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PSC 100S.01: Introduction to American Government

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Political Science 100
Summer 2008

M-Th, 9:30-11:20
LA 334

Professor James Lopach
LA 350
243-2946
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Text: Government by the People, 22nd Edition, Basic Version

<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>READING</u>	<u>DATE</u>
American Founding Documents	Chapter 1	May 19
Principles of American Constitutionalism	Chapters 2 & 3	May 19, 20, 21
First Amendment Freedoms	Chapter 15	May 21, 22, 27
Examination		May 28
Equality under the Law	Chapter 17	May 28, 29
Citizenship, Property, Due Process	Chapter 16	June 2, 3, 4
Interest Groups	Chapter 6	June 4
Political Parties	Chapter 7	June 5
Voting and Elections	Chapter 8, 9	June 9
Examination		June 10
Campaign Finance	Chapter 9	June 10
Electing the President	Chapter 9	June 11
U.S. Congress	Chapters 11	June 12, 16
The Presidency	Chapters 12	June 16, 17
The Judiciary	Chapter 14	June 18
The Bureaucracy	Chapter 13	June 18
Examination		June 19

The learning goal of this lecture course is student understanding of the major structural and legal features of American government. These characteristics as covered in the lectures and listed on the review sheets provide the basis of the examinations. The three examinations will use objective (not essay) questions. The dates of the first two examinations are May 28 and June 10. The final examination will cover material from the second examination to the end of the course and is scheduled for June 19. The two midterm examinations will count 33 points each and the final examination will count 34 points. A total of 110 points can be earned in the course (10 extra credit points). The course grades will be determined as follows: A = 94-100; A- = 90-93; 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; F = 59 and lower. For the credit/no credit grading option, a grade of D- and above will count as "credit." Make-ups for the first 2 examinations must be prearranged. Class will not meet on May 26.