

Clarendon College
Course Number: GOVT 2305
Name of Course: Federal Government
Spring 2019: Mini Session

Division of Liberal Arts

Course Name: GOVT 2305--Federal Government

Credit Hours: 3

Semester: Spring Mini 2019

Instructor: *Lyndal Gillen*

Classroom Location: *Online*

Office Location: *Online*

Contact Email: Lyndal.gillen@clarendoncollege.edu

Office Hours: 10:00am-11:00am

Course Description:

Origins and development of the U.S. Constitution, structure and powers of the national government including the legislative, executive, and judicial branches, federalism, political participation, the national election process, public policy, civil liberties and civil rights

Statement of Purpose:

Government 2305 partially satisfies the requirements for the Associates degree at Clarendon College and is designed for transfer to a senior college or university.

Required Instructional Materials: Computer access, Adobe Reader, PowerPoint (Mac user may use Keynote).

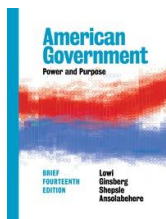
Textbook: Lowi, Theodore J., Benjamin Ginsberg, Kenneth Shepsle & Stephen Ansolabehere. *American Government; Power and Purpose*, Brief 14th Edition, New York: W.W. Norton & Company Inc., 2017. ISBN: 9780393289947

Go to <http://bookstore.mbsdirect.net/clarendon.htm>, click on "Order Textbooks" and follow the instructions to get your text for this course.

Other Relevant Materials: WW Norton Study Space

<http://wwnorton.com/college/polisci/american-government12/brief/>

The study space refers to the previous edition of your text. The page numbers do not correlate with the edition we use; however, the chapter numbers and the content do. Until WWNorton creates a new study space we will continue to use the 12th edition site.



Methods of Instruction: This online course uses Moodle as its online course management program. All instructions, tutorials, exams, and assignments are provided at the course website. All assignments will be submitted there. Most communication between you and your instructor and fellow classmates will be handled in Moodle through the “Messages” feature and discussion forums. You will be able to log into the course website once you have officially registered for the course and once you have been added to the course website. The course website will become available to you by the first day of the semester. If you register late, you will generally have access to the course within 24 hours after you register. In order to be successful in completing this 3-credit hour course, you should plan to spend between 6-9 hours per week on the course.

The information explaining how to log into your course website can be obtained by going to [Clarendon College's](#) home page. If you have any difficulty logging in, email our help desk at: administrator@clarendoncollege.edu

Learning activities of online instruction will include video lectures, PowerPoint presentations, chapter readings, vocabulary study, discussion forum, and online practice quizzes. Vocabulary flashcards will be found in the WW Norton Study Space. Practice quizzes, tests, forum, and political participation essay survey and question will be found on the main page. Online practice quizzes will be practice only with no recorded grades. These will be used to monitor understanding of the material. Graded assessments will include objective tests, discussion forum, and an essay. Objective tests will be multiple choice and short answer format.

Required Enrollment Verification Activity: Students who fail to complete the Syllabus Agreement & Enrollment Verification Activity by the official census date may not be able to continue in the course. This could result in an F for the course and forfeiture of Financial Aid. The census date for this term can be found on the Academic Calendar located at the Inside CC link on Clarendon College's home page.

Online Attendance Policy: Regular attendance is mandatory in all online courses. Specific activities will be identified each week. These activities must be completed in order for a student to be considered “in attendance.” Failure to complete these assignments can result in forfeiture of Financial Aid and failure of the class. For this course, I submit an attendance report each Friday. If a student is not following the online attendance policy, the student is marked "absent." Students can be placed on academic probation or lose financial aid for chronic non-attendance.



Core Objectives:

- Critical Thinking Skills— to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information;
- Communication Skills— to include effective written, oral, and visual communication
- Social Responsibility— to include intercultural competency, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities;
- Personal Responsibility— to include the ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making.

Learning Outcomes: Upon successful completion of this course, the learner shall:

1. Explain the origin and development of constitutional democracy in the United States; (Assesses Core Objective Critical Thinking Skills with Question and Answer Discussion Forum: *Federalist 51.*)
2. Demonstrate knowledge of the federal system; (Assesses Core Objective Critical Thinking Skills with Objective Test.1)
3. Describe separation of powers and checks and balances in both theory and practice; (Assesses Core Objective Critical Thinking Skills with Objective Test 1.)
4. Demonstrate knowledge of the legislative, executive, and judicial branches of the federal government; (Assesses Core Objective Critical Thinking Skills with Objective Test 2.)
5. Evaluate the role of public opinion, interest groups, and political parties in the political system; (Assesses Core Objective Social Responsibility with Objective Test 3.)
6. Analyze the election process; (Assesses Core Objective Social Responsibility with Objective Test 3.)
7. Describe the rights and responsibilities of citizens; (Assesses Core Objectives Personal Responsibility and Communication Skills with Political Participation Essay.) (Assesses Personal Responsibility with Objective Test 3.)
8. Analyze issues and policies in U.S. politics. (Assesses Core Objectives Social Responsibility with Final Exam.)

Course Grading Percentages:

Question and Answer Discussion Forum = 20%

Survey and Essay = 30%

Objective Tests = 30%

Final = 20% (NO Exemption)

Grading Policies:

The final semester grades will be figured as set in the current catalog:

90 to 100 = A

80 to 89 = B

70 to 79 = C

60 to 69 = D

Below 59 = F

Rubric: The question and answer discussion forum will be graded with the following rubric.

Note: *These correspond to 100, 90, 80, 70, and 50.*

10-Excellent, thought provoking post with sufficient length and no grammatical or spelling errors

9-Good response with average content and no significant grammatical or spelling errors

8-Shorter post with good content and few significant grammatical or spelling errors

7-Short post or one with fair content with some significant grammatical or spelling errors

5-One or two line response with not much content and significant grammatical or spelling error

Makeup Work: A student will not be allowed to submit late assignments, papers, or tests. The final examination is required and must be taken at the assigned time.

College Policies:

Academic Integrity Policy Clarendon College is committed to a philosophy of honesty and academic integrity. It is the responsibility of all members of the Clarendon College community to maintain academic integrity at Clarendon College by refusing to participate in or tolerate academic dishonesty. Any act of academic dishonesty will be regarded by the faculty and administration as a serious offense.

Academic dishonesty violations include, but are not limited to: (1) obtaining an examination, classroom activity, or laboratory exercise by stealing or collusion; (2) discovering the content of an examination, classroom activity, laboratory exercise, or homework assignment before it is given; (3) observing the work of another during an examination or providing answers to another during the course of an examination; (4) using an unauthorized source of information during an examination, classroom activity, laboratory exercise, or homework assignment; (5) entering an office, classroom, laboratory, or building to obtain unfair advantage; (6) taking an examination for another person; (7) completing a classroom activity, laboratory exercise, homework assignment, or research paper for another person; (8) altering grade records; (9) using any unauthorized form of an electronic communication device during an examination, classroom activity, or laboratory exercise; and/or, (10) plagiarism. (Plagiarism is defined as the using, stating, offering, or reporting as one's own, an idea, expression, or production of another person's work without proper credit. This includes, but is not limited to, turning in a paper purchased or acquired from any source, written by someone other than the student claiming credit, or stolen from another student.)

Students are responsible for reporting known acts of academic dishonesty to a faculty member, the program coordinator, the associate dean, and/or dean. Any student with knowledge of a violation who fails to report it shall him/herself be in violation and shall be considered to have committed an act of academic dishonesty. Additionally, any student who reports him/herself in violation of this code before it is likely that another might consider this possibility will be understood as repentant and acting in good faith. Though the confession will not excuse the student for the violation, the confession will be considered and the violation should not result in suspension from school except in the most extreme cases.

While academic integrity and honesty are the responsibility of the individual student, each individual faculty member, teaching assistant, and/or laboratory instructor is responsible for classroom management and for maintaining ethical behavior within the classroom and/or laboratory. Faculty who discover or suspect a violation should discuss the matter with the suspected violator(s) and attempt to resolve the case at that point. In cases of convincing evidence, the faculty member should take appropriate action. The faculty member and student should complete a Counseling Sheet regarding the violation. (The Counseling Sheet should contain at a minimum the date and time of the violation, the course, the instructor's name, the student's name, an explanation of the infraction or facts of the case, and the resolution to the incident.) This form should be signed by the student, faculty member, program coordinator, and the Dean of Students. The Dean of Students will maintain a file on all violations. If a faculty member prefers to report the case directly to the Dean of Students, it remains his/her prerogative to do so. Additionally, if the faculty member and the accused student cannot reach a resolution or if the faculty member believes that suspension from school is the only fair sanction, the case should immediately be reported by the faculty member, in writing, to the Dean of Students. If the Dean of Students observes any trends in student behavior which involve more than one violation or act of academic dishonesty, the Dean is responsible for notifying all faculty members involved, for contacting the student(s) involved, and after consultation with the faculty member(s) involved for taking the appropriate action. The Dean of Students is responsible for the timely notification (normally within two weeks) to all parties of an action taken.

Students wishing to appeal a disciplinary decision involving academic integrity or acts of academic dishonesty may do so through the Student Appeals and Grievance Procedure.

Student Rights and Responsibilities:

http://www.clarendoncollege.edu/Resources/Student_Services/StudentRightsResponsibilities.pdf

Withdrawing from (Dropping) the Course: If you decide that you are unable to complete this course or that it will be impossible to complete the course with a passing grade, you may drop the course and receive a “W” on your transcript instead. (The last day to drop a course is available on the Academic Calendar, located at the Student link on the Clarendon College website.) Withdrawal from a course is a formal procedure that you must initiate. If you do not go through the formal withdrawal procedure, you will receive whatever grade you have earned.

Whether to drop a class or not requires a lot of thought. According to Texas state law a student is only allowed to drop the same class twice before he/she will be charged triple the tuition amount for taking the class a third time or more. Furthermore, beginning with the Fall 2007 semester, students in Texas may only drop a total of 6 courses throughout their entire undergraduate career. After the 6th dropped class, he/she will no longer be able to withdraw from any classes.

Accommodations Statement: Clarendon College provides reasonable accommodations for persons with temporary or permanent disabilities. Should you require special accommodations, notify the Dean of Student Services. We will work with you to make whatever accommodations we need to make.

The following information will help you successfully navigate the online course.

Please note that Moodle will “timeout” after two hours of inactivity. You must log on again. Please be aware of this fact when you are working on your online assignments.

From 7:00 to about 7:05 a.m. and then again from 7:00 to about 7:05 p.m. the Moodle online server is being backed up. Anything you are doing in Moodle during that time will pause, including taking a quiz. Once the backup is completed, you will be able to pick up where you left off.

All grades can be accessed through the Grades link on the Moodle Course Dashboard and in the Clarendon College Student Portal. The grades in the Student Portal are your official grades.

Classes Begin.....	Monday, May 20
Last Day to Add/Drop or Register.....	Tuesday, May 21
Last Day for Financial Settlement.....	Tuesday, May 21
Census Date (3rd Class Day)	Wednesday, May 22
Last Day to Drop with a “W”.....	Thursday, May 23
Final Exams.....	Wednesday, May 29
End of Spring Mini (Grades Posted to Transcripts by 2p.m.).....	Thursday, May 30

Tentative Course Schedule

The Course Schedule includes all graded activities with their due dates. It also identifies which activities must be completed to be considered in attendance. If due dates change, you will be notified in your email as listed in your Moodle profile.

Because 2305 Mini-session moves rapidly, it is imperative that you work diligently. Use the following schedule as you work through the course.

Each unit's objective test opens the first day of the unit and closes the last day of the unit at 11pm cst.

Unit II includes a question and answer discussion forum. The forum opens the first day of class and closes May 24, 11pm cst. You must post an original reply to the questions and a reply to at least one classmate to receive full credit.

The Political Participation Essay opens the first day of class and closes May 27, 11 pm cst.

The final examination covers information from all three units.

Before beginning the course:

- 1) practice your Moodle skills;
- 2) read the syllabus;
- 3) complete the syllabus quiz;
- 4) answer the **Class Contract EVA question** (*Complete this activity to be considered in attendance this week.*);
- 5) participate in the ice breaker question and answer forum.

Unit I: Foundations **May 20-22**

View Lecture: *Foundations*.

Read Chapter 2—pages 36-51.

Answer Practice Quiz 1 questions.

Read Chapter 3—pages 61-73, 76-80.

View PowerPoint: Federalism and the Separation of Powers.

Read Chapter 4—pages 84-128.

View PowerPoint: Civil Liberties/Civil Rights.

Answer Practice Quiz 2 questions.

May 20-22--Objective Test 1- Deadline for completion is 11:00pm, May 22. (*Complete this activity to be considered in attendance this week.*)

Unit II: Institutions **May 23-24**

View Lecture: *Institutions*.

Read Chapter 5—pages 133-141, 144-164.

View PowerPoint: Congress: The First Branch.

Answer Practice Quiz 3 questions.

Read Chapter 6—pages 170-189, 198-201. View PowerPoint: The Presidency.

Read Chapter 7—pages 207-225, 228-234.

View PowerPoint: The Executive Branch— Bureaucracy in Democracy.

Answer Practice Quiz 4 questions.

Read Chapter 8—pages 241-267, 270.

View PowerPoint: The Federal Courts.

Answer Practice Quiz 5 questions.

Participate in the Question and Answer Forum: *Federalist 51*. The deadline for submission is 11:00pm, May 24

May 23-24--Objective Test 2--Deadline for completion is 11:00pm, May 24. (Complete this activity to be considered in attendance this week.)

Unit III: Politics & Governance May 25-28

View Lecture: *Politics*
Read Chapter 9—pages 276-283.

Read Chapter 10—pages 314-327, 330-347.
View PowerPoint: Elections.

Read Chapter 11—pages 360-373, 376-380.
View PowerPoint: Political Parties.
Answer Practice Quiz 6 questions.

Read Chapter 13—pages 426, 429-430 (Providing Public Goods and Ameliorating Externalities), 435-438, 442-455.
View PowerPoint: Political Policy.

Read Chapter 14—pages 458-463, 466-467, 472, 475-484.
View PowerPoint: Foreign Policy.
Answer Practice Quiz 7 questions.

Submit Political Participation Essay & Survey. Deadline is 11:00pm, May 27.

May 25--28---Objective Test 3--Deadline for completion is 11:00pm, May 28. (Complete this activity to be considered in attendance this week.)

FINAL EXAM

May 29--Final Exam. The deadline is 11pm, May 29. (Complete this activity to be considered in attendance this week.)

