



Texas Government-13309

GOVT-2306

S1 2021 Section 358 3 Credits 06/07/2021 to 07/11/2021 Modified 06/06/2021

Course Meetings

Meeting Days

MTWTh

Meeting Times

1-3:00 pm every M-Th

Meeting Location

Cisco Webex On Line, On a Schedule. You will receive an email link invitation to join the class. Classes will also be digitally, video recorded and available for your viewing at your discretion.

WS On line On a Schedule

summer I MTWTh 1-3 pm

Online

June 7- July 11, 2021

Welcome and Instructor Information

Professor: Prof. Jaye Ramsey Sutter M.A., J.D.

Email: jaye.ramseysutter@hccs.edu

Office: 303/FWS 3.13 The Learning Hub

Phone: 713.718.556

What's Exciting About This Course

This is one of the more important moments in our nation's history to enroll in a government or political science college course. Please review President Joe Biden's Memorial Day remarks <https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2021/may/31/joe-biden-memorial-day-speech-warns-democracy-in-peril> (<https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2021/may/31/joe-biden-memorial-day-speech-warns-democracy-in-peril>), as he articulates the intensity of our current existential crisis. As Benjamin Franklin said, "It's a Republic, if you can keep it."

The State of Texas is challenging our Enlightenment values and our expectations of state and local government. In this recent legislative session, our sacred rights regarding expression, voting, and personal autonomy were undermined. The pressure to conform has not been so compelling since the 1970s and the future of many of our institutions such as education, medicine, and fundamental rights are in jeopardy.

This course transfers to all Texas college institutions to satisfy the required three hours of state government when successfully completed.

My Personal Welcome

Welcome to the course! I am completing my thirty-second year as a college professor. I am one of the few instructors in the HCCS Government Department to have worked in the legislative, executive, and judicial branches of government and taught Texas and Federal Government. I have worked in television and radio news. It is my honor to bring both practical and academic experience to your course.

Preferred Method of Contact

jaye.ramseysutter@hccs.edu

Office Hours

hour following our on line class meeting
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, 2:00 PM to 3:00 PM, Cisco Webex

We will have office hours during the last hour of our class meeting.

By Appointment

Professor: Prof. Jaye Ramsey Sutter M.A., J.D.

Email: jaye.ramseysutter@hccs.edu

Office: Webex (For Spring 2021)

Phone: 713.718.5561

Website: <https://learning.hccs.edu/faculty/jaye.ramseysutter> (<https://learning.hccs.edu/faculty/jaye.ramseysutter>)

Please do not call the phone number. I am never live at that number. I am not on campus this semester. I do not return messages left on voice mail. Please communicate via email, jaye.ramseysutter@hccs.edu. (<mailto:jaye.ramseysutter@hccs.edu>)

Please include your course number 2306 and Section number 13309 in the subject line of your email. While I am your only government instructor, you are one of 180 students. I need to know which class you are in to best support you. Expect an answer to your email in 24 hours during the week. It may take longer over the weekend.

Course Overview

Course Description

Origin and development of the Texas constitution, structure and powers of state and local government, federalism and intergovernmental relations, political participation, the election process, public policy, and the political culture of Texas. Core Curriculum Course.

Requisites

Students must have passed ENGL 1301 (Composition I) or be co-enrolled in ENGL 1301 as a corequisite.

Government Department Website

<https://www.hccs.edu/programs/areas-of-study/social-behavioral-sciences/government/>

Core Curriculum Objectives (CCOs)

This course satisfies part of the Government/Political Science requirement in the HCCS core curriculum. The HCCS Government Discipline Committee has specified that the course addresses 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

- **Empirical/Quantitative Skills**—to include manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions
- **Teamwork**—to include the ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal
- **Personal Responsibility**—to include the ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making
- **Social Responsibility**—to include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities

Student Learning Outcomes and Objectives

Program Student Learning Outcomes (PSLOs)

- Define and relate critical course concepts to contemporary issues in government and politics.
- Describe and assess the importance of civic engagement in the representative democratic structures of national, state, or local governments.
- Evaluate different kinds of data used in the study of government and politics.
- Articulate their own positions on contemporary issues in government and politics.

Course Student Learning Outcomes (CSLOs)

Upon completion of GOVT 2306, students will be able to:

- Explain the origin and development of the Texas constitution.
- Describe state and local political systems and their relationship with the federal government.
- Describe separation of powers and checks and balances in both theory and practice in Texas.
- Demonstrate knowledge of the legislative, executive, and judicial branches of Texas government.
- Evaluate the role of public opinion, interest groups, and political parties in Texas.
- Analyze the state and local election process.
- Identify the rights and responsibilities of citizens.
- Analyze issues, policies, and political culture of Texas.

Departmental Practices and Procedures

The study of government and politics engages students with practices and issues that generate conflict. In light of the nature of the class you are enrolled in, it is important to understand that what you learn may challenge some of your beliefs. This kind of intellectual stretch is at the heart of higher education. Though some of your beliefs may be challenged, only you can decide to retain or change them. Consider the following quote from Rogers Smith, past president of the American Political Science Association :

"[A]ny political science teaching worthy of the name must examine controversial political matters and must present unpopular views concerning those subjects. The more teaching about politics is done by teachers who feel themselves to be in highly vulnerable positions, wary of offending taxpayers, governmental officials, or corporate donors, the more likely it is that political science teaching will be done in ways that simply canvass conventional perspectives, rather than promoting wide-ranging critical reflection and deeper public understanding of important political concerns."

Social Science Research Council, *Transformations of the Public Sphere*, 8.

Instructional Materials and Resources

Instructional Materials

[Texas Government 2.0. \(https://hccs.campusconcourse.com/#h_51019261411622860093388\)](https://hccs.campusconcourse.com/#h_51019261411622860093388)

This text is free. You must sign in and register for the Texas textbook at [OER Commons . \(https://www.oercommons.org/\)](https://www.oercommons.org/)

There will also be additional articles and motion picture assignments announced to the course and included in the assignments.

✓ Course Requirements

Assignments, Exams, and Activities

Type	Weight	Topic	Notes
Exams/Quizzes	75%	Exams/Quizzes	Students will take four 50 question exams, open book, open note. They will have three attempts at the exams. There are four exams and we drop the lowest or missed exam grade. Students must take all four exams unless they have a valid medical or family emergency.
UNIT ONE EXAM	25%	UNIT ONE EXAM	<p>June 14-15 Mon-Tue</p> <p>Exam material covers the Texas Constitution, Federalism, and Local Government</p> <p>Chapters 1, 2, and 6 in Texas Government 2.0 https://www.oercommons.org/courseware/8453 (https://www.oercommons.org/courseware/8453)</p>
UNIT TWO EXAM	25%	UNIT TWO EXAM	<p>JUNE 22-23 TUES-WEDS</p> <p>Exam materials cover political participation, voting, campaigns and elections, public opinion and media.</p> <p>Chapters 7, 8, 9, 10, & 14 Texas Government 2.0</p> <p>https://www.oercommons.org/courseware/8453 (https://www.oercommons.org/courseware/8453)</p>
UNIT THREE EXAM	25%	TEXAS LEGISLATURE & EXECUTIVE	<p>June 29-30 Tues-Wed</p> <p>Chapters 3, 4, 11, AND 13 Texas Government 2.0</p> <p>https://www.oercommons.org/courseware/8453 (https://www.oercommons.org/courseware/8453)</p>
Written Assignment	25% of the total grade	Texas classrooms and "critical race theory" curriculum	<p>Due July 1</p> <p>We will examine House Bill 3979, which bans "critical race theory" and forbids high school educators from discussing certain viewpoints in the classroom including the theory that some people are "inherently racist, sexist, or oppressive, whether consciously or unconsciously." Supporters said it would keep politics out of schools, while opponents said the measure — one of many sweeping GOP legislatures across the country — seeks to "whitewash" lessons about slavery and discrimination in America. Our essay will discuss the issue and how it impacts Texas classrooms.</p>
Final Exam	25%	Texas Court & Criminal Justice System	<p>July 7-8</p> <p>Chapters 5 & 12</p> <p>The exam materials cover the Texas civil and criminal court system. The final exam is simply the last exam over the final unit. It is not comprehensive and does not include any previously tested material.</p>
In-Class Activities	not graded	class participation	Students should attend our on line on a schedule lectures and office hours. Students are expected to participate by asking questions and making comments about the lecture and reading assignments.
Extra Credit			There is absolutely no extra credit in this course. Classes are given abundant time to take exams, and numerous opportunities to take each exam. Exams are open note, open book, with provided lecture notes and worksheet/study guides. There is no need for extra credit under those generous conditions.
Textbook & Article Reading Assignments		studying	Please check the Assignments & Modules on your Canvas home page for all reading assignments, exam links, and research paper instructions.

Grading Formula

Grade	Range	Notes
A	90-100	
B	89-80	Should a student earn a 89.4 that is a B. Should a student earn a 89.5 that is an A. No exceptions, no requests to "bump" a letter grade.
C	79-70	
D	69-60	
F	59 and below	

* Instructor's Practices and Procedures

Incomplete Policy

In order to receive a grade of Incomplete ("I"), a student must have completed at least 85% of the work in the course. In order to receive an Incomplete a student must submit paperwork in support of their reason for requesting an incomplete. A legitimate medical excuse, a catastrophic event, substantial change in financial situation such as homelessness or any documented valid excuse must be presented. In all cases, the instructor reserves the right to decline a student's request to receive a grade of Incomplete.

Missed Assignments/Make-Up Policy

There are no make up exams. Students are given two days for exams and three attempts at reaching a satisfactory grade. Late research papers are not accepted without 10 point penalties for every day that the paper is late.

Academic Integrity

Scholastic Dishonesty will result in a referral to the Dean of Student Services. Cheating or plagiarism is not acceptable. Any suspected incidents of cheating--like taking tests together in the same room at the same time with the same answers, and yes, I can tell on the computer if you are working together--you can have a conversation with the Dean of Student Services.

Here's the link to the HCC information about academic integrity (Scholastic Dishonesty and Violation of Academic Scholastic Dishonesty and Grievance):

<https://www.hccs.edu/about-hcc/procedures/student-rights-policies--procedures/student-procedures/>
[\(https://www.hccs.edu/about-hcc/procedures/student-rights-policies--procedures/student-procedures/\)](https://www.hccs.edu/about-hcc/procedures/student-rights-policies--procedures/student-procedures/)

Attendance Procedures

On Line, on a Schedule (WS) students should sign in daily during our scheduled course. I can tell who is present for meetings. I will record attendance.

Student Conduct

On line on a schedule or WS classes are based on the Cisco Webex platform. It is fairly easy to use and something like television news interviews. I will lecture or rather converse with you about our topics and you can ask questions and take notes. These meetings are recorded and will be available to you so you can watch it as often as you like.

Please do not open your mic if you aren't asking a question. You do not need to appear on camera but you may choose to do so when you ask a question. So you want to be mindful that we can see everything around your work area. We can hear everything in your work area and anyone talking in your home.

Be nice to each other. We are all learning together. No bullying or teasing. No insensitive remarks or berating anyone. Be mindful that this is a classroom setting. If you have a question you can interrupt but be mindful that it isn't a conversation and we must get through the material. If you have extensive questions, please email those questions to me so I can answer you. If you get unruly or rude, I will turn off your microphone. If you are rude to me or to classmates, I will report you to counselors. We are under

pressure due to the pandemic and some unusual political conflicts but we will maintain decorum and dignity and approach this semester with open minds and sound judgment.

The lectures do not come straight from the book, because you can read that on your own, but they do follow the chapters and table of contents from the book.

I have a law degree but I am not your lawyer. I am not licensed in Texas. I cannot give you legal advice, even hypothetically. I have a Master's degree in political science and my undergraduate degree is in foreign service. I was educated in the former Soviet Union in 1983. I have worked in the Texas Legislature and for the Texas Attorney General. I have worked in the courts on civil and criminal matters. I have been a trial assistant in state and federal court and clerked at one of the more prestigious law firms in the nation. I have been involved in landmark federal and state trials. I have worked on local, state, and national political campaigns. I am an expert in Texas and federal government and on the Kennedy assassination. So I do indeed know my field intimately. My husband, John Ben Sutter, is an expert in government and has been in Washington, D.C. and Austin. He is an expert in campaign press and media and is also a professor at HCCS.

I can lecture for an hour on our topic of the day and I will then field your questions in an office hour conference setting. No you don't need to stay the entire time

It would help you in the course to read a newspaper and watch television news. We are going to talk about current events as they relate to government and politics.

Instructor's Course-Specific Information

This is how it works. I lecture on our Webex meeting. The video recorded lectures are posted so you can review them. Students get shy about asking questions but you really need to ask questions. If you don't ask I am going to assume that you understand what I am saying and what I am going to ask you on the exam. You read the assigned chapter before class. You work the provided work sheet/study guide based on key terms, concepts, ideas, and important possible test question items. You really put considerable work into that work sheet. That is the key to passing the course.

Take notes. Lots of notes. You can use the notes and work sheet/ study guide on your exam. The exam is timed but you have time to look up the questions you don't know.

I am not working against you. I am on your side. I really want you to understand the material and I will explain it until you understand. Don't be shy and don't be embarrassed.

A few points worth mentioning--you don't have to have your camera on when we meet on Webex. You can mute your camera and microphone. When you ask a question you can turn on your camera and mic. It is good to mute both so we aren't capturing your household because we can see and hear much of what is going on in your home.

We need to be kind to each other. So no ugly remarks or teasing or bullying. This is a safe learning environment. We're trying to find our way. We really can go far if we have the right attitude and right approach. Let's work together.

Things happen. We lose electricity and we have family responsibilities. We are going to miss a class. Do not worry. If I miss class I will make a recorded lecture to take the place of the class I missed.

So ask questions, make the class your own, engage me, help each other. Talk to me. Let's not shout, let's not talk over each other, and let's consider our responsibilities to each other as a community. We have so much to talk about and so little time to do it.

Devices

It is important that you have a good working, up to date computer and Internet capabilities. Should your Internet cease working during an exam, there is no method for proving that assertion. In other words, if your Internet and electricity shuts down during an exam, I have no way of knowing if this is the case. Internet disruptions are not excuses for incomplete exams--you are not allowed to suggest or imply problems with the Internet is the reason you could not complete or submit an exam or coursework such as your research essay. Use your sense. If it is storming do not take an exam. Do not wait until the last minute to submit an exam or essay. Pay attention to the weather situation.

If you anticipate problems with connections, use the campus computers. If you are taking this exam outside the United States and do not have reliable Internet access, you need to adjust so that you can submit exams and essays on time and not allow extraneous situations--electric access, weather, shelling, bombs, etc. to delay your situation. If you are studying abroad please

tell me now rather than tell me that you couldn't take your exam because your city was being shelled. If you are aboard a military ship or on a military installation, please let me know ahead of time. Do not wait until a problem arises because I am not sitting in front of the computer awaiting your email. I can't help you immediately. Tell me of your anticipated problems now. Anticipate them and respond to the challenges you may experience.

Faculty Statement about Student Success

First come to class on Webex.

Second, read your assignments.

Third, take notes on work sheets / study guides.

Fourth, ask questions.

Fifth, take your exams on time. Submit your essay on time.

Take yourself seriously. Take your work seriously.

Specific Information Regarding Canvas

This course section will use Canvas (<https://eagleonline.hccs.edu> (<https://eagleonline.hccs.edu>)) to supplement in-class assignments, exams, and activities.

HCCS Open Lab locations may be used to access the Internet and Canvas. For best performance, Canvas should be used on the current or first previous major release of Chrome, Firefox, Edge, or Safari. Because it's built using web standards, Canvas runs on Windows, Mac, Linux, iOS, Android, or any other device with a modern web browser.

Canvas only requires an operating system that can run the latest compatible web browsers. Your computer operating system should be kept up to date with the latest recommended security updates and upgrades.

Do not attempt to take the course or do course work on your smartphone. Do not take exams on your smartphone. The phone's operating system will not accommodate all the visual information you need to successfully complete the course.

Instructional Modalities

Online on a Schedule (WS)

Fully online course with virtual meetings at scheduled dates and times

Social Justice Statement

Houston Community College is committed to furthering the cause of social justice in our community and beyond. HCC does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, gender identity and expression, national origin, age, disability, sexual orientation, or veteran status. I fully support that commitment and, as such, will work to maintain a positive learning environment based upon open communication, mutual respect, and non-discrimination. In this course, we share in the creation and maintenance of a positive and safe learning environment. Part of this process includes acknowledging and embracing the differences among us in order to establish and reinforce that each one of us matters. I appreciate your suggestions about how to best maintain this environment of respect. If you experience any type of discrimination, please contact me and/or the Office of Institutional Equity at 713-718-8271.

HCC Policies and Information

HCC Grading System

HCC uses the following standard grading system:

Grade	Grade Interpretation	Grade Points
A	Excellent (90-100)	4
B	Good (80-89)	3
C	Fair (70-79)	2
D	Passing (60-69), except in developmental courses.	1
F	Failing (59 and below)	0
FX	Failing due to non-attendance	0
W	Withdrawn	0
I	Incomplete	0
AUD	Audit	0
IP	In Progress. Given only in certain developmental courses. A student must re-enroll to receive credit.	0
COM	Completed. Given in non-credit and continuing education courses.	0

Link to Policies in Student Handbook

Here's the link to the HCC Student Handbook <https://www.hccs.edu/resources-for/current-students/student-handbook/> (<https://www.hccs.edu/resources-for/current-students/student-handbook/>) In it you will find information about the following:

- Academic Information
- Academic Support
- Attendance, Repeating Courses, and Withdrawal
- Career Planning and Job Search
- Childcare
- disAbility Support Services
- Electronic Devices
- Equal Educational Opportunity
- Financial Aid TV (FATV)
- General Student Complaints
- Grade of FX
- Incomplete Grades
- International Student Services
- Health Awareness
- Libraries/Bookstore
- Police Services & Campus Safety
- Student Life at HCC
- Student Rights and Responsibilities
- Student Services
- Testing
- Transfer Planning

- Veteran Services

Link to HCC Academic Integrity Statement

<https://www.hccs.edu/resources-for/faculty/student-conduct-resources-for-faculty/> (<https://www.hccs.edu/resources-for/faculty/student-conduct-resources-for-faculty/>)

Campus Carry Link

Here's the link to the HCC information about Campus Carry:

<https://www.hccs.edu/departments/police/campus-carry/> (<https://www.hccs.edu/departments/police/campus-carry/>)

HCC Email Policy

When communicating via email, HCC requires students to communicate only through the HCC email system to protect your privacy. If you have not activated your HCC student email account, you can go to [HCC Eagle ID \(https://www.hccs.edu/resources-for/current-students/student-e-maileagle-id/\)](https://www.hccs.edu/resources-for/current-students/student-e-maileagle-id/) and activate it now. You may also use Canvas Inbox to communicate.

Office of Institutional Equity

Use the link below to access the HCC Office of Institutional Equity, Inclusion, and Engagement (<https://www.hccs.edu/departments/institutional-equity/>) (<https://www.hccs.edu/departments/institutional-equity/>)

Ability Services

HCC strives to make all learning experiences as accessible as possible. If you anticipate or experience academic barriers based on your disability (including long and short term conditions, mental health, chronic or temporary medical conditions), please meet with a campus Abilities Counselor as soon as possible in order to establish reasonable accommodations. Reasonable accommodations are established through an interactive process between you, your instructor(s) and Ability Services. It is the policy and practice of HCC to create inclusive and accessible learning environments consistent with federal and state law. For more information, please go to <https://www.hccs.edu/support-services/ability-services/> (<https://www.hccs.edu/support-services/ability-services/>)

Title IX

Houston Community College is committed to cultivating an environment free from inappropriate conduct of a sexual or gender-based nature including sex discrimination, sexual assault, sexual harassment, and sexual violence. Sex discrimination includes all forms of sexual and gender-based misconduct and violates an individual's fundamental rights and personal dignity. Title IX prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex-including pregnancy and parental status in educational programs and activities. If you require an accommodation due to pregnancy please contact an Abilities Services Counselor. The Director of EEO/Compliance is designated as the Title IX Coordinator and Section 504 Coordinator. All inquiries concerning HCC policies, compliance with applicable laws, statutes, and regulations (such as Title VI, Title IX, and Section 504), and complaints may be directed to:

David Cross
Director EEO/Compliance
Office of Institutional Equity & Diversity
3100 Main
(713) 718-8271
Houston, TX 77266-7517 or Institutional.Equity@hccs.edu (<mailto:Institutional.Equity@hccs.edu>)

<http://www.hccs.edu/departments/institutional-equity/title-ix-know-your-rights/> (<http://www.hccs.edu/departments/institutional-equity/title-ix-know-your-rights/>)

Office of the Dean of Students

Contact the office of the Dean of Students to seek assistance in determining the correct complaint procedure to follow or to identify the appropriate academic dean or supervisor for informal resolution of complaints.

<https://www.hccs.edu/about-hcc/procedures/student-rights-policies--procedures/student-complaints/speak-with-the-dean-of-students/> (<https://www.hccs.edu/about-hcc/procedures/student-rights-policies--procedures/student-complaints/speak-with-the-dean-of-students/>)

Student Success

Expect to spend at least twice as many hours per week outside of class as you do in class studying the course content. Additional time will be required for written assignments. The assignments provided will help you use your study hours wisely. Successful completion of this course requires a combination of the following:

- Reading the textbook
- Attending class in person and/or online
- Completing assignments
- Participating in class activities

There is no short cut for success in this course; it requires reading (and probably re-reading) and studying the material using the course objectives as a guide.

Canvas Learning Management System

Canvas is HCC's Learning Management System (LMS), and can be accessed at the following URL:

<https://eagleonline.hccs.edu> (<https://eagleonline.hccs.edu>)

HCCS Open Lab locations may be used to access the Internet and Canvas. For best performance, Canvas should be used on the current or first previous major release of Chrome, Firefox, Edge, or Safari. Because it's built using web standards, Canvas runs on Windows, Mac, Linux, iOS, Android, or any other device with a modern web browser.

Canvas only requires an operating system that can run the latest compatible web browsers. Your computer operating system should be kept up to date with the latest recommended security updates and upgrades.

HCC Online Information and Policies

Here is the link to information about HCC Online classes, which includes access to the required Online Information Class Preview for all fully online classes: <http://www.hccs.edu/online/> (<http://www.hccs.edu/online/>)

Scoring Rubrics, Sample Assignments, etc.

Look in Canvas for the scoring rubrics for assignments, samples of class assignments, and other information to assist you in the course. <https://eagleonline.hccs.edu/login/ldap> (<https://eagleonline.hccs.edu/login/ldap>)

Instructor and Student Responsibilities

As your Instructor, it is my responsibility to:

- Provide the grading scale and detailed grading formula explaining how student grades are to be derived
- Facilitate an effective learning environment through learner-centered instructional techniques
- Provide a description of any special projects or assignments
- Inform students of policies such as attendance, withdrawal, tardiness, and making up assignments
- Provide the course outline and class calendar that will include a description of any special projects or assignments
- Arrange to meet with individual students during office hours, and before and after class as required

As a student, it is your responsibility to:

- Attend class in person and/or online
- Participate actively by reviewing course material, interacting with classmates, and responding promptly in your communication with me
- Read and comprehend the textbook
- Complete the required assignments and exams
- Ask for help when there is a question or problem
- Keep copies of all paperwork, including this syllabus, handouts, and all assignments

- Be aware of and comply with academic honesty policies in the [HCCS Student Handbook \(http://www.hccs.edu/resources-for/current-students/student-handbook/\)](http://www.hccs.edu/resources-for/current-students/student-handbook/)

EGLS3

The EGLS³ ([Evaluation for Greater Learning Student Survey System \(http://www.hccs.edu/resources-for/current-students/egls3-evaluate-your-professors/\)](http://www.hccs.edu/resources-for/current-students/egls3-evaluate-your-professors/)) will be available for most courses near the end of the term until finals start. This brief survey will give invaluable information to your faculty about their teaching. Results are anonymous and will be available to faculty and division chairs after the end of the term. EGLS³ surveys are only available for the Fall and Spring semesters. -EGLS3 surveys are not offered during the Summer semester due to logistical constraints.

<http://www.hccs.edu/resources-for/current-students/egls3-evaluate-your-professors/> (<http://www.hccs.edu/resources-for/current-students/egls3-evaluate-your-professors/>)

Housing and Food Assistance for Students

Any student who faces challenges securing their foods or housing and believes this may affect their performance in the course is urged to contact the Dean of Students at their college for support. Furthermore, please notify the professor if you are comfortable in doing so.

This will enable HCC to provide any resources that HCC may possess.

Student Resources

Tutoring

HCC provides free, confidential, and convenient academic support, including writing critiques, to HCC students in an online environment and on campus. Tutoring is provided by HCC personnel in order to ensure that it is contextual and appropriate. Visit the [HCC Tutoring Services \(http://www.hccs.edu/resources-for/current-students/tutoring/\)](http://www.hccs.edu/resources-for/current-students/tutoring/) website for services provided.

Libraries

The HCC Library System consists of 9 libraries and 6 Electronic Resource Centers (ERCs) that are inviting places to study and collaborate on projects. Librarians are available both at the libraries and online to show you how to locate and use the resources you need. The libraries maintain a large selection of electronic resources as well as collections of books, magazines, newspapers, and audiovisual materials. The portal to all libraries' resources and services is the HCCS library web page at <http://library.hccs.edu> (<http://library.hccs.edu/>).

Supplementary Instruction

Supplemental Instruction is an academic enrichment and support program that uses peer-assisted study sessions to improve student retention and success in historically difficult courses. Peer Support is provided by students who have already succeeded in completion of the specified course, and who earned a grade of A or B. Find details at <http://www.hccs.edu/resources-for/current-students/supplemental-instruction/> (<http://www.hccs.edu/resources-for/current-students/supplemental-instruction/>).

Resources for Students:

<https://www.hccs.edu/resources-for/current-students/communicable-diseases/resources-for-students/>
(<https://www.hccs.edu/resources-for/current-students/communicable-diseases/resources-for-students/>)

Basic Needs Resources:

<https://www.hccs.edu/support-services/counseling/hcc-cares/basic-needs-resources/> (<https://www.hccs.edu/support-services/counseling/hcc-cares/basic-needs-resources/>)

Student Basic Needs Application:

https://hccs.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_25WyNx7NwMRz1FH
(https://hccs.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_25WyNx7NwMRz1FH)

COVID-19

Here's the link to the HCC information about COVID-19:

Sensitive or Mature Course Content

In this college-level course, we may occasionally discuss sensitive or mature content. All members of the classroom environment, from your instructor to your fellow students, are expected to handle potentially controversial subjects with respect and consideration for one another's varied experiences and values.

Course Calendar

Syllabus Modifications

The instructor reserves the right to modify the syllabus at any time during the semester and will promptly notify students in writing, typically by e-mail, of any such changes.

Important Dates

June 7 Class Begins

June 10 Official Day of Record

June 28 Last Day to Withdraw

July 4-5 Independence Day Holiday

July 11 Semester Ends

Test 1-June 14-15 Mon-Tue

Test 2-June 22-23 Tue-Wed

Test 3 June 29-30 Tue-Wed

Term Paper Due July 1 before 11:59 pm

Test 4 July 7-8 Wed-Thu

Additional Information

Departmental/Program Information

The Houston Community College Government Department supports students in a number of different ways. These include:

- **Government Majors & Minors:** Students can earn an Associate of Arts Degree in Government, which will prepare them for majoring in Political Science or Government when they transfer to a university. Majors and Minors—those students who are interested in Political Science or Government—are supported by a faculty committee that will connect them to events, news, and opportunities.
- **Careers in Government:** The study of Government or Political Science prepares students for work in the public and private sectors by emphasizing critical thinking, analytical, and communication skills.
- **Government Student Organizations:** The Government Department supports the activities of the *Center for Civic Engagement* and the *HCC Political Science Club*, both of which hold discussions and sponsor events to connect students to politics in the real world.
- **GOVT Scholarship:** The Government Department will work with students to locate scholarship support, when possible.

Process for Expressing Concerns about the Course

If you have concerns about any aspect of this course, please reach out to your instructor for assistance first. If your instructor is not able to assist you, then you may wish to contact the Department Chair.

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