COURSE: POS 221
Jan 19-Feb. 25
Sec: 23754 Room CL 14 Time: TR 1:00 -2:15 PM

INSTRUCTOR: MRS. KATHY HEDGES
Office hours:  By appointment
Voice Mail: 480-731-8866 box 14424 (leave message)
Department Phone: 623-845-3685 (for urgent message)
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Wiki:  http://pos221.wikispaces.com/

Examination of the Constitution of the State of Arizona. Equivalent to the second part of POS220. May not enroll in POS220 and POS221 concurrently. Prerequisites: None.

This 6-week course will explore the government of Arizona, including local governments, using the state constitution as the focal point. We will examine the structure and politics of the formal institutions of government, as well as the role of local governments, interest groups and citizens in Arizona’s political process. State and local governments are too frequently neglected in our federal system of government, yet it is the state government that makes most of the laws that directly effect citizens in the U.S. For the citizen or the political science student, an understanding of State and local government is crucial to understanding the American system of government.

From time to time, revisions may be made to the course requirements specified in the syllabus. It is the responsibility of students who miss class sessions to find out whatever changes have been made. I will be using Blackboard, and will attempt to post all changes to the blackboard site.

REQUIRED TEXTS
Secretary of State, Arizona Constitution (2001 ed.) (This is also available online. I have the Link posted in Blackbaord. Also on Blackboard in Course Materials are Factsheets for each chapter which summarize and update the materials.

BLACKBOARD:
The course will use blackboard for assignments and 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/

WIKI: The study guide has been placed on a wiki space so that you may work on it together. Take advantage of this shorcut. http://pos221.wikispaces.com/

ATTENDANCE:
This is a very short course, and attendance will be crucial to success. If you need to miss a class, notify the instructor of the circumstances by e-mail and check Blackboard for any changes or assignments. You may be dropped from the class if you miss more than 3 hours of class time.

Just as attendance is important, so he being here on time. Announcements are frequently made at the beginning of a class period. If you are late it is your responsibility to get the announcements. I will try post any announcements on the Blackboard site. If you have a schedule that will make promptness an issue, you should talk to me so that we can assess the situation.
ASSIGNMENTS & LATE WORK

- Although this is a one credit course, remember that it uses only 1/3 of a semester, so the workload will be about the same as six weeks of a three credit course.

- The primary assignment in this course is to keep up with the reading. In order to master the material quickly you should take notes on the Study Guide provided. The Study Guide will assist you in getting the most from your reading, and can be used on open note quizzes as well as for class discussions and activities. These will also be used by me to make quizzes and tests. Preparedness and participation will impact your grade.

- **You should plan on spending about three hours a week outside of class.** Because this class is on a very shortened schedule, attendance and timely work submissions are extra important. (Due dates for all assignments are indicated on the calendar below.) Late work: unless you have a compelling excuse, the work must be submitted within one week of the due date and a 20% late penalty will be imposed. Please keep electronic or paper copies of all your work until the end of the semester as insurance against loss by you or me.

- 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.

Horizon Reports: The required assignments are the Horizon news reports. These require you to watch the Horizon program, on PBS, broadcast at 7:00 p.m. weekdays (You may also download the transcripts instead.) These will be due three times during the class. They must be typed and submitted on Blackboard. Instructions and forms can be found under Course Materials, Forms on Blackboard.

EXAMS

- There will be 5 quizzes and a final exam. Quizzes will be open note, but not open book and the exam will consist of short answer or multiple-choice questions, and will be closely tied to the text and class work. I am hoping that we will have two guest speakers, and quizzes and exams will cover their presentations as well as other class discussions. For those reasons, class attendance will be very important.

- If you are going to miss the Final you must notify me in advance so that makeup arrangements can be made. You will have only one week to make it up.

- The open note quizzes are due BEFORE THE CLASS TIME on the date listed and cannot be made up. However there are 6 quizzes posted, and only 5 required. You may take all 6 and I will drop your lowest score or you may miss one without penalty. If you choose to miss one, and then something unforeseeable occurs, you will have no recourse and will receive a zero.

- Although you are encouraged to assist each other in understanding the material, all work in this class is individual effort, including homework and exams. Evidence of systematic use of another’s work will result in a zero for both parties on the work, which cannot be made up.

- **Rules of plagiarism and individual work do apply.** Do your own work in your own words. Plagiarism will be handled in accordance with the handbook. See GCC Student Handbook (www.gc.maricopa.edu/studenthandbook/) for your rights and responsibilities as a student at GCC.

EXTRA CREDIT

Extra credit opportunities will be provided. Check Blackboard for extra credit and optional opportunities. One optional assignment can be turned in per class meeting any time up to, but not including, the last regular class meeting. Some optional assignments need to be completed as assigned since they will be used in class discussions. This is a good way to get more out of the class and do some extra learning on your own, but remember you may only turn in one per week until the last week of regular class. No late work, or extra credit will be accepted during the last class.

Taping/Special needs

Taping of lectures and class discussions is not permitted without permission. If you have any special circumstances that require accommodation, contact the Disability and Services Office (523) 845-3080 so that arrangements can be made to assist you, and let me know of the issues as well.

GRADES

Your final grade will be based on the following point system:

| Three Newsmaker reports: 25 pts. |  = 75 |
Final exam = 120 points
Quizzes: 5 X 10 = 50
Total Required: 245
Extra credit = up to 25 points
Optional assignments to be determined: 25-50 pts points

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.

CLASS SCHEDULE (Tentative)

You will notice that each week has textbook chapters assigned with Talking Points. Talking Points are the overall discussion questions we will address in class. You should be ready to discuss them during class, but written work is not required.

The following reading assignments should be completed by the date indicated below. Read the textbook assignments carefully and complete the Study Guide questions in preparation for the quizzes. Be ready to discuss the Talking points for each class. Be sure to read the assigned portions of the Arizona Constitution.

Although class discussion may be affected by the availability of guest speakers, the quizzes and horizon assignments will remain unchanged.

Week of:
Thurs Jan 21: -------------- Quiz Ch. 2
Tues. Jan. 26 – -------------- Legislative Branch QUIZ: Ch. 3
Thurs Jan 28 --------------- *Horizon Report # 1 due/.
Tues: Feb. 2 --------------- Quiz Ch. 4
Thurs: Feb. 4: -------------- Optional Assignment Initiative arguments
Tues Feb. 9 --------------- Quiz Ch. 5–
Thurs: Feb. 11: -------------- Horizon Report # 2 due/.
Tues: Feb. 16: ---------------- Quiz: Judiciary Quiz Ch. 6
Thurs: Feb. 18 -------------- Horizon report #3

----- Optional Assignment Arizona issue.

Tues: Feb. 23 --------------- Quiz. Cha. 7
Feb. 25 : Thursday: ----- Final Exam: