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## ARIZONA CONSTITUTION SYLLABUS

Glendale Community College | Fall 2009 | POS 221 Section 15588

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### Contact information

Instructor:	Toni McClory
Telephone:	(623) 845-3730
Email:	<a href="mailto:toni.mcclory@gcmail.maricopa.edu">toni.mcclory@gcmail.maricopa.edu</a> ( <i>Important!</i> Please put POS 221 in the subject line to avoid the District's spam checker & assure that your email gets prompt attention)
Office:	05-135 (same building as the campus bookstore)
Office hours:	MW 11:00–12:00; TTh 8:30-10:00 & other times by appointment
Class meets:	BlackBoard: <a href="https://ecourses.maricopa.edu/webapps/login/">https://ecourses.maricopa.edu/webapps/login/</a> Go to BlackBoard for all class handouts, extra credit assignments, the study guide wiki, your grades, and more.
Study Guide Wiki:	Go to BlackBoard (above) & click the Study Guide Wiki tab. This will take you to an interactive study guide that you and your classmates can complete together!

### Required textbook

McClory, *Understanding the Arizona Constitution* (University of Arizona Press, 2001).

### About the course

This course explores the government of Arizona using the state constitution as the focus. There are good reasons to learn more about this subject: (1) It matters! Most people don't realize that *state* government—not national—has as the primary responsibility for education, public safety, public health, the environment, social legislation, and much more. (2) Informed citizens are essential in a state where ballot propositions flourish. (3) Arizona government is quirky and unique. Learning how it differs from the U.S. government will deepen your understanding of politics in general. (4) Future public employees (teachers, firefighters) should know more about a government that will heavily impact their careers. POS 221 is designed for citizens, scholars, and public employees; there are no prerequisites. See MCCCDC Official Course Description: <http://www.maricopa.edu/curriculum/M-Z/936pos221.html>

### Class policies

- This 6-week class moves very quickly. Expect to spend roughly 3 hours per week outside of class on course prep. Regular attendance is strongly encouraged (there are no make-ups for missed reading quizzes).
- Late work will be accepted with a 15% grade deduction. Unless there are very special circumstances, late work must be submitted within 1 week of the due date.
- **Your own words please!** All written work must be in your own words and syntax unless you are quoting and properly credit the source. Plagiarism is a serious academic offense and the college penalties are severe. (See MCCCDC Policy 2.3.11.) There are no joint projects in this course.

How Students Can Avoid Plagiarism:

[http://www.gc.maricopa.edu/English/plagiarism\\_studentresources.html](http://www.gc.maricopa.edu/English/plagiarism_studentresources.html)

- Please keep a copy of all your work until the end of the course as insurance against loss by you or me.
- Let me know if you have any special needs that require accommodation and please make the appropriate arrangements with the College’s Disability Services Office (623) 845-3080.
- Please consult the GCC College Handbook and the MCCC Student Guide to learn more about your rights and responsibilities as a student at GCC.

College Handbook:

[http://www.gc.maricopa.edu/catalog/student\\_rights.html](http://www.gc.maricopa.edu/catalog/student_rights.html)

MCCC Student Guide:

<http://www.maricopa.edu/legal/student/>

## Grading

Assignments	Points
4 Reading Quizzes (5 points each)	20
Paper*	40
Final exam*	40
Total points * Required to pass course	100

A = 90 points or higher; B = 80–89 points; C = 66–79 points; D = 60–65 points; F = below 60 points.  
Strong participation in class discussions or on the study guide wiki will be considered in borderline cases.

## Extra credit

Up to 10 extra credit points can be earned by completing additional assignments that are posted in BlackBoard (Go to Extra Credit Tab). These credits can be used to offset low grades or late penalties. They cannot be used as substitutes for the required paper or final exam.