# Texas Government-14160

GOVT-2306

S1 2022 Section 830 3 Credits 06/06/2022 to 07/10/2022 Modified 06/04/2022

# Course Meetings

## **Course Modality**

Online Anytime (WW)

Traditional online course without scheduled meetings

## **Meeting Days**

None

## **Meeting Times**

None

## **Meeting Location**

All work and assignments are found in Canvas. The textbook is also online and link provided in Canvas.

## **Welcome and Instructor Information**

## Professor/Assoc. Chair: Dr. Veronica Reyna

Email: Veronica.Reyna1@hccs.edu

Phone: 17137185215

Website: https://learning.hccs.edu/faculty/veronica.reyna1 (https://learning.hccs.edu/faculty/veronica.reyna1)

## What's Exciting About This Course

Students who finish GOVT 2306 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, as citizens, do and interact with, particularly when it comes to access to power and influencing the government. How can residents influence the government more and more effectively so that it better represents them? Who has power and influence? Why? How does our use of power affect our quality of lives? This will be a large theme in my course.

## My Personal Welcome

Welcome to the course! On behalf of the Government Department, I welcome you to the study of Texas Government at Houston Community College. As this is an online course, we will be using Canvas and a whole host of online technology. Students will need to be proficient with computers and other necessary electronic devices to access instructional material and course assignments. TurnItIn.com is used through Canvas. More information to follow below. Make sure you follow the syllabus calendar below carefully! There is something to read, to study, and to turn in every week.

## **Preferred Method of Contact**

You can contact me through either Canvas (preferred method of contact) or my HCC email with your HCC email. Emails sent from

non-HCC accounts (i.e. Gmail, Yahoo, etc.) will not receive a response. If you call my office phone, please leave a message if I am not available. Your voicemail will be emailed to me. I will respond to emails within 24-48 hours Monday through Friday; I will reply to weekend messages on Monday mornings.

# 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/

# Ocore 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

The <u>HCC Online Bookstore (https://hccs.bncollege.com/shop/hccs-central/page/find-textbooks)</u> provides searchable information on textbooks for all courses. Check with your instructor before purchasing textbooks because the book might be included in your course fees.

Texas Government 2.0 Author: Kris Seago Publisher: OER Commons

Edition: 2

Availability: Online

Price: FREE

Access the online book here: https://www.oercommons.org/courseware/8453

Please bookmark or download the book for reading. Follow the syllabus for reading assignments

# Course Requirements

# Assignments, Exams, and Activities

Туре	Weight	Topic	Notes
Discussion Posts	20%		There are two discussion posts. Instructions and tips will be provided in Canvas. Grades are earned based upon how well course concepts are applied. There is a grade for the initial discussion post and a separate grade for the responses.
Discussion Responses	20%		There are two discussions requiring at least two discussion responses each. Instructions and tips in Canvas. One response grade per discussion.
Application Analysis Papers	50%		There are two application papers applying course concepts. Instructions in Canvas. These papers serve as an assessment of learning course materials and course concepts.

Туре	Weight	Topic	Notes
Learning Improvement Evaluations	10%		At the end of the course, there will be an evaluation of the progress of learning and improvement in analysis and writing. One grade will be for improvement in learning for discussion posts and responses; one grade will be for improvement in learning for the application analysis papers.

## **Grading Formula**

Grade	Range	Notes
A	90-100	
В	80-89	
С	70-79	
D	60-69	
F	59 and below	

# Instructor's Practices and Procedures

## **Incomplete Policy**

Incomplete "I" grades are rarely granted students. Exceptions may be made on a case-by-case basis should the student provide a legitimate non-academic reason backed with appropriate documentation. Further, at least 85% of the required work in the course should have already been completed.

In all cases, the instructor reserves the right to decline a student's request to receive a grade of Incomplete.

Students granted an "I" will have until the end of the next long semester to finish the course. All "I's will convert to "F's" unless the student successfully complete all remaining work as determined by the instructor.

## Missed Assignments/Make-Up Policy

For most missed coursework, there will be NO make-up opportunities. Expect the deadlines to submit these assignments to be hard, firm deadlines. Students are also encouraged to start early on these assignments to avoid any potential tech problems and/or difficulties that may surface as the respective deadlines approach. If there are extenuating circumstances, please contact me to discuss the situation, required documentation, and administrative options.

## **Academic Integrity**

Plagiarism and cheating are not tolerated. If you are caught plagiarizing or cheating in any fashion (defined by the HCC policy below), you will earn a zero on the assignment/exam in question. If plagiarism and cheating occur again after this first warning, you will automatically earn an "F" in the course.

Houston Community College is committed to a high standard of academic integrity in the academic community. In becoming 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. All faculty at HCC are required to document these violations in Maxient, a system used to report any student behavior that constitutes a violation of academic integrity, triggering involvement from other appropriate departments.

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/

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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/studentprocedures (https://www.hccs.edu/studentprocedures)

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https://www.hccs.edu/studentprocedures (https://www.hccs.edu/studentprocedures)

#### **Attendance Procedures**

Online attendance and activity in the course is monitored regularly. Students do not attend and actively participate in class will be marked as "never attended" on the official census roster, triggering an administrative withdrawal from the course. Students who are absent and/or who are not current with the required coursework will receive an Early Alert email from their professor and from an HCC adviser. The Early Alert system is designed to help students who may be facing challenges that impact their ability to succeed in class.

Online students are expected to log into their courses in Canvas almost daily, know the rules and expectations in the course, keep up with announcements, and meet assignment deadlines. Your course grade WILL be a reflection of your of participation in the course. Unless stated otherwise, the deadlines for all online assignments (i.e. exams, discussions, and chapter activities) are at 11:59pm central time.

My recommendation: Stay AT LEAST a day or two ahead of the deadlines in case something goes wrong (technical/computer difficulties, the death of a close relative, etc.) as deadlines for all respective assignments are hard, firm, and assignments will NOT be re-opened.

#### Student Conduct

Students will be required to participate in discussion activities and interact with fellow classmates in class and/or in an online setting. Any and all communication among class participants must be civil and respectful. HCC Government Department faculty are required to document any violations of student conduct by completing a Maxient report. An HCC counselor will contact the student named in the Maxient report to discuss and resolve the issue it identifies.

# Instructor's Course-Specific Information

I will make an effort to ensure that all grades will be returned to students in a timely manner. It does take me a week or so to grade all papers with comments. Thank you for your patience.

While I will be happy to discuss any questions and concerns with students especially on graded written work, please allow for AT LEAST a 24 hour "cooling" period after receiving your grade.

#### **Devices**

It is expected you have access to a working device and internet connection for an online course. There is a lot of writing expected, so accessing the course on a tablet or phone may be difficult (but not impossible). It is also expected you know how to navigate and use Canvas and basic word processing software. Please let me know if you have any questions about software, and I'll be happy to help.

HCC does have a limited supply of laptops to check out, as well as hotspots for internet use. Please contact the library at the closest HCC campus for more details.

## **Faculty Statement about 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 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.

## **Faculty-Specific Information Regarding Canvas**

This course section will use Canvas (<a href="https://eagleonline.hccs.edu">https://eagleonline.hccs.edu</a> (<a href="https://eagleonline.hccs.edu">https://eagleonline.hccs.edu</a>) 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.

#### 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.

# **<u>a</u>** HCC Policies and Information

## **HCC Grading System**

HCC uses the following standard grading system:

Grade	Grade Interpretation	Grade Points
А	Excellent (90-100)	4
В	Good (80-89)	3
С	Fair (70-79)	2
D	Passing (60-69), except in developmental courses.	1

Grade	Grade Interpretation	Grade Points
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
СОМ	Completed. Given in non-credit and continuing education courses.	0

# Link to Policies in Catalog and Student Handbook

Here's the link to the HCC Catalog and Student Handbook: <a href="https://catalog.hccs.edu/">https://catalog.hccs.edu/</a> (https://catalog.hccs.edu/)

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/student-conduct (https://www.hccs.edu/student-conduct) (scroll down to subsections)

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

https://www.hccs.edu/campuscarry (https://www.hccs.edu/campuscarry)

## **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/email) and activate it now. You may also use Canvas Inbox to communicate.

## Office of Institutional Equity

Use the following link to access the HCC Office of Institutional Equity, Inclusion, and Engagement: <a href="https://www.hccs.edu/eeo">https://www.hccs.edu/eeo</a> (https://www.hccs.edu/eeo)

#### **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 <a href="https://www.hccs.edu/accessibility/">https://www.hccs.edu/accessibility/</a> (https://www.hccs.edu/accessibility)

#### 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)

https://www.hccs.edu/titleix (https://www.hccs.edu/titleix)

#### 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: <a href="https://www.hccs.edu/online/">https://www.hccs.edu/online/</a> (https://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. <a href="https://eagleonline.hccs.edu/">https://eagleonline.hccs.edu/</a> (<a href="https://eagleonline.hccs.

## 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 <u>HCCS Student Handbook</u> (https://www.hccs.edu/studenthandbook)

#### EGLS3

The EGLS<sup>3</sup> (Evaluation for Greater Learning Student Survey System (https://www.hccs.edu/egls3)) 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. EGLS<sup>3</sup> surveys are only available for the Fall and Spring semesters. -EGLS3 surveys are not offered during the Summer semester due to logistical constraints.

## **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 and convenient academic support, in a large variety of subjects, to HCC students in both an online environment and in-person on campus. Tutoring is provided by HCC personnel in order to ensure that it is appropriate. Visit the HCC Tutoring Services website for more information at <a href="https://hccs.edu/tutoring">https://hccs.edu/tutoring</a>).

#### 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 <a href="https://library.hccs.edu">https://library.hccs.edu</a> (https://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 <a href="https://www.hccs.edu/supplemental-instruction">https://www.hccs.edu/supplemental-instruction</a>)

#### **Resources for Students:**

https://www.hccs.edu/covid19students (https://www.hccs.edu/covid19students)

#### **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://www.hccs.edu/basicneeds (https://www.hccs.edu/basicneeds)

#### COVID-19

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

https://www.hccs.edu/covid-19 (https://www.hccs.edu/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.

## **Instructional Modalities**

#### In-Person (P)

Safe, face-to-face course with scheduled dates and times

## Online on a Schedule (WS)

Fully online course with virtual meetings at scheduled dates and times

#### Online Anytime (WW)

Traditional online course without scheduled meetings

#### Hybrid (H)

Course that meets safely 50% face-to-face and 50% virtually

#### Hybrid Lab (HL)

Lab class that meets safely 50% face-to-face and 50% virtually

## **Copyright Statement**

In order to uphold the integrity of the academic environment and protect and foster a cohesive learning environment for all, HCC prohibits unauthorized use of course materials. Materials shared in this course are based on my professional knowledge and experience and are presented in an educational context for the students in the course. Authorized use of course materials is limited to personal study or educational uses. Material should not be shared, distributed, or sold outside the course without permission. Students are also explicitly forbidden in all circumstances from plagiarizing or appropriating course materials. This includes but is not limited to publically posting quizzes, essays, or other materials. This prohibition extends not only during this course, but after. Sharing of the materials in any context will be a violation of the HCC Student Code of Conduct and may subject the student to discipline, as well as any applicable civil or criminal liability. Consequences for unauthorized sharing, plagiarizing, or other methods of academic dishonesty may range from a 0 on the specified assignment and/or up to expulsion from Houston Community College. Questions about this policy may be directed to me or to the Manager of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity.



# 🛗 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.

#### Course Schedule

Class Date	Reading Assignment	Reference Chapter
Week 1	Intro. To Texas History and Politics  Voting and Participation in Texas	Unit 1 & 7
June 9th	Discussion #1 Post due-Day of Record  **Remember: you will be dropped from course if this is not turned in on time.	In Canvas
June 13th	Discussion #1 Reponses to Peers due	In Canvas
Week 2	Representation: Elections & Campaigns, Political Parties, Interest Groups in Texas	Units 8 & 9 & 10

June 19th	Analysis Paper #1 Due	In Canvas
Week 3	Texas State Constitution and Federalism  The Court System  The Criminal Justice System	Units 2 & 5 & 12
June 26th	Discussion #2 Post Due	In Canvas
Week 4	Institutions: Local Governments The Texas Legislature The Texas Executive	Units 6 & 3 & 4
June 29th	Discussion #2 Responses to Peers due	In Canvas
Week 5	Public Policy and Financing Government	Units 11 & 13
July 8th	Final Analysis Paper #2 Due	In Canvas

#### Other important dates:

June 9th Day of Record \*\*\*\*REMEMBER You must complete the first Discussion on

time in order to be counted 'present' for the course.

June 20th Juneteenth Holiday

June 27th Last day to withdraw with a "W"

July 4th Independence Day Holiday

## 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.

Cammy Shay, Ph.D. (she/her/hers)
Faculty Division Chair - Government
Angela Morales Building, 101.12
6815 Rustic
Houston, Texas, 77087
713-718-7141
cammy.shay@hccs.edu
http://learning.hccs.edu/faculty/cammy.shay