

Syllabus for POLSC-10-D3613

Course Information

Semester & Year: Fall 2022

Course ID & Section #: POLSC-10-D3613

Instructor's name: Will Meriwether

Day/Time or *Online: Tuesday and Thursday 2:05-3:30

Location or *Online: Del Norte Campus, DA 1

Number of units: 3

Instructor Contact Information

Office location or *Online: Online

Office hours: By Appointment

Phone number:

Email address: William-meriwether@redwoods.edu

Required Materials

Textbook Title: The American Political System: Third Edition

Edition: Third Edition 2018 Edition (The 2016 Edition is acceptable)

Author: Ken Kollman

ISBN: 978-0393675283

Other requirements: Other readings will be provided in Canvas

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 (*from course outline of record*)

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.

Accessibility

Students will have access to online course materials that comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and College of the Redwoods policies. Students who discover access issues with this class should contact the instructor.

College of the Redwoods is also 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:

- Eureka: 707-476-4280, student services building, 1st floor
- Del Norte: 707-465-2324, main building near library
- Klamath-Trinity: 530-625-4821 Ext 103

During COVID19, approved accommodations for distance education classes will be emailed to the instructor by DSPS. In the case of face to face instruction, please present your written accommodation request to your instructor at least one week before the first test so that necessary arrangements can be made. Last-minute arrangements or post-test adjustments cannot usually be accommodated.

Admissions deadlines & enrollment policies

Fall 2022 Dates

- *Classes begin: 8/20/22*
- *Last day to add a class: 8/26/22*
- *Last day to drop without a W and receive a refund: 9/02/22*
- *Labor Day Holiday (all campuses closed): 09/05/22*
- *Census date: 9/06/22 or 20% into class duration*
- *Last day to petition to file P/NP option: 09/16/22*
- *Last day to petition to graduate or apply for certificate: 10/27/22*
- *Last day for student-initiated W (no refund): 10/28/22*
- *Last day for faculty-initiated W (no refund): 10/28/22*
- *Veteran's Day (all campuses closed): 11/11/22*
- *Fall Break (no classes): 11/21/22 – 11/25/22*
- *Thanksgiving Holiday (all campuses closed): 11/23/22 – 11/25/22*
- *Final examinations: 12/10/22 – 12/16/22*
- *Semester ends: 12/16/22*
- *Grades available for transcript release: approximately 01/06/23*

Evaluation & Grading Policy

4 essay exams: 100 points each 400 points

1 research paper: 100 points

17 Discussion Board: 17 x 10 points each 170 points

17 multiple choice quizzes (extra credit): 10 pts each 170 points

Total points: 670

Grading Criteria: A= 95%-100% (636-670 pts), A-= 90%-94% (603-635 pts), B+= 86%-89% (576-602 pts), B= 83%-85% (556-576 pts), B-= 80%-82% (536-555 pts), C+= 75%-79% (502-535 pts), C= 70%-74% (469-501 pts), D= 60%-69% (402-468), F= <60% (below 401 pts).

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 procedures is located in the [College Catalog](#) and on the [College of the Redwoods website](#).

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.

Setting Your Preferred Name in Canvas

Students have the ability to have an alternate first name and pronouns to appear in Canvas. Contact [Admissions & Records](#) to request a change to your preferred first name and pronoun. 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](#).

Canvas Information

Log into Canvas at <https://redwoods.instructure.com>

Password is your 8 digit birth date

For tech help, email its@redwoods.edu or call 707-476-4160

Canvas Help for students: <https://www.redwoods.edu/online/Help-Student>

Canvas online orientation workshop: <https://www.redwoods.edu/online/Home/Student-Resources/Canvas-Resources>

Community College Student Health and Wellness

Resources, tools, and trainings regarding health, mental health, wellness, basic needs and more designed for California community college students, faculty and staff are available on the California Community Colleges [Health & Wellness website](#).

[Wellness Central](#) is a free online health and wellness resource that is available 24/7 in your space at your pace.

Students seeking to request a counseling appointment for academic advising or general counseling can email counseling@redwoods.edu.

Del Norte Campus Emergency Procedures

Please review the [Crescent City campus emergency map](#) for campus evacuation sites, including the closest site to this classroom (posted by the exit of each room). For more information see the [Redwoods Public Safety Page](#).

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 financial assistance, support and encouragement for eligible income disadvantaged students at all CR locations.
- 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.
- Klamath-Trinity students can contact the CR KT Office for specific information about student support services at 530-625-4821

Student Feedback Policy

Timely feedback will be provided throughout the course. Students will receive a response to any email inquiries within 48 hours. Feedback on work submitted will be provided no more than two weeks after the assignment is due but my expectation will be to return work within one week after the assignment due date.

This course will also have regular asynchronous contact through threaded discussion boards and weekly announcements.

Proctored Exams

Proctored exams are not required in this course.

Technology skills, requirements, and support

Tech equipment and skills are required for student success and of equal importance as required textbooks and materials.

Students can obtain a free [Office 365 license](#) (includes Word, Excel, PowerPoint and more) with a valid CR email.

Necessary Computer Skills – Ability to log into webadvisor, Canvas LMS, navigate the internet, and use a word processor. Before contacting Technical Support please visit the [Online Support Page](#). For password issues with Canvas, Web Advisor or your mycr.redwoods.edu email, contact <mailto: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.

Netiquette: When participating in online discussions please be respectful to your classmates. Adhere to the same standards of behavior online that you follow in real life. If you would not say it in a traditional classroom setting, then it should not be said in the discussion forums.

Course Assignments:

Essay Exams: There will be a total of four essay exams throughout the semester. The essay exams will include at least four but up to ten essay and short answer questions. Each exam will be worth 100 points and they will be open book, open note, and some of the questions will be derived from the additional questions asked in the discussion board assignments. When the essay exam opens you will have one week to complete the exam. You may submit the exams up

to one week late with no point deduction. Exams will not be accepted later than one week after the due date without approval.

Multiple Choice Quizzes: Each chapter will have a timed multiple-choice quiz. You will be allowed to take each quiz as many times as you would like, the highest score will be counted, and the points will count towards extra credit. There are enough extra credit points by completing the multiple-choice quizzes that it is possible to not complete one of the essay exams or the research paper. The quiz will state that each question is worth 0 points. I will have to go into the quiz manually to adjust the extra credit points and will do so weekly. You will be able to see how many questions were correct and incorrect for each attempt.

Discussion Boards: For every chapter you will be required to complete a discussion board assignment. Each discussion board will require two posts. The initial post for the week requires you to find and summarize a news article from within the last year that focuses on one of the aspects of the chapter material discussed. You will need to provide the APA citation of the news article summarized.

A secondary post is also required to receive full credit. The secondary post can be one of three options. You can find and summarize a second news article pertaining to the material presented in the chapter (from a different news organization), or you can answer one of the questions presented in the discussion forum, or you can respond to one of your fellow classmates' posts.

The initial post will need to be at least 200 words and include the APA citation for the source summarized. Each reply needs to be at least 150 words. The discussion boards are due by **Sunday** night at midnight to receive full credit. The word count for the discussion board instructions is 200 words. This should give you an idea for how long the initial discussion board post should be.

Research Paper:

Choose one of the following two prompts:

The United States bureaucracy is responsible for enacting policies as authorized and funded by Congress but administered by individuals who are either career civil servants or political appointees of the current president. For your research paper you are to research one of the federal departments. This paper should address the goals of the bureaucratic organization, the leadership of the organization, the sub-organizations that belong to the larger department, the budget of the federal department, and recent issues pertaining to that federal department.

or

Primarily using the [Federalist Papers](#) and the United States Constitution as a guide, discuss how the United States Constitution divides power between the federal government and the state governments. This paper should focus on the Constitution's division of power between the federal and state governments, how Publius (Alexander Hamilton, James Madison, and John Jay) described this separation of power in the *Federalist Papers*, and how federalism currently operates in the United States.

The research paper should be 5-7 pages in length, typed, double spaced, with a cover page and references page (not counted in the page length requirement), using APA citations. A minimum of five sources should be used for this paper. If you have questions about the research paper, please email me.

Citations: All citations and references in this course will use APA citation standards. If you need assistance the [Purdue University Online Writing Lab](#) is an excellent resource as a citation guide.

Mapping Weekly Assignments with Modules: Every Saturday the week’s assignments are posted in Announcements and in Modules. The weekly assignments will typically require you to read online lectures, read textbook chapters, read primary source documents, watch videos, participate in discussion forums, and complete chapter quizzes.

POLSC-10-D3613	Tuesday Class Days	Thursday Class Days	Weekly Chapter Textbook Readings
Week 1	8/23/2022	8/25/2022	Introduction and Chapter 1
Week 2	8/30/2022	9/1/2022	Chapter 2
Week 3	9/6/2022	9/8/2022	Chapter 3 and Chapter 4
Week 4	9/13/2022	9/15/2022	Chapter 4 and Chapter 5Exam/1
Week 5	9/20/2022	9/22/2022	Chapter 6
Week 6	9/27/2022	9/29/2022	Chapter 7
Week 7	10/4/2022	10/6/2022	Chapter 8/Exam 2
Week 8	10/11/2022	10/13/2022	Chapter 9 and Chapter 10
Week 9	10/18/2022	10/20/2022	Chapter 11
Week 10	10/25/2022	10/27/2022	Chapter 12
Week 11	11/1/2022	11/3/2022	Chapter 13/Exam 3
Week 12	11/8/2022	11/10/2022	Chapter 14
Week 13	11/15/2022	11/17/2022	Chapter 15
Week 14	11/22/2022	11/24/2022	Fall Break
Week 15	11/29/2022	12/1/2022	Chapter 16
Week 16	12/6/2022	12/8/2022	Chapter 17/Exam 4
Week 17	12/13/2022	12/15/2022	Research Paper Due/ Finals Week