UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA

Fall, 2018

Course Syllabus-Outline
American National Government-Pos 2041

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I. POS 2041: Course Description

Theory, organization, principles and functions of national government, stressing relationships of individual to all levels of government in our political system.

II. Texts and Materials

We the People an introduction to American politics - Ninth (9th) shorter edition - Ginsberg, Lowi and Weir

III. Course Calendar and Schedule (subject to revision)

WEEK	TOPICS	CHAPTERS
1	Introduction	1
2	American Political Culture	1
3 & 4	Constitutional Democracy	2
5	Federalism	3
6	**Examination One**	
7	Civil Liberties	4
8	Civil Rights	5
9	Public Opinion/The Media	6 & 7
10	**Examination Two**	
11	Political Participation &Voting/Political Parties	8 & 9
12	Campaigns and Elections	10
13	Group and Interests/**Examination Three**	11
14	Congress and the Presidency	12 & 13
15	The Federal Courts	15
16	Seminar	
17	**Examination Four**/TBA	

IV. Evaluation, Testing and Grading

There will be four (4) examinations of equal value this session. Each exam will cover only the units specified including targeted lectures, class discussions, materials, online assignments and media during that unit.

A= 90-100%
B=80-89%
C=70-79%
D=60-69%
F=below 60%

Grades for each exam will be posted on Canvas along with Page 1 of the BACE and the course syllabus.

V. Student Responsibilities

This is a **lecture** course. Students are responsible for all reading of text and handout material prior to class meeting covering those topics. **Attendance is expected for every class meeting**. However, should a class be missed, students are responsible for obtaining any **information, notes or materials (from another student in class)** that were missed.

In the event an emergency causes an examination to be missed, **one** make-up exam may be taken within three (3) days after the scheduled exam. For **all** procedures and policies, refer to the UCF catalog and/or website.

VI. Student Competencies

Students will be given opportunities to think critically and make reasoned choices by acquiring, analyzing, synthesizing and evaluating data. In addition, reading, listening, writing and speaking effectively will be promoted and practiced.

VII. CLAST Competencies

Reading skill, essay construction and English language skills are integral functions of this course.

VIII. GEP Objectives for POS 2041

Students who complete POS 2041 will demonstrate knowledge of American political/philosophical and structural foundations.
Students who complete POS 2041 will demonstrate knowledge of American governmental institutions.
Students who complete POS 2041 will demonstrate knowledge of American political behavior.
Students who complete POS 2041 will demonstrate knowledge of American public policy.
Students who complete POS 2041 will be able to critically evaluate core aspects of American political and government.
Students who complete POS 2041 will understand how diversity in the United States impacts American politics and government.
Students who complete POS 2041 will demonstrate effective communication pertinent to American politics and government.

In addition, and along with the objectives above, as of the Fall Term 2018, **all** students must demonstrate the Florida State Civic Literacy requirements for POS2041.

1. Students will develop and demonstrate the understanding of the basic principles and practices of American democracy and how they are applied in our republican form of government.
2. Students will develop and demonstrate an understanding of the United States Constitution and its application.
3. Students will develop and demonstrate knowledge of the founding documents and how they have shaped the nature and functions of our institutions of self-governance.
4. Students will develop and demonstrate an understanding of landmark Supreme Court cases, landmark legislation, and landmark executive actions and their impact on law and society.

IX. Federal Financial Regulation Compliance: Recording Academic Activity. BACE submission for Week 1 of this term. This is the **Only** component that is online and/or on Canvas.

As of Fall, 2014, all faculty members have been required to document students' academic activity at the beginning of each course. In order to document that you began this course, complete the BACE academic activity by the end of the first week of classes. Failure to do so will result in a delay in the disbursement of your financial aid.

This is an interesting and important course. It is my desire that you should gain much insight and understanding of our governmental institutions, procedures and individuals. You are encouraged to express your opinions and thoughts as the class evolves.