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PSC 100S.01: Introduction to American Government

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M-Th, 9:30-11:20
LA 138

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Text: Government by the People, 20th Edition

<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>READING</u>	<u>DATE</u>
American Founding Documents	Chapter 1	June 26
Principles of American Constitutionalism	Chapters 2 & 3	June 26,27, 28
First Amendment Freedoms	Chapter 16	June 28, 29; July 3
Examination		July 5
Equality under the Law	Chapter 18	July 5,6
Citizenship, Property, Due Process	Chapter 17	July 10,11,12
Interest Groups	Chapter 6	July 12
Political Parties	Chapter 7	July 13
Voting and Elections	Chapter 8,9	July 17
Examination		July 18
Campaign Finance	Chapter 9	July 18
Electing the President	Chapter 9	July 19
U.S. Congress	Chapters 11 & 13	July 20,24
The Presidency	Chapters 12 & 13	July 24,25
The Judiciary	Chapter 14	July 26
The Bureaucracy	Chapter 15	July 26
Examination		July 27

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 July 5 and July 18. The final examination will cover material from the second examination to the end of the course and is scheduled for July 27. 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 July 4.