

National Changhua University of Education 106-2

Syllabus & Course Schedule

Course : American Government & Institutions

Course Number : 63008 (1MABA0143630)

Instructor : 保羅霍夫曼

Credit : 3 Hour(s); 3 Credit(s)

Course Type : Requirement Optional

Full English : YES NO

Teaching evaluation questionnaire : (8)

- 1.Lectures 2.Discussion 3.Practicum (Education or Management)
- 4.Practicum (Science or Engineering) 5.Laboratory course 6.Physical activity course 8.General course 9.Practicum/Laboratory course 10.Physical activity course

Teaching mode : (4)

- 0.Classroom instruction 1.Practice workshop 2.Distance learning (Synchronous) 3.Distance learning (Asynchronous) 4.Classroom & group discussion 8.Classroom & Assisted distance learning (Synchronous or Asynchronous) 9.Other (Such as sports , education , internship or experimental course)

<PS. Classroom & group discussion. Definition: The total hours of discussions exceeds one third of total class hours.>

Immersing the following issues or contents :

Gender Equity 、Service Learning

Objective :

This course examines the U.S. Constitution, the U.S. system of governments and the ideas and values on which they are based. Fulfills state code requirements for U.S. Constitution and California State and Local Government. This course is designed as a general introduction to American government and politics for students who may or may not decide to pursue further study in political science. A democracy, even a representative democracy, is based on the idea that knowledgeable and informed citizens actively participate in the political process. Of course, whether this theory of democracy describes the reality in the United States is open to question, as we will discuss during the semester. Nevertheless, this course aims to provide the student with enough information and thought-provoking ideas so that he or she can understand the American political system. Additionally, information on the California state constitution and government will be referenced throughout the course.

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to speak, read, and write thoughtfully about the major concepts and themes of the America political system.

Outline :

1. Organization and Introductions
2. Ways to Think About American Government
3. The U.S. Constitution
4. Federalism
5. Civil Liberties and Civil Rights
6. Public Opinion and the Media
7. Political Parties and Elections
8. Interest Groups and Political Action Committees
9. The Legislative Branch
10. The Executive Branch
11. The Federal Bureaucracy
12. The Judicial Branch and the Supreme Court
13. California Government
14. The Future and Course Review

Required reading of Masterpiece :

☆ Main materials :

Benjamin Ginsberg Theodore J. Lowi, Margaret Weir, Caroline J. Tolbert, and Robert J. Spitzer, *We the People*, 9th Essentials Edition; New York : W.W. Norton, 2013.

J. Theodore Anagnoson, Gerald Bonetto, J. Vincent Buck, Richard E. DeLeon, Jolly Emrey, James J. Kellerher, and Nadine Rich, *Governing California in the 21st Century*, 4rd edition; New York : W.W. Norton, 2013.

☆ Reference materials :

Other Assigned readings from Constitution of the State of California, access at :

<http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/const-toc.html>

Annotated Constitution of the United States, access at :

http://www.law.cornell.edu/anncon/html/art1toc_user.html

The Los Angeles Times www.latimes.com, The New York Times www.nytimes.com,

The Washington Post <http://www.washingtonpost.com>

<PS. Do not make copies illegally. >

☆ Course pre-requisites :

☆ Recommended reading :

Online materials :

E-Learning center :

Teaching methods :

Method
Lecture
Exercise
Case study
E-learning
Film shows
※ Teaching methods Memo : (none)

Scoring methods :

Method	%
Mid-term exam	25%
Final exam	35%
Class participations	20%
Reflection Papers	20%
※ Scoring methods Memo : (none)	

The development of core ability :

Core Ability	Correlation
(B) 語文與資訊能力	5
(B) 企業管理專業能力	5
(B) 創新與獨立思考能力	4
(B) 具備國際視野	6
<B: Bachelor's degree; M: Master's degree; D: doctor's degree>	

Course Schedule

Instructor：保羅霍夫曼

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Course Number：63008 (1MABA0143630)

Course：American Government & Institutions

Class Time & Classroom：(一) 02-04 T307

Weekly Calendar：

Week	Date	Teaching Chapter	Before Class Preparation	Homework / Exam / Notes
1	02/26	Organization and Introductions		
2	03/05	Ways to Think About American Government	Reading & Discussion	
3	03/12	The U.S. Constitution	Reading & Discussion	
4	03/19	Civil Liberties and Civil Rights	Reading & Discussion	
5	03/26	Public Opinion and the Media	Reading and Paper	Reflection Paper #1
6	04/02	Political Parties and Elections	Reading & Discussion	
7	04/09	Interest Groups and Political Action Committees	Reading & Discussion	
8	04/16	The Legislative Branch	Reading & Discussion	
9	04/23	Mid-term Exam.		Mid-term
10	04/30	Understanding the Presidency	Reading & Discussion	
11	05/07	The Executive Branch	Reading & Discussion	
12	05/14	The Federal Bureaucracy	Reading and Paper	Reflection Paper #2
13	05/21	The Judicial Branch and the Supreme Court	Reading & Discussion	
14	05/28	California Government	Reading & Discussion	
15	06/04	The System at Work (Part I)	Reading and Paper	
16	06/11	The System at Work (Part II)	Reading & Discussion	Reflection Paper #3
17	06/18	No Class		Dragon Boat Festival
18	06/25	The Future of American Government	Discussion	

※ Course Content Memo :

Reflection is an important part of learning. There will be three short reflection papers (2–3 pages) required in this course. Papers will be evaluated on the basis of mastery of major concepts presented in the course.

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