

Course Syllabus



Course GOVT 2305
Course Title American National Government
Instructors Carlos D. Gutierrez Mannix
Term Starts: May 24, 2020
Ends: August 4, 2020
Meetings Online, Microsoft Team

Professor's Contact Information

Office Phone N/A
Other Phone ---
Office Location Online, Using: MS Teams
Email Address Cxg172030@utdallas.edu
Office Hours Please schedule an appointment using Calendly:
Carlos: <https://calendly.com/cxg172030> (Monday, 1-3pm)
Meeting Hours Monday & Wednesday
10:00am - 12:15pm

Description: This course involves the analysis of governmental institutions, political behavior, civic engagement, and their political and philosophical foundations.

Objectives: **Critical Thinking (CT)**—Creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation, and synthesis of information
Communication (COM)—Include effective development, interpretation, and expression of ideas through written, oral, and visual communication
Social Responsibility (SR)—To achieve intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities
Personal Responsibility (PR)—To foster the ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making

General Course Information

Pre-requisites	Non
Email Communication	Students are expected to use email communication in a manner that is courteous and which resembles writing a formal letter. Please refer to the following link to learn about principles of Netiquette: https://www.utep.edu/extendeduniversity/utepconnect/blog/october-2017/10-rules-of-netiquette-for-students.html
Live Sessions	Live Sessions will be conducted Mondays and Wednesdays between 10 am 12:15pm. These will happen via <u>Microsoft Teams</u>
Course Description	This course serves as an introduction to the study of politics and political institutions in the United States Government. It includes the origin and development of these political structures and discusses topics such as federalism, intergovernmental relations, political participation, the election process, public policy, and political culture. The goal of this class is to develop citizens with a high understanding of modern America.
Learning Outcomes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop skills that allow students to understand politics. 2. Develop an understanding of how government works. 3. Understand the roles of the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of government at the federal level. 4. Understanding the public policy process. 5. Understanding the importance public opinion, political parties, interest groups, and electoral processes.
Required Texts & Materials	This will be assigned via TopHat. Students will receive an email with instructions on how to sign-up to TopHat and purchase the necessary book.
Suggested Readings	These will be announced as the semester progresses.

Assignments & Academic Calendar

[Topics, Reading Assignments, Due Dates, Exam Dates]

DATES	TOPIC/LECTURE	ACTIVITY	ASSIGNMENT
May 24	Introduction to the course	Syllabus	
May 26	The U.S. Constitution	Class	Assigned Reading on Elearning *One-paragraph response* May 31
May 31	Federalism	Class	One-paragraph response DUE
June 2	The U.S. Congress	Class	Quiz 1 Available after 3PM
June 7	The Presidency	Class	
June 9	The Federal Courts	Class	Quiz 2 Available after 3PM
June 14	Civil Rights	Class	
June 16	Minorities in Politics	Class	Quiz 3 Available after 3PM
June 21	Exam 1	Exam	Online Exam Available after 3PM
June 23	Civil Liberties	Class	
June 28	Civil Liberties Around the World	Class	Quiz 4 Available after 3PM
June 30	Political Parties	Class	
July 5	Organized Interests	Class	
July 7	Exam 2	Exam	Online Exam Available after 3PM
July 12	Elections	Class	
July 14	The Media	Class	Quiz 5 Available after 3PM

DATES	TOPIC/LECTURE	ACTIVITY	ASSIGNMENT
July 19	The Policy Process and Public Policymaking	Class	
July 21	American Health Policy	Class	Quiz 6 Available after 3PM
July 26	Health Policy around the World	Class	Assigned Reading on Elearning *One-paragraph response* Due August 2
July 28	Foreign Policy	Class	Quiz 7 Available after 3PM
August 2	Catch-up Day	Class/Feedback	One-paragraph response DUE
August 4	Exam 3	Exam	Online Exam Available after 3PM

Course policies

Grading (credit) Criteria	<p>There are THREE major graded components for this course:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 3 Exams (20% each; 60% total) 2. Quizzes: highest 6 of 7 (4% each; 24% total) 3. One-paragraph responses to readings on E-Learning (8% each, 16% total) <p>Grading Policy Final course grades will be based on the total points earned throughout the course. A 93% - 100% A- 90% - 92% B+ 87% - 89% B 83% - 86% B- 80% - 82% C+ 77% - 79% C 73% - 76% C- 70% - 72% D+ 67% - 69% D 63% - 66% D- 60% - 62%</p>
Exams and Quizzed	Exams and quizzes will be available via E-Learning. Exams will include up to 100 questions and will be available for no longer than 1 Hour and 30 Minutes. Quizzes will contain 10 questions and will be available for 20 minutes.
Make-up Exams/quizzes	At the discretion of the Instructor. No make-up for quizzes.
Extra Credit	If any, they will be announced via E-Learning.
Late Work	Late exams, quizzes and responses to readings will not be accepted.
Classroom Citizenship	The same guidelines that apply to traditional classes should be observed in the virtual classroom environment. Please use proper netiquette when interacting with class members and the professor.
Comet Creed	<p><i>This creed was voted on by the UT Dallas student body in 2014. It is a standard that Comets choose to live by and encourage others to do the same:</i></p> <p><i>“As a Comet, I pledge honesty, integrity, and service in all that I do.”</i></p>
UT Dallas Syllabus Policies and Procedures	<p><i>The information contained in the following link constitutes the University's policies and procedures segment of the course syllabus.</i></p> <p><i>Please go to http://go.utdallas.edu/syllabus-policies for these policies.</i></p>
Recordings	<i>The instructor may record meetings of this course. These recordings will be made available to all students registered for this class if the intent is to supplement the classroom experience. If the instructor or a UTD school/department/office plans any other uses for the recordings, consent of the students identifiable in the recordings is required prior to such use unless an exception is allowed by law. Failure to comply with these University requirements is a violation of the Student Code of Conduct</i>

Technical Requirements

In addition to a confident level of computer and Internet literacy, certain minimum technical requirements must be met to enable a successful learning experience. Please review the important technical requirements on the [Getting Started with eLearning](#) webpage.

Course Access and Navigation

This course can be accessed using your UT Dallas NetID account on the [eLearning](#) website.

Please see the course access and navigation section of the [Getting Started with eLearning](#) webpage for more information.

To become familiar with the eLearning tool, please see the [Student eLearning Tutorials](#) webpage.

UT Dallas provides eLearning technical support 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The [eLearning Support Center](#) includes a toll-free telephone number for immediate assistance (1-866-588-3192), email request service, and an online chat service.

Communication

This course utilizes online tools for interaction and communication. Some external communication tools such as regular email and a web conferencing tool may also be used during the semester. For more details, please visit the [Student eLearning Tutorials](#) webpage for video demonstrations on eLearning tools.

Student emails and discussion board messages will be answered within 3 working days under normal circumstances.

Distance Learning Student Resources

Online students have access to resources including the McDermott Library, Academic Advising, The Office of Student AccessAbility, and many others. Please see the [eLearning Current Students](#) webpage for more information.

Server Unavailability or Other Technical Difficulties

The University is committed to providing a reliable learning management system to all users. However, in the event of any unexpected server outage or any unusual technical difficulty which prevents students from completing a time sensitive assessment activity, the instructor will provide an appropriate accommodation based on the situation. Students should immediately report any problems to the instructor and also contact the online [eLearning Help Desk](#). The instructor and the eLearning Help Desk will work with the student to resolve any issues at the earliest possible time.

The descriptions and timelines contained in this syllabus are subject to change at the discretion of the Professor.