

## GOVT 2305 - COURSE SYLLABUS

<b>Course Name</b>	American National Government (Online)	<b>Semester &amp; Year</b>	Fall 2009
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<b>Catalog Description</b>	A survey of the political system of the United States including: the United States Constitution, the three branches of government, political theory, political parties, interest groups and the media. This course is required for graduation and teacher certification.
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<b>Required Texts &amp; Material</b>	<i>American Government, Election ed.</i> Kenneth Dautrich & David Yalof. Wadsworth Cengage Learning. <b>ISBN-13:</b> 978-0-534-76645-0
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<b>Learning Outcomes</b>	<p>Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Identify differences between freedom, order, &amp; equality.</li> <li>2) Differentiate between political ideologies &amp; democratic models.</li> <li>3) Identify concepts/documents of America’s Political History.</li> <li>4) Explain key features of the Constitution: Republicanism, Federalism, Separation of Powers, and Checks &amp; Balances.</li> <li>5) Differentiate between our Presidential system and the Parliamentary system.</li> <li>6) Explain concepts, ideology and structures of federalism.</li> <li>7) Differentiate between Civil Liberties and Civil Rights.</li> <li>8) Differentiate between the powers and responsibilities of all three branches of government &amp; identify leaders in each branch.</li> <li>9) Identify role and scope of bureaucracy in our federal government.</li> <li>10) Identify concepts of public opinion, values &amp; socialization.</li> <li>11) Explain role of Interest Groups &amp; how they affect government.</li> <li>12) Differentiate between the various forms of mass media &amp; bias.</li> <li>13) Differentiate between the nature of our American Two Party System and the nature of a Multi-Party System.</li> <li>14) Explain methods of participation, history and forms of voting.</li> <li>15) Explain process of nominations, campaigns and elections.</li> <li>16) Differentiate between Economic, Domestic and Foreign Policy.</li> <li>17) Research and compose an essay assignment/argument using proper grammar/English and basic computer skills.</li> </ol> <p>Throughout this course students will be exposed to current issues facing America today; Terrorism, Abortion, Health Care, Immigration, Education, Social Services &amp; Federal Debt.</p>
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<b>Instructor’s Name &amp; Office #</b>	Richard Huckaby Room #331 Corinth Campus	<b>Phone Number -</b>	940-498-6295
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<b>Office Hours</b>	By appointment	<b>E-Mail Address</b>	rhuckaby@nctc.edu
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**Grading Policy & Procedures****Examinations**

There will be a total of seven (7) exams. Exams will be a combination of objective multiple choice and True/False questions (primarily multiple choice). Each exam will cover only material covered in online class activities, reading assignments, and exercises covered or assigned since the last exam. Each exam will be graded on the basis of 100 points. Your instructor, at his discretion, may change the format of the exam.

All testing is online. Objective exams will be interactive timed exams. Students will be given a window of time to open the exam, but once open -- the exam will be timed. Once the exam is started you must finish -- you cannot start, stop, and restart the exam.

**Graded Assignments**

There will be four (4) written graded assignments. They may involve the use of the Internet, the textbook (*The Challenge of Democracy*) and/or other resources. Graded assignments are a course requirement and not a student option. The average of all graded assignments will be substituted for the lowest score of an exam taken even if the graded assignment average is lower.

**Assignments and Related Learning Outcomes**

ASSIGNMENTS	CHAPTERS	LEARNING OUTCOMES
Exam #1	1-2-3	#1,2,3,4,5,6
Exam #2	4-5	#7
Exam #3	6-7	#8
Exam #4	8-9	#8,9
Exam #5	10-11-12	#10,11,12
Exam #6	13-14-15	#13,14,15
Exam #7	16-17-18	#16
Graded Assignment #1	GA#1	#4,6,17
Graded Assignment #2	GA#2	#10,17
Graded Assignment #3	GA#3	#14,17
Graded Assignment #4	GA#4	#8,17

**Grading Policy**

Your exam average with the Graded Assignment Average substituted for the lowest grade for an exam taken will constitute 90% of your final course grade. The last exam (Exam #7) and exams not taken are not eligible for substitution.

The remaining 10% of the overall course grade is based on active participation in Discussion Board activities. Students will lose 5 points out of 100 for each unexcused absence from an assigned Discussion Board assignment.

	<b>Grading Scale</b>			
	100	-	90	= A
	89	-	80	= B
	79	-	70	= C
	69	-	60	= D
	59	-	0	= F

<b>Tentative Calendar</b>			<b>Government 2305 - American National Government (Online) Fall 2009 (Subject to Change w/o Notice)</b>				
Mod	Schedule			Class Activity Description	Online Activity		
	Week	Date			*Read	Homework	Examinations
Orientation		First Day		Course Introduction & Orientation			OAR #1-#5 Practice Exam (8/24)
I	1	8/24	8/30	Chapter 1 - Perspectives on American Government		AG-01	
	2	8/31	9/6	Chapter 2 - The Founding and the Constitution		AG-02	GA#1
	3	9/7	9/13	Chapter 3 - Federalism		AG-03	(Due 10/14) Exam #1 (9/13)
II	4	9/14	9/20	Chapter 4 - Civil Liberties		AG-04	
	5	9/21	9/27	Chapter 5 - Civil Rights, Equality and Social Movements		AG-05	Exam #2 (9/27)
III	6	9/28	10/4	Chapter 6 - Congress		AG-06	
	7	10/5	10/11	Chapter 7 - The Presidency		AG-07	Exam # 3 (10/11)
IV	8	10/12	10/18	Chapter 8 - The Federal Bureaucracy		AG-08	
	9	10/19	10/25	Chapter 9 - The Judiciary		AG-09	GA#2 Exam # 4 (10/25)
V	10	10/26		Chapter 10 - Public Opinion		AG-10	(Due 11/4)
			11/1	Chapter 11 - Interest Groups		AG-11	
	11	11/2	11/8	Chapter 12 - The Media and Politics		AG-12	GA#3 Exam #5 (11/8)
VI	12	11/9		Chapter 13 - Political Parties		AG-13	(Due 11/18)
			11/15	Chapter 14 - Voting and Participation		AG-14	
	13	11/16	11/22	Chapter 15 - Campaigns and Elections		AG-15	GA#4 Exam #6 (11/22)
	14	11/23	11/29	Thanksgiving Break (No Online Activity)			(Due 12/2)
VII	15	11/30		Chapter 16 - American Economic Policy		AG-16	
			12/6	Chapter 17 - American Social Policy		AG-17	
	16	12/7	12/10	Chapter 18 - American Foreign Policy		AG-18	Exam #7 (12/10)
			12/14	<b>Final Grade Posted</b>			
*Note: COD = American Government (Textbook), e.g., AG-01 means American Government - Chapter 1.							

<b>Discussion Boards</b>	<p>There are 18 discussion boards (one for each chapter). Every student is expected to actively participate in all Discussion Board assignments.</p> <p>Active participation is posting to the appropriate chapter discussion board forum and responding to questions and/or comments. You meet the participation requirement when you post your original comments to the designated discussion board and make at least one comment on another student's post. A single entry receives half credit.</p> <p>The deadline for making your original post is midnight Wednesday for all chapters assigned in that week. Your second post is due not later than midnight on the last day of the week assigned for the chapter(s). Posting to all chapters assigned for the week is required. Posting to the discussion board within the prescribed times is particularly important because it is intended to be a student exchange. There is no credit for posting after the assigned deadlines.</p> <p>All posts should address the assigned topic and students should respect the opinion of others even though different from their own. Improper postings by a student are grounds for removal from the course.</p>
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<p><b><i>Withdrawal from the Course</i></b></p>	<p>If the student decides not to continue the course, it is the responsibility of the student to officially withdraw from the course through the Registrar's Office in order to receive a W grade instead of an F. If you are considering dropping a course because of lack of success, it is a good idea to consult your instructor before dropping the course.</p> <p>Students wishing to withdraw must notify the Registrar's Office by completing a Petition for Course Drop. The last date to withdraw for this semester and receive a "W" is <b>Friday, November 13, 2009</b>.</p>
<p><b><i>Scholastic Integrity</i></b></p>	<p>Cheating on exams or the other graded assignments is not tolerated. The instructor has the authority to give a student an "F" for the specific assignment or for the course when there is evidence beyond a reasonable doubt that cheating occurred.</p> <p>Scholastic dishonesty shall include, but not be limited to cheating on a test, plagiarism, and collusion. See Section 2, NCTC Catalog "Student Rights &amp; Responsibilities: Student Conduct" page 175, paragraph 20.</p>
<p><b><i>EEOC Statement</i></b></p>	<p>North Central Texas College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, or disability in the employment or the provision of services.</p>
<p><b><i>ADA Statement and the ACCESS Program</i></b></p>	<p>North Central Texas College does not discriminate on the basis of disability for admission or access to its programs. The College is committed to providing equal access to its students with disabilities by providing appropriate accommodations. Students are responsible for notifying the ACCESS Department of their need for assistance.</p> <p><b>ACCESS Program:</b>  The ACCESS Program provides accommodations for students who have a documented disability. Accommodations may include extra time on tests, tests in a non-distracting environment, note taker in class, etc. On the <u>Corinth Campus</u>, contact: Robin Truhe (<a href="mailto:rtruhe@nctc.edu">rtruhe@nctc.edu</a>, 940-498-6207) or Nicole Walton (<a href="mailto:nwalton@nctc.edu">nwalton@nctc.edu</a>, 940-498-6224) or Penny Cogbill (<a href="mailto:pcogbill@nctc.edu">pcogbill@nctc.edu</a>, 940-498-6212) in Suite 170.  On the <u>Gainesville and Bowie and Graham campuses</u>, contact Yvonne Sandmann (<a href="mailto:ysandmann@nctc.edu">ysandmann@nctc.edu</a>, (940) 668-7731 ext. 4321) in Room 112.</p>
<p><b><i>Additional Resources</i></b></p>	<p><b>Student Services - Student Success Center:</b>  All students are invited to visit the Student Success Center located in Rooms 160, 170, 183, 188 in Corinth, Rooms 111 and 114 in Gainesville, and Room 124 in Bowie. For more information contact Mary Martinson (<a href="mailto:mmartinson@nctc.edu">mmartinson@nctc.edu</a>, 940-668-7731 ext. 4377) or Tracey Fleniken (<a href="mailto:tfleniken@nctc.edu">tfleniken@nctc.edu</a>, 940-668-4207).</p>

<b><i>Additional Resources (Cont.)</i></b>	<p><b>TRIO Program:</b> TRIO is a federally funded program which offer services designed to assist students in achieving their academic goals. Students may be eligible for TRIO if they are first generation status—neither parent has a 4 year degree, low income level, have academic need, and/or has a documented disability. TRIO is located in Room 170 on the Corinth Campus, Room 114 on the Gainesville Campus, and Room 124 on the Bowie Campus. Contact Jessica DeRoche <a href="mailto:jderoche@nctc.edu">jderoche@nctc.edu</a>, 940-498-6212.</p> <p><b>Counseling/Advising Center:</b> All students are invited to visit the Counseling/Advising Center located in Admissions on the Corinth Campus, room 108 in Gainesville, and room 124 in Bowie. For more information contact Bill Caver at <a href="mailto:bcaver@nctc.edu">bcaver@nctc.edu</a>, 940-668-4216.</p>
<b><i>Syllabus</i></b>	The procedures described in this syllabus are subject to change at the discretion of the instructor. This syllabus supersedes and replaces all previous editions for the Fall 2009 online course.