



Government Course Syllabus

*GOVT 2306-2014
Summer (2) 2018 Year, CRN 73281*

Stafford Campus, Mon thru Fri. 10:00 a.m. to 11:45a.m.

3 Semester Credit Hours
48 Contact Hours
5 Weeks
Face to Face

Instructor Name

*Lloyd W. Gaddis
HCC E-mail: lloyd.gaddis@hccs.edu*

Office Hours: before and after class or by appointment.

Course Description

Origin and development of the Texas Constitution, structure and powers of the State and Local Government including the legislative, executive, and judicial branches, federalism, and Inter-Governmental relations, political participation, the election process, and the political culture of Texas.

Prerequisite, Co-requisite

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

Academic Program Learning Outcomes:

2306:

1. Explain the origin and development of the Texas constitution.
2. Describe state and local political systems and their relationship with the federal government.
3. Describe separation of powers and checks and balances in both theory and practice in

Texas.

4. Demonstrate knowledge of the legislative, executive, and judicial branches of Texas government.
5. Evaluate the role of public opinion, interest groups, and political parties in Texas.
6. Analyze the state and local election process.
7. Identify the rights and responsibilities of citizens.

Course Student Learning Outcomes (SLO)

1. Identify and describe the institutions of American national government. GOVT 2305
2. Identify and describe the institutions of the State of Texas government. GOVT 2306
3. Identify and evaluate information sources for political news, data, and opinion. GOVT 2306
4. Analyze the effects of the historical, social, political, economic, and cultural forces on politics and government. GOVT 2306
5. 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.

Instructional Methods

Lectures, simulations, discussions, etc.

Student Assignments

Description of all graded assignments.

3-Exams totaling	60 pts.
Term Paper	10 pts.
Persons of Interest	10 pts.
Homework	10 pts.
New Presentation	10 pts.
Attendance (Bonus)	5 pts.
Extra Credit	2 pts

Make-up Policy

You have the option of offering or not offering make-ups, but you must state your policy clearly here. It is not a good idea to have no make-ups as there are usually going to be cases where make-ups are necessary. If you do not want to have make-ups, I suggest having enough assignments and/or exams so you can drop a grade.

Grading Scale

90-100%= A

80-89% = B

70-79% = C

60-69% = D

less than 60% = F

You may use a total point system, but it must conform to the HCC grading scale (above)

Instructor Grading Criteria

Explain specifically how grade will be calculated. If you use a weighted average, it is helpful to explain to the students how that is calculated. Your total should be 100%.

Instructional Materials

Textbook, "Practicing Texas Politics", 2015-2016 Edition; Brown, Langenegger, Garcia
ISBN: 978-1-285-86105-0

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, 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.edurisksolutions.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. Collusion includes the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing written work.

Enter your specific policies dishonesty

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 July 31 2017.

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

Govt 2306
Summer (2) July 9, thru August 12, 2018
Mon thru Thur: 10:00 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.
Learning Hub

Course Calendar

Part 1 is Chap. 1-5
Part 2 is Chap. 6-9
Part 3 is Chap. 10-13

Required: Include Exam Dates, College Holidays

Preferred: Schedule of reading assignments and class topics with dates

Week	Date	Reading/Details
1	07-9 – 07-13-2017	(Introduction) Chapter 1 & 2
2	07-16 - 07-24-2017	[Chapters 3, 4, 5]
3	07-24 – 07-28-2017	Chapter 6- 8 EXAM 1
4	07-31 – 08-04-2017	Chapter 9 & 10 EXAM 2
5	08-07 – 08-11-2017	[Chapter 11 – 13] EXAM 3



(Cover Sheet is REQUIRED for All Papers Turned In)
Example Below

Houston Community College

Term Paper – Subject Name

Persons of Interest

Homework 1-5

Presented to:

Lloyd W. Gaddis

By

Your Name

Government 2306

Class Time and Day

Date



Government News Presentation

1. 8 News Points – (3 Bullets)
 - 2 – International
 - 2 – National
 - 2 – State
 - 2 – Local
2. Smile – (Build Rapport)
3. Park Hands
4. Posture – (Stand up straight & no dancing)
5. Voice – (Reach the person on the back row)
6. Eye Contact
7. INTRO – (Hello my name is _____ and I will be presenting the news)
8. 1 Point – 1 Page (Do not staple)
9. State Each Point
10. CONCLUSION – (That concludes the news presentation – Thank you)



GOVERNMENT TERM PAPER

Subject – Political, Governmental or Person of Interest

- 1. Cover Page**
- 2. Body – (4 ½ to 5 Pages, Typed Double Spaced)**
- 3. Work Cited**

Do not Provide Binder



Government 2306

PERSONS of INTEREST

Subject – One page each on the Each:

Include on Report:

- Student Name
 - Course Name
 - Political Person
1. Governor
 2. Lt. Governor
 3. Secretary of State
 4. Attorney General
 5. Speaker of the House
 6. Comptroller of Public Accounts
 7. Commissioner of the General Land Office
 8. Commissioner of Agriculture
 9. Texas State Senator
 10. Texas State Representation