

PS 202: Government in the United States
Summer 2024
Session A

Instructor: Kate L. Yusi
Email: yusik@triton.uog.edu
Course Delivery: Online Asynchronous
Office Location: HSS 220F
Office Hours: Upon Request

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is an analysis of the plan and structure of the federal system of the United States, this course places special emphasis on the meaning of democracy and ideas, form, and values of political and economic institutions in the United States.

LEARNING GOALS

Course Student Learning Outcome (SLOs)	GenEd Learning Outcomes (GLOs)	Program Learning Outcomes	Institutional Learning Outcomes
Discuss opposing arguments for contemporary problems in the United States	OC SLO1: Developing and Presenting material around a central theme	PS1: Explain the American political system and its relationship to the Micronesian region	ILO1: Mastery of critical thinking and problem solving ILO4: Understanding and appreciation of culturally diverse people, ideas and values in democratic context ILO6: An appreciation of the arts and sciences
Explain the foundations, development, and features of a U.S. constitutional government	CSTLO1: Apply the concepts essential to examination and evaluation of argumentative discourse	PS5: Evaluate political speech and acts for their embedded values	ILO1: Mastery of critical thinking and problem solving ILO6: An appreciation of the arts and sciences ILO7: An interest in personal development and lifelong learning
Identify the characteristics of the three (3) main branches of the		PS1: Explain the American political system and its relationship to the	ILO1: Mastery of critical thinking and problem solving

Federal government (Legislative, Executive, Judicial)		Micronesian region	ILO4: Understanding and appreciation of culturally diverse people, ideas and values in a democratic context ILO6: An appreciation of the arts and sciences
---	--	--------------------	---

REQUIRED TEXTS

Ginsberg, Lowi, Weir, Tolbert, Campbell, and Spitzer. *We the People, Fourteenth Essentials Edition*.

Additional course materials will be added as we go through the semester. All course materials and supplemental resources are available on the Moodle course page. If you do not have a Moodle account, you can go to this [link](#) to find out how to. You can also contact Moodle Help at moodlehelp@triton.uog.edu or 671-735-2620/1.

Moodle Self-Enrollment Info:

Course Name: PS-202-01-SUMA24

Enrollment Key: usgovtSUM

GRADED CONTRIBUTIONS

Attendance and Participation	10%
Weekly Quizzes	10%
Discussion Posts	15%
Midterm Reflection Paper	20%
Bill Introduction and Testimony	20%
Final Exam	25%

Grade Points are assigned as follows:

A+	100% - 98%	Outstanding
A	97% - 93%	
A-	92% - 90%	
B+	89% - 87%	Good
B	86% - 83%	
B-	82% - 80%	
C+	79% - 77%	Adequate
C	76% - 70%	
D	69% - 60%	Deficient
F	59% and below	Failure

ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION (10 points)

Since this is an online asynchronous class, your attendance and participation will be evaluated based on your timely submission of various activities on Moodle. It is essential that you engage with and complete these activities regularly to demonstrate your involvement in the course. Your active participation through consistent submission of assignments, discussions, and other coursework is crucial for your success and will be used to measure your engagement and understanding of the material.

DAILY QUIZZES (10 points)

Weekly quizzes are available on Moodle every day (or every two days), covering topics we discussed in the sessions within that day period. You are required to complete the quiz as scheduled below. You are only allowed **2** attempts for each quiz, and I will record the highest score toward your final grade.

DISCUSSION POSTS (15 points)

You are required to post four (4) 750-word reading responses to the course material we will be discussing throughout the semester. You can choose from any Week in our schedule to respond to. The reading response should highlight the content that was unclear to you and raise a discussion question with a specific reference to our readings. You will post your reading responses on the Moodle Discussion board.

MIDTERM REFLECTION PAPER (20 points)

You are required to submit a 1500-2000-word reflection paper due on **June 17**. In this reflection paper, you will identify and research a pressing problem in the US Government about which you feel strongly and come up with a solution. This can either be in the form of a newspaper column/essay or a formal letter to the US President. As

BILL INTRODUCTION TESTIMONY (20 Points)

Based on the chosen topic issue on your Midterm Reflection Paper, you are required to introduce a bill of your choice that you believe can best address the provide. For this assignment, you are required to make a 15-20 minute video presentation that should include:

1. A summary of the issue/problem you identified. You must also verbalize why it is necessary for the government to take action.
2. The content of the bill you chose. How is the bill effective in addressing the issue/problem you identified?

This assignment is due on **June 25th at 11:59 PM**. You can either upload your video to your personal YouTube channel or you can submit the video file to me via email.

FINAL EXAM (25 points)

Your final exam will be available on Moodle by **June 28, 2024**. You will have one hour and 50 minutes to complete the exam. Once you begin the exam, you will not be able to retake or restart it. **Ensure that you submit your answers before the time limit expires.** Any answers not submitted within the time limit will be considered unsubmitted.

GENERAL NOTES

All required submissions are due by 11:59 PM unless another time is indicated in the syllabus. No late submission will be accepted. If you missed any work, feel free to contact me to discuss the matter.

If you are having a problem that disallows you to meet the course requirements or understand our course materials, feel free to contact me or drop by my office. I will do regular check-ins to see how everyone is holding up and I encourage everyone to voice out their suggestions on how to improve the class.

Plagiarism

Students are expected to be honest in all their academic work. Academic honesty means, fundamentally, that any work you submit to this course must be really yours unless proper credit is given to the owner of the work. Academic dishonesty, in forms like plagiarism or cheating, will result in a failing grade in the course and a possible disciplinary action by the university. Plagiarism is a very serious offense that the university does not take lightly. For more information about plagiarism, feel free to read this:

<http://hasso.uog.edu:8080/jspui/libguides/Plagiarism.pdf>

EEO/ADA Statement

The University is committed to maintaining the campus community as a place of work and study for faculty, staff and students, free of all forms of discrimination and harassment. If you experience harassment or discrimination, then you should report it immediately to the EEO/ADA & Title IX Office, Institutional Compliance Officer (671) 735-2244 located in Dorm 1. For immediate assistance in an emergency call 911.

If you are a student with a disability who will require an accommodation(s) to participate in this course, please contact the Disability Support Services office to discuss your specific accommodation needs confidentially. You will need to provide me with a Faculty Notification letter from the DSS counselor. If you are not registered, you should do so immediately at the Student Center, Rotunda office #6, ph/TTY: 735-2460, or uogdss@triton.uog.edu to coordinate your accommodation request.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Day 1: Introduction

May 28

- Syllabus
- What is Political Science?
- What is democracy?

Day 2-3: The American Political Culture

May 29 and 30

- Read Chapter 1
- *Quiz by May 30 until 11:59PM*

Day 4: The Founding and the Constitution

May 31 and June 3

- Read Chapters 2
- [Watch Crash Course US History](#)
- *Quiz by June 3 until 11:59PM*

Day 5: Federalism

June 4

- Read Chapter 3
- [Watch Crash Course Federalism](#)
- *Quiz by June 4 until 11:59PM*

Day 6: State and Territories

June 5

- *Materials to be provided*

Day 7-8: Civil Liberties

June 6 and 7

- Read Chapters 4
- [Watch Crash Course Civil Liberties and Rights](#)
 - [Freedom of Religion](#)
 - [Freedom of Speech](#)
 - [Freedom of the Press](#)
 - [Due Process](#)
 - [Search and Seizure](#)
 - [Equal Protection](#)
 - [Sex Discrimination](#)
 - [Discrimination](#)
- *Quiz by June 7 until 11:59PM*

Day 9-10 Civil Rights

June 10 and 11

- Read Chapter 5
- *Quiz by June 11 until 11:59PM*

Day 11: Public Opinion and The Media

June 12

- Read Chapter 6 & 7
- [Watch Crash Course Media Institution](#)
- [Watch Crash Course Public Opinion](#)
- *Quiz by June 12 until 11:59PM*

Day 12: Political Parties and Interest Groups

June 13

- Read Chapter 8
- [Watch Crash Course Interest Groups](#)
- [Watch Crash Course Political Parties](#)
- *Quiz by June 13 until 11:59PM*

Day 13: Political Participation, Campaigns and Voting

June 14

- Read Chapter 9
- Watch *Voting Matters* (2018)
- *Quiz by June 14 until 11:59PM*

MIDTERM PAPER DUE BY June 16 @ 11:59PM

Day 14-15: Congress

June 17 and 18

- Read Chapter 10
- [Watch Crash Course The Bicameral Congress](#)

Day 16-17: The Presidency

June 19 and 20

- Read Chapter 11
- [Watch Crash Course Presidential Power](#)
- [Watch Crash Course Presidential Powers 2](#)
- *Draft Bills Deadline*

Day 18-19: The Federal Courts

June 21 and 24

- Read Chapter 13
- [Watch Crash Course Federal Courts](#)

BILL VIDEO TESTIMONY DUE BY June 25 @ 11:59PM

Day 20-21: The Bureaucracy

June 24-26

- Read Chapter 12
- [Watch Crash Course Bureaucracy Basics](#)
- *Start of Committee Hearings of Bills*
- *Quiz by June 26 until 11:59PM*

Final Exam

FINAL EXAM BY JUNE 28th