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PSC 100S.01: Introduction to American Government

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AMERICAN GOVERNMENT
Political Science 100
Spring 1996

Jim Lopach
LA 416
243-4829

Text: Government by the People, Brief ed., 1994

<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>READING</u>	<u>DATE</u>
Introductory Comments		January 30
American Founding Documents	Chapter 1	Feb. 1,3
Principles of American Constitutionalism	Chapters 1 & 2	Feb. 6,8,10,13
First Amendment Freedoms	Chapter 3	Feb. 15,17,20,22,24
Examination		Feb. 27
Equality under Law	Chapter 4	Feb. 27, Mar. 2,5
Due Process and Criminal Justice	Chapter 4	Mar. 7,9,12,14
Interest Groups	Chapters 6 & 7	Mar. 16
Political Parties	Chapters 5 & 7	Mar. 19,21
Public Opinion and Media	Chapter 8 & 9	Mar. 23
Voting	Chapter 8	Mar. 26,28,30
Examination		April 2
Campaign Finance	Chapter 8	April 4,6
Electing the President	Chapter 8	April 16,18,20
U.S. Congress	Chapter 10	April 23, 25, 27
The Presidency	Chapter 11	April 30, May 2,4
The Judiciary	Chapter 12	May 7,9
The Bureaucracy	Chapter 13	May 11
Examination		May 15

There will be three examinations: two midterms and a final. Each test will use objective questions. The date of the midterm examinations will be February 27 and April 2. The final examination will cover material from the second midterm to the end of the course and is scheduled for Wednesday, May 15 at 8:00 a.m. The midterms will count 33 points each and the final will count 34 points. Thus, a total of 100 points can be earned in the course. Ordinarily, the final grades for Psc 100 will be distributed as follows: A-top 20%; B-next 30%; C-next 30%; D-bottom 20%. Failing grades will be determined at the instructor's discretion and as exceptions to the above distribution.

March 11, 1996 - Last day to drop classes and change grading option.