due
 5/23/2022

Academic Dishonesty

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. Additional information about the rights and responsibilities of students, Board policies, and administrative **Disruptive 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, the student 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. 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](#).

Inclusive Language in the Classroom

College of the Redwoods aspires to create a learning environment in which all people feel comfortable in contributing their perspectives to classroom discussions. It therefore encourages instructors and students to use language that is inclusive and respectful.

Student Support Services

The following online resources are available to support your success as a student:

- [CR-Online](#) (Comprehensive information for online students)
- [Library Articles & Databases](#)
- [Canvas help and tutorials](#)
- [Online Student Handbook](#)

[Counseling](#) offers assistance to students in need of professional counseling services such as crisis counseling.

Learning Resource Center includes the following resources for students

- [Academic Support Center](#) for instructional support, tutoring, learning resources, and proctored exams. Includes the Math Lab & Drop-in Writing Center
- [Library Services](#) to promote information literacy and provide organized information resources.
- [Multicultural & Diversity Center](#)

Special programs are also available for eligible students include

- [Extended Opportunity Programs & Services \(EOPS\)](#) provides services to eligible income disadvantaged students including: textbook award, career academic and personal counseling, school supplies, transportation assistance, tutoring, laptop, calculator and textbook loans, priority registration, graduation cap and gown, workshops, and more!
- The TRiO Student Success Program provides eligible students with a variety of services including trips to 4-year universities, career assessments, and peer mentoring. Students can apply for the program in [Eureka](#) or in [Del Norte](#)
- The [Veteran's Resource Center](#) supports and facilitates academic success for Active Duty Military, Veterans and Dependents attending CR through relational advising, mentorship, transitional assistance, and coordination of military and Veteran-specific resources.

Assignments

Midterm/Final: Multiple choice, True/False, essay.

News Analysis: Each analysis should be about 200 hundred words. Additional information will be provided with the first assignment.

Homework: Individual assignments intended to evaluate comprehension of material.

Quizzes: Each quiz will consist of 10 multiple choice questions taken from the main textbook.

Final Paper: The research paper should be 5 pages in length, typed, double spaced, with a works cited/bibliography page (not counted in the page length requirement).

Points

Midterm and Final	200
Quizzes (10)	200
New Analysis (5)	100
Citizen's Journal	100
Final Paper	100
Total Points	700 points

Grades: To determine your grade take your earned points and divide by points earned to date. For final grade EP/700

A = (94-100%)

A- = (90-93%)

B+ = (87-89.4%)

B = (83-86.4%)

B- = (80-82.4%)

C+ = (77-79.4%)

C = (73-76.4%)

C- = (70 -72.4%)

D+ = (67-69.4%)

D = (60-66.4%)

F = (\leq 59%)

Grades with a .5 will be rounded up. For example, an 89.5 % will count as a 90%. Incomplete grades will only be assigned due to extraordinary circumstances. If you have any questions about your grade, contact me immediately.

Note: that institutional (CDCR) issues will NOT impact your grade – “recalls, “modified programs,” etc.. I will adjust the schedule accordingly

Academic Integrity

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. Additional information about the rights and responsibilities of students, Board policies, and administrative procedures is in the [College Catalog](#) and on the [College of the Redwoods website](#).

Disability

These standards are required by federal regulations. 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 captioning, images will include alt-tags, hyperlinks will use descriptive/meaningful phrases instead of URLs and audio files will include transcripts. All text will be formatted for use with screen readers and all course materials will be understandable without the use of color. **Please contact the PB/CR liaison if you have any concerns or issues.**

- Students who discover access issues with this class should contact the instructor. Services to promote information literacy and provide organized information resources.
- Multicultural & Diversity Center [waiting for hyperlink and Mission] Special programs are also available for eligible students include
- Extended Opportunity Programs & Services (EOPS) provides financial assistance, support and encouragement for eligible income disadvantaged students at all CR locations.

Course Schedule Topics and Readings

Instructor reserves the right to change as necessary

Date	Topic	Readings
Week 1 1/18-1/27	Course Introduction	See Week 1 Course Packet (CP) Review: Class Procedures, Course Overview Read: Introduction Letter Complete: Personal Introduction,
Week 2 1/28-2/3	Foundations Of Government and 5 Principles of Government	Read: Lowi and Ginsburg, Chp 1, Hand Out:5 Principles of Government, Anagason, Chp.1
Week 3 2/4-2/10	The Founding and the Constitution Part 1	Read, Lowi and Ginsburg, Chp 2 pp. 24-35. Appendix: Declaration of Independence, U.S. Constitution. Anagason, Chp.2
Week 4 2/11-2/17	The Founding and the Constitution Part 2	Read Lowi and Ginsburg, Chp 2 pp. 36-End Appendix Madison, Federalist 10
Week 5 2/18-2/24	Federalism And Separation of Powers	CP Week 5 Contains Due/Return items, Complete Task Requirements, and add'l material. Read Lowi and Ginsburg, Chp 3 2/18/2022 Note: Lincolns Birthday Closure May Impact assignments Presidents Day 2/21/2022
Week 6 2/25-3/3	Civil Liberties and Rights	Read: Lowi and Ginsburg, Chp 4

Week 7 3/4-3/9	Congress: The First Branch	Read: Lowi/Ginsburg, Chp.5, Anagnoson, Chp 5 LAST WEEK TO TURN LATE ASSIGNMENTS FOR WEEKS 1-6
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Spring Break	Mid Term	Spring Break Spring Break (No classes) 3/14/2022 - 3/19/2022 No Course Mail Delivery or Pick Up 3/18
Week 8 3/18- 3/24	Presidency and Executive Branch	CP Week 9 Contains Due/Return items, Complete Task Requirements, and add'l material. Due: MIDTERM Read Lowi and Ginsburg, Chp.7, Anagnoson, Chp. 6
Week 9 3/25-3/31/1	The Courts	CP Week 10 Contains Due/Return items, Complete Task Requirements, and add'l material. Read Lowi and Ginsburg, Chp.8
Week 10 4/1-4/7	Public Opinion and the Media	CP Week 11 Contains Due/Return items, Complete Task Requirements, and add'l material. Read Lowi and Ginsburg, Chp.9 Anagnoson, Chp. 3 Media
Week 11 4/8-4/14	Elections	CP Week 12 Contains Due/Return items, Complete Task Requirements, and add'l material. Read Lowi and Ginsburg, Chp.10, Anagnoson, Chp 4 Section on elections
Week 12 4/15-4/21	Political Parties	CP Week 13 Contains Due/Return items, Complete Task Requirements, and add'l material. Read Lowi and Ginsburg, Chp.11 Anagnoson. Chp. 4 Political Parties Section LAST WEEK TO TURN LATE ASSIGNMENTS FOR WEEKS 7-12
Week 13 4/22-4/28	Interest Groups	CP Week 14 Contains Due/Return items, Complete Task Requirements, and add'l material. Read Lowi and Ginsburg, Chp.12, Anagnoson, Chp.3 section Interest Groups DUE: Final Paper

Week 14 4/29-5/5	Final Exam Review	
Week 15 4/29-5/5	Final Exam.	