



**Division of Social and Behavioral Sciences
Government Department**

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

GOVT 2305: Federal Government | HCC Online | CRN # 11508

Summer 2019 | 1st - 5 Weeks (6/3/2019 - 7/7/2019)

3 Credit Hours | 48 Hours Per Semester

Instructor Contact Information

Instructor: Ne'Cauje Turner, MPA

HCC Email: necauje.turner@hccs.edu

Please feel free to contact me concerning any problems that you are experiencing in this course. Your performance in my class is very important to me.

Instructor's Preferred Method of Contact

I am available to hear your concerns or to discuss course topics by appointment. You can contact me through Eagle Online (Canvas) email (preferred method of contact) while the course is open. You may contact me through HCC email before and after the course has ended. Emails sent from non-HCC accounts (i.e. gmail, yahoo, etc) will not receive a response. I will respond to emails within 24 hours Monday through Thursday; I will reply to weekend messages on Monday.

What's Exciting About This Course

Students who finish GOVT 2305 will have completed one of the most important classes they will take in their college career. In this class, it will be made clear that government and politics are in everything that we, do and interact with, particularly when it comes to ensuring our liberty and our security. These concepts, while equally important, also are in conflict with each other. Laws that promote liberty may compromise security and vice versa. Which state and/or local institutions come up with these practices and enforces them? How do they come up with these practices? What role do we, as Texas residents, play in this balance between liberty and security? This will be a large theme in the course.

Welcome

On behalf of the Government Department, I welcome you to the study of Federal Government at Houston Community College. This HCC Online government course will cover the same material as the traditional face-to-face course. The major difference is that this course is entirely online via Eagle Online (Canvas). This course assumes that you have basic computer skills, or a basic level of computer literacy. By the end of the course, you will be comfortable navigating a "virtual classroom," participating in online discussions, surfing the

internet for supplementary information about government and politics - this supplementary information will be both written and visual.

As an instructor, my goal is for students to successfully complete the course, retain, and utilize the information taught. While it my responsibility to provide you with the information in a manner that employs strategies that engage the student in an active learning environment, it is your responsibility to complete the required assignments, assessments, and discussions in a quality manner. It is your responsibility to log in regularly, participate in discussions, complete assignments before deadlines and utilize the different teaching methods used in this course to improve your ability to complete exams with a high degree of success.

Prerequisites and/or Co-Requisites

GOVT 2305 requires college-level reading and writing skills. The minimum requirement for enrollment in GOVT 2305 includes concurrent enrollment in or successful completion of ENGL 1301. If you have enrolled in this course having satisfied this prerequisite, you have a higher chance of success than students who have not done so. Please carefully read and consider the repeater policy in the [HCCS Student Handbook](#).

Eagle Online Canvas Learning Management System

This section of GOVT 2305 will use [Eagle Online \(Canvas\)](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 Eagle Online (Canvas). It is recommended that you **use [FIREFOX](#) or [CHROME](#) as your browser**.

HCC Online Tutoring

HCC Online Tutoring is available through hccs.upswing.io This online tutoring is free for all HCC students.

HCC Online Student Handbook

The HCC Online Student Handbook contains policies and procedures unique to the online student. Students should have reviewed the handbook as part of the mandatory orientation. It is the student's responsibility to become familiar with the handbook's contents. The HCC Online website at www.hccs.edu/online provides some unique procedures for HCC online students. Online students should thoroughly review the website before each semester for updates and changes. The HCC Online website has specific sections for Advising Services, Counseling Services, Ability Services, Tutoring Services, Proctoring services, Career services, Student Support, and Technical Support for Eagle Online (Canvas).

HCC Online Information and Policies

Here is the link to information about HCC Online classes including the required Online Orientation for all fully online classes: <http://www.hccs.edu/online/>

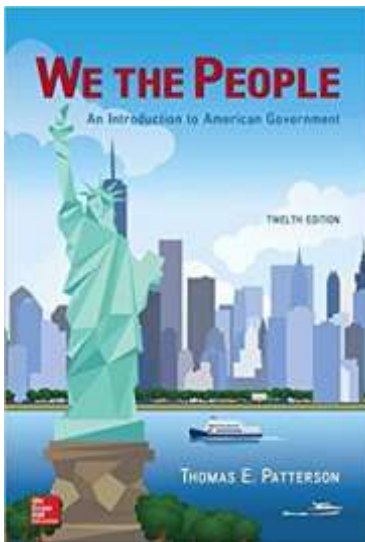
Scoring Rubrics, Sample Assignments, etc.

Look in Eagle Online 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>

Instructional Materials

Textbook Information



Patterson, Tom (2017) *We the People, 12th Edition*. McGraw-Hill ISBN: 9781260210620.

This is not a Connect enabled course.

You may either use a hard copy of the book, or use the access code to rent the e-book from McGraw-Hill. You may order your book here: [HCC Bookstore](#)

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](#) 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>.

Supplemental 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/>.

Course Overview

Government 2305 is one of two courses designed to introduce students to the study of the 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. The

course goals are to develop an understanding of the institutions and political processes of the American political system; encourage critical thinking about political events; and introduce students to the discipline of Political Science and how political scientists study politics scientifically. This course is fully transferable to all Texas State colleges and universities.

Core Curriculum Objectives (CCOs)

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.

Program Student Learning Outcomes (PSLOs)

1. Identify and describe the institutions of American national government.
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.

Course Student Learning Outcomes (CSLOs)

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

- * 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.

Learning Objectives

Learning Objectives for each CSLO can be found at GOVT 2305 can be found [here](#).

Student Success

Expect to spend at least twice as many hours per week on your own in addition to the time you would normally spend during instruction. 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 your guide.

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 make up
- Provide the course outline and class calendar which will include a description of any special projects or assignments
- Arrange to meet with individual students 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](#)

Assignments, Exams, and Activities

Assignments have been developed to enhance your learning. To better understand a topic, you will be given assignments on key information that you will need to become successful in this course. Students will be required to successfully complete the following:

Discussions

Each discussion grade will depend on the quality of the thought that goes into each response. Students are expected to provide college-level responses and at least a paragraph in essay format that explains their position on the discussion topic. Discussions are designed to allow students to demonstrate their understanding of course material in written form. All discussions must be posted to the corresponding module and discussion tread in Eagle Online

(Canvas). **All work must be cited using MLA or APA format. Discussions posted after the deadline will not be graded.**

Discussion Grading Rubric

Proactive (10 points) Student responded to the discussion prompt in 6-8 complete sentences and articulated a clear viewpoint on the topic. Student incorporated relevant research, correctly cited at least 2 sources in MLA or APA format, and used proper grammar.

Substantial (7 points) Student responded to the discussion prompt in 6-8 complete sentences and answered the prompt in a generic manner. Student correctly cited work in MLA or APA format and used proper grammar.

Superficial (3 points) Student responded to the discussion prompt in 4-5 sentences and answered the prompt in a generic manner. Student used proper grammar.

Incorrect (0 points) Student did not submit a discussion post. Student plagiarized portions of the submission. Student did not cite work and/or use proper grammar.

Exams

All exams will be taken online on specific dates according to the course calendar. Each exam will have 55 multiple-choice questions and students will have 75 minutes for each exam.

Students are encouraged to use a secure internet connection when completing all online assignments.

Quizzes

It is up to the discretion of the instructor to assign quizzes if class participation is lacking or if it is apparent that reading assignments are not being completed. Quizzes could be announced or unannounced and consist of short answer questions regarding the reading assignments.

Lectures

Lectures are available in Eagle Online (Canvas). The materials in the lectures maybe covered on your exams.

Online Activities

The course will be navigated via modules. Students will need to begin the course by opening the module titled "Start Here" and review each tab to learn more about expectations for the course. After that, each module will consist of chapter readings and activities that correspond with the readings. Students will not be able to access future modules until the previous exam closes. Please review the calendar for due dates on assignments and exams.

Extra Credit

Participating in thoughtful exchanges with classmates about the discussion topics is an informative and valuable way to learn more about your fellow classmates. If you make a valuable comment on another students post, ask a classmate a question to follow-up on the post or respond to a query from another classmate about your post, you can earn one bonus point per discussion. Bonus points can only be earned during the time frame of each discussion exercise. You are encouraged to carry the conversation on beyond the bonus point opportunity to take advantage of the exchange of information with your classmates.

SYLLABUS QUIZ

There will be an optional syllabus quiz scheduled during the beginning of the semester. Students will have three opportunities to take and retake the quiz until the maximum number of points can be earned. The purpose of the syllabus quiz is to ensure that all enrolled students become familiar with course expectations and requirements.

Grading Formula

Quizzes, exams, and assessments will be assigned to assist you in determining how successful you are at mastering the course learning outcomes outlined in the syllabus. **All grades will be posted on Eagle Online (Canvas) within 1 week of the exam closing. Discussions posted after the designated timeframe, will not be added to the grade.**

To calculate your grade, simply add up your exam scores, discussions grades, and extra credit points.

Course Assignments	Points for Each Assignment
EXAM 1	55 POINTS
EXAM 2	55 POINTS
6 Discussions	60 POINTS
TOTAL	170 POINTS

After adding up all the necessary grades, match your total number with the appropriate letter grade as follows below.

Total Points	Letter Grade
155-170	A
139-154	B
123-138	C
107-122	D
0-106	F

HCC Grading Scale can be found on this site under Academic Information:
<http://www.hccs.edu/resources-for/current-students/student-handbook/>

Course Calendar

DUE DATE	ASSIGNMENT	Reference Chapter
	Start Here	
	Syllabus Helpful Information	
	Module 1	
6/18/19	Syllabus Quiz Discussion 1	

	Module 2	
6/18/19	Political Thinking and Political Culture: Becoming a Responsible Citizen	1
	Constitutional Democracy: Promoting Liberty and Self-Government Discussion 2	2
	Module 3	
6/18/19	Federalism: Forging a Nation	3
	Civil Liberties: Protecting Individual Rights Discussion 3	4
	Module 4	
6/18/19	Exam 1	
	Module 5	
7/2/19	Political Participation: Activating the Popular Will	7
	Congress: Balancing National Goals and Local Interests Discussion 4	11
	Module 6	
7/2/19	The Presidency: Leading the Nation	12
	The Federal Bureaucracy: Administering the Government Discussion 5	13
	Module 7	
7/2/19	The Federal Judicial System: Applying the Law	14
	Foreign Policy: Protecting the American Way Discussion 6	17
	Module 8	
7/2/19	Exam 2	

Other important dates:

Official Day of Record: 6/6/19

Last day to withdraw with a "W": 6/24/19

Independence Day Holiday: 7/4/19

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.

Instructor's Practices and Procedures

Missed Assignments

Students may be allowed to makeup missed assignments if they experience an emergency that prevents them from submitting an assignment by the due date and can provide a documented excuse. Acceptable documented excuses include: medical emergencies, the death of an immediate family member, military deployment or service, family emergencies, and legal situations on a case by case basis. If you or an immediate family member encounters any of the aforementioned situations, please contact your professor immediately to determine if your documentation is in line with the makeup policy. All documentation submitted must include dates, the name(s) of the individuals involved and demonstrate that the student was unable to complete the assignment based on the time frame of the event. Feel free to contact your professor with any questions.

Incomplete ("I")

You will receive an "I" (incomplete) only in the event of a documented emergency that prevents you from completing the final exam. You must speak with your instructor as soon as possible in the event of such an emergency to arrange for a course completion schedule. If you receive an "I", all course work must be completed before the end of the next long semester. All "I" designations must be changed prior to graduation.

Academic Integrity

Here is the link to the HCC information regarding academic integrity (Scholastic Dishonesty and Violation of Academic Scholastic Dishonesty and Grievance):

<http://www.hccs.edu/about-hcc/procedures/student-rights-policies--procedures/student-procedures/>

Houston Community College is committed to a high standard of academic integrity in the academic community. In becoming a part of the academic community, students are responsible for honesty and independent effort. Examples of these violations include, but are not limited to, the following: plagiarizing written work or projects, cheating on exams or assignments, collusion on an exam or project, and misrepresentation of credentials or prerequisites when registering for a course.

Simply put, violations of academic integrity will not be tolerated. At a minimum, a grade of "0" will be recorded on the assignment or exam in question. Additional sanctions may include but are not necessarily limited to the following: being assigned a grade of "F" for the course, being withdrawn from the course, or being expelled from the College.

Attendance Procedures

As stated in the HCC Student Handbook, all students are expected to attend classes regularly. Students are also responsible for materials covered during their absences. It is the student's responsibility to consult with their instructor for make-up assignments. Class attendance is monitored daily. It is the students' responsibility to drop a course for nonattendance. **I will not drop a student. It is the student's responsibility to process the paperwork before the due date.** Failure to withdraw officially can result in a grade of "F" in the course.

Students enrolled in HCC Online courses must log into their Eagle Online (Canvas) class or they will be counted as absent. HCC Online students who do not login and "actively participate" **before** the Official Day of Record will be AUTOMATICALLY dropped for non-

attendance. Completing the HCC Online orientation does not count towards attendance. **The Official Day of Record for this course is Thursday, June 6, 2019**. Although it is the responsibility of the student to withdraw officially from a course, the professor also has the authority to block a student from accessing Eagle Online (Canvas), and/or to withdraw a student for excessive absences or failure to participate regularly.

If you are having technical difficulties and cannot login, you must immediately contact your instructor and the Eagle Online (Canvas) Help Desk or you will be counted as absent.

Withdrawals

If you are considering a course withdrawal because you are not earning passing grades, confer with your instructor as early as possible to discuss your study habits, test-taking skills, attendance, course participation, and opportunities for tutoring or other assistance that might be available. **The drop/withdrawal date this semester is Monday, June 24, 2019.**

Student Conduct

It is important for students to be respectful of the opinions of others. Students will receive a variety of reading material from a diverse audience. The material may come from historically sound reporters or opinionated commentators. I ask that each student critic each article regardless of the source or news outlet. The material maybe provocative in nature to generate a healthy debate. I encourage students to share diverging opinions on the material presented. Before responding to a discussion prompt or article, be sure to keep an open mind and try to relate to the issue from alternative perspectives. Clarify if your argument is based on your opinion or researched facts.

Disruptive behavior or activities that interfere with teaching and learning will not be tolerated and may result in an administrative withdrawal without refund. At a minimum, such disruption may result in a student being asked to issue a public apology.

Instructor's Course-Specific Information (As Needed)

All grades will be posted within 1 week of the exam closing. Student discussions posted after the designated timeframe, will not be added to the grade. I am happy to discuss any questions and/or concerns regarding a specific grade. Please allow for at least a 24 hour "cooling" period after receiving your grade. Communication opportunities are often lost without such a period

HCC Policies

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

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

EGLS³

The EGLS³ ([Evaluation for Greater Learning Student Survey System](#)) 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/>

Campus Carry Link

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

<http://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](#) and activate it now. You may also use Canvas Inbox to communicate.

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.

Government Program Information

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

- GOVT Majors – 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 who will connect them to events, news, and opportunities.
- Careers in GOVT – 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.
- GOVT Student Organizations – The HCC Political Science Club holds discussions and sponsors events to connect students to politics in the real world.
- GOVT Scholarships – The Government Department will work with students to locate scholarship support, when possible.

Office of Institutional Equity

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

disAbility Services

HCC strives to make all learning experiences as accessible as possible. If you anticipate or experience academic barriers based on your disability (including 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 <http://www.hccs.edu/support-services/disability-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
<http://www.hccs.edu/departments/institutional-equity/title-ix-know-your-rights/>

Department Chair Contact Information

Department Chair: Dr. Cammy Shay

Email Address: cammy.shay@hccs.edu

Office Number: 713-718-7141

Per the HCC Student Handbook, if you have a problem with your Government course, please contact your instructor before contacting the department chair.