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PSC 100S.01: Introduction to American Government

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Political Science 100
Summer 2007

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 21 |
| Principles of American Constitutionalism | Chapters 2 & 3 | May 21, 22, 23 |
| First Amendment Freedoms | Chapter 15 | May 23, 24, 29 |
| Examination | | May 30 |
| Equality under the Law | Chapter 17 | May 30, 31 |
| Citizenship, Property, Due Process | Chapter 16 | June 4, 5, 6 |
| Interest Groups | Chapter 6 | June 6 |
| Political Parties | Chapter 7 | June 7 |
| Voting and Elections | Chapter 8, 9 | June 11 |
| Examination | | June 12 |
| Campaign Finance | Chapter 9 | June 12 |
| Electing the President | Chapter 9 | June 13 |
| U.S. Congress | Chapters 11 | June 14, 18 |
| The Presidency | Chapters 12 | June 18, 19 |
| The Judiciary | Chapter 14 | June 20 |
| The Bureaucracy | Chapter 13 | June 20 |
| Examination | | June 21 |

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 30 and June 12. The final examination will cover material from the second examination to the end of the course and is scheduled for June 21. The two midterm examinations will count 33 points each and the final examination will count 34 points. Thus, a total of 100 points can be earned in the course. 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 28.