

**Government Course Syllabus**

GOVT 2305-0036 (Federal Government)

Fall Semester, Year 2018. CRN# 16751

West Loop Campus Room C247. Course Time: 3:30PM-4:50PM (Tuesday & Thursday).

3 Semester Credit Hours

48 Contact Hours

Number of Weeks: 16 Weeks

Face to Face Lecture. Start Date: 08/27/2018 End Date: 12/16/2018

**Instructor Name**

Eric Azubuike, Ph.D.

HCC E-mail: eric.azubuike@hccs.edu

**Government Department Chair**

Cammy Shay, PH.D.

.Tel: 713-718- 7141

**Email: Cammy.shay@hccs.edu**

**Office Hours**: Before and after class or by appointment*.*

**Course Description**

U.S.--Origin and development of the U.S. Constitution, structure and powers of the national government including the legislative, executive, and judicial branches, federalism, political participation, the national election process, public policy, civil liberties and civil rights.

**Prerequisite, Co-requisite**

Must have passed or co-enrolled in English 1301 (Composition I) as a co-requisite.

**Academic Program Learning Outcomes:**

 GOVERNMENT2305:

Identify the structure, functions and nature of the institutions of the American national government.

Understand and describe the development, purpose and attributes of the US Constitution

Identify the policy making process and comprehend the outcomes of foreign and domestic policy in the United States.

Understand how political values and ideas are developed and expressed and the means through which one may engage in the political system.

Comprehend how media, interest groups, parties and the structure of the political system influence political participation.

**Course Student Learning Outcomes (SLO)** ??

1. Identify and describe the institutions of American National Government. GOVT 2305

2. Recognize and assume the responsibilities of citizenship by developing one’s critical thinking skills, engaging in public discourse, and by obtaining information through the news media. GOVT 2305

**Core Objectives**

The Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) mandates that the core curriculum must ensure that students will develop the essential knowledge and skills they need to be successful in college, in a career, in their communities, and in life. Through the Texas Core Curriculum, students will gain a foundation of knowledge of human cultures and the physical and natural world, develop principles of personal and social responsibility for living in a diverse world, and advance intellectual and practical skills that are essential for all learning. Students enrolled in GOVT 2305/2306 core curriculum courses will complete assessments designed to measure the following core objectives:

**Critical Thinking Skills**—to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information

**Communication Skills**—to include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication

**Personal Responsibility**—to include the ability to connect choices, actions and consequences to ethical decision-making

·   **Social Responsibility**—to include the ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making

**Student assessment of proficiencies mandated by THECB may include testing, projects, or assignments.**

**Course Calendar**

***LECTURE TENTATIVE COURSE OUTLINE FOR ADOPTION***

08/28-30 **Discussion of Syllabus**.

**-Introduction: Concepts**--- Politics, Government, Political Science,

Types of Government: Democracy, Republic, Confederation, States,

Federalism, Monarchy, Totalitarianism, Oligarchy, others ---

**09/03 Labor Day Labor Day (Offices Closed)**

**09/4-6 Chapter 1. Political Thinking and Political Culture**

09/11-13**. Chapter 2 Constitutional Democracy: Promoting Liberty and Self-Government.**

09/18  **Chapter 3. FEDERALISM (The Federal System)** (**Read: chapter 3)**.

09/20 Concluding Federalism & ***\*Exam # 1. Review (Concepts***

***And chapters 1-3)***

09/25 Exam # 1 Covering Concepts and chapters 1- 3

09/27 Chapter 4. Civil Liberties

10/02- 4 Chapter 5 Equal Rights: Struggling Toward Fairness

(Civil Rights). (Group Presentation).

10/09 ***\*\*\*Homework Assignment Submission (Worth 10 Points)***

10/09 Chapter- 6 Public Opinion & Political Socialization **(Group Presentation)**

**Shaping the People's Voice**

**10/11 Quiz # 1 (CHAPTERS 4, 5, 6)**

10/16 -18 Chapter 8 **Political Parties, Candidates, Campaigns: Defining TheVoter's**

**Choice. (Group Presentation**

1**0/23 Chapter 9 Interest Groups: Organizing For Influence (Group Presentation)**

10/25 Chapter 10 The News Media : Communicating Political Images (Group

Presentation)

10/30 - Chapter 11 Congress: Balancing National Goals and Local Interests (Group

Presentation)

11/01 11 Congress

11/02-7 Chapter 12 The Presidency: Leading The Nation (Group Presentation)

11/06 Last day to Withdraw this semester.

11/6- 8 EXAM# 2 (CHAPTERS 8, 9, 10, 11)

11/13-15 Chapter 13 The Federal Bureaucracy: Administering The Government

(Group Presentation)

11/20 Chapter 17 U.S. Foreign and Defense Policy

*11/22-25 Thanksgiving Holiday Offices Closed*

*11/27-29 Chapter 17 contd. U.S. Foreign and Domestic Policy:*

*Protecting the American Way*

12/04-06 In-Class Activity And FINAL EXAM REVIEW (Chapters 11,12, 13, 17).

12/12-13 FINAL EXAM (# 3) (Chapters11, 12, 13, 17).

NOTE!! The Professor reserves the discretion to alter/modify any part of this

Syllabus and notify the class accordingly.

**Instructional Methods**

*Lectures, simulations, discussions, etc.*

**Student Assignments**

*Description of all graded assignments.*

**GRADING:Instructor Grading Criteria**

**TESTING in t**his course includes three (3) major examinations, whichcould be composed of essay, objective (multiple choice), and non-comprehensive in nature. There will be no comprehensive final examination for this course. Others are one(1) quiz, and series of activities worth 100pts in total. These will constitute a total of 400 (405) points divideby 4 to produce average percentage of the student's finalcourse grade. A clear student course evaluation scale is shown below:

Exam1& 2 200points

Final Exam (3) 100 points

Quiz # 1 60 points

Presentation 30 points

Homework 10 points

Earned Extra credit 05 points.

***Extra credit*** *must be earned. Students are encouraged to attend one campus-based event that is government* related. Such event must be approved by the professor prior to attendance. A sign- in sheet is required to authenticate student's attendance in order to justify credit. There may be possible in-class presentation of event attended, for the benefit of all students. Ask the Professor for further clarification. In the alternative, the Professor may choose another activity to substitute for campus-based event. Note!! All the students must participate in one chosen option by the Professor. Please ask for clarification when unsure.

*The government department requires that 25% of a student’s grade must be based on written work – objective exams alone are not enough.*

*There should be a minimum of 5 assignments. There should be at least 3 exams.*

**Make-up Policy**

*No make-up exams will be given except in extreme circumstances involving hospitalization and death of a family member with authentic documented proof. The student requesting a make-up exam/quiz must contact the Professor immediately upon return to class for possible consideration.*

**Grading Scale**

90-100%= A

80-89% = B

70-79% = C

60-69% = D

less than 60% = F

*A total point system will be usedthat conforms to the HCC grading scale (above)*

**Instructional Materials**

**Required Text:**.

Patterson, Thomas E. (2017). We The People: An Introduction to American Government. 12TH Edition. McGraw Hill Education. New York, NY.

**HCC Policies**

**ADA Policy:** If you have any special needs which affect your ability to learn in this class, please inform me. Appropriate steps will be taken to assist you with your needs. Any student with a documental disability (physical, learning, psychiatric, vision, hearing, etc.) who needs to arrange reasonable accommodations must contact the ADA counselor at the beginning of each semester. There is a Disability Support Services Office at each campus. To find the name of the ADA counselor at your campus, visit [www.hccs.edu](http://www.hccs.edu/), then click future students, scroll down the page and click on the words Disability Information. Faculty members are authorized to provide only the accommodations requested by the Disability Support Services Office.

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 requires that institutions have policies that protect students; rights with regard to sex/gender discrimination. Information regarding these rights are in the HCC website under Students-Anti-discrimination. Students who are pregnant and require accommodations should contact any of the ADA Counselors for assistance.

**Student Rights and Responsibilities:** It is important that every student understands and conforms to respectful behavior while at HCC. Sexual misconduct is not condoned and will be addressed promptly. Know your rights and how to avoid these difficult situations.

Log in to [www.edurisksoluations.org](http://www.edurisksoluations.org/) Sign in using your HCC student e-mail account, then go to the button at the top right that says **Login** and enter your student number.

**Scholastic Dishonesty:**

HCCS students are responsible for conducting themselves with honor and integrity in fulfilling course requirements. Penalties and/or disciplinary proceedings may be initiated by HCC System officials against a student accused of scholastic dishonesty.

 "Scholastic dishonesty" includes, but is not limited to, cheating on a test, plagiarism, and collusion. Cheating on a test includes but is not limited to: Copying from another student's test paper; using unauthorized materials during a test, unauthorized collaboration with another student during a test; knowingly using, buying, selling, stealing, transporting, or soliciting in whole or part the contents of a test; and bribing another person to obtain a copy of a test. Plagiarism includes the appropriation of another's work and the unacknowledged incorporation of that work in one's own written work for credit. "Collusion" includes the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing written work for credit.

**Instructor Requirements:Additional Instruction on Class Conduct:** Side talks with neighbors will not be tolerated when lecture is in progress. Questions for clarification should be directed to the instructor for everyone to share. No passing notes while the lecture is on. During quizzes and exams, all cell phones will be put away; in cases of anticipated emergency, cell phone must be put on a vibrate status. Violations of these rules will constitute deviance and will be subject to some consequences including but not limited to 10 points deduction.

***Attendance****: Enter your specific policy. College policy allows students to be dropped by the instructor for exceeding absences, but you must be careful in crafting your policy so that it is enforceable and reasonable.*

**Withdrawals:**

Students who take a course for the third time or more must now pay significant tuition/fee increases at HCC and other Texas public colleges and universities. At HCC, it is an additional $50 per credit hour. 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. Also, the state of Texas has passed a new law limiting new students (as of Fall 2007) to no more than six withdrawals throughout their academic career in obtaining a baccalaureate degree.

*The drop/withdrawal date this semester is XXXXXXXXXXX.*

**Repeating Courses:**As a result of recent Texas legislative changes, please be advised that HCC is charging additional tuition for students who enroll in the same class three or more times at HCC.While it is the hope of HCC that students will be successful in their first attempt at classes, we realize that life demands, academic struggles, and other issues may

result in students needing to take the same class more than once. Speaking with an advisor will help you develop student success skills, improving your overall academic performance. If a student

repeats a course in which a grade (A-F) has been received, the highest grade received at HCC is the permanent grade for the course and will be used in computing the GPA. All grades earned in a given course will be reflected on the transcript. Other colleges may compute the GPA differently than HCC.

**HCC Student Handbook:**

Please note that it is each student’s responsibility to read and be familiar with the HCC Student Handbook. Please see:

<http://central.hccs.edu/students/student-handbook/>

**Distance Education**

The Distance Education Student Handbook contains policies and procedures unique to the DE student. Students should have reviewed the handbook as part of the mandatory orientation. It is the student's responsibility to be familiar with the handbook's contents. The handbook contains valuable information, answers, and resources, such as DE contacts, policies and procedures (how to drop, attendance requirements, etc.), student services (ADA, financial aid, degree planning, etc.), course information, testing procedures, technical support, and academic calendars. Refer to the DE Student Handbook by visiting this link:

<http://de.hccs.edu/media/houston-community-college/distance-education/student-services/pdf/2015-HCC-DE-Student-Handbook-%28Revised-5_28_15%29_will.pdf>