POS3413-21Spring 0W60

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Announcements from the School of Politics, Security & International Affairs:

- **Lou Frey Institute:** *Presidential Inaugurations and Why They Matter*, Jan. 13th, 3 pm, register for webinar
- **SAPLA Forum:** *Learn about Law Schools in the South*, Jan. 13th, 1pm-6pm, register to participate
- **Florida Political Science Assoc.** *Call for Papers from Talented Undergrads for Annual Conf.*, submit by Jan. 15th, 2021.
- **ICCAE:** *Financial Support for Research Related to Intelligence and Nat'l Security*, apply by Jan. 15th, 2021
- **Ralph Bunche Summer Institute**, *5 Week Program for Future Poli. Sci. Ph.Ds at Duke*, Apply by Jan. 15th, more info

POS 3413: The American Presidency

Instructor Contact

- Instructor: Barry Edwards, J.D., Ph.D. (**About Me**)
- Office: Howard Phillips Hall 102C (**Where's This?** (**http://map.ucf.edu/locations/14/howard-phillips-hall-hph/**))
- Phone: 407-823-2608 (SPSIA main office)
- E-mail: **barry.edwards@ucf.edu** (**mailto:barry.edwards@ucf.edu**)
- Office Hours: Tuesdays 10am - 1pm, Fridays 10am-1pm. Call 321-394-8868 at these times to speak with me. Other times may be available by appointment.
- GTA: TBD

Course Information

- Course Name: The American Presidency
- Course ID & Section: POS3413-21Spring 0W60
- Credit Hours: 3
- Semester/Year: Spring 2021
- Web Only Course

Course Description

Please read this syllabus carefully. This is an online only course. The course material is organized into a series of modules. When you've finished reading this syllabus, you can start with the "Start Here" module (there's a link to it at the bottom of the syllabus).

This course focuses on the United States presidency as it has developed over time and as it exists today. Courses like this typically take one of two approaches; students either study presidents in a chronological order or the course is organized around major themes. This course takes the latter approach but incorporates a lot of biographical and historical material to illustrate and enliven the major themes. Components of the course include: presidential relations with Congress, the media, public opinion, the bureaucracy, and the judiciary. We will also explore the conduct of presidential nominations, campaigns and elections, as well as recent conflicts over the role and powers of the president in current American politics. Students will be introduced to the various theories about the presidency and its relation to the other elements of the United States system of governance.

Course catalog description: Examination of historical and contemporary role of the presidency, including the presidential selection process and the office's evolution in status, powers, administrative responsibilities, leadership, and decision-making.

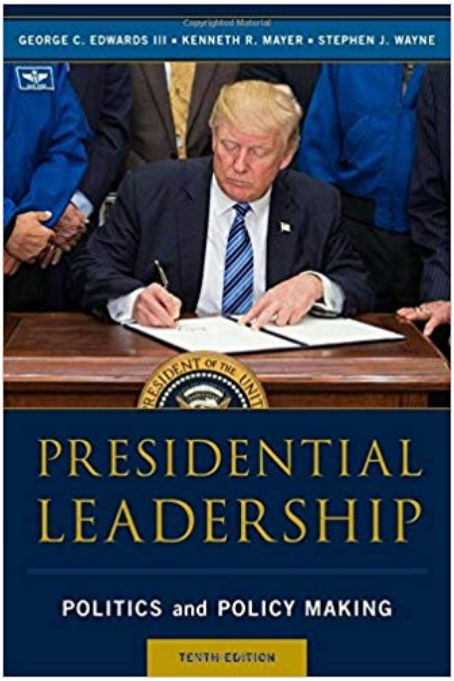
Course prerequisites: ENC 1102 (Freshman Composition II), POS 2041 (American National Government) or consent of the instructor.

Course Objectives

The most fundamental goal of this course is to enhance and improve your critical thinking skills. The ability to critically analyze concepts or programs and then present your conclusions and criticisms well will be one of the most valuable skills you learn at the University. The subject matter on which you will practice these critical skills will be the American Presidency. In order to effectively develop your analytic abilities, you will find that you need a great deal of specific knowledge about the president's Constitutional duties and responsibilities, and his/her relation to other actors within his/her legal and political environment.

Required Texts and Supplemental Readings

- **REQUIRED**: George C. Edwards III, Kenneth R. Mayer, and Stephen J. Wayne, *Presidential Leadership: Politics and Policy Making, 10th Edition* (Rowman & Littlefield 2018). ISBN-13: 978-1538110850, ISBN-10: 1538110857. **View on Amazon (https://www.amazon.com/Presidential-Leadership-Politics-Policy-Making/dp/1538110857/ref=sr_1_4?qid=1561046000)**.



- **BOOK BUYING ISSUES?** Don't wait until the second or third week of class to get the books required for this class. If the timing of financial aid is an issue, take advantage of **UCF's Textbook Purchase Programs (https://finaid.ucf.edu/receiving/funds-for-books/)**.
- **SUPPLEMENTAL READINGS.** Additional readings will be announced and/or distributed online. In particular, these readings will focus on rulings from the most recent Supreme Court term(s), and articles regarding the various uses of federal and state judicial power.

Course Requirements

Your final grade is based on following components:

1. **Module Quizzes** (50%) - Each substantive module in this course includes a short quiz to test your understanding of the assigned material. Module quizzes consist of multiple choice, true-false, and short answer questions. Your lowest module quiz score will be dropped.
2. **Final Exam** (25%) – The final examination is cumulative and will require students to apply their understanding of the subject matter in a constructive manner. Students can expect a mix of multiple choice and true-false questions.
3. **Small Group Discussions** (25%) - Each student will be assigned to a small group of 5-10 students. In your small groups, you'll discuss how the course material, share independent research, and tell your group what you've learned through class-related activities.

Course Policies

Workload Expectations +

Missed Assignments/Make-Ups/Extra Credit +

Late Work +

Grading Scale +

Grades of "Incomplete" +

Group Work +

Academic Honesty +

Professionalism Policy +

University Writing Center +

Disability Statement +

Emergency Procedures and Campus Safety +

Accommodations for Active Duty Military Students +

Religious Observances +

Copyright +

Third-Party Software and FERPA +

Financial Aid Requirement +

START HERE MODULE

Course Summary:

Date	Details	
Mon Jan 11, 2021	Start Module/Week 01 (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2105408&include_contexts=course_1369737)	12am
	UCF Classes Start (Spring 2020) (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2105411&include_contexts=course_1369737)	12am
	Syllabus Quiz (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1369737/assignments/6870071)	due by 11:59pm
Thu Jan 14, 2021	Drop/Swap Deadline (Spring 2021) (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2105410&include_contexts=course_1369737)	12am
Fri Jan 15, 2021	Add Deadline (Spring 2021) (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2105409&include_contexts=course_1369737)	12am
	Evidence of Academic Engagement Quiz (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1369737/assignments/6870057)	due by 5pm
Sun Jan 17, 2021	Module 01 Quiz: Introduction to the American Presidency (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1369737/assignments/6870062)	due by 11:59pm
Mon Jan 18, 2021	Start Module/Week 02 (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2105393&include_contexts=course_1369737)	12am
Wed Jan 20, 2021	Small Group Discussion for Module 02: Proof of Concept (May Require Independent Research) (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1369737/assignments/6870074)	due by 11:59pm
Sun Jan 24, 2021	Module 02 Quiz: The Powers of the Presidency (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1369737/assignments/6870064)	due by 11:59pm
Mon Jan 25, 2021	Start Module/Week 03 (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2105394&include_contexts=course_1369737)	12am
Wed Jan 27, 2021	Small Group Discussion for Module 03: Nominating an Animal Rights Candidate (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1369737/assignments/6870075)	due by 11:59pm
Sun Jan 31, 2021	Module 03 Quiz: The Nomination Process (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1369737/assignments/6870063)	due by 11:59pm
Mon Feb 1, 2021	Start Module/Week 04 (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2105395&	12am

Date	Details	
	include_contexts=course_1369737)	
Wed Feb 3, 2021	Small Group Discussion for Module 04: Reapportionment and the 2024 Presidential Election (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1369737/assignments/6870076)	due by 11:59pm
Sun Feb 7, 2021	Module 04 Quiz: Presidential Elections (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1369737/assignments/6870056)	due by 11:59pm
Mon Feb 8, 2021	Start Module/Week 05 (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2105396&include_contexts=course_1369737)	12am
Wed Feb 10, 2021	Small Group Discussion for Module 05: Assessing the President's Popularity (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1369737/assignments/6870077)	due by 11:59pm
Sun Feb 14, 2021	Module 05 Quiz: Public Perception of Presidents (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1369737/assignments/6870068)	due by 11:59pm
Mon Feb 15, 2021	Start Module/Week 06 (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2105397&include_contexts=course_1369737)	12am
Wed Feb 17, 2021	Small Group Discussion for Module 06: Leading the Public Away from Watergate (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1369737/assignments/6870078)	due by 11:59pm
Sun Feb 21, 2021	Module 06 Quiz: Leading the Public (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1369737/assignments/6870059)	due by 11:59pm
Mon Feb 22, 2021	Start Module/Week 07 (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2105398&include_contexts=course_1369737)	12am
Wed Feb 24, 2021	Small Group Discussion for Module 07: How the Media Can Help (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1369737/assignments/6870079)	due by 11:59pm
Sun Feb 28, 2021	Module 07 Quiz: The President and the Media (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1369737/assignments/6870060)	due by 11:59pm
Mon Mar 1, 2021	Start Module/Week 08 (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2105399&include_contexts=course_1369737)	12am
Wed Mar 3, 2021	Small Group Discussion for Module 08: The President Goes on Tour (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1369737/assignments/6870073)	due by 11:59pm

Date	Details	
Sun Mar 7, 2021	Module 08 Quiz: The Structure of the Presidency (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1369737/assignments/6870069)	due by 11:59pm
Mon Mar 8, 2021	Start Module/Week 09 (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2105400&include_contexts=course_1369737)	12am
Wed Mar 10, 2021	Small Group Discussion for Module 09: Presidential Character (May Require Independent Research) (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1369737/assignments/6870085)	due by 11:59pm
Sun Mar 14, 2021	Module 09 Quiz: Presidential Decision Making (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1369737/assignments/6870072)	due by 11:59pm
Mon Mar 15, 2021	Start Module/Week 10 (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2105401&include_contexts=course_1369737)	12am
Wed Mar 17, 2021	Small Group Discussion for Module 10: Federal Regulations and Me (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1369737/assignments/6870084)	due by 11:59pm
Sun Mar 21, 2021	Module 10 Quiz: The President and the Executive Branch (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1369737/assignments/6870058)	due by 11:59pm
Mon Mar 22, 2021	Start Module/Week 11 (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2105402&include_contexts=course_1369737)	12am
Wed Mar 24, 2021	Small Group Discussion for Module 11: Working with Congress (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1369737/assignments/6870083)	due by 11:59pm
Fri Mar 26, 2021	UCF Withdrawal Deadline (Spring 2021) (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2118496&include_contexts=course_1369737)	12am
Sun Mar 28, 2021	Module 11 Quiz: The President and Congress (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1369737/assignments/6870070)	due by 11:59pm
Mon Mar 29, 2021	Start Module/Week 12 (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2105403&include_contexts=course_1369737)	12am
Wed Mar 31, 2021	Small Group Discussion for Module 12: The President and the Judiciary (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1369737/assignments/6870082)	due by 11:59pm
Sun Apr 4, 2021	Module 12 Quiz: The President and the Judiciary (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1369737/assignments/6870067)	due by 11:59pm

Date	Details	
Mon Apr 5, 2021	Start Module/Week 13 (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2105404&include_contexts=course_1369737)	12am
Wed Apr 7, 2021	Small Group Discussion for Module 13: Strategic Lobbying (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1369737/assignments/6870081)	due by 11:59pm
Sun Apr 11, 2021	Module 13 Quiz: Domestic and Economic Policy Making (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1369737/assignments/6870065)	due by 11:59pm
Mon Apr 12, 2021	UCF Spring Break starts (Spring 2020) (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2105414&include_contexts=course_1369737)	12am
Mon Apr 19, 2021	Start Module/Week 14 (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2105405&include_contexts=course_1369737)	12am
Wed Apr 21, 2021	Small Group Discussion for Module 14: Responding to International Crisis (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1369737/assignments/6870080)	due by 11:59pm
Sun Apr 25, 2021	Module 14 Quiz: Foreign and Defense Policy (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1369737/assignments/6870061)	due by 11:59pm
Mon Apr 26, 2021	Last Day of UCF Classes (Spring 2021) (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2105415&include_contexts=course_1369737)	12am
	Start Studying for Final Exam (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2105406&include_contexts=course_1369737)	12am
Sun May 2, 2021	Final Exam (Spring 2021) (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1369737/assignments/6870066)	due by 11:59pm
Fri May 7, 2021	Grades Due to UCF by noon (Spring 2021) (https://webcourses.ucf.edu/calendar?event_id=2105407&include_contexts=course_1369737)	12am