

GOVERNMENT 2302 CRN # 35157
HOUSTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM
SPRING SEMESTER 2013 (second start)

INSTRUCTOR: ERIC AZUBUIKE, PH.D. PHONE : By Appointment Only

CLASS LECTURE DAYS : Monday & Wednesday Time : 3 :00PM- 5 :00PM
ROOM : Learning Hub 220

Government 2302 is one of two courses designed to introduce students to the politics of government in America at the national, state, and local levels. This course is fully transferable to other colleges and universities.

The Government Department of Houston Community College requires one textbook for Government 2302

- Karen O'Connor, Larry J. Sabato, et. al., American Government, Roots and Reform, (Pearson, 2011 Texas edition).

This book can be purchased from local college bookstores and is also utilized for Government 2301.

COURSE GRADES:

Your final course grade will be calculated according to the following formula:

Exam 1	100 points
Exam 2	100 points
Quiz 1	50 points
Quiz 2	50 points
Quiz 3	50 points
Presentation	20 points
Class Participation	10 points
Attendance	10 points
Earned Extra Credit	10 points

Note!! A HCC sponsored event related to the course and approved by the Professor will be used For earned extra credit.

A total of 400 Quality points will be “Divided by 4” to determine a Student’s overall average points (%)

* No test grade will be dropped.

TESTING:

All exams will be scored 0 - 100. Quizzes will be scored 0 – 50. The final percentage value resulting from the sum of the above components will be converted into letter grades according to the following scale:

A = 90 - 100%

D = 60 - 69%

B = 80 - 89%

F = Below 60%

C = 70 - 79%

ADA STATEMENT:

HCC is compliant with the ADA and Sec. 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. “Any student with a documented disability (e.g. physical, learning, psychiatric, vision, hearing, etc.) who needs to arrange reasonable accommodations must contact the Disability Service Office at the respective college at the beginning of each semester. Faculty are authorized to provide only the accommodations requested by the Disability Support Services Office.” The Disability Services Office number for Southwest College is 713-718-7910.

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

You should attend class regularly. It is my experience that students with good attendance records usually do well in the course. The college provides that students MAY be dropped after missing more than six hours of class time. I do not wish to drop anyone who is making a good faith effort to succeed in the course. If it appears to me, however, that you have stopped attending, I will drop you because the alternative is to give you an F. Please keep me informed if you are having problems that are affecting your attendance and I will do my best to work with you.

If you decide you must drop the course, please fill out the appropriate form in the college office on campus. Instructors are not allowed to withdraw students with a grade of “W” on the final grade sheet. You must also drop the course by the specified withdrawal deadline. It is your responsibility to drop a course.

THREE-PEATER STATEMENT:

Students who take a course for the third time or more may soon face significant tuition/fee increases at HCC and other Texas public colleges and universities. If you are considering course withdrawal because you are not earning passing grades, confer with your instructor/counselor as early as possible about your study habits, reading and writing homework, test-taking skills, attendance, course participation, and opportunities for tutoring or other assistance that might be available.

HONESTY POLICY:

Ethical conduct is part of being a competent student. Academic dishonesty(cheating) will result in a zero for the assignment and/or failure of the course, depending on the severity of the offense.

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENT:

A research paper or other term project is to be completed by the student. While it is customary to do a research paper, another project may be completed instead. Ideas for papers or other projects must be approved by the instructor early in the semester. This means well in advance of the due date.

All papers and/or other projects should be typed and at least **7 pages** long (double-spaced) unless otherwise specified by the instructor. More details will be discussed in class.

CLASS PREPARATION

Each student must purchase all books necessary for this course and be prepared to discuss the reading assignments in advance of each class meeting.

STUDENT CONFERENCES

If you have any problems in the course, with grades or otherwise, please see me. However, please do not wait until finals to discuss grades and/or problems in the course (I'm afraid that's a bit too late). Conferences will be scheduled by appointment only. There will be no extra credit assignments given.

Note: All telephones and other electronic devices must be turned off during class time. Only laptops and tape recorders may be utilized for taking notes or recording lectures.

(NO EXCEPTIONS !)

I sincerely hope you find this class to be both enjoyable and stimulating.

TENTATIVE COURSE OUTLINE

02/11/2013	1. Introduction: Politics, Government, Political Science, Democracy, Republic, Confederation of States, Checks and Balances, Political and Economic Systems and The Public Policy Process.
2/13	2. Civil Liberties Read: Chapter 5.
2/18	Presidents Day Holiday Office Closed
2/20-25	3. Civil Rights (Minority Politics/Issues) Read: chapter 6.
2/27	4. The U.S. Congress Read: chapter 7
3/4	Exam # 1 Chapters 5, 6, 7, and Introduction
03/6	5. The Presidency Read: chapter 8.
03/11-17	SPRING BREAK OFFICE CLOSED
3/18-20	6. The Federal Bureaucracy and Regulatory Policymaking Read: chapter 9.
3/20	Quiz # 1 (Chapters 8 & 9)
3/25	7. The Judicial Branch of American Government. (Group) Read: chapter 10.
3/27	8. The Domestic Policy (Group Presentation) Read: chapter 17.
3/29-31	SPRING HOLIDAY OFFICE CLOSED
04/1	Quiz # 2 (chapters 10 & 17)
04/1-3	9. The Economic Policy in the U.S. (Group Presentation) Read: chapter 18.
04/8-10	10. U.S. Foreign and Defense Policy Read: chapter 19.
04/10	Quiz # 3 (chapters 18 & 19)

04/15-17	11. The Texas Legislature Read: chapter 23.	(Group Presentation)
4/22-24	12. The Texas Governor Read: chapter 24	(Group Presentation)
4/29-5/1	FINAL EXAM REVIEW	(chapters 17, 18, 19, 23, 24)
5/6/2013	FINAL EXAM	(chapters 17, 18, 19, 23, 24)

NOTE!! The Professor reserves the discretion to alter/modify any part of this Syllabus and notify the class accordingly.