

Course Syllabus

Course Title: Dual Credit American
Government (PS101)

Academic Year: 2017-2018

Originating School: Prairie Home
High School

Duration: Spring Semester

CMU Mission:

Central Methodist University prepares students to make a difference in the world by emphasizing academic and professional excellence, ethical leadership, and social responsibility.

Course Description:

PS101 Introduction to American National State and Local Government. 3 hours. A study of the structure and functions of national, state, and local government. This course applies toward fulfilling secondary teaching certification requirements in the Social Sciences.

Prerequisites:

Students should have adequate reading and writing abilities, possess good listening skills, and have effective note-taking skills. Students must also meet any requirements established by the sponsoring college (Central Methodist University).

Expectations:

Students will be expected to keep pace with reading assignments, participate in class discussions, and take notes during class. Any and all assignments are to be turned in on time.

Textbook:

Government By The People: Basic Version (2001-2002 Edition); Burns, et. al. (Prentice Hall, 2002); ISBN 0-13-031565-6.

Attendance Policy:

It is important that you attend class every day. Anything discussed in class may be material for exams, and some material may not be in your textbook. You will be allowed eight (8) absences for the semester (which does not include school-related absences) before losing credit for the class. You must be present on test days. No make-up tests will be allowed without prior arrangement or doctor's excuse. Make-up tests will be different from regular tests (same material, different questions).

Student Disability:

See CLAS catalog at: <http://www.centralmethodist.edu/academics/catalog/clas-catalog/policies/index.php>.

Course Work:

There will be reading assignments each week, with quizzes most every week throughout the semester. Quizzes will cover material from the reading and/or lectures. Six tests will be given during the semester. The lowest test score for each student will be dropped at the end of the semester. Since the lowest test score will not be dropped until the end of the semester, it is in your best interest to thoroughly prepare for each test and do well.

Grading:

15 Quizzes x 20 points each = 300 points (30%)
5 Tests x 100 points each = 500 points (50%)
Class Participation (100 points per quarter) = 200 points (20%)

Grievance Policy:

See CLAS catalog at: <http://www.centralmethodist.edu/academics/catalog/clas-catalog/policies/index.php>.

Course Outline

This is a rough estimate of the course schedule. It is meant to give you some idea of the pace we will be on over the semester, and to give you some indication of when tests will be. It is *not* written in stone.

Jan. 8	Course Introduction
Jan. 9-18	Part I: Constitutional Principles Chpt. 1: Constitutional Democracy Chpt. 2: The Living Constitution Chpt. 3: American Federalism
Jan. 19	Test #1
Jan. 22-Feb. 1	Part II-A: The Political Process Chpt. 4: Political Culture and Ideology Chpt. 5: The American Political Landscape Chpt. 6: Interest Groups: The Politics of Influence
Feb. 2	Test #2
Feb. 5-Feb. 22	Part II-B Chpt. 7: Political Parties: Essential to Democracy Chpt. 8: Public Opinion, Participation, and Voting Chpt. 9: Campaigns and Elections: Democracy in Action Chpt. 10: The Media and American Politics
Feb. 23	Test #3
Feb. 26-March 27	Part III: Policy-Making Institutions Chpt. 11: Congress: The People's Branch Chpt. 12: The Presidency: The Leadership Branch Chpt. 13: Congressional-Presidential Relations Chpt. 14: The Judiciary: The Balancing Branch Chpt. 15: The Bureaucracy: The Real Power?
March 28	Test #4
April 3-April 19	Part IV: Rights and Liberties Chpt. 16: First Amendment Freedoms Chpt. 17: Rights to Life, Liberty, and Property Chpt. 18: Equal Rights Under the Law Chpt. 19: The Democratic Faith
April 20	Test #5
April 23-April 26	State and Local Government
April 27	Test #6
May 2	CMU Final

Planned dates when class will not be held (subject to change): 1/15, 2/16, 2/19, 3/9, 3/30, 4/2, 4/19 (field trip)

Classroom Management Plan

Classroom Do's:

- Be on time and in your seat when class begins.
- Be prepared for class each day (bring book, paper, pen/pencil, assignments, etc.)
- Attend class when at all possible.
- Keep up on all assignments.
- Do your own work.
- Take part in class discussions. Part of your grade is based on participation.
- Ask any relevant questions you may have.

Classroom Don'ts:

- Talk out of turn, or conduct private conversations.
- Use profanity in words or gestures.
- Threaten or intimidate anyone.
- Eat, drink, or sleep in class.
- Copy other students' work.
- Deface or incapacitate furniture and/or equipment.

Class Expectations:

- Turn in all assignments on time, they will not be taken late. Exceptions will be made for legitimate absences.
- Be responsible for missed assignments that may have been made during your absence. This is YOUR responsibility.
- Be prepared for class each day. Be in your seat and ready to begin when class starts. Bring book, paper, pen/pencil, etc. with you to class every day, unless told otherwise.

Assignments:

- All assignments are to be turned in when due. No late work will be accepted, except for legitimate absences.
- Tests must be taken on test day. Make-ups will be allowed only with prior arrangement or doctor's excuse.

Grading Scale:

A	96-100%	C	73-76%
A-	90-95%	C-	70-72%
B+	87-89%	D+	67-69%
B	83-86%	D	63-66%
B-	80-82%	D-	60-62%
C+	77-79%	F	Below 60%

CMU Policy on Academic Honesty Central Methodist University believes that honesty throughout life is a significant foundation of character and personal integrity. The University's Policy on Academic Honesty applies to all forms of academic work, including but not limited to quizzes and examinations, essays and papers, lab reports, oral presentations, surveys, take-home tests, etc. Every student is responsible for understanding this policy. By registering at the University, every student accepts the obligation to abide by this policy. Students are also responsible for understanding the particular policy applications required by each of their instructors and to ask the instructor for clarification of any areas of uncertainty .

Academic honesty requires that each person accept the obligation to be truthful in all academic endeavors. To help members of the community understand the implications of academic honesty, the University provides the following explanation of academic dishonesty.

Academic dishonesty is any conduct which has either as its intent or its effect (independent of intent) the false representation of a student's academic performance. Academic dishonesty includes but is not limited to the following:

(a) Cheating in any form (e.g. ghost-written papers, cheat sheets or notes, copying during exams, quizzes or other graded class work, etc.),

(b) Collaborating with others on work to be presented contrary to the stated rules of the course,

(c) Stealing or having unauthorized access to examination or course materials,

(d) Falsifying records, or laboratory or other data,

(e) Submitting work previously presented in another course without the advance consent of the instructor,

(f) Knowingly and intentionally assisting any other student in any act of academic dishonesty (this includes intentionally allowing any other student to use or submit your academic work or performance, or other academic work supplied by you, under a name different from the author of the work), and

(g) Plagiarism. Plagiarism is a form of cheating and stealing. It is morally unacceptable as well as well as against academic policy. Plagiarism includes but is not limited to [1] representing as one's own work a paper, speech, or report written in whole or in part by someone else (from the uncredited use of significant phrases to the uncredited use of larger portions of material), [2] failing to provide appropriate recognition of the sources of borrowed material through the proper use of quotation marks, proper attribution of paraphrases, and proper citations. Paraphrase is the direct use of others' ideas, data, or structures of thought stated in language substantially different from the source upon which they depend, and therefore not requiring quotation marks even though the substance of the material is borrowed. As borrowed material, appropriate recognition of the source must be given.

The University will discipline students for infractions of the Academic Honesty Policy with various sanctions which it deems appropriate, up to and including suspension or expulsion from the University. Penalties internal to a course, including grades and expulsion from the course, are at the discretion of the instructor. Students can appeal instructors' internal course penalties to the Committee on Academic Standards and Admissions, whose decision is final. Instructors must report all penalties which they impose for academic dishonesty, with a brief account of the offense, to the Dean of the College, so that all violations are recorded. For serious or repeated offenses, the Dean may impose further penalties beyond the course penalty. These penalties include but are not limited to notations in the student's file, notations on the student's transcript, probation, suspension, and expulsion. A decision by the Dean of the College can be appealed to the Faculty Committee on Academic Standards and Admissions, whose decision is final.