

**GLENDALE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
AMERICAN NATIONAL GOVERNMENT**

Fall 2008

COURSE: POS 110

Sec: 22307

Room HTA 5

Time: TR 11:30 AM-12:45

Sec. 22308

Room CL 11

Time: TR 5:45 - 7:00 PM

INSTRUCTOR: MRS. KATHY HEDGES

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

Office hours: By appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION

- Study of the historical backgrounds, governing principles, and institutions of the national government of the United States. Prerequisites: None.
- This class 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:** Wilson, James Q, and John J. Dilulio: American Government: the Essentials.: 10th edition
- **WEBSITES:** The text is very complete, and has many study aids..
- There is an MP3 download audio of each chapter for the current edition and a chapter outline to assist you with the reading. Ace Practice tests allow you to quiz yourself on the reading. 10TH EDITION WEBSITE
- http://college.cengage.com/polisci/wilson/am_gov/10e/site_index.html
- If you have difficulty with the reading try the Chapter Focus questions from the previous edition of the text. (The 10th edition no longer offers them.) They are not required, but since you are held accountable for assigned reading they can help you get the most out of it. It may be helpful to print them out and take notes as you go. If you do, they may be substituted for the Quiz on any chapter. If you prefer, you may take Cornell Notes on any Chapter. Go to these website to assist you in preparing for class, to take online quizzes and to study for tests.
- **CHAPTER FOCUS, 9TH EDITION**
- http://college.hmco.com/polisci/wilson/am_gov/9e/students/
- **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.gc.maricopa.edu/ic/gcchelp/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 before class time. Most of the daily assignments are accompanied by "Talking Points." They are not required but can be used to focus your reading and our class discussions. Look at them before you read to enhance your comprehension and jot down a few notes for questions and discussion before taking the required quizzes.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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. 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.
- Forms will also be provided for the optional newsmaker reports, which must be typed. The form is required for credit and can be downloaded from blackboard.
- Please keep electronic or paper copies of all your work until the end of the semester as insurance against loss by you or me.
- 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.

EXAMS

- Three in class exams are required in this course. If you miss an exam, notify me in advance and you 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, you will take a cumulative final examination for this class and it will be scored as the third exam and the missing exam.

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	350 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	625 pts
Optional: Follow the Polls	25
Optional: 5 Television "Newsmakers Reports: 20 points each Use the form provided	100 pts.
Optional Activities Packets 20 each	<u>40 pts</u>
Total Possible Points with options	790 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%

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. You may do this in teams of two. The audio portion of the presentation may be live or recorded. (Specific instructions are attached.) Each will be worth 50 points.

- Readings presentations: : 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.
- You cannot receive ANY points for your assigned presentations if you fail to complete the presentation ON TIME. (In an emergency, submit your work on Blackboard for partial credit.)

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>

CLASS CALENDAR

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

Chapter Focus (□) and *Talking Points* questions will assist you in getting the most from your reading. They need not be submitted but are listed here to assist you in identifying the focus for our reading.

1. CONSTITUTIONAL ORIGINS AND THEORY

Jan 20: Terms for studying Political Science

Review Syllabus

- Chapter 1: Read the summary at the end of the Chapter.
 - Download powerpoint entitled Elite Theory if we don't get to it in class.
 - For next class:
 - Log onto Blackboard. Sign onto the discussion board for 10 points.
- Read 📖Chapter Ch. 1 summary, powerpoint and Chapter 2 and take the quiz on blackboard.

Jan 23: Chap. 2 :The Constitution: Quiz on Ch. 1 and 2 DUE BY NEXT CLASS. Be prepared with *Talking Points* : 1) *What was the founders View of Human Nature, and how did it affect the structure and powers of the American government? Explain the importance of the Social Contract to the American political thought. Read the Declaration of Independence, and preamble to the constitution.* 2) *What other factors influenced the content of the American Constitution?*

As you read, take some notes throughout the chapter on these Chapter Focus topics found in the old edition of the text.: □ #2,4,5,7,8,9,10

http://college.hmco.com/polisci/wilson/am_gov/9e/students/chapterfocus/ch02.html

📄 Introduction : **Roots of the Constitution**



Sign up for Presentations

Week 2

Feb. 3:

📖Chap. 2 Roots of the Constitution QUIZ: CHAP. 1 & 2

Talking Points : *Explain the influence of the American Experience on the Constitution.*

(Bb) *Notetaking Guide: Empire of Reason*

(Bb) **OPTIONAL PACKET PRINCIPALS OF GOVERNMENT: Due the week before the test.**

Feb. 5

🧠1st Optional Newsmakers Report Due

Talking Points: *What are major principals found in the Constitution, and how do they reflect the framers' views of power and government.? In your answer discuss Separation of Powers, Checks and Balances, Federalism. Why did the founders include separation of powers and checks and balances? How is the separation of powers maintained ?How is power controlled?*

📄*Read the summary of Federalist 48-51. Answer the questions: (Bb) See Handout.*

<http://www.sparknotes.com/history/american/federalist/section10.rhtml>



1st Presentation Debate **due on today's date.**: Prepare an **Bb** Abstract of a article and submit a written (typed) **Bb** summary of the article. Topic: Separation of Powers Should be Changed.

Week 3

Feb. 10

Chap. 3: Federalism

Talking Points: *How is power distributed in a Federal System?*

lecture: Distribution of power in a federal system.

Chapter Focus. 1-9;

http://college.hmco.com/polisci/wilson/am_gov/9e/students/chapterfocus/ch03.html

Bb **OPTIONAL BLACK BOARD PACKET** due the week prior to test: "Federalism: Separated and overlapping power."

Feb. 12

Changing Federalism Cont. **Talking Points:** *How has the federal system changed since the constitution was written? How has the commerce clause affected federalism? What is the effect on money on Federal/State Relations? What are the types of federal grants and why are categorical grants used most?*

Talking Points: *What are Federal mandates? How do they affect state governments; federal/state relations?*

1st Reading/Writing Assignment due: Ann Bowman: "American Federalism on the Horizon."

Talking Points: *What is the future of federalism? How do mandates effect Federal/State relations?*

Week 4

Feb. 17



Panel Discussion: Interviews, speeches and panel discussion

1st Optional Newsmakers Report Due

Feb. 19:



Civil Rights and Civil Liberties: Ch. 5

Civil rights Liberties

Talking Points: *What is the difference between Civil Liberties and Civil Rights. From where are each derived? Use the practice worksheet to identify civil liberties found in the Constitution.*

Discuss the role of the 14th Amendment in expanding Civil Rights and Civil Liberties. What is incorporation? List key Constitutional and statutory expansions of civil rights.

Chapter Focus 1,2, & 6

http://college.cengage.com/polisci/wilson/am_gov/9e/students/chapterfocus/index.html

Week 5

Feb. 24:

Unit 1 Exam: Ch. 1, 2 &

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II. POLITICAL CULTURE AND PARTICIPATION


See revised calendar on Blackboard after exam.

Feb. 26:


 Chap. 6: Public Opinion & Media and Ideology

 3rd Optional Newsmakers Report Due

See optional assignment in Assignments on BB. **American Political Culture & Ideology:**
Read Chapter summary and Political Culture summary from Blackboard.

 **Handout, American Political Culture:** Read only: **Talking Points** : 1) *What is Political Culture*, 2) *What are the dominant themes in American Political Culture* 3) *What are the sources of American Political culture* 4) *How do Americans differ from Europeans and why?* 5) *How has American political efficacy changed?*
Discussion: *How does American Political culture affect American policy? List the sources of our political attitudes, and indicate which are the most important sources. Assess the influence of various religious traditions on political attitudes.*

 **Public Opinion & Ideology**

 Chapter Focus. 1,2 & ,3


http://college.cengage.com/polisci/wilson/am_gov/9e/students/chapterfocus/ch05.html

Talking Points: 1) *Evaluate the significance of public opinion polling and its impact on the political system.*

2) *Evaluate the validity of public opinion polling* 3) *Explain how demographics affects public opinion.* 4) *Explain how Americans are socialized.*

Week 6

Mar. 3

 **Ideologies** **Talking Points:** *Define political ideology and state why most Americans do not think ideologically. Summarize the liberal & conservative positions on the economy, civil rights, and political conduct. Explain why there is no single cleavage between liberals and conservatives in this country and why there are crosscutting cleavages. Explain the significance of these facts. Assess the significance of race in explaining political attitudes.*


Week 6

Mar. 5

Talking points: *What is the impact of the media on American Politics. Describe the role of the media.? Evaluate the evidence of media bias?*

Week 7

Mar. 10

 Chap.7: Interest Groups & Political Parties: **Talking Points:** *Why has there been such a growth in interest groups, and what is their impact on American Politics and policy? What methods do they use to impact policy?*

Video: The Power Game

 **Interest Groups**

Chapter Focus # 1,4 & 5.&

http://college.cengage.com/polisci/wilson/am_gov/9e/students/chapterfocus/ch09.html

Mar. 12

 Optional Practice Packet: The Role of Special Interest Groups

2nd Reading Assignment due : Alan Cigler & Burdett Loomis " *The Changing Nature of Interest Group Politics* Or:



Interest Group Presentations

Mar. 16-22: Spring Break
Week 8

Mar. 24

Political Parties :

Pol part 06.ppt

Talking Points: *Why are we a two party system? What are the causes and effect of the decline of America*

Political Parties?

Chapter Focus: 1,3,4,6,7

http://college.cengage.com/polisci/wilson/am_gov/9e/students/chapterfocus/ch07.html

Week 9

Mar. 26

4th Newsmakers Report Due

Optional Activity: Who is a Republican/Who is a Democrat? (Due on blackboard Oct. 26 in order to receive credit.



PowerPoint Assignment Presentation: : Which party is better to govern? Explaining the difference between Republicans and Democrats (Must be 2004 or later) (See Blackboard)

OPTIONAL "TRACKING THE POLLS ASSIGNMENT DUE

Week 10

Mar. 31

Chap. 8 What Decides the Election?

Money, Coalitions and Politics : *Talking Points: how does money affect political elections? What are the rules concerning financing of campaigns?*

Apr. 2

Exam 2

3. POLICY MAKING INSTITUTIONS

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Week 11

Apr. 7

Ch. 13 Congress: Complete the Worksheet as you read Congress Two Houses

Talking Points: *What are the differences in the two houses of Congress and why did the founders design Congress this way?*

Chapter Focus: 1,2,4,6,8,9,10,11

Apr. 9

3th Reading Assignment due: The Rise of the Washington Establishment

Leadership in Congress Part 1 & 2

Talking Points: *What are the various functions of Congress*


How does Congress organize to complete those functions? What is the function and importance of leadership in Congress? How do Congresspersons enhance their power?





Week 12

Apr. 14 & 16

5th Optional Newsmakers Report Due


Talking Point: What things influence Congressional policymaking

 Video: HR 6161 note taking guide

    Congress Group Presentations

Week 13

Apr. 21 & 23

 Ch. 14 Presidency

 Presidency PowerPoint

Talking Points: Why is the president seen as powerful? What formal and informal duties give him added power? What was the intent of the founders in the relationship between the President and Congress. How is it playing out

Chapter Focus 1,2, & 6

Week 14

Apr. 28

4th Reading assignment due:

 Gary J. Andres : "The contemporary presidency: parties, process, and presidential power: learning from confirmation politics in the U.S. Senate"

Talking Points: The President and Congress: Who has the advantage, formally and informally?

Presentations: Presidency




Talking Points: What are the limitations on Presidential Power : formal and informal?


How do Presidents circumvent limitations?

Presentation: read and prepare an oral explanation of the article:

<http://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/signingstatements.php>


Apr. 30

   Presidency Presentations

 Chapt. 16 Bureaucracy: (Read the summary only. No quiz required. Talking Points: What are the types of bureaucracy and what is the role of the bureaucracy in making and implementing policy?)

Week 15

May 5 ::


 Chapt. 16 Judiciary:




 Judiciary

Talking Points: When does a case reach the Supreme Court? What is the role of the Supreme Court in Separation of Powers? How do the Politics of Judicial Appointments affect who sits on the Supreme Court, and Rulings from the bench?. Should judges be limited to interpreting what the Constitution and federal laws say?

Chapter Focus 1,2,4,5,&6

May 7:

5th and Last Reading assignment due: "How Should Judges Use Their Power?" 

   4th Group Presentation: *Judicial Activism v. Judicial Restraint. Group will be making oral legal arguments. Sign up for this one if you wanna be a lawyer.*

May 12/14

3rd Exam, Final Exam

Official Course Description can be found at this website:
<http://www.maricopa.edu/curriculum/M-Z/946pos110.html>

Assignments and Presentations

The following are general directions for your assignments and presentations. More detailed explanations may be found on Blackboard assignment itself.

Talking points: ARE NOT REQUIRED

To be most helpful to you talking points may be in note format, but should completely respond to the prompt. Generally they require more than one sentence to be well done. Work that is quickly scribbled will not be graded.

NEWSMAKER ASSIGNMENT

5 Newsmaker reports are Optional. See the calendar for specific dates. The reports must be typed, and thorough and will not be accepted late!!!

Type your newsmaker report using the attached format. You may watch any show before the due date, but you must watch one full hour of the program, and report on each segment. Download the form and expand the space for discussion in order to fully cover the discussion and perspectives of the guests. Newsmaker options:

Sunday 7:00 am Meet the Press NBC
Sunday 8:00a m Fox News Sunday FOX
Sunday 8:00 am This Week with George Stephanopolus ABC
Sunday 9:30am Face the Nation (only 1/2 hour, so must be combined with and 30 minutes of another show. CBS
M-F 6:00 pm Lehrer Report PBS

Summary

Read the article and complete an abstract form as you read, **then summarize the article**. The **abstract must be submitted with the summary** for credit to be awarded. Your summary must be typed, and should convey enough detail for the reader to understand the perspective of the author. Be sure to explain the author's thesis and to also identify and explain the main points. Your reader needs to understand the author's perspective and reasoning. (Think 500 words.) See blackboard if you need assistance in summarizing.

PowerPoint/Graphic Organizer

Read the assigned article and complete an abstract form as you read, Then create a PowerPoint of not less than ten slides. Be sure to explain the author's thesis, his main points and conclusions. Your reader needs to understand the author's perspective and reasoning. You may also create your presentation in a graphic organizer which achieves the same purpose. Both the PowerPoint and the graphic organizer must be accompanied by an oral presentation. Bring your PPT or Graphic organizer to class on a flash drive for presentation to the class.

Interview Activity:

More detailed instructions for this activity may be found in Course Materials.

For each article, on person will portray the author, and the other will be a reporter who interviews the author. Both should read and take notes on the assigned article.

a) If you are an interviewer, you must prepare a series of 10 questions that will help the class understand the article. You must help the "author" convey his/her perspective and conclusions through your questions, and then challenge the author's views with deeper questions. Your questions may include no more than three lower level questions, and they must call for open ended responses (not simply yes or no answers.) The rest must be analytical or above. They will be submitted with your notes. In your interview, you may ask clarifying questions in addition to the prepared questions.

Your grade will depend on assisting the author in conveying his message, and the class in understanding the message. Your questions must be typed and will be submitted on the day of the interview.

b) If you were assigned an interviewee role, (that of the author) you must prepare a two minute speech which conveys the perspective of your author, and explains the details. This will be typed and submitted with the notes you took.

Your grade will depend on the thoroughness of your summary and the faithfulness to the author in your response to the questions.

Be sure that you are quite familiar with your article so you can answer questions.

Comparison/Contrast

Read the articles, and complete an abstract form and summary on each. When you have finished,

write a 500 word essay comparing the two points of view. Be sure to explain the reasoning for each. What is the difference between the views? What is the reasoning for each, or the values preferred by each?

Debates: See Format and Rubric in Course Materials.

Presentation Grade Rubric

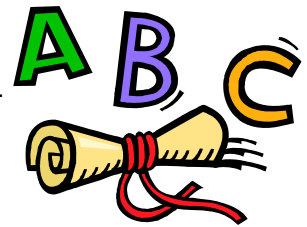
Presentation grade scale: 25 points √ if present

Presentation is prepared . Has typed product such as summary, speech, PowerPoint, questions, etc.	
Clearly states issue and position of the author (or elicits the position.) Clearly explains (or elicits) main points	
Provides (or seeks) accurate support for position (quote sources)	
Responds to questions (asks challenging or clarifying questions)	
Presentation style-min. use of notes, persuasive, clear voice	

General Guidelines for Presentation grade.

A: 22-25 (all 5 boxes checked.)

Presentation is prepared . Has typed product summarizing summary, speech, PowerPoint, etc.
 Clearly states issue and position
 Clearly explains main points
 Provides accurate support for position (quote sources)
 Responds to questions
 Presentation style-min. use of notes, persuasive, clear voice



B: 20-22 (One box above is not checked, but meets standard below.)

Presentation is prepared . Has typed summary, speech, PowerPoint, etc.
 Position is clear
 Position is supported by facts
 Response to opposition is adequate
 Adequately, if not thoroughly responds to questions
 Style is uncomfortable but adequately conveys ideas.

C: 18-22 (Two boxes not checked, with these minimums met)

Presentation is prepared . Has typed summary, speech, PowerPoint, etc.
 May exhibit difficulty in presentation, lack of depth or evidence
 May have some difficulty in answering questions

D: 15-21 (Missing 3 boxes.)

Preparation is present, typed but weak.
 Presentation is unclear, with very little supporting evidence
 Unable to answer questions

F: 0

No typed presentation, so not permitted to present.

Or
 No product as required.
 No presentation on assigned date
 Failed to inform instructor of emergency circumstances preventing presentation