

Political Science 202

American Government

Winter 2011

Item number 5370

Denise Vaughan, Ph. D.

E-mail: [dvaughan@bellevuecollege.edu](mailto:dvaughan@bellevuecollege.edu)

Please try first to reach me by email. I can arrange to meet you online for a chat or to call you if necessary. 425-564-2110

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 2-3 full pages in length, typed and double spaced. 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 %  
 Exams (5 exams, each 10%) 50%  
 Paper 1 10 %  
 Paper 2 10 %  
 Paper 3 10 %  
 Final Self-evaluation 10%

#### Exams:

Exams are listed on the syllabus below. They are open UNTIL 11pm on the date in the syllabus. They open BEFORE the date. You may choose the time you would like to take the exam. I realize that many of you take online classes because you have other time commitments. The exam is therefore open for several days to accommodate your schedule. I will not keep the exam open late. Please take it by the date presented. Otherwise, it is difficult for me to grade exams in a timely manner.

#### Calendar

Week	Assignments				
<i>Week 1</i>  Jan 3-7	<i>Monday</i>  1 <sup>st</sup> Day of Class  <i>Weekly Topic:</i> <i>Foundations of Democracy</i>  <i>Readings:</i> <i>Chapter 2</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Note: Topics, lectures, discussions and Readings are complementary. You are responsible for all aspects of the course on exams, essays and discussions</i>
<i>Week 2</i>  Jan 10-14	<i>Monday</i>  <i>Readings:</i> <i>Chapter 1,3</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Discussion 1 Due</i>
<i>Week 3</i>  Jan 17-21	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>  <b>Essay #1 Due</b>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Discussion 2 Due</i>

		<i>Weekly Topic: Structure of Government: The Basics</i>  <i>Readings: Chapter 6</i>			
<i>Week 4</i>  Jan 24-28	<i>Monday</i>  <i>Readings: Chapter 7</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Discussion 3 Due Exam 1</i>
<i>Week 5</i>  Jan 31- Feb 4	<i>Monday</i>  <i>Readings: Chapter 8,9</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>  <i>Discussion 4 Due</i>
<i>Week 6</i>  Feb 7-11	<i>Monday</i>  <i>Weekly Topic: Foundations of Rights</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>  College Issues Day No Class	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>  <i>Discussion 5 Due</i>  <i>Exam 2</i>
<i>Week 7</i>  Feb 14- 18	<i>Monday</i>  <i>Readings: Chapter 4</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>  <i>Discussion 6 Due</i>
<i>Week 8</i>  Feb 21- 25	<i>Monday</i>  <i>Readings: Chapter 5</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>  <b><i>Essay #2</i></b>	<i>Friday</i>  <i>Discussion 7 Due</i>  <i>Exam 3</i>
<i>Week 9</i>  Feb 28- March 4	<i>Monday</i>  <i>Weekly Topic: The Role of Public Opinion</i>  <i>Readings: Chapter 10 11</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>  <i>Discussion 8 Due</i>

<i>Week 10</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>
March 7-11	<i>Weekly Topic:</i> <i>Domestic Policy</i>  <i>Readings:</i> <i>Chapters 12, 13</i>		<i>Exam 4</i>  <i>Discussion 9 Due</i>	<b>Holiday</b>	<b>Holiday</b>
<i>Week 11</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>
March 14-18	<i>Weekly Topic:</i> <i>Foreign Policy</i>  <i>Readings:</i> <i>Chapter 14</i>  <b>Essay #3 Due</b>				<i>Final Self-evaluation Due</i>  <i>Discussion 10 Due</i>
<i>Week 12</i>	<i>Finals</i>	<i>Finals</i>	<i>Finals</i>		
March 21-23	<i>Final Exam/Exam 5</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!

#### PROCEDURES AND GUIDELINES OF THE SOCIAL SCIENCE DIVISION Revised Fall 2009

##### Cheating, Stealing and Plagiarizing\*

Cheating, stealing and plagiarizing (using the ideas or words of another as one's own without crediting the source) and inappropriate/disruptive classroom behavior are violations of the Student Code of Conduct at Bellevue College. Examples of unacceptable behavior include, but are not limited to: talking out of turn, arriving late or leaving early without a valid reason, allowing cell phones/pagers to ring, and inappropriate behavior toward the instructor or classmates. The instructor can refer any violation of the Student Code of Conduct to the Dean of Student Services for possible probation or suspension from Bellevue College. Specific student rights, responsibilities and appeal procedures are listed in the Student Code of Conduct, available in the office of the Dean of Student Services.

##### Incomplete

If a student fails to complete all the required work for a course, an instructor may assign the grade of Incomplete ("I"). The student must complete the coursework by the end of the next quarter, or receive the assigned letter grade (usually an "F").

#### F Grade

Students who fail a course will receive a letter grade of "F."

#### Final Examination Schedule

The Social Science Division will adhere to the final examination schedule as stated in the BC Schedule. Final examinations will be held at the end of each quarter at fixed times. Instructors will not give examinations in advance of the regular schedule. A student who is absent from any examination held at any time during the quarter may forfeit the right to make up the examination. If, for illness or some other circumstance beyond the student's control, the student is unable to be present at any scheduled examination and has contacted the instructor on a timely basis, the student may be permitted to take such examination at a time designated by the instructor.

#### Withdrawal From Class

College policy states that students must formally withdraw from a class by the end of the seventh week of the quarter (Registration Office, B125). If a student has not withdrawn by that date, an appropriate letter grade will be assigned for the course.

#### Hardship Withdrawal

Instructors may assign the grade of "HW" (hardship withdrawal) at their discretion in the event that a student cannot complete the coursework due to extreme and exceptional circumstances. Students may also contact the Enrollment Services office BEFORE grades are assigned in cases of hardship.

#### Students Who Require Disability Accommodations:

Students with disabilities who have accommodation needs are encouraged to meet with the [Disability Resource Centre](#) (DRC) office located in B132 (telephone 425.564.2498 or TTY 425.564.4110), to establish their eligibility for accommodation. The DRC office will provide each eligible student with an accommodation letter. Students who require accommodation in class should review the DRC accommodation letter with each instructor during the first week of the quarter.

Students with mobility challenges who may need assistance in case of an emergency situation or evacuation should register with [Disability Resource Centre](#), and review those needs with the instructor as well.

#### Distribution of Grades

Grades will not be posted in the Social Science Division or in faculty offices, and secretaries will not give out grades. Students should access their grades through the BC Web site.

#### Return of Papers and Tests

Paper and/or Scantron score sheet returns will be arranged in the following ways ONLY: by mail, if student supplies the instructor with stamped, self-addressed envelope (with appropriate postage); or by the instructor designating a time and place whereby the student may retrieve his/her papers. Unclaimed papers and/or Scantron score sheets must be kept by the instructor for a minimum of sixty (60) instructional days following the end of the quarter.

---

*\*If you are accused of cheating, stealing exams and/or plagiarism, there is a Bellevue College Student Discipline and Appeals Procedure (the right to due process) which you may pursue. Contact the office of Division Chair (D110), the Dean of Student Services (B231A) or the Associated Student Body (C212) for information regarding the appeals process.*