

# **Course Sections, Reedley College:**

55636: TTh, 12:30 – 1:45 P.M.

Instructor: Dr. Tellalian

Email: bryan.tellalian@reedleycollege.edu Office Hours: Tuesdays, 9:00 – 10:00 A.M. Fridays, 10:00 – 10:30 A.M., 1:00 – 2:30 P.M., and by appointment.

# **Course Description:**

This course surveys the processes and institutions of United States national, state and local politics. Among the topics discussed are individual political attitudes and values, political participation, voting, parties, interest groups, Congress, the presidency, Supreme Court, the federal bureaucracy, civil liberties and civil rights, and domestic and foreign policy making. As an honors section, the class will be conducted as a seminar with individual projects, papers, and presentations. With History 11 or History 12, this course meets the American Institutions requirement to state universities.

# **Course Objectives:**

*In the process of completing this course, students will:* 

- 1. Study the question of "power" in the American political system,
- 2. Consider the role of economic, geographic, philosophical, political, and social forces that influenced the writers of the Constitution of the United States,
- 3. Evaluate the contemporary relationships of state and local government with the Federal government, the resolution of conflicts and the establishment of cooperative processes under the constitutions of both the state and national governments, and the political processes involved,
- 4. Examine and evaluate the role of Congress, the President, the Courts and state governments in the American political system,
- 5. Analyze the origins of political values and illustrate current examples of the expression of these values,
- 6. Investigate and evaluate the role of political parties, interest groups, public opinion, mass media, voting, and elections in the American political system,
- 7. Review the rights and obligations of citizens in the American political system, and the effect of America's cultural diversity on

- values, politics, and laws,
- 8. Explore policy areas such as foreign and economic policy, civil rights and civil liberties policy, and environmental policy and predict or evaluate the consequences of various policy alternatives,
- 9. Consider the Constitution of the State of California and the nature and processes of state and local government.

# **Required Texts:**

Barbour, C. & Wright, G. C. (2012). *Keeping the Republic: Power and Citizenship in American Politics* (6th ed.). Washington, D.C.: CQ Press.

Van Vechten, Renee B. (2012). *California Politics: A Primer* (2nd ed.). Thousand Oaks, CA: CQ Press.

Supplemental materials will be provided by the instructor and are required reading for this course. To see what supplemental materials will be assigned, please see page nine (9) of this syllabus. You can retrieve the supplemental materials on your PoliSci 2 Blackboard page unless otherwise indicated. The supplemental materials that will be assigned are subject to change at any time at the discretion of the instructor.

## **Add/Drop Dates:**

Friday, January 23, 2015 – Last day to drop a full-term class for a full refund.

Friday, January 30, 2015 – Last day to add a full-term class for Spring, 2015; last day to drop a full-term class to avoid a "W" in person.

Sunday, February 1, 2015 – Last day to drop a full-term class on WebAdvisor to avoid a "W" for Spring, 2015.

Beginning with the fourth week of full-term classes, students wishing to add classes must complete a Student Petition for Exception to Enrollment Deadline Due to Extenuating Circumstances form (SPEEDEC), secure the instructor's approval and explanation for adding beyond the add deadline, secure the Dean's approval, and present the petition to the registration desk for processing.

Friday, February 6, 2015 – Last day to change a class to or from "Pass/No Pass."

Friday, March 13, 2015 – Last day to drop a full-term class in person. Letter grades will be assigned after this date.

Friday, March 27, 2015 – Last day to file "Intent to Graduate" via WebAdvisor.

Monday, May 18, 2015 – Friday, May 22, 2014 – Finals Week

Friday, May 22, 2015 – End of Spring, 2015 Semester, Commencement.

# **Attendance Requirements & Tardiness Policy:**

Due to State Center Community College District (SCCCD) policy, attendance records must be kept. To assist with keeping attendance records, there will be assigned seating via a seating chart and a sign-in sheet. Failure to sit in your assigned seat at the beginning of class will result in being marked absent.

Attendance will be taken at the beginning of class using through circulating a sign-in sheet. A student is considered late if he is not in his assigned seat when class begins. For example, if class begins at 9:30 A.M. and the student is not in his assigned seat at that time, he will be marked tardy. If you are late, you will need to sign in late after class. Otherwise, you will be marked absent.

Tardiness: If a student anticipates that he will be arriving to class late, the student must give the instructor prior notice (no later than 24 hours before class), a valid reason (e.g. medical emergency, etc.), and a written letter from the appropriate individual on the individual's letterhead (e.g. a letter from a doctor on the doctor's letterhead). If a student fails to comply with this policy, the student will be marked absent.

Leaving Class Early: If a student needs to leave class early, the student must give the instructor prior notice (no later than 24 hours before class), a valid reason (e.g. medical emergency, etc.), and a written letter from the appropriate individual on the individual's letterhead (e.g. a letter from a doctor on the doctor's letterhead). If a student leaves class early without complying with this policy, the student will be marked absent.

Absences: In order for an absence to be excused, the student must give the instructor **prior notice** (no later than 24 hours before class), a valid reason (e.g. illness, medical emergency, court appearance, car trouble), **AND** a written letter from the appropriate individual on the individual's letterhead (e.g. a letter from a doctor on the doctor's letterhead, a letter from the court clerk on the court's letterhead, an invoice from an auto repair shop).

A student who has missed two weeks of instruction in a full term class will be dropped (any combination of tardies and absences equal to two weeks of instruction). For classes that meet three times per week, six absences equal two weeks of instruction. For classes that meet twice per week, four absences equal two weeks off instruction. However, a student cannot be dropped after the ninth week with respect to attendance. The last day to drop a full-term class is Friday, May 13, 2015. A letter grade will be assigned after this date.

#### **Children and Guests in Class:**

Children and guests are **not** allowed in class.

## **Participation:**

Please be advised that students will be called on randomly during lecture in order to respond to questions related to the material being covered. Therefore, students should complete the required reading **before** to coming to class. To maximize retention of the material, it is recommended that students review their notes prior to class.

### **Behavior:**

Conduct in the classroom that detracts from the instructor's ability to deliver the course material and/or a student's ability to receive the course material may trigger the removal procedure outlined in the Student Conduct Code (available at the campus library, Admissions office, Dean of Students office, Student Activities office, and Office of Instruction). Such conduct includes, but is not limited to, reading unrelated material, talking, sleeping, writing letters, text messaging, etc., during class, or failure to treat one's classmates or instructor with respect. Those who engage in such actions can be asked to leave the classroom at the instructor's discretion and subject you to the disciplinary process outlined below. Persisting in such behavior will subject you to further disciplinary action (see below).

Disruptive behavior, willful disobedience, habitual profanity or vulgarity, or the open and persistent defiance of authority or persistent abuse of college personnel is prohibited.

Failure to treat the instructor with respect, including, but not limited to, talking back in a disrespectful tone and emotional outbursts, are prohibited.

Engaging in the prohibited conduct detailed in the syllabus or this addendum is not permitted before, during, or after class. Additionally, such conduct is not permitted via email, during office hours, or any other time a student interacts with the instructor.

Student should enter the class room quietly out of courtesy to students who are studying prior to class. Likewise, students who arrive late for class should take their seat in a manner that does not disrupt the lecture for either the students or the instructor. For students who have class in Forum 1, if you arrive late, please enter through one of the rear entrances and take your seat by walking down either the right or left isle. Do not cross the well (the space between the rostrum and the front row).

Cell phones, pagers, MP3 players, and all other digital or electronic devices are to be turned OFF and PUT AWAY during class. However, if there is an exceptional circumstance that requires you to leave your phone on during class, please notify me before class so that the situation may be judged accordingly. If your request to leave your phone on is granted, please switch your ring setting to the "vibrate" mode. On examination days, no technological devices are allowed to be on. They must be turned off and put away. Failure to adhere to these policies will trigger the disciplinary process outlined below.

## Engaging in prohibited conduct in, but not limited to, the syllabus will trigger the following:

- 1. First incident Warning and/or conference with the instructor.
- 2. Second incident Conference with the Dean of Student Services and/or removal from class for one or more days. Removal from class will activate the process to remove the student from the class for 10 or more days if appropriate.
- 3. Third incident Conference with the Dean of Students and Removal from class for one or more days. Persisting in misconduct may subject the student to short-term suspension, long-term suspension, or expulsion.

In spite of the three-step process listed on the previous page, for student behavior that is severe, which includes, but is not limited to, the aforementioned conduct, the instructor reserves the right to remove the student from class immediately for one or more days or drop the student from the course. If the student is removed from class, this will activate the process to remove the student from the class for 10 or more days if appropriate.

# **Cheating and Plagiarism:**

Cheating is defined as "the willful and intentional practice of fraudulent and deceptive acts for the purposes of improving a grade or obtaining course credit." Cheating is NOT limited to examinations only. It extends to any act in which you engage for the purpose of obtaining unmerited academic credit. Students are expected to do their own work unless otherwise specified by the instructor (e.g. the instructions for an assignment indicate it is a group activity). If a student copies their work from another student or otherwise engages in the behavior mentioned in this paragraph, this constitutes cheating.

Plagiarism is "the fraudulent representation of someone else's writing or other scholarly material as your own." That is, the student tries to take credit for the work that someone else did. This includes, but is not limited to, any source you use for a paper, or submitting a fellow student's homework while representing it as your own work. Please see the Reedley Course Catalogue for more on cheating and plagiarism.

Cheating and plagiarism constitute serious offenses which will result in severe consequences to the student. The Cheating and Plagiarism Policy is separate and distinct from the Behavior Policy listed above. The student will receive a "zero" on the exam, assignment, activity, etc., and will be reported to the Vice President of Student Services for consultation. A subsequent instance of cheating will result in receiving a "zero," being reported to the Vice President of Student Services, and removal (one or two days) or being dropped from the course. Students may also be subject to further disciplinary action.

# **Grades and Make-Up Exams**

Please note that you will be tested on all the materials covered in lecture, the reading assignments, and the handouts. In particular, you will be responsible for the lecture even if the material covered in lecture is not in the reading assignments or handouts. Likewise, you will be

responsible for the reading assignments even if the material is not covered in lecture or the handouts. Finally, you will be responsible for the material in the handouts even if that material is not covered in lecture or the reading assignments.

All exams will consist of short answer and essay questions worth fifty (50) points.

Exam 1: 50 points	Final: 50 points	A = 391.5 - 435	F = 260 & Below
Exam 2: 50 points	Paper: 50 points	B = 348 - 391.4	
Exam 3: 50 points	Honors Thesis: 75 points	C = 304.5 - 347	
Exam 4: 50 points	Debates: 60 points	D = 261 - 304.5	

Make-up exams will only be given under special circumstances. In order for a student to qualify for taking a make-up exam, the student must give the instructor prior notice (no later than 24 hours before class), a valid reason (e.g. illness, medical emergency, court appearance, car trouble), AND a written letter from the appropriate individual on the individual's letterhead (e.g. a letter from a doctor on the doctor's letterhead, a letter from the court clerk on the court's letterhead, an invoice from an auto repair shop). Failure to follow the make-up exam requirements, i.e. an unexcused absence on the exam date, will result in a "zero" on the exam. If a student meets the qualifications listed above, a make-up examination must be completed within one week of the original date of administration in the Tutorial Center. Due to the limited availability of space and time constraints on the instructor and Tutorial Center staff, a single time and date will be chosen by the instructor for all qualified students to make up the exam. The time and date chosen will be the only opportunity for qualified students to make up the exam. If a qualified student fails to appear on the time and date selected for the make-up, the student will receive a "zero" on the exam.

<u>There will be no make-up exam for the final</u> due to the time constraints placed on the instructor and Tutorial Center staff at the end of the semester.

For students who will require an accommodation due to disability, please see the section below regarding academic adjustments.

#### **Scantrons:**

Unless notified otherwise, please use an 8 ½ x 11 Bluebook and a pen for all examinations.

#### **Holidays:**

Monday, January 19, 2015 – Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday, No Class, Campus Closed Friday, February 13, 2015 – Abraham Lincoln's Birthday Observed, No Class, Campus Closed Monday, February 16, 2015 – George Washington's Birthday Observed, No Class, Campus Closed

Sunday, March 29, 2015 – Sunday, April 5, 2015, Holy Week, No Class, Campus Closed

### Homework Assignments, In-Class Activities, Papers, & Late Work:

Homework assignments will be posted on Blackboard for **twenty-four hours** following the class session on which the homework is assigned. After the twenty-four hour period has elapsed, the homework assignment will be **removed** and will not be posted again. Please note the distinction between homework assignments and in-class activities and papers.

Late work is not eligible to receive full credit. For each day the assignment is late, the maximum amount of credit will be reduced by one grade level. At the same time, the student will still be graded on the original point scale. Additionally, if the student's performance warrants a lower score, that score will be assigned. For example, assume a student would have received 20 out of 20 points for a paper but turned in the assignment one day late. The maximum amount of points the student is eligible to receive is 17 points (a "B") out of 20. However, if the student's performance shows that he or she deserves a lower score than the maximum available points, he or she will receive that score. For example, if the student turns in an assignment one day late, the maximum available points are 17. However, if the student deserves only 15 points, the student's grade will be 15 out of 20 points. A student has **five calendar days** (Saturdays and Sundays are considered "calendar days") from the due date to turn in a late assignment, otherwise the student will receive a "zero" on the assignment.

In order for a student to submit an assignment or paper without penalty, the student must give the instructor **prior notice** (no later than 24 hours before the due date), a valid reason (e.g. illness, medical emergency, court appearance, car trouble), **AND a written letter from the appropriate individual on the individual's letterhead** (e.g. a letter from a doctor on the doctor's letterhead, a letter from the court clerk on the court's letterhead, an invoice from an auto repair shop). Failure to follow these requirements will result in a "zero" on the assignment or paper.

For in-class activities, if a student has an unexcused absence on a day in which a class activity or is passed out, the student will not be able to make up the activity and will receive a "zero." Please note the distinction between homework assignments and in-class activities and papers.

For students who will require an accommodation due to disability, please see the section below regarding academic adjustments.

### Blackboard:

You will find some important resources for this class on Blackboard. To use Blackboard, you can go to the Reedley College, Willow International, or Oakhurst Center websites. Click on the Bb box. You will then use your student ID number as both your user name and password. Once you've gained access to your Blackboard account, you can then click on any of your classes. You should also seriously consider changing your password to better secure your account. For this political science class, you will see three rectangular categories entitled Announcements, Assignments, and Course documents.

You should check your Blackboard account several times a week for important announcements, assignments, and course documents. The course syllabus will be available under the Course Documents tab. If you do not have a computer or access to one, you can use

the media center/library at the Madera Center. It is critical that you get access to a computer since you will want to avoid missing important assignments and announcements that are found online. Should you have any questions regarding Blackboard, please do not hesitate to ask me.

# Academic Adjustment due to Disability:

If you have a verified need for an accommodation or accommodations due to disability as described in the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. §§ 12101-12213; 42 U.S.C. §§ 225, 611) and/or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. § 701, et seq.), please notify your instructor as soon as possible (before or after class, email). All reasonable requests will be considered and efforts will be made to accommodate your needs

# **Papers – General Guidelines:**

Handouts detailing all of the requirements for the paper will be passed out at a later date. These handouts are incorporated by reference into the course syllabus and upon distribution, will be effective immediately. What follows are general guidelines for you to keep in mind in anticipation of the paper. Please note that the instructor reserves the right to change these guidelines.

All papers MUST include a "works cited" page noting the materials used to derive the content and arguments. All citations must be formatted according to the Chicago Manual of Style specifications. When submitted, these materials should be typed in 12-point Times New Roman font, double spaced, and have 1" margins. Students must use complete sentences and paragraphs in response to all questions. These materials will be graded primarily on content, clarity, and completeness. However, a portion of your grade will be based on grammar, spelling, and presentation. Please note that papers must be turned in on the dates they are due during class or the work will be considered late. With respect to late assignments, unexpected medical situations, or other valid reasons for submitting late work, please see the above mentioned section entitled "Homework Assignments, In-Class Activities, Papers, & Late Work." Regarding submitting work after a deadline due to a preexisting medical or psychological condition, please see the section entitled "Academic Adjustment due to Disability" above.

#### **Caveat:**

This syllabus is subject to change at the instructor's discretion.

### Course Readings, Assignments, & Exam Dates

Please note that you will be tested on all the materials covered in lecture, the reading assignments, and the handouts. In particular, you will be responsible for the lecture even if the material covered in lecture is not in the reading assignments or handouts. Likewise, you will be responsible for the reading assignments even if the material is not covered in lecture or the handouts. Finally, you will be responsible for the material in the handouts even if that material is not covered in lecture or the reading assignments.

For assistance with completing the reading assignments, please review the Roman numeral conversion table and symbol key below.

I – 1	V - 5	VIV - 9	XIII - 13	XVII - 17	XXI - 21	XXIV - 25	Art. = Article
II - 2	VI - 6	X - 10	XIV - 14	XVIII - 18	XXII - 22	XXV - 26	§ = Section
III - 3	VII - 7	XI - 11	XV - 15	XIV - 19	XXIII - 23	XXVII - 27	§§ = Sections
IV - 4	VIII - 8	XII -	XVI - 16	XX - 20	XXIV -	Amend. =	$\P$ = Paragraph
		12			24	Amendment	$\P\P =$
							Paragraphs

The United States Constitution is in the Appendix of your textbook on pp. A7-A13. Please note that even though multiple sections of the Constitution have been assigned, the reading itself is light as there may be only one sentence, a few sentences, or a few paragraphs associated with each section. In order to have mastery of the material, it will help you to have familiarity with the primary documents.

### Week 1 (1/12 – 1/16) – American Culture & Political Democracy

Assignment: Required Reading Supplement (retrieve from Blackboard):

Plato. *Apology*. Translated by Benjamin Jowett. Cambridge, MA: The Internet Classics Archive. http://classics.mit.edu/Plato/apology.htmlChic

Aristotle. *Politics*. --. Cambridge, MA: The Internet Classics Archive. Book III, Part VI-IX. http://classics.mit.edu/Aristotle/politics.html

Mortimer J. Adler. "How to Think about Democracy." In *How to Think About the Great Ideas*, edited by Max Weismann, pps. 414 – 423. Peru, IL: Open Court, 2000.

# Week 2 (1/19 - 1/23) – The American Founding & The U.S. Constitution

Assignment: Ch. 3, pp. 65-71, 74-86; Declaration of Independence (pp. A5-A6); Preamble to the U.S. Constitution (p. A-7, 1<sup>st</sup> ¶, "We the people..."); Art. V; Amend. I-X, XVI. Required Reading Supplement:

Exod. 19:11 - 22, 20:1 - 26

Cicero, Marcus Tullius. *Treatise on the Republic*. Translated by Francis Barham. London: Edmund Spettigue. 1841. <a href="http://lf-oll.s3.amazonaws.com/titles/546/0044-01\_Bk.pdf">http://lf-oll.s3.amazonaws.com/titles/546/0044-01\_Bk.pdf</a>

John Adams. Letter to Hezekiah Niles, February 13, 1818. In *The Works of John Adams*, edited by Charles Francis Adams, Boston: Little Brown & Company, 1854. <a href="http://oll.libertyfund.org/titles/2127">http://oll.libertyfund.org/titles/2127</a>

Nehemiah Dodge et al. Letter to Thomas Jefferson, October 7, 1801. In *Thomas Jefferson Papers*, Washington, D.C.: Library of Congress, 1801.

# http://www.wallbuilders.com/LIBissuesArticles.asp?id=65

Thomas Jefferson. Letter to Nehemiah Dodge, et al., January 1, 1802. In Thomas Jefferson Papers, Washington, D.C.: Library of Congress, 1802. <a href="http://www.wallbuilders.com/LIBissuesArticles.asp?id=65">http://www.wallbuilders.com/LIBissuesArticles.asp?id=65</a>

### Week 3(1/26 - 1/30) – Federalism

*Assignment*: Federalism, Ch. 4, pp. 96-110 (including *Federalist No. 51*), 117-123; Art. I, §§ 1, 2; Art. I, § 7; Art. I, § 8, ¶¶ 3 - 18; Art. I, § 10, ¶ 1; Art. II, § 1, ¶ 1, Art. II, § 2-3; Art. III, § 1; Art. IV; Art. VI, ¶ 2; Amend. XIX, Amend. X. Required Reading Supplement

Hamilton, Alexander and John Jay and James Madison, Federalist 33 (Hamilton), *The Federalist Papers*, New York, NY: The Library of Congress. 1788. http://thomas.loc.gov/home/histdox/fed\_33.html

# Week 4(2/2 - 2/6) – The Legislative Branch & Exam 1

*Assignment:* Congress, Ch. 7, pp. 231-248, 256-273, Art. I, § 1; Art. I, § 2, ¶¶ 1-3, 5-7; Art. I, § 3, ¶¶ 1-5; Art. I, § 8; Art. I, § 5, ¶¶ 1-3; Art. I, § 6; Art. I, § 7; Amend. XXVII, § 1.

Exam 1, Thursday, February 5, 2015 – <u>American Political Culture & Democracy, The American Founding, The U.S. Constitution, The Federal System</u>

## Week 5(2/9 - 2/13) – The Executive Branch

*Assignment:* The Executive Branch, Ch. 8, pp. 283-298, 300-312, 315-319; Art. I, § 2, ¶ 5; Art. 1, § 3, ¶ 6-7; Art. II, Amend. XIV, § 3; Amend. XX; Amend. XXII, § 1; Amend. XXV

#### Week 6 (2/16 - 2/20) – Foreign Policy

Assignment: Foreign Policy, Ch. 19, pp. 709-744.

## Week 7 (2/23 - 2/27) – The Federal Bureaucracy

**Assignment:** The Bureaucracy, Ch. 9, pp. 325 – 355; Art. I, § 1, ¶ 1; Art. II, § 2, ¶ 1; Art. II, § 3, ¶ 3.

### Week 8(3/2-3/6) – The Judiciary & Exam 2

*Assignment:* The Judiciary, Ch. 361-390; Art. II, § 2, ¶ 2; Art. III, Amend. XI.

Exam 2, Tuesday, March 3, 2015 – *The Legislative Branch, The Executive Branch, Foreign Policy, & The Federal Bureaucracy* 

### Week 9(3/9 - 3/13) – Civil Liberties

Assignment: Civil Liberties, Ch. 5, pp. 137 – 171; Amend. I-X, Amend. XIV, § 1

# Week 10(3/16 - 3/20) – Civil Rights

Assignment: Civil Rights, Ch. 6, pp. 180-181, 183-193, 197, 207-214, Art. I, § 2, ¶ 3;

Amend. XIII-XV; Amend. XXIV.

# Week 11 (3/23 – 3/27) – Exam 3 & Voting, Campaigns, & Elections

Exam 3, Thursday, March 26, 2015 - The Judiciary, Civil Liberties, & Civil Rights

Assignment: Voting, Campaigns & Elections, Ch. 14, pp. 513-544; Art. I, § 2, ¶¶ 1-5;

Art. II, § 3, ¶¶ 1-3,Art. I, § 4, ¶ 1; Art. I, § 5, ¶ 1; Art. II, § 1, ¶¶ 2-5; Art. VI, ¶ 3; Amend. XIII-XV; Amend. XVII; Amend. XIX - XX; Amend. XXII; Amend.

XXVI.

# Week 13 (4/6 – 4/10) – Public Opinion

Assignment: Public Opinion, Ch. 11, pp. 403-422

## Week 14(4/13 - 4/17) – Interest Groups

Assignment: Interest Groups, Ch. 13, p. 473-481(including Federalist No. 10), 488-502

### Week 15(4/20-4/24) – Exam 4 & Political Parties

Assignment: Political Parties, Ch. 12, pp. 435-441, 445, 455-466.

Exam 4, Tuesday, April 21, 2015 – <u>Voting, Campaigns, & Elections, Public Opinion & Interest Groups</u>

# Week 16(4/27 - 5/1) - Mass Media

Assignment: Mass Media, Ch. 15, pp. 551-563, 566-570, 573-585

## Week 17(5/4 - 5/8) – Domestic Policy

Assignment: Domestic Policy, Ch. 17, pp. 638-641, 644-646, 652-655, Ch. 18, pp. 674-694

### Week 18 (5/11 – 5/15) – California Government & Politics

Assignment: California State & Local Politics, Van Vechten, pp. 8 – 78.

#### **FINALS WEEK:**

55636: TTh, 12:30 P.M. – 1:45 P.M., **Thursday, May 21, 2015, 12:00 P.M. – 1:50 P.M.**