

Spring 2-1-2000

PSC 100S.01: Introduction to American Government

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Political Science 100
Spring 2000

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243-4829
Office Hours: MWF, 12:00 - 1:00
LA348

TA: Melissa Wangler
Corbin 345

Text: Government by the People, 18th Edition, 1999

<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>READING</u>	<u>DATE</u>
American Founding Documents	Chapter 1	Jan. 24, 26
Principles of American Constitutionalism	Chapters 2 & 3	Jan. 28, 31; Feb. 2,4,7
First Amendment Freedoms	Chapter 4	Feb. 9,11,14,16,18
Examination		Feb. 23
Equality under Law	Chapter 5	Feb. 25, 28; Mar. 1
Citizenship, Property, Criminal Justice	Chapter 6	Mar. 3,6,8,10,13
Interest Groups	Chapters 8 & 9	Mar. 15
Political Parties	Chapters 7 & 10	Mar. 17,27
Voting	Chapter 11	Mar. 29,31
Examination		April 3
Campaign Finance	Chapter 12	April 5,7
Electing the President	Chapter 12	April 10,12,14
U.S. Congress	Chapter 14	April 17,19,21
The Presidency	Chapter 15	April 24,26,28
The Judiciary	Chapter 16	May 1,3
The Bureaucracy	Chapter 17	May 5
Examination		May 11

The learning goal of this lecture course is student understanding of the major structural and legal features of American government. These characteristics are listed on the review sheets and provide the basis of the examinations. The three examinations will use true and false, multiple choice, and fill-in-the-blank questions. The dates of the first two examinations are Feb. 23 and Apr. 3. The final examination will cover material from the second examination to the end of the course and is scheduled for May 11 at 10:10. The first two examinations will count 66 points each and the final examination will count 68 points. Thus, a total of 200 points can be earned in the course. The course grades will be determined as follows: A-top 15%; B-next 20%; C-next 30%; D-next 20%; F-bottom 15%. Make-ups for the first two examinations must be prearranged and taken within two class days of the scheduled time. Weekly review/discussion sessions will be conducted by the TA. February 21 is a holiday. Spring vacation is March 20-24.