

**GLENDALE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
AMERICAN NATIONAL GOVERNMENT**

Fall 2009

COURSE: POS 110

Sec: 15718

Room HTA 6

Time: TR 5:45-7:00 PM

INSTRUCTOR: MRS. KATHY HEDGES

Voice Mail: 480-731-8866 box 14424 (leave message)

Department Phone: 623-845-3685 (for urgent message)

E-mail: kathy.hedges@gmail.com

Wikispaces: <http://pos110.wikispaces.com/>

(Be sure to put POS 110 in the subject box. Otherwise it won't get to me quickly.)

Office hours: By appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will be a study of the historical backgrounds, governing principles, and institutions of the national government of the United States. Prerequisites: None.

It is designed to acquaint you with the design, structure and processes used by the American National Government in making and implementing policy. It will examine structure of the Constitution, and the thinking of the framers as they designed it, the people and institutions that make policy and the influences on those institutions. You should find it interesting, informative, and very current.

REQUIRED TEXT: Benjamin Ginsberg, et al: We The People: An Introduction to American Politics Essentials Edition

WEBSITES: The text is very complete, and has many study aids on the website.

- <http://www.wwnorton.com/college/polisci/wtp7e/essentials/>
- It includes Key Concepts, Questions for Discussion and other study aids. To help you remember what you read, download the Key Concepts from the website and take notes as you read. They are not required, but since you are held accountable for assigned reading they can help you get the most out of it. You might take Cornell Notes on any Chapter. Go to the website to assist you in preparing for class, to take online practice quizzes and to study for tests.

BLACKBOARD:

- This course will use blackboard for assignments and agenda updates. To get your login password and for information on how to use blackboard use the following website.
<https://ecourses.maricopa.edu/webapps/login/>
- Assignments will be submitted on Blackboard as well. Use this site to learn how to submit assignments.
<http://media.atc.wpi.edu/Academics/ADLN/Orientation/assign.htm>
- For other help and tutorials, go to this site.
<http://www.gccaz.edu/hd/tutorials/blackboard/>

CLASSROOM POLICIES

- The major course expectations are to read the assigned material prior to class and prepare yourself to contribute to class discussions. Because much of the curriculum will be presented by lecture and activities, and since part of your grade will include participation and attendance, regular attendance is also expected.
- You are expected to be in class regularly, and on time. If this will be a problem for you, see me and we will assess the situation together. As a rule, you may be dropped when you have missed more than three classes, unless we have communicated and the circumstances warrant an exception. If you are ill, or know you will be absent or tardy, e-mail me with the circumstances in advance..

- Taping of lectures and class discussions is not permitted without permission. If you have any special circumstances that require accommodation, notify the instructor and contact the Disability and Services Office (523) 845-3080 so that arrangements can be made to assist you.
- Consult the GCC Student Handbook (www.gc.maricopa.edu/studenthandbook/) for your rights and responsibilities as a student at GCC.
- From time to time, revisions may be made to the course requirements and the due dates specified in the syllabus. It is the responsibility of students who miss class sessions to find out whatever changes have been made. I will update changes on blackboard. Check the announcements page regularly.

ASSIGNMENTS:

- Assignments will be submitted online but hard copy will be accepted if you are unable to submit online. The following tutorial will help you submit it online if you do not know how.
<http://media.atc.wpi.edu/Academics/ADLN/Orientation/assign.htm>
- This course will require a commitment to complete the assigned work on time. The reading is challenging and will require your full attention. In order to facilitate discussion, it is imperative that you complete the assigned reading and take the quiz before class time.
- It is the student's responsibility to get any missed assignments due to absence. Due dates for all reading and written assignments are indicated on the calendar. If you are absent, submit the work online to avoid a penalty. A 20% late penalty will be imposed on late written work submitted within one week of the due date. Work will not be accepted after exam on the unit nor after the due date of your presentation. Work is considered late after the beginning of the class time on the date due.
- Notice that some assignments are optional. This means that you may do them for credit and they will reduce the weight of the required activities. If you choose not to do them, they will NOT impact your grade. You will be excused from the optional activities.
- All work in this class is individual, including homework and exams. Evidence of copied work will result in a zero for both parties, as will plagiarism. This includes work copied directly from the text or readings (unless quoted appropriately). To receive credit you must answer or write your summaries in your own words.
- Incidents of academic misconduct will be pursued following GCC Academic Guidelines. Please keep electronic or paper copies of all your work until the end of the semester as insurance against loss by you or me.

LEARNING REQUIREMENTS:

- **Article Summaries:** Part of the work will be outside reading assignments. Reading reviews will be shared orally in class, as well as submitted in a typed format. Forms will be provided online and submitted through blackboard. Assignments will include written summaries of outside readings to be submitted in a format that will be provided. Work not using the proper forms will not be accepted or graded. Most readings require the notes and the summary. BOTH are required if stipulated, and must be submitted together.
- **News:** We will follow the events of American politics through Printed media such as the NY Times or Washington Post or specific televised broadcasts such as Meet the Press in which newsmakers are interviewed by journalists. Forms will also be provided for the newsmaker reports, which must be typed. The form is required for credit and can be downloaded from blackboard.
- **EXAMS:** Exams will include both objective and free response questions at the end of each unit. If you miss an exam, notify me in advance and you will have one week to make it up. That means if it was due on Tuesday, it must be made up before class time the following Tuesday. If you have not completed it within that time period, the cumulative final examination for this class will count as both the final exam and the missing exam.

- **QUIZZES:** Quizzes will be assigned for most reading in the text. They are due before class time at the beginning of each unit. The quizzes are open book and untimed, and are used as a way to encourage you to come prepared to class. QUIZZES NOT TAKEN WILL RECEIVE A ZERO.
- **PRESENTATIONS:** In addition to regular participation in class, you will be required to prepare a presentation on readings or on a topic for the class. Either individually or teams of 2 or 4 will present a topic on readings that will be supplied to you, or on debate topics. The formats will be varied and guided. (Specific instructions for each will be found on Blackboard.) If you are presenting a reading, the required preparation notes will be worth 25 points, and the presentation will be worth an added 25 points. The audio portion of the presentation may be live or recorded and the written preparation will be submitted in advance of class time to receive credit.

You cannot receive ANY points for your assigned presentations if you fail to complete the presentation ON TIME and to submit the required preparation notes. (In an emergency, notify me in advance and submit your work on Blackboard for partial credit.)

GRADES

Your final grade will be based on both class work and exams using the following point system: (Points are approximate)

3 Unit Exams: Approximately 125 pts. each (1 takehome)	350 pts.
Final Exam:	125 pts
5 reading exercises = 25 points each	125 pts
Quizzes 10 pts ea (1/2point question)	100 pts
Presentation points (1 @50 pts. each)	<u>50 pts</u>
Total Required points	750 pts
Optional: Follow the Polls	25
Optional Activities Packets 10-20 each	<u>80 pts</u>
Total Possible Points with options	855 Pts.

Your total points will be dependent on the optional activities you choose to do.

The final grade will be assigned on a scale of: A = 90%; B = 80% C = 70% ; D = 60% ; F = below 60%

ISSUES

If you believe that an error has been made, or if you need to discuss a policy in the class, make an appointment with me and we can talk. I try to be reasonable. Don't let a problem fester or cause stress. Most issues can be resolved if we talk.

Course content may vary from this outline to meet the needs of this particular group.

The college will make reasonable accommodations for persons with documented disabilities. Students should notify Student Services and their instructor of any special needs.

Official Course Description can be found at this website:


<http://www.maricopa.edu/curriculum/M-Z/946pos110.html>





The final grade will be assigned on a scale of: A = 90%; B = 80% C = 70% ; D = 60% ; F = below 60%

CLASS CALENDAR

The following Textbook reading/quiz (📖) and article writing assignments must be *completed* by the date indicated below. All forms, including Summary Note forms and and summary forms can be found on Blackboard. (Bb) in the Forms folder of course materials.) Course content may vary from this outline to meet the needs of this particular group. Check the Blackboard Bb announcements for any changes. 📄 Indicates a PowerPoint guide that can be downloaded from Blackboard if you want use it for note taking..

CONSTITUTIONAL ORIGINS AND THEORY

<p><u>AUG. 25:</u></p>	<p>Intro to Government and Politics</p> <p>For next class:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Read Chapter 1 and page 240. (Take Bb quiz by Aug. 27). ✓ Log onto Blackboard. Sign onto the discussion board for 10 points. <p>For this unit the following notes are available:</p>
<p><u>AUG. 27:</u></p>	<p><i>Who rules America</i></p> <p>By class time:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Read Chapter 1 and page 240. (Take Bb quiz by Aug. 27). ✓ Log onto Blackboard. Sign onto the discussion board for 10 points
<p>Week 2s & 3</p> <p><u>Sept. 1:</u></p>	<p>Roots of the U.S. Constitution</p> <p>By class time:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Sept. 1 Read 📖CHAP. 2 quiz due before class time Sept. 1 . <p>Assignments due for this unit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Sept. 10 🗣️ 1st Newsmakers Report Due ✓ Sept. 10 Bb OPTIONAL PACKET PRINCIPALS OF GOVERNMENT: <p>Sept. 10 Read <i>Federalist 48-51</i> and answer the questions on the guide: (not for points:, but for class activity. Bb)</p> <p> Sign up for Presentations</p>
<p>Week 4</p> <p><u>Sept. 15</u></p>	<p>Federalism</p> <p>Assignments due this section:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Sept. 15: Read 📖Chap. 3: quiz due by class time. ✓ Sept. 22 1st Reading/Writing Assignment due: <i>Ann Bowman: "American Federalism on the Horizon"</i> Bb Sept.17 OPTIONAL BLACK BOARD PACKET due.: "Federalism: Separated and overlapping Power. <p>✓ Sept. 17 🗣️ 2nd Newsmakers Report Due</p>

	 Sept. 24 <i>OPTIONAL BLACK BOARD PACKET: Hard Worksheet: What does the Constitution say About Federalism (Check Wikispaces)</i>
Week 5 <u>Sept. 22</u>	 Panel Discussion: What is the future of federalism? Interviews, speeches and panel discussion
<u>Sept. 24</u>	Civil Liberties and Civil Rights ✓ Sept. 24: Read  Chap. 4: quiz due by class time.
Week 6 <u>Sept. 29</u>	Unit 1 Exam Use Test Reviews on elite Theory, Constitution and Federalism to prepare.
Week 7 <u>Oct. 6</u>	 Chap. 5 & 6 Quiz

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