American & Texas Government: Institutions
PSCI 1040.003
Spring 2014
TR: 12:30–1:50 p.m. (AUDb100)
Description

This course will provide the student with an introduction to American and Texas politics. The course will focus primarily on the institutions central to federal and state decision making, including the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of government, as well as civil rights and liberties.
Prof. Andrew J. Enterline
Email: Within Blackboard Learn email system
Phone: 940.565.2313
Office: Wooten Hall 145
Office Hours: Thursday: 2–5:00 & by appt.
Teaching Assistants

You are assigned to a teaching assistant by way of the alpha order of your last name. The three TAs assigned to the class are as follows:

Teaching Assistant (student last names A–G): Kelsey Naughton
Email: Within Blackboard Learn email system
Office: Wooten Hall 331
Office Hours: M, 1–4 pm & by appt.

Teaching Assistant (student last names H–O): Melissa Martinez
Email: Within Blackboard Learn email system
Office: Wooten Hall 131
Office Hours: T 2–5 & by appt.

Teaching Assistant (student last names P–Z): Karl Boyd-Nafstad
Email: Within Blackboard Learn email system
Office: Wooten Hall 160
Office Hours: MW 10–11, T 10-12 & by appt.
Supplemental Instruction

We are fortunate to have a member of the UNT Supplemental Instruction (SI) program to assist you in your course preparation. Our SI and her contact information are as follows:

Ms. Stephanie Azubuike

Email: [StephanieAzubuike@my.unt.edu](mailto:StephanieAzubuike@my.unt.edu) and within Blackboard Learn email system.

Stephanie will be in contact with you via the Blackboard email system to arrange study sessions.
Communication

Please use the email facility within UNT’s Blackboard system to communicate with the appropriate TA and/or Enterline, as it provides a clear subject line identification and will elicit a prompter response.
Books

Required reading material is as follows:

1. Ginsberg, Lowi, Weir, Tolbert, Champagne and Harpham. *We the People.* 9th Texas Edition. Norton. ISBN-13: 978-0393124385. This product is available from the UNT bookstore and is referred to as “Ginsberg” in the course calendar, below. Free online study material is available from Norton at the following URL: [http://www.wwnorton.com/studyspace](http://www.wwnorton.com/studyspace) and

Attendance

No formal attendance will be taken during lecture. As you are attending UNT to learn, you are expected to attend lecture. However, as adults, the choice to do so is yours (however, see discussion in the subsections on Quizzes & Exams regarding the potential hazards for failing to attend.) Each attending student is required to have in its possession a #2 pencil suitable for marking scantrons.
Quizzes

There will be two unannounced quizzes during the semester, one prior to
the midterm exam and the second following the midterm exam and prior
to the final exam. The quizzes will require the student to answer a short
battery of multiple-choice questions drawn from the texts and lecture (in-
cluding multi-media.) Each quiz will contribute 5% (i.e., 10% total) to each
student’s final grade. Scantron sheets will be furnished to each student for
each quiz. Students are responsible for furnishing a valid UNT Identification
Card corresponding to their quiz submission and a #2 pencil for completing
the scantron.
Exams

There will be 2 exams in this course: One midterm exam on **Tuesday, March 4**, and a final exam on **Thursday, May 8**. Each exam requires the student to answer multiple-choice questions drawn from the required readings and lecture (including multi-media.) A review session will be held the lecture period immediately prior to each exam. Scantron sheets will be furnished to each student during each exam. Students are responsible for furnishing a valid UNT Identification Card corresponding to their own exam submission and a #2 pencil for completing the scantron. Each exam will contribute 45% to each student’s final course grade (90% total.)
Make-ups

Makeup exams and quizzes should be arranged through your TA and will be carried out only in the case of a documented excuse.
Posting of Grades

All assessment credit, grades on quizzes, and grades on the exams will be posted on UNT’s Blackboard site.
Winter Weather

When winter weather occurs in late January and February, please monitor your Blackboard and MyUNT email accounts for messages from me regarding lecture. Due to commuting hazards, I may cancel lecture prior to any declaration by the UNT Registrar and you will be notified via Blackboard email.
## Course Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Subject</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 1</td>
<td>1/14</td>
<td>Course Introduction</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 1</td>
<td>1/16</td>
<td>Ginsberg, American Political Culture, Ch. 1</td>
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<td>Week 2</td>
<td>1/21-3</td>
<td>Ginsberg, The Founding and the Constitution, Ch. 2</td>
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<td>Wood, Chs. 4-5 (Thursday)</td>
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<td>Week 3</td>
<td>1/28-30</td>
<td>Ginsberg, Federalism, Ch. 3</td>
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<td>Wood, Chs. 2,7 (Thursday)</td>
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<td>Week 4</td>
<td>2/4-6</td>
<td>Ginsberg, Civil Liberties, Ch. 4</td>
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<td>Week 5</td>
<td>2/11-13</td>
<td>Ginsberg, Civil Liberties, Ch. 4</td>
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<td>Wood, Ch. 10 (Thursday)</td>
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<td>Week 6</td>
<td>2/18-20</td>
<td>Ginsberg, Civil Rights, Ch. 5</td>
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<td>Wood, Ch. 11 (Thursday)</td>
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<td>Week 7</td>
<td>2/25</td>
<td>Leftovers (no extra readings)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 7</td>
<td>2/27</td>
<td>Exam Review</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 8</td>
<td>3/4</td>
<td>Midterm Exam</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 8</td>
<td>3/6</td>
<td>No Lecture</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 9</td>
<td>3/11–17</td>
<td>SPRING BREAK</td>
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Week 10 (3/18-20)  Ginsberg, Congress, Ch. 12

Week 11 (3/25-27)  Ginsberg, The Presidency, Ch. 13
                   Wood, Ch. 8 (Thursday)

Week 12 (4/1-3)    Ginsberg, The Federal Courts, Ch. 15

Week 13 (4/8-10)   Ginsberg, The Texas Constitution, Ch. 20
                   Ginsberg, Texas Political Culture, Ch. 19

Week 14 (4/15-17)  Ginsberg, The Texas Legislature, Ch. 23


Week 16 (4/29)     Wrap-up

Week 16 (5/1)      Exam Review

Final Exam         Thursday, May 8, 10:30 am–12:30 pm, AUDb100
UNT Dept. of Political Science Statement of ADA compliance

The Political Science Department cooperates with the Office of Disability Accommodation to make reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. Please present your written accommodation request to Enterline on or before the sixth class day (beginning of the second week of classes.)
UNT Dept. of Political Science Policy on Cheating and Plagiarism

The UNT Code of Student Conduct and Discipline defines cheating and plagiarism as the use of unauthorized books, notes, or otherwise securing help in a test; copying others’ tests, assignments, reports, or term papers; representing the work of another as one’s own; collaborating without authority with another student during an examination or in preparing academic work; or otherwise practicing scholastic dishonesty. Normally, the minimum penalty for cheating or plagiarism is a grade of “F” in the course. In the case of graduate departmental exams, the minimum penalty shall be failure of all fields of the exam. Determination of cheating or plagiarism shall be made by the instructor in the course, or by the field faculty in the case of departmental exams. Cases of cheating or plagiarism on graduate departmental exams, theses, or dissertations shall automatically be referred to the departmental Graduate Studies Committee. Cases of cheating or plagiarism in ordinary coursework may, at the discretion of the instructor, be referred to the Undergraduate Studies Committee in the case of undergraduate students, or the Graduate Studies Committee in the case of graduate students. These committees, acting as agents of the department Chair, shall impose further penalties, or recommend further penalties to the Dean of Students, if they determine that the case warrants it. In all cases, the Dean of Students shall be informed in writing of the case. Students may appeal any decision under this policy by following the procedures laid down in the UNT Code of Student Conduct and Discipline.

UNT Dept. of Political Science Policy on Academic Integrity

The Political Science Department adheres to and enforces UNT’s policy on academic integrity (cheating, plagiarism, forgery, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty and sabotage). Students in this class should review the policy (UNT Policy Manual Section 18.1.16), located at:

http://policy.unt.edu/sites/default/files/untpolicy/pdf/

and file: 7-Student_Affairs-Academic_Integrity.pdf
Violations of academic integrity in this course will addressed in compliance with the penalties and procedures laid out in this policy. Students may appeal any decision under this policy by following the procedures laid down in the UNT The UNT Policy Manual Section 18.1.16 “Student Standards of Academic Integrity.” Acceptable Student Behavior: Student behavior that interferes with an instructor’s ability to conduct a class or other students’ opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Center for Student Rights and Responsibilities to consider whether the student’s conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The university’s expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including university and electronic classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The Code of Student Conduct can be found at [www.unt.edu/csrr](http://www.unt.edu/csrr).

**Related Resources**

Additional resources pertaining to course enrollment and student rights and responsibilities may be found here:

- Course drop: [http://essc.unt.edu/registrar/schedule/scheduleclass.html](http://essc.unt.edu/registrar/schedule/scheduleclass.html)
- Academic dishonesty: [http://www.vpaa.unt.edu/academic-integrity.htm](http://www.vpaa.unt.edu/academic-integrity.htm)