Course Syllabus
Semester: Fall 2022
POS: 2041

Class: POS 2041 Section 001 – American National Government
Time: 12:20PM - 1:10PM MWF
Instructor: Dr. Abdul Sharif
Email Address: Abdul.Sharif@famu.edu
Location: BLPC 0101
Office: 309 Tucker Hall
Telephone: (850) 561-2061

Course Description
This course is an introduction to American Government, providing knowledge of the ideas and institutions that shape politics in the United States. This course will focus on the procedures and intermingling of the three branches of the U.S. Government: Legislative, Executive, and Judicial. There will be a review of the strategies, roles, and limitations of governmental leaders and citizens, with specific focus on communication channels and interaction within constitutional parameters. This course will reinforce opportunities for debates on subject content and general class discussion. Videos and guest speakers may be utilized to support reading materials.

Overarching Goal
Ultimately, students will be expected to have a more comprehensive understanding of the forces that shape American Government and Politics.

Course Objectives
After completion of this course, students should be able to:
1. Examine and analyze modern American political processes.
2. Display an understanding of current events and issues in American politics.
3. Acquire the basic skills of writing, speaking, and critical thinking.
4. Develop a working vocabulary of terms and concepts used by scholars, policymakers, and other political actors.

**Course Competencies and Outcomes: Florida Department of Education - Postsecondary Civics Literacy**

A. Understanding of the basic principles and practices of American democracy and how they are applied in our republican form of government

B. An understanding of the United States Constitution and its application

C. Knowledge of the founding documents and how they have shaped the nature and functions

D. An understanding of landmark Supreme Court cases, landmark legislation, and landmark executive actions, and their impact on law and society

**Course Methodology**
The following techniques will be used during this course: lectures by the instructor, online class discussion, social media, written assignments, and presentations by students.

**Course Requirements**
1. Students are expected to keep up with the readings in relation to each chapter and be prepared to discuss the readings during class meetings.
2. Students are expected to respect their peers as well as the instructor at all times. Any demonstrations of disrespect during class meetings will not be tolerated. Any student in violation of the disorderly conduct stipulation set forth by the university will be dismissed from class and reported to the proper authorities (according to the student handbook).
3. Students are expected to turn in assignments at the beginning of class on dates specified by the instructor. Make-up and Late assignments will NOT be accepted under any circumstances. Points for missed assignments will be excused with a university approved Official Absence Excuse (according to the student handbook).

**Attendance/Tardiness/Academic Honesty**
It is the University's policy that students punctually attend all class meetings for courses in which they are enrolled unless officially excused. Students who do not attend class meetings during the first ten (10) class days of the academic term will be dropped from the course by the University Registrar.
Attendance is mandatory and will be recorded on a daily basis. **Six unexcused absences automatically receive zero percentage points for attendance/participation.** If a student Students are expected to be on time. There is **ZERO TOLERANCE** for cheating and plagiarism. Any student in violation of either will be dismissed from class, receive a grade of F for the assignment and/or overall course and reported to the proper authorities.

**Required Textbook**


**Grades**

Your grade will be calculated as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Categories</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assignments</td>
<td>5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Participation and Attendance</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unit Tests (Combined)</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Project</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mid-term</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
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**SEMESTER SCHEDULE**

Please Note: Schedule is Subject to Change

- 8/22 – Introduction
- 8/24 – Discussion
- 8/27 – Chapter 1 - Democratic Republic
- 8/29 - Chapter 1 - Democratic Republic
- 8/31 - Chapter 2- Constitution
- 9/2 - Chapter 2- Constitution
- 9/5 - Labor DAY No Class
- 9/7 - Chapter 2- Constitution
- 9/9 - Online Assignment
- 9/12 - Chapter 3- Federalism
- 9/14 - Chapter 3 - Federalism
9/16  Overview
9/19- Chapters 1/2/3 Unit 1 Test
9/21- Chapter 9- Congress
9/23- Online Assignment
9/26- Chapter 9- Congress
9/28- Chapter 12-Courts
9/30 - Assignment Submission
10/3 - Chapter 12- Courts
10/5- Overview
10/7– Midterm 9/12
10/10- Chapter 8- Campaigns and Elections
10/12 - Chapter 8- Campaigns and Elections
10/14 – Online Assignment Submission
10/17- Group Projects
10/19- Group Projects
10/21- Group Projects
10/24- Group Projects
10/26- Group Projects
10/28- Overview
10/31- Unit Test 2: Chapter 8
11/2- Chapter 4- Civil Liberties
11/4 - Online Assignment
11/7 - Chapter 4- Civil Liberties
11/9 -Chapter 5- Civil Rights
11/11 - Online Assignment
11/14 - Chapter 5- Civil Rights
11/16 - Overview Chapters 4/5
11/18  Final Exam
11/30 Discussion/Questions
I have read, discussed, and understand the information provided in this syllabus for POS 2041-001 American National Government.

____________________________________
Name of Student (Print)

____________________________________
Student’s Signature

Disclaimer: This syllabus is intended to provide student guidance on the type of content and activities that will be covered in this course throughout the semester. It will be followed to the extent possible. However, modifications may be made to supplement and/or enhance student learning.