INTRODUCTION TO POLITICAL SCIENCE
POLS 2200   SPRING 2011

Dr. Daugherty, 218 University Hall
Office hours: M-W, 11:00-1:20; T-R, 1100-12:50, or by appointment.
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ACCEPTANCE: Students are responsible for the contents of this syllabus; continued enrollment in this course constitutes awareness and acceptance of all requirements and policies discussed therein. Students are advised to review this syllabus occasionally to remain aware of the contents.

OVERVIEW: This course will examine the founding of the United States, the three branches of government, the federal bureaucracy, and their functions and roles in American life. This course will be useful for any student seeking to have a deeper understanding of how our government works. The material in the book will be augmented with additional information in the lectures.


EXPECTATIONS: I expect each student to be prepared, able, and ready to do college-level work. At a minimum, this means faithfully attending class, arriving at class on time, being prepared for class by reading the assigned material, staying awake, taking notes, exercising good study habits, and being interested. Absences or actions that fall short of the minimal expectations may result, at my discretion, in a lowering of your grade. It will be a serious mistake to leave the impression that you don’t care about this class, if for no other reason than that’s probably the same extent to which I’ll care about your grade.

CELL PHONES: Cell phones/PDAs/Beepers are to be turned off and stowed out of sight.

TEXTING ABSOLUTELY FORBIDDEN: Any student seen texting during class will have their final grade lowered one letter on the first offence. The second offence will result in being immediately dropped from the class with a WF.

HONOR CODE: All sections of the AASU Student Honor Code and Code of Conduct will apply to this class. Under the Honor Code, plagiarism, cheating, facilitating academic dishonesty, and fabrication in any form or manner are forbidden. Additional restrictions or instructions given in class on any individual assignment, whether verbal or written, will also fall under the Honor Code. Absence from the class when any additional instructions are given is not a valid excuse if a violation of the instructions results in an Honor or Conduct Code violation. Students will also be required sign each examination, which acknowledges that the student has followed the Honor Code and any additional restrictions/instructions given in class.

HONOR VIOLATION POLICY: I will accuse no student of violating the Honor Code unless I can prove beyond a doubt that the student is guilty. At that time, the student will be dropped from the class and his or her name will transmitted to the Dean of Student Affairs along with the proof, for a formal hearing before the Honor Court. Although the Honor Code permits a professor an option to handle the transgression in an “informal” manner vice submitting the case to the Honor Court, I will not do so. Before the Honor Court, I will urge that the student receive the maximum penalty possible, to wit: an F for the semester, suspension from school for one year, and the findings of the Court to be made a permanent part of the student’s record. This penalty will definitely affect your life, particularly if you are close to graduation or will be seeking a career in which a background check will be required; you need to weigh whether the consequences are worth the risk.
CLASS PARTICIPATION: Students who participate frequently and positively in class by asking questions and engaging in debates and discussions will receive, at my discretion and based solely on my judgment, additional credit that could elevate the final grade one full letter.

REQUIREMENTS: Successful completion of this course requires passing grades on three examinations, plus acceptable class participation.

EXTRA CREDIT: No extra credit will be given to an individual. Extra credit will granted only in situations in which the entire class is able to participate (e.g., attending an off-campus lecture). The success to passing this course is to do well in class and on the papers.

GRADING: Your course grade will be determined by the aggregate scores on three exams. Each exam will be worth 100 points. A = 270-300 pts; B = 240-269; C = 210-239; D = 180-209. Class participation points, if any, will be added in five point increments.

EXAM MAKE-UP POLICY:

1. **Students are expected to be in class on the day exams are given.** Students who fail to show up on exam day without being excused in advance may be denied a make up exam. The burden will be on the student to justify why they should be given an make-up exam; anything short of a genuine emergency will result in a Zero for that exam.

2. If an excusable emergency arises on the day of the exam that absolutely prevents your presence, you (or a family member in case of your illness) must notify me within 48 hours of the day and time of the exam, either by e-mail or telephone. Failure to do so will result in the denial of a make-up exam.

3. Make-up exams will be given only: (a) when notification is provided to me three days in advance with valid justification; or (b) in case of an EMERGENCY without prior notification (I will be the judge of what constitutes “extreme emergency”).

4. **Make-up exams will be given only for the first three exams; there will be NO MAKE-UP FOR THE LAST EXAM except in the most extreme circumstances.**

5. Students granted a make-up exam will have only three school days to take it; the burden is on the student to contact me to establish a time and date for the make-up.

6. **All students receiving a make-up exam will have their grade reduced by 10 percent (usually equal to one letter grade) except in cases of prior notification AND for an acceptable reason (e.g., school athletic trip).**

7. No student will be given more than one make-up exam during the course.

ABSENCE POLICY: You are permitted four absences, period, regardless of reason. Absences beyond four will be penalized 20 points each. However, I retain the right either give you an F or to drop you from the class with a WF if your absences exceed six.

CLASS NOTES: If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to obtain the class notes and any instructions for papers from one of your classmates.

SYLLABUS: To aid in learning the material and to assist in passing the exams, students will find it helpful to use the text’s website. The site has a number of useful features, including chapter summaries, learning objectives, review questions, and links to other informative sites. It also has sample exams that students may take to test their knowledge of the material. The syllabus may change during the semester to meet any exigencies that arise.
I. Introduction: Political Culture; The American Founding.

II. Federalism.

   EXAM

III. The Presidency.

IV. The Congress.

   EXAM

V. Federal Judicial System & The Judicial Process

VI. The Federal Bureaucracy

   EXAM