
U.S. CONSTITUTION SYLLABUS

Glendale Community College | Fall 2009 | POS 222 Section 15596

Contact information

Instructor:	Toni McClory
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Office:	05-135 (same building as the campus bookstore)
Office hours:	MW 11:00–12:00; TuTh 8:30-10:00 & other times by appointment
Class meets:	TuTh 10:00 - 11:15a
BlackBoard:	https://ecourses.maricopa.edu/webapps/login/ Go to BlackBoard for all class handouts, online reading assignments, 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 textbooks (no purchase necessary!)

- U.S. Constitution Factsheets (download for free in BlackBoard or you can purchase a packet for copy cost from the GCC Copy Center—next to the bookstore.)
- McClory, ed. *At the Schoolhouse Gate: Student Rights Cases* (2007 ed.) (download for free in BlackBoard or you can purchase it for copy cost from the GCC Copy Center—next to the bookstore.)

About the course

There are many good reasons to study the U.S. Constitution: The Constitution is the backbone of American government. It is the primary source of our rights and freedoms. And it is a document of immense historic importance. This course will examine: (1) the Constitution's origins and underlying philosophy; (2) how the Constitution defines and restricts the power of the national government; and (3) how the Constitution protects individual rights and liberties. There will be special emphasis on constitutional issues that arise in educational contexts. There are no prerequisites.

Official course description:

<http://www.dist.maricopa.edu/cgi-bin/cpr.pl?trm=20036&crs=pos222&inst=99>

Class policies

- This 10-week class moves very quickly. Expect to spend roughly 3 hours per week outside of class on this course. Regular attendance is strongly encouraged.
- 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

- 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 MCCCDC 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

MCCCDC Student Guide:

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

Study Guide Wiki

A collaborative study guide for the final exam will be provided online. You can access it in BlackBoard. <https://ecourses.maricopa.edu/webapps/login/>

Grading

The course grade will be based on the following point system:

Assignments	Points
5 Reading Quizzes (5 points each)	25
Paper*	100
Final exam*	100
Total points	225
*Required to pass the course	

A = 200 points or higher; B = 180—199 points; C = 148-179 points; D = 135—1147 points; F = below 135 points. Strong participation in class discussions or on the study guide wiki will be considered in borderline cases.

Extra credit

Up to 20 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.