

Political Science 202

American Government

Spring 2009

Item number 5595

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Please try first to reach me by email. I can arrange to meet you online for a chat or to call you if necessary. On campus office hours 9:30-10:20 M/W.

Required Texts: UNDERSTANDING AMER. POL. & GOV. BRIEF COLEMAN
ISBN:9780205678013

Attendance: Attendance is mandatory. You must check in with this class online every day, Monday through Friday, throughout the quarter. There will be changes in readings and assignments throughout the course. I have found that it is impossible not to change a course slightly to suit the needs of that particular quarter or that particular set of students. You are responsible for checking announcements and for participating in discussion EVERY WEEK. If you fail to do so, your grade will suffer both in participation points and in your overall work. Participating in discussions will help you to succeed in the rest of the course.

Essays: Papers are due on the dates set in the calendar below. Be aware that the calendar may change. I reserve the right to change due dates, etc. Please take the time to get the phone number of another student in class, or call or e-mail me when you miss to make sure that you are consistently meeting the demands of the class.

All papers must be typed with standard margins and font. Please use the title of the essay on the top of your paper to identify your essay. Each essay must also include the **name of the author on each page**. Hand in all relevant papers at the time the essay is due. Each essay is 1-3 full pages in length, typed and double spaced. This is about 900-1200 words. Please do not submit longer papers. Short papers will also not be accepted. **The instructor will not read short essays or long essays.**

Essays are to be typed in 10 or 12 point, Times New Roman or a comparable font. If the formatting does not work or you cannot transmit in Word for any reason, do not worry. Just get the paper to me. I can fix the formatting or just ignore it. Focus on writing a strong essay and submitting it on time in full. Please submit papers in Word. If you do not have Word or you cannot submit in Word, please copy your paper into an email. I will try to download your work with my word processing program. If they are incompatible, you need to copy the paper into an email. If you need help with this function, please send me an email and I will send you directions.

Plagiarism: **Plagiarism will not be tolerated.** Any student caught plagiarizing will receive a failing grade and their paper will be turned over to the appropriate authorities. The college

subscribes to plagiarism web sites. Students may not use papers written for other courses. Each paper should be unique for this course. Any student who is unclear on plagiarism or the instructors and division policies regarding plagiarism should consult the student handbook, Social Science Division policies and the writing lab web site at Bellevue Community College.

Grading:

Weekly discussions 10 %
 Weekly Exams (5 exams, each 10%) 50%
 Paper 1 10 %
 Paper 2 10 %
 Paper 3 10 %
 Final Self-evaluation 10%

Note: There are 6 exams. You may drop the lowest score. I will do this for you. Any exam missed will count as your lowest score. You may only replace one score.

Calendar

Week	Assignments			
Week 1 6/29-7/2	Monday 1 st Day of Class Weekly Topic: <i>Foundations of Democracy</i> Readings: Chapters 2,3	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday Note: Topics, lectures, discussions and Readings are complementary. You are responsible for all aspects of the course on exams, essays and discussions
Week 2 7/6-7/9	Monday Essay #1 Due Weekly Topic: <i>Structure of Government: The Basics</i> Readings: Chapters 6,7	Tuesday	Wednesday Readings: Chapter 8,9	Thursday Exam 1
Week 3 7/13-7/16	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday Exam 2

<i>Week 4</i> <i>7/20-7/23</i>	<i>Monday</i> <i>Weekly Topic: Foundations of Rights</i> <i>Readings: Chapter 4 Chapter 5</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i> <i>Essay #2</i> <i>Exam 3</i>
<i>Week 5</i> <i>7/27-7/30-</i>	<i>Monday</i> <i>Weekly Topic: The Role of Public Opinion</i> <i>Readings: Chapter 10 11, 12</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i> <i>Exam 4</i>
<i>Week 6</i> <i>8/3-8/6</i>	<i>Monday</i> <i>Weekly Topic: Domestic Policy</i> <i>Readings: Chapter 13</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i> <i>Exam 5</i>
<i>Week 7</i> <i>8/10-8/12</i>	<i>Monday</i> <i>Weekly Topic: Foreign Policy</i> <i>Readings: Chapter 14</i>	<i>Tuesday</i> Essay #3 Due	<i>Wednesday</i> <i>Finals</i> <i>Final Exam/Exam 6</i> <i>Final Self-evaluation Due</i>	

This schedule is for your convenience only. This schedule is subject to change at the instructors' discretion at any time in the quarter.

Welcome to the course and Enjoy!