

Clarendon College
Division of Liberal Arts
Government 2305 Federal Government
(3 credit hours)
Syllabus Fall 2023

Instructor: Mrs. Linda Comer
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Course Description: Federal Government is an introduction to the theory and practice of politics and government in America at the national level. Topics include political theory, the U.S. Constitution, federalism, political participation and elections, the institutions of government, and domestic and foreign policies.

Statement of Purpose: This course partially satisfies the Government/Political Science component of the core curriculum and is designed for transfer to a senior college or university

Required Instructional Materials:

Online Textbook: Krutz, G. and Waskiewicz, S. *American Government*. Rice University. 28 July 2021. openstax.org/details/books/american-government-3e

Fall 2023 Calendar of Important Dates:

Classes begin Wednesday, August 16
Late Registration Begins Thursday, August 17
Last Day to Register and/or Add/Drop Monday, August 21
Last Day for Financial Settlement Thursday, Aug 24
Labor Day Monday, Sept. 4
Census Date Thursday, Aug 31
Columbus Day Monday, Oct. 9
60% of term completed Tuesday, Oct. 24
Last Day to Drop with a "W" Friday, Nov. 3
Thanksgiving Holidays Mon-Fri, Nov 20-24
Final Exams Mon-Wed, Dec 4-6
Final Grades due @ 2:00 PM Thursday, Dec. 7

Methods of Instructions: All of the following will be used in the course as a method of instruction:

Lecture- discussion	Assigned reading from texts
Guided collaborative learning	Media Assisted Instruction
Research projects	

Course Objectives:

Critical thinking skills (CT) – to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information
Communication skills (COM) – to include effective written, oral, and visual communication
Social responsibility (SR) –to include intercultural competency and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities

Personal responsibility (PR) – to include the ability to connect choices, actions and consequences to ethical decision-making

Student Learning Outcomes

The learner shall:

1. Explain the origin and development of constitutional democracy in the United States.
2. Demonstrate knowledge of the federal system.
3. Describe separation of powers and checks and balances in both theory and practice.
4. Demonstrate knowledge of the legislative, executive, and judicial branches of the federal government.
5. Evaluate the role of public opinion, interest groups, and political parties in the political system.
6. Analyze the election process.
7. Describe the rights and responsibilities of citizens
8. Analyze issues and policies in U.S. politics.

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	

Tests and Major Assignments	50% of each 6-weeks grade
Daily work	30% of 6 weeks grade
Participation	20% of 6 weeks grade

A student's final grade will be made available through Student Portal at Clarendon College's website

Submitting Assignments:

All papers should be typed using Times New Roman (or regular font) size 12 font in MLA format. Regardless of subject matter, college work must be well-written. Grammar, spelling, and punctuation do matter. Work must be received by the due date.

Class Policies:

All make-up work due to absences is the responsibility of the student. Incomplete or missing work will have a detrimental affect on a student's final grade.

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

Student Rights and Responsibilities are listed on the College website at: <http://www.clarendoncollege.edu/Resources/Student%20Services/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.

Clarendon College COVID-19 Updates:

Please click the following link to become informed about our campus responses to COVID-19:
<https://www.clarendoncollege.edu/CoronavirusUpdate>

Tentative Course Schedule:

Week 1: August-16-18
Chapter 1- Government and Civic Engagement

Week 2: August 21-25
Chapter 2- The Constitution and Origins

Week 3: August 28- September 1
Chapter 3- American Federalism

Labor Day, Sept 4

Week 4: September 4-8
Chapter 4- Civil Liberties

Week 5 : September 11-15
Chapter 5- Civil Rights

Exam #1 Tues. Sept 12

Week 6: Sept 18-22
Chapter 6- Public Opinion

Week 7: Sept 25-29
Chapter 7- Voting and Elections

Week 8: Oct 2-6

Chapter 8- Media

Week 9: Oct 9-13

Chapter 9-Political Parties

Week 10: Oct 16-20

Chapter 10- Interest Group

Exam #2 Tues. Oct 17

Week 11: Oct 23-Oct 27

Chapter 11-Congress

Week 12: Oct 30-Nov 3

Chapter 12- Presidency

Week 13: Nov 6-10

Chapter 15- The Bureaucracy

Week 14: Nov 13-17

Chapter 13- Courts

Week 15: Nov 20-14

Thanksgiving Break Nov 20-24

WEEK 16- Nov 27- Dec 1

Chapter 16- Domestic Policy

Final Exam: Monday, Dec 4

Note: This is a tentative outline planned for this course, and it may be changed at any time at my discretion. You will be notified in advance of any changes.