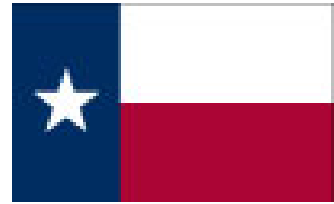


CLARENDON COLLEGE
LIBERAL ARTS DIVISION/GOVERNMENT
COURSE SYLLABUS 3 CREDIT HOURS ONLINE COURSE



TEXAS GOVERNMENT 2306
SUMMER I 2026

Your instructor for this course is Mrs. Kim Jeffrey. E-mail: kim.jeffrey@clarendoncollege.edu. A message through Open LMS (moodlerooms) is the preferred method to contact me.

Your textbook for this course is contained in Open LMS. This course is structured around the OER textbook, [Texas Government Textbook and resources](#), authored by Brenda Norton, and [Texas Government 2.0](#), authored by Kris Seago. License: [Creative Commons Attribution](#).



Important Dates:

Class begins	Wednesday, May 27
Class Orientation	Wednesday, May 27 through Monday, June 1
Last day to drop with a "W"	Tuesday, June 16
Exam I	Friday and Saturday, June 5 and 6.
Exam II	Saturday and Sunday, June 13 and 14
Exam III	Saturday and Sunday, June 20 and 21
Exam IV	Sunday and Monday, June 28 and 29
Due dates for this class	All due dates are for U.S. Central Standard Time

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 are identified each week or during each chapter that must be completed in order for students to be considered "in attendance." Failure to complete these assignments can result in forfeiture of Financial Aid and/or failure of the class.

Course website: This online course uses Open LMS as its online course management program and the link to your LoudCloud online textbook will be in Open LMS. All readings, instruction, assignments, and exams are contained in LoudCloud. All assignments will be submitted there. Due dates for all assignments are listed in the "Course Schedule" portion of your syllabus and in the course. Most communication between you and your instructor and fellow classmates will be handled in Open LMS through the "Messages" feature. 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.

Information explaining how to log into your course website can be obtained on [Clarendon College's](#) home page. Click on the **Login to Online Classes** button. If you have difficulty, email our help desk at: administrator@clarendoncollege.edu.

Course Expectations: You may expect a response from me usually within twenty-four hours (24 hours) for messages or email. You should usually receive grades for assignments within 5 to 7 days after the assignment comes due.



Computer/Technology Requirement: This course uses a variety of web resources that require a good Internet connection and an up-to-date browser. You should use the latest version of **Mozilla Firefox, Google Chrome, or Internet Explorer. You will also need access to a word program.**

Etiquette Expectations (netiquette) for all types of communication: You are expected to take responsibility in helping to maintain a classroom environment that is conducive to learning. Be polite and maintain a professional tone in your writing. Abusive language is not tolerated in this course.

Method of Instruction: Since this is an online course, students who take responsibility for learning are the ones who learn the most. I am more of a "facilitator of learning" rather than a "traditional teacher." For help with questions or problems, I am only a message away. My policy is to respond to messages in Open LMS within 24 hours from the date they are sent.

Course Description: Texas Government 2306 is the theory and practice of politics and government in America at the state and local levels with special attention to Texas. Topics include political theory, the Texas Constitution, states' rights, political participation, and elections.

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.

Core Objectives for Social & Behavioral Sciences Includes:

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

Student Learning Outcomes: Upon successful completion of this course the learner shall be able to:

1. Explain the origin and development of the Texas Constitution – Assesses CT and COM with Chapter Texas Politics Assignments.
2. Describe state and local political systems and their relationship with the federal government - Assesses CT and COM with Chapter Texas Politics Assignments.
3. Describe separation of powers and checks and balances in both theory and practice in Texas - Assesses CT and COM with Chapter Texas Politics Assignments.
4. Demonstrate knowledge of the legislative, executive, and judicial branches of Texas government - Assesses CT and COM with Chapter Texas Politics Assignments and PR, SR and COM with Opinion Paper (Judicial).
5. Evaluate the role of public opinion, interest groups, and political parties in Texas - Assesses SR with Opinion Paper II - Political Participation.
6. Analyze the state and local election process - Assesses SR with Opinion Paper - Rights and Responsibilities.
7. Identify the rights and responsibilities of citizens - Assesses SR with Opinion Paper - Political Participation.
8. Analyze issues, policies and political culture of Texas - Assesses CT, COM and PR with Opinion Paper - Political Culture, Issues, Policies.

School Policies and 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.)** (Clarendon College Student Handbook 2021-2022-- homepage. Click on "Inside CC" – under "Students" – click on "Forms and Resources" – then click on "2021-2022 Student Handbook" – Fund the "Student Code of Conduct" section and then the "Student Academic Integrity" section – P. 43.

Students are responsible for reporting known acts of academic dishonesty to a faculty member, the program coordinator, or the Vice-president of Students. 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 Vice-president of Students. The Vice-president of Students will maintain a file on all violations. If a faculty member prefers to report the case directly to the Vice-president 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 Vice-president of Students. If the Vice-president of Students observes any trends in student behavior which involve more than one violation or act of academic dishonesty, the Vice-president 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 Vice-president 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. If you have a dispute concerning your grade or policies in this class, it is the student's responsibility to contact the instructor to discuss the matter. Should things remain unresolved, please follow the procedures described in the Clarendon College Student Handbook or College Policy Manual.

PLAGIARISM: Read the following explanations carefully and be sure that you understand them.

1. **AI and Internet use:** Copying and pasting from the Internet and/or ChatGPT or any other AI program is plagiarism. All work must have an appropriate and accurate citation, this includes the use of any form of AI.
2. **Purchasing papers:** The purchase of a paper or any form of assignment from a paper mill is plagiarism.
3. **Word-for-word plagiarism:** The student quotes his or her source without using quotation marks. Even if the student cites the source, he or she is still plagiarizing because proper quotation procedures were not used.
4. **Paraphrased plagiarism:** The student uses a source and with the exception of changing a few words or phrases essentially quotes the original. Even if the source is properly cited, the writing is still plagiarized because the student has used the author's style, vocabulary, and content and claimed it as his or her own.

plagiarism

5. **Improper citations:** If a student uses someone's information other than his or her own, the source of the material must be properly cited. Failure to do so is plagiarism.

6. **Improper use of ideas:** Ideas are as equally protected as words. If the student uses someone's ideas, but expresses them in his or her words, the student plagiarizes if he or she does not cite the source of the idea.

7. **Student sharing:** While students are certainly free to work together and study together, an assignment that calls for individual work must reflect the student's personal effort. If a student borrows or copies another student's work, that is plagiarism. If a student has another student write a paper, that is plagiarism. If two students collaborate on an individual assignment and turn in the same work, that is plagiarism. Plagiarism is a serious academic offense. It involves legal issues about improper use of materials that do not belong to the student. Plagiarism is unethical. A student must do his or her own work; otherwise, the learning process is compromised. Plagiarism is unfair to fellow students who take the time and make the effort to do their own work. **Essentially, plagiarism is cheating and will not be tolerated. You will receive a zero for any assignment that is plagiarized.**

Academic dishonesty violations include, but are not limited to:



- obtaining an examination, classroom activity, or laboratory exercise by stealing or collusion
- discovering the content of an examination, classroom activity, laboratory exercise, or homework assignment before it is given
- observing the work of another during an examination or providing answers to another during an examination
- use of an unauthorized source of information during an examination, classroom activity, laboratory exercise, or homework assignment
- entering an office, classroom, laboratory, or building to obtain unfair advantage
- taking and exam or completing a classroom activity, laboratory exercise, homework assignment, or research paper for another person
- altering grade records
- using any unauthorized form of an electronic communication device during an examination, classroom activity, or laboratory exercise
- 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, material written with **Artificial Intelligence (ChaptGPT, etc.)** or stolen from another student.)

 **Withdrawing from (Dropping) the Course: A student may drop a class with a "W."** This must be done on or before the last day to drop a class as designated by the college calendar. This request for permission to drop a course is initiated by the student by **obtaining a drop form from the registrar's office**. The student should sign the form, have the instructor sign the form and return it to the office. For online students, this can be done by calling the Registrar's Office. Please remember that failure to officially drop a course will result in a final grade of "F" for the class. Any student who is considering dropping this course is encouraged to contact me before initiating the drop. Remember, 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.

Accommodation statement: Requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act: In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, any student who feels that he or she may need any special assistance or accommodation because of an impairment or disabling condition should contact the Associate Dean of Enrollment Services at 806-874-4837 / janean.reish@clarendoncollege.edu or visit the Clarendon campus at Clarendon College. It is the policy of Clarendon College to provide reasonable accommodation as required to afford equal educational opportunity. It is the student's responsibility to contact the Associate Dean of Enrollment Services.

Nondiscrimination Policy: Clarendon College, in accordance with applicable federal and state law, prohibits discrimination, including harassment, on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin, religion, sex, disability, age, sexual orientation, or veteran status. It is the policy of Clarendon College not to discriminate based on gender, age,

disability, race, color, religion, marital status, veteran's status, national or ethnic origin, or sexual orientation. Harassment of a student in class, i.e., a pattern of behavior directed against a particular student with the intent of humiliating or intimidating that student will not be tolerated. The mere expression of one's ideas is not harassment and is fully protected by academic freedom, but personal harassment of individual students is not permitted.

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



Students are responsible for ensuring that their work is consistent with Clarendon College's expectations about academic integrity. This course uses TURN-IT-IN to ensure academic integrity. Turnitin will give you a reading of percentages of work that is used in another text, whether that be an online text, a source (such as your textbook), a paper that was submitted to another college, or any string of words that have been used in another context. You will have the opportunity to revise your essay if the percentage of material taken from any source other than yourself is above 15%.



Turnitin uses an AI detection program and will show the percentage of possible AI-generated text. This report is seen only by the instructor. Any amount of AI generated text can be considered plagiarism and will receive a zero.

Do Not use Grammarly for assignments in this course as Turnitin will flag it as AI generated text by Turnitin and other AI detectors. Students are **not allowed to use advanced automated tools (artificial intelligence tools)** such as ChatGPT, Google Gemini, Microsoft CoPilot, Paraphraser) for assignments in this course. Each student is expected to complete each assignment without substantive assistance from others or automated tools.



The Syllabus EVA Agreement, Syllabus Test, and Course Overview must be completed by this date in order to continue with the course.

Core Objectives for Government and Political Science

- Critical thinking skills, creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information (CT).
- Effective written, oral, and visual communication skills (COM).
- Personal responsibility, the ability to connect choices, actions and consequences to ethical decision-making (PR).
- Social responsibility, intercultural competency, civic knowledge, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national and global communities (SR).

Student Learning Outcomes: Upon successful completion of this course the learner shall be able to:

9. Explain the origin and development of the Texas Constitution – Assesses CT and COM with Chapter Texas Politics Assignments.
10. Describe state and local political systems and their relationship with the federal government - Assesses CT and COM with Chapter Texas Politics Assignments.
11. Describe separation of powers and checks and balances in both theory and practice in Texas - Assesses CT and COM with Chapter Texas Politics Assignments.
12. Demonstrate knowledge of the legislative, executive, and judicial branches of Texas government - Assesses CT and COM with Chapter Texas Politics Assignments.
13. Evaluate the role of public opinion, interest groups, and political parties in Texas - Assesses SR with Opinion Paper II - Political Participation.
14. Analyze the state and local election process - Assesses SR with Opinion Paper - Rights and Responsibilities.
15. Identify the rights and responsibilities of citizens - Assesses SR with Opinion Paper - Political Participation.
16. Analyze issues, policies and political culture of Texas - Assesses CT, COM and PR with Opinion Paper - Political Culture, Issues, Policies.

To be successful in this online class you should plan on spending between 17-26 hours or more per week.

Weekly attendance is mandatory in all online courses. Students are expected to log-in to their online course(s) at least **twice a week**. Progress towards satisfactory completion assignments is expected on a weekly basis. This means you must log in at least twice a week to complete the Discussion Forum, other written assignments and exams. No progress could jeopardize good standing and financial aid.

Attendance is reported each **Thursday**. Students who follow the online attendance policy are marked "present" and can be checked in the Student Portal. Students can be placed on academic probation or lose financial aid for chronic non-attendance.

Course policy for cheating or plagiarizing:

- ✚ Any student caught cheating, plagiarizing, or using AI will receive a zero for the assignment or exam and will be referred to the Vice-president of Students Affairs.
- ✚ Any additional cheating/plagiarism/or using AI will result in a grade of "F" for the course.

Course policy for late work and make-up exams:

- ✚ No make-up exams are given and late assignments are not accepted. In an emergency, notify me at once. I can be reached through the Messages link in this course; E-mail: kim.jeffrey@clarendoncollege.edu. This contact information is also in the Quick Links on the course page.
- ✚ I normally return messages within 24 hours from the date it is sent.

Grading Formula for the Course: 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

- ✚ Grades will require from 5-7 days after the date it is due.
- ✚ **Any activity not completed is a zero**, even if a hyphen appears beside the activity in the Open LMS gradebook.
- ✚ The **current course average in the LMS Gradebook is not correct until the hyphens have been replaced with zeroes**.
- ✚ Course grades are based on the following:

✚ 38%	Exams (4 exams, each exam represents 9 points toward your total grade for this course).
✚ 12%	Texas Politics (4 assignments, each represents 3 points of your total grade).
✚ 40%	Opinion Papers (4 assignments, each represents 10 points of your total grade).
✚ 10%	Discussion Forum (8 posts & 8 replies, 1 post plus 1 reply represents 1.25 point).
100%	Total

Your Grades can be found in the Course Dashboard under the Gradebook link in Open LMS and in your Student Portal on the Clarendon College Homepage at: www.clarendoncollege.edu. Your official end of course grade will be in your CC Student Portal.

In order to begin this course, you must agree to abide by the policies contained in the syllabus you have just read. Not following some of those policies could significantly affect your grade. This will be considered a binding contract between you and me that will be used in the event there are any disagreements over issues or about your grades in this course. Make sure you have read the syllabus and understand all of the information in it. The signature line is located on Syllabus EVA Agreement link on the main page of the course.

Tentative Course Schedule

The course schedule below is subject to change. If changes are made, I will send you a message through Open LMS and your Bulldog email. I will also change the course schedule.

Tentative Course Schedule

Texas Government 2306

Summer I 2026



Your grades can be found in the Gradebook Link in the Course Dashboard. Your official grades will be in the Clarendon College Student Portal.

- All due dates are for **U.S. Central Standard** time zone. Assignments, exam, and discussion forums are due by 11:55 p.m. on the due date. Due dates are on the assignment link and also in the LMS Calendar.
- All exams are set for one question at a time with sequential navigation. If you skip a question you **will not** be able to go back to that question later, even if there is time left. Each answer is automatically saved when you go to the next question. Exams are open only on the dates specified in the Course Schedule.
- Exams are timed. You have 50 minutes when you begin the quiz.
- I do not accept late work. If you do not understand how to submit an assignment, refer to the Student Tutorials at the bottom of every page or send me a message, and I will help you.
- Written Assignments are open so you may work ahead. This does not include the Discussion Forum. Since it is an attendance activity; **you will not be able to work ahead on the Discussion Forum.**
- You can contact me at any time. I can usually get back to you within 24 hours.
- The due dates in this course are there in order to keep you moving forward in the course.

Class Orientation: Begins Wednesday, May 27 through Monday, June 1

- **Read the Course Overview**
- **Take the Syllabus Quiz**
- **Sign the EVA Agreement** by June 1 or you **will not** have access to the course content and assignments.
- There are specific attendance activities that must be completed in order for the student to be considered "in attendance" for that week; the Discussion Forum is marked by an *asterisk in the Course Schedule.

Unit I: Begins Wednesday, May 27 – Saturday, June 6

e-book reading assignments:

- **Chapter 1: Introduction to Texas History and Politics**
- **Chapter 2: American Federalism and the Texas State Constitutions**
- **Chapter 3: Texas Executive Branch**

Unit I: Discussion Forum **Submit these postings to be considered "in attendance" for the week.*

Each posting plus a reply represents 1.25 points toward your total score for this class. Due dates are as follows:

- Chapter 1 posting and one reply are due by Wednesday, June 3.
- Chapter 2 posting and one reply are due on Saturday, June 6.
- No Discussion Forum for Ch 3

Chapter 1 Opinion Paper I: 10 points - Opinion Paper for Political Culture: due by Wednesday, June 3.

Chapter 3 Texas Politics Written Graded Assignment – 3 points - due by Saturday, June 6

Unit I Exam: Open Friday, Saturday June 5, 6.

- Covers Chapter 1, 2, 3 with 50 multiple choice questions. Each Exam is worth 9.5 points.
- Once you begin you will have 50 minutes to take the test. This is plenty of time, but make sure you're ready.

Unit II: Begins Sunday, June 7 – Sunday, June 14

e-book reading assignments:

- Chapter 4: The Texas Legislature Branch
- Chapter 5: Political Parties
- Chapter 6: Interest Groups and Lobbying

Unit II: Discussion Forum * *Submit these postings to be considered “in attendance” for the week.*

Each posting plus a reply represents 1.25 points toward your total score for this class. Due dates are as follows:

- Chapter 4 posting and one reply are due on Wednesday, June 10.
- Chapter 5 posting and one reply are due on Sunday, June 14.

Texas Politics Written Assignments – 3 points

- Chapter 4: Texas Legislature: due on Wednesday, June 10.

Chapter 6 Opinion Paper – Personal Responsibility – due by June 14

Unit II Exam: Saturday, Sunday, June 13, 14.

- Exam II covers Chapters 4, 5, 6 with 50 multiple choice questions. Each Exam represents 9.5 points.
- Once you begin you will have 50 minutes to take the test.

Unit III: Begins Monday, June 15 - Sunday, June 21

e-book reading assignments:

- Chapter 7: Political Participation and Elections in Texas
- Chapter 8: Local Governments in Texas
- Chapter 9: Budget, Finances and Policy

Unit III: Discussion Forum **Submit at least two postings per week to be considered “in attendance” for the week.*

Each posting plus a reply represents 1.25 points toward your total score for this class. Due dates are as follows:

- Chapter 7 Posting and one reply are due on Wednesday, June 18.
- Chapter 8 Posting and one reply are due on Sunday, June 21.

Ch 7 Opinion Paper: Political Participation – 10 points - due by Thursday, June 18.

Texas Politics Assignments – 3 points

- Chapter 9: The Local Government in Texas due on Wednesday, June 21

Unit III Exam: Saturday, Sunday, June 20, 21.

- Exam III covers Chapters 8, 9 and 10 with 50 multiple choice questions. Each exam represents 9.5 points.
- Once you begin you will have 50 minutes to take the test.

Unit IV: Begins Monday, June 22 – Monday, June 29

e-book reading assignments:

- Chapter 10 Texas Judicial Branch
- Chapter 11: Criminal Law in Texas

Unit IV: Discussion Forum * *Submit these postings to be considered “in attendance” for the week.*

Each posting plus a reply represents 1.25 points toward your total score for this class. Due dates are as follows:

- Chapter 10 Discussion Forum -1 post and 1 reply are due on Thursday, June 25.
- Chapter 11 Discussion Forum- 1 post and 1 reply are due on Tuesday, June 29

Texas Politics Assignments – 3 points each

- Chapter : Court System in Texas: due on Wednesday, June 24

Opinion Paper for Unit 4 - Rights and Responsibilities – 10 points each by Monday, June 29

Unit IV Exam: Monday and Tuesday, June 28 and June 29.

- Exam IV (Final) covers Chapters 10, 11, with 50 multiple choice questions. Each exam represents 9.5 points.
- Once you begin you will have 50 minutes to take the test.