

College of Charleston

Fall 2017

POLI 101-02 AMERICAN GOVERNMENT (CRN # 11406)

Express I Online Course – August 22 – October 6, 2017

(Exam due October 10, 2017)

Professor: LaTasha Chaffin, Ph.D.

Methods of Contact: Email, Instant messaging if we are synchronously online at the same time, phone message (843-953-1036), *or by appointment*

In-Person Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. and 2 – 3 p.m. (*114 Wentworth, Room 204*) *or by appointment*

Email: chaffinly@cofc.edu

Office Phone/Voicemail: 843-953-1036 (You may also leave a voice message and I will return your call within 24 – 48 hours).

OAKS Instant Messaging: You may instant message me if we are synchronously online at the same time.

Course Introduction: This course is an introduction to the foundations, institutions (Congress, Judiciary & the Executive Branch), political systems and processes of the United States National Government. It follows that this course explores Federalism, the principles underlying the U.S. Constitution and Constitutional Protections such as Civil Rights and Civil Liberties. Students will also examine how campaigns and elections, political parties, interest groups, and public opinion affect change in a representative democracy. The roles of legislative and judicial policymaking and bureaucratic administration will also be examined. You will be responsible for not only comprehending but thinking critically about the topics discussed.

Course/Learning Goals:

- To understand and discuss the philosophical viewpoints from which the U.S. government was founded
- To comprehend and explain how the three main branches of the U.S. government function and interact under the separation of powers
- To articulate how political systems, groups and individual actors interact in order to influence and create public policy
- Through online class discussions, writing assignments and examinations to demonstrate the ability to think critically about complex political ideas and concepts

- To understand and be able to evaluate and articulate how political decisions impact your daily lives through online class discussions
- To ascertain and be able to describe ways in which group and individual political participation is a catalyst for change within the U.S. governmental structure

Required Texts & Additional Resources:

The required textbook below is available at the College of Charleston Bookstore (in-person) or online at:

- 1) <http://cofc.bncollege.com/webapp/wcs/stores/servlet/TBWizardView?catalogId=10001&langId=-1&storeId=65075>
- Dye, Thomas and Gaddie, Keith. (2016- Elections Edition). *Politics in America* (11th Edition) **ISBN:** 9780134624365. (**REVEL** online access card). Pearson (Longman).
- 2) *This course uses a Pearson digital product called **REVEL** which contains an e-text, online resources and some assignments used throughout the semester. The required link below is unique to this course. Here is how to register:*
 1. Visit this link: <https://console.pearson.com/enrollment/so8o3e>
 2. Sign in with your Pearson Account. You can either: sign in with an existing Pearson username and password OR create a new Pearson account if this is your first Pearson digital product.
 3. Click View access options to redeem your access code (that you purchased through the College of Charleston bookstore) or purchase instant access online. *There is a free trial available for a limited amount of time.*

What you should know:

- Bookmark <https://console.pearson.com> to easily access your materials.
- Pearson recommends using the latest version of Chrome, Firefox, or Safari with this digital product.

A how to video about how to register for REVEL can be found at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pavN9npktBI>

**Additional required readings will be made electronically available through the OAKS system, accessible in MyCharleston.

Course Structure:

- This is an online course. The course will be administered primarily in the OAKS online forum. There will also be lectures that you can access VoiceThread (accessible through OAKS). There will be a tutorial in your orientation module. There are also tutorials available via the College of Charleston You Tube Channel at: <https://www.youtube.com/user/collegeofcharleston>
- The course is organized in weekly modules. **The modules will open the Tuesday of each week and the discussion board posts and weekly assignments are due by the following Monday (by 11:59 p.m.).** **** (Note: Discussion posts are due by Mondays for participants,**

not discussion leaders; See the discussion leader assignment sheet in OAKS for further instructions for leaders). These discussion questions and weekly assignments will be detailed in each weekly module. There will be weekly participation points assigned based on your participation in the discussion board forum (and other mediums –e.g. Poll Everywhere & Twitter). You can access the discussion board in OAKS under Communications – Discussions.

- You also have major course assignments (detailed below) that have specific due dates and are due via *OAKS dropbox*, not via email (see course assignments below). You can access the OAKS dropbox under Grades – Dropbox.
- There will be weekly lectures accessible via OAKS in Voicethread. You can access VoiceThread presentations through the ***main OAKS POLI 101 course page*** (on the right hand side of the main page under “Multimedia Resources” “Access VoiceThread for this course”).

Interacting in the Online Environment:

- The online course environment is a learning community where we are all contributors and participants in creating and maintaining a collaborative space where all ideas are appreciated (regardless of ideology or belief systems).
- Everyone (including myself) is responsible for communicating in a respectful and responsible way. This includes avoiding the use of curse words, extreme sarcasm and using all caps as this is the equivalent of “shouting” at others in the learning environment.
- The instructor will facilitate and lead discussion, yet all students will do the same, allowing each of us to take turns operating as the facilitator, discussion leader and respondent.
- You will interact in groups where you will co-lead discussions. There will also be interactive online assignments/exercises that will allow you to interact and become more familiar with one another. The instructor will moderate all forums and provide feedback and suggestions as warranted.
- You are encouraged to post general questions to the “Virtual Office” discussion board so that all of your peers will benefit from the instructors’ responses.

Technological Tools

- The course will primarily be accessible in the OAKS online environment found at lms.cofc.edu.
****Therefore, access to a computer and the internet is *required* for this course. Please notify the instructor during the first week of classes if you have constraints that inhibit your ability to regularly access a computer and the internet (several times a week).**
- I will post lectures to Voicethread. Voicethread lectures can be accessed via our main OAKS course page (on the right hand side of the main page under “Multimedia Resources” “Access VoiceThread for this course”).
- There are OAKS Voicethread tutorials available via The College of Charleston’s you tube channel (use the search function) located at (i.e. you can use the search function to find “OAKS tutorials.” and “Voicethread tutorials”): <http://www.youtube.com/user/collegeofcharleston>
- There will also be a brief tutorial outlining how to access Voicethread in your orientation module. Please also access written tutorials posted in OAKS – under content – “Technological Resources.”

- A variety of resources for REVEL can be found at: <https://www.pearsonhighered.com/revel/>
- The College of Charleston IT helpdesk can be contacted via helpdesk@cofc.edu or 843-953-3375 or 843-953 DESK. They are open Monday – Friday from 10 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. and on weekends from 2 p.m. to 10 p.m. You may be asked to leave a voicemail and a technician will call you back in 30 minutes. You can also schedule an individual appointment. Please utilize the helpdesk for such technical issues as computer compatibility or if you are having difficulties accessing the OAKS environment.

Course Procedures:

Communication –The primary method of communication from the instructor to the class outside of classroom time and office hours will be to your College of Charleston email. *If you have an alternative email address that you would prefer I use, please notify me during the first week of classes.* There will also be announcements, readings, lecture slides, assignments and grades posted in **OAKS** that **can be accessed at lms.cofc.edu**. **All modules will open on Tuesdays of each week. Your discussion board posts & other participation activities are due by Monday of the following week (by 11:59 p.m.). Your major course assignments may have various due dates (see course schedule below).**

*** It is your responsibility to ensure that your CofC accounts (e.g. email, OAKS) are active, and that you are checking them regularly in order to access and receive course updates, assignments and materials.*

You may post general questions about the class in the "**Virtual Office**" discussion board forum. If you have questions about the weekly materials, post them in the weekly forum created for that purpose. *Expect a reply within 24 – 48 hours.*

E-mail should be used for issues that are not appropriate for the whole class (e.g. questions about your grade, constructive feedback or personal issues). When you e-mail your professor, please include a proper reference in the "subject" field, any message you are responding to, and your name. *Your professor will respond to your e-mail within 24 - 48 hours.*

OAKS Instant Messaging: You may instant message me if we are synchronously online at the same time. Please keep in mind that video, audio and application sharing over the Internet are not 100% secure. If you want to discuss things like grades, use individual chat (not group), email, telephone, make a phone, Skype or FaceTime appointment with me.

Using the chat instant messaging tool: OAKS features an Instant Messaging tool that allows you to get in touch with your classmates or the instructor. When you click on "Communication" at the top of the OAKS page then the "Classlist" tab in the top toolbar, you'll get a list of names. Anyone with a green dot next to their name is currently signed in. Check the box next to their name and press the "Page User" button at the top of the classlist. If you see that I'm online and you have a question, feel free to use this tool for a real-time answer, though I'm not always sitting at the computer when I'm logged on.

Email: Please expect responses to emails at chaffinly@cofc.edu within 24 – 48 hours.

Appointments: You may also contact me via email at chaffinly@cofc.edu or leave a message at 843-953-1036 if you would like to make a phone, Skype or FaceTime appointment with me.

Etiquette – Please be respectful and courteous of all students and the professor when communicating online. Please do not use profane language and do not use all caps when replying to the professor or your classmates' comments as this is the equivalent of shouting online.

College of Charleston Honor Code Violations include prohibiting any verbal abuse which could include the use of "derogatory terms, foul or demeaning language, which may be accompanied by a hostile tone or intense volume of delivery." Threats, intimidation, harassment, bullying coercion, hazing and sexual misconduct are also prohibited. This is not an exhaustive list. Please link to the student handbook for more detailed information regarding violations:

<http://studentaffairs.cofc.edu/honor-system/studenthandbook/index.php>

<http://studentaffairs.cofc.edu/honor-system/studenthandbook/2017-2018-student-handbook.pdf>

Academic Honesty - You are responsible for making yourself aware of and understanding the College of Charleston Student Handbook policies that detail Honor Code Violations such as Academic Dishonesty found at: <http://studentaffairs.cofc.edu/honor-system/studenthandbook/2017-2018-student-handbook.pdf>

Lying, cheating, attempted cheating, and plagiarism are violations of our Honor Code that, when identified, are investigated. Each incident will be examined to determine the degree of deception involved.

Incidents where the instructor determines the student's actions are related more to a misunderstanding will be handled by the instructor. A written intervention designed to help prevent the student from repeating the error will be given to the student. The intervention, submitted by form and signed both by the instructor and the student, will be forwarded to the Dean of Students and placed in the student's file.

Cases of suspected academic dishonesty will be reported directly by the instructor and/or others having knowledge of the incident to the Dean of Students. A student found responsible by the Honor Board for academic dishonesty will receive a XXF in the course, indicating failure of the course due to academic dishonesty. This grade will appear on the student's transcript for two years after which the student may petition for the XX to be expunged. The F is permanent. The student may also be placed on disciplinary probation, suspended (temporary removal) or expelled (permanent removal) from the College by the Honor Board.

Students should be aware that unauthorized collaboration--working together without permission-- is a form of cheating. Unless the instructor specifies that students can work together on an assignment, quiz and/or test, no collaboration during the completion of the assignment is permitted. Other forms of cheating include possessing or using an unauthorized study aid (which could include accessing information via a cell phone or computer), copying from others' exams, fabricating data, and giving unauthorized assistance.

Research conducted and/or papers written for other classes cannot be used in whole or in part for any assignment in this class without obtaining prior permission from the instructor.

Students can find the complete Honor Code and all related processes in the Student Handbook at <http://studentaffairs.cofc.edu/honor-system/studenthandbook/index.php>

You should consult with **the instructor** if you are uncertain about an issue regarding academic honesty prior to the submission of an assignment or an exam.

Violations of academic honesty include (but are not limited to) the following offenses:

1) Claiming as your own work a paper written by another student.

- 2) Turning in a paper that contains paraphrases of someone else's ideas but does not give proper credit to that person for those ideas.
- 3) Turning in a paper that is largely a restatement in your own words of a paper written by someone else, even if you give credit to that person for those ideas. The thesis and organizing principles of a paper must be your own.
- 4) Turning in a paper that uses the exact words of another author without using quotation marks, even if proper credit is given in a citation, or that changes the words only slightly and claims them to be paraphrases.
- 5) Turning in the same paper, even in a different version, for two different courses without the permission of both professors involved.
- 6) Using any external source (e.g. other students, a consultant or service) for assistance on an assignment or exam, unless given permission to do so by the professor.

Center for Disability Services – The College of Charleston will make reasonable accommodations for a student with a documented disability. If you are in need of accommodations for this course due to a disability, please contact the Center for Disability Services at SNAP@cofc.edu or (843) 953-1431 and please also communicate with me ideally within the first two weeks of class so we can put your accommodations in place. I am very willing to make any adjustments necessary to address all student needs.

Center for Student Learning – If you will be in Charleston during the duration of the course, I encourage you to utilize the Center for Student Learning's (CSL) academic support services for assistance in study strategies, speaking & writing skills, and course content. They offer tutoring, Supplemental Instruction, study skills appointments, and workshops. Students of all abilities have become more successful using these programs throughout their academic career and the services are available to you at no additional cost. The CSL is located on the first floor of Addlestone Library and they can assist you with writing term papers, essays, letters, memos or book reviews from developing ideas and organizing materials to editing final drafts (in addition to other services). For more information regarding these services please visit the CSL website at <http://csl.cofc.edu> or call (843)953-5635.

Counseling - Confidential counseling and substance abuse services are available at the Robert Scott Small Building (located off the Cougar Mall), Suite 300. You may call 843-953-5640 for an appointment.

Course Withdrawal – *Please note that dropping a class involves more than not submitting course work or not logging on to the online environment. Not logging on and completing assignments in the online environment could result in a poor grade.* Please contact the registrar's office for course withdrawal procedures. The last day to drop for full semester courses with a grade of "W" is *Wednesday September 20, 2017*. The contact number for the Office of the Registrar is 843-953-5668 or registrar@cofc.edu Please consult the registrar's office *before dropping a course*.

Course Requirements:

Participation - Participation is crucial to your success in this course. Please be aware that poor participation is a primary reason for students' receiving poor grades. **Participation is assessed at 15 points for each week and is worth 20% of your final course grade. All online modules open up on Tuesday of each week and all OAKS posts for each module are due by Monday of the following week (by 11:59 p.m.).**

Each student is expected to post in the designated forum (s) at least 3 out of 7 days each week (please limit your posts to a max of 5 per week spread out over the 3 days of posts).** This standard is a minimum. Simply logging on does not contribute to the class. Participation includes questions or comments about the weekly material, responses to posts made by your professor, or posts that you make as part of a learning activity. Participation does not include e-mails, or posts to the Virtual Office. The week one icebreaker also does not count towards your 3 required posts for week one. Make sure to log on often to avoid becoming overwhelmed by the number of posts. **Weekly participation points are awarded based on the quantity and quality of your posts. The quality of your postings will be evaluated by the following rubric 15 Participation Points**

- *******The participant consistently posted *insightful* comments and questions that prompted *on-topic* discussion.
- The participant consistently helped clarify or synthesize other class members' ideas.
- The participant stated his or her disagreement or objections clearly, yet politely.
- The participant posted 3 out of 7 days in the appropriate forum.

*****For example, in order to gain full points for the week it is not appropriate to simply agree or disagree with a classmate or the instructor. You must state your reasons for agreement or disagreement. You must also critically analyze (e.g. questioning or criticizing the theories presented) the readings when responding to the question (s) posed in the discussion board. You can also note points of inquiry that have been brought about upon retrospection of the readings.**

10 Participation Points

(Note: Any or all of the following criteria may result in a reduced grade):

- The participant was notably lacking in one of the items listed above.
- The participant usually, but not always, expressed herself or himself clearly.
- The participant posted 2 out of 7 days in the appropriate forum.

5 Participation Points

(Note: Any or all of the following criteria may result in a reduced grade):

- The participant was consistently lacking in two or more of the items listed above.
- The participant consistently had to be prompted or coaxed to participate.
- The participant posted 1 out of 7 days in the appropriate forum.

0 Participation Points

(Note: Any or all of the following criteria may result in a reduced grade):

- The participant was rude or abusive to other course participants.
- The participant consistently failed or refused to participate at all, even when specifically prompted or questioned.
- The participant participated 0 out of 7 days in the appropriate forum.

Quizzes - To promote weekly reading and comprehension of material, there will be weekly quizzes administered in the **OAKS environment (found under Grades – Quizzes) & in REVEL (the online e-text product associated with your Dye & Gaddie e-textbook)**

The quizzes are worth a **total of 20% of your course grade**. It is imperative that you complete all weekly quizzes as these quizzes are designed to assist you in keeping current with the weekly readings and to ensure that you are prepared to take your final comprehensive exam.

IMPORTANT NOTE ON QUIZ DUE DATES/TIMES: Quizzes must be completed by 11: 59 a.m. on Mondays. However, because 11:59 a.m. is not an option to enter into OAKS or REVEL, access will end at 12 a.m. the following day. (e.g. Module ends on Monday August 28th – the quiz access will end on Tuesday August 29th at 12 a.m.). Just because you see that the quiz is available until Tuesday it really ends at 11:59 a.m. on Monday. Please do not think that you have all day Tuesday to complete the quiz as you do not.

Polls – To promote weekly reading and comprehension of material, there will be **polls to be responded to via Poll Everywhere**.

****The internet link for our class in Poll Everywhere is:**

www.polleverywhere.com/register?p=2a2b-54uv&pg=GBVPvNk&u=EPXBm1bx

****Please access this link in order to create a Poll Everywhere account and register it with this POLI 101-11406 class****

Important Note: *You must register your account via the link provided and login each time you answer a poll, in order for the instructor to provide you credit for polls taken. If you fail to do this & respond anonymously, you will not receive credit. ****When you access the links provided for polls – to the right of the poll response screen you will see the option to login in. Please do so before answering the poll*****

After you establish your account (via the link I provided above), then you can login to Poll Everywhere to respond to polls at: <https://www.polleverywhere.com/login>

Poll Everywhere also has an app that can be downloaded for free at:

Android: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.polleverywhere.mobile>

Apple/Mac: <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/poll-everywhere/id893375312?mt=8>

****I will provide a unique link for each poll in each module on OAKS. Please make sure you are signed in with your login at <https://www.polleverywhere.com/login> when you complete the poll to ensure that your name and response is recorded. The poll must be completed by the deadline provided (there may be several polls assigned during a courseweek). The polls are worth a total of 10% of your course grade. It is imperative that you complete the polls as these polls are designed to assist you in keeping current with the weekly readings and to ensure that you are prepared to take your final comprehensive exam.**

Examinations – **There will be one final exam. The exam is cumulative and is worth 15% of the final grade.** The format *may* consist of multiple choice, true/false & short answer questions.

****It is advisable that you log on and participate (including discussion responding & discussion leading responsibilities) in the online environment several times a week, keep up with your weekly readings, study**

all vocabulary terms and successfully complete all weekly quizzes so that you are prepared for the final exam.

**Your take home final will be posted by Saturday October 7th and will be due by via OAKS dropbox by Tuesday October 10th by 11:59 p.m.

Please notify me in advance if there are extenuating circumstances that prevent you from taking an exam during the scheduled exam period. Examinations cannot be taken early unless it is pre-approved by me. Make up exams cannot be taken unless there is an emergency. Written documentation may be required for both scenarios. Failure to notify me prior to the exam period of a legitimate reason why you cannot take the exam during the exam period (or as soon as prudently possible after an emergency – e.g. 24 – 48 hours) could result in a late penalty or a zero for that grade. Any exams that I may approve for you to take early or make up after the examination period may not be the same as the exam given during a scheduled exam period; the exam may be an all-essay question exam.

Discussion Leading & Critical Reading Analysis- You will be assigned to a group to lead discussion in the online discussion forum for one week (**please see separate sheet in OAKS outlining the discussion leading requirements & the discussion leading assignment schedule**).

Based upon the readings for the week each group member will select one (1) question to post on "Discussion Leader" discussion board under the forum for the assigned week. **The new course week begins on Tuesday of each week. **Note: Your discussion leading questions must be posted by Thursday of each week by 11:59 p.m.****

Each student (& group) will only be assigned to lead discussion for one (1) course week. You will want to coordinate with your group members to ensure that you are not duplicating questions.

****It is also your responsibility for the course week assigned to moderate the discussion board by responding to your classmates' inquires and by commenting on your classmates' posts in order to facilitate further discussion.****

I will also periodically weigh in on the discussion board as needed, yet it is primarily the assigned student & group's responsibility to facilitate the discussion. **Each group will need to work together in order to ensure that the discussion board is fully moderated from Thursday at 11:59 p.m. when the questions are posted through Monday at 11:59 p.m. (end of the course week).**

You may want to coordinate which days you will moderate the discussion board individually and together to ensure that the discussion is moderated during the entire period of time. This does not mean that you and your group members need to respond to every post.

****While discussion leaders are not required to respond to the discussion questions the Professor's posts during the week they discussion lead, they are required to respond to at least one (1) of their classmates' /fellow discussion leaders' discussion posts during their discussion leading week****

While this is group discussion leading, your grade is individual. Your discussion leading assignment is worth 15% of your grade.

Writing Assignments – You will be required to complete a **choice of two (2) out of three (3) writing assignments**. The page length should be a minimum of one-page (single-spaced) or two double-spaced pages and a maximum of two pages (single-spaced) or three double-spaced pages. These assignments are designed to reinforce your weekly readings and lectures. **Each assignment will be assessed according to the grading scale, and the combined assignments are worth 20% of your grade.** *Instructions will be provided at the time of assignment.* If indicated on the assignment sheet (provided at the time of assignment in OAKS) students should use APA style citations. Please refer to <http://www.calstatela.edu/library/styleman.htm> for assistance with the APA citation style.

Grades will be based on analytical rigor, empirical evidence, and writing skill and will be assessed using the following general guidelines:

A Excellent; Clear, thorough, and well-supported	C Vague and unsupported
A– Very good, with few shortcomings; or Clear, but incomplete	C– Very unclear and confusing; or No argument
B+ Generally clear, but some gaps; or Good, though somewhat unclear	D+ Unclear and misunderstood; or Incorrect/missing citations throughout
B Gaps in logic and evidence; or Disordered; or Undeveloped	D Very poor
B– Multiple gaps and unclear parts; or Containing contradictions	D– Extremely poor
C+ Unclear throughout; or Wrong question	F Insufficient effort; or Dishonesty

Late Assignments – Any assignments submitted late (without prior approval), will receive a 10% penalty off of the course grade earned, per day, including weekends (e.g. due date on a Friday, the student submits the paper on Monday. If the student earned an 80% without the late penalty & the assignment is 3 days late: 30% will be taken off of the 80% earned; with the final grade for the student being a 50% F). Assignments that are submitted later than five (5) days after the due date (without the Instructor's permission) will not be accepted. Assignments submitted after the course has ended (without the Instructor's permission) will not be accepted.

Extra Credit (Twitter Posts) – You may earn extra credit participation points if you create a Twitter post with the hashtag #CofCPOLI101. Twitter does allow for a maximum of 140 characters (including the hashtag). You would need to create a Twitter account if you do not already possess one. The posts must include information and/or a link to current events that are related to topics that we are discussing in the course and/or new information you have learned as a result of the readings/participation or other course activities. You may also respond to another students' or my tweets, yet you must provide new information on the topic discussed (i.e. you can't just state your agreement or dissent in order to gain the points – if you do so, you must state why & provide some credible information to support your claim).

You can earn 1 additional participation point for each post (there is a maximum of 1 point per day, and a maximum of 3 points per course week that can be earned. **You must post under the appropriate #CofCPOLI101 in order for the instructor to be able to provide you credit for the posts.** While you may re-tweet, points will only be provided for original tweets or responses to tweets. Extra credit via Twitter posts is *optional* & not required for the course. *The extra credit points will be added to your weekly participation points.*

Other Extra Credit Opportunities - **Please remain alert in the OAKS environment. There may be other weekly extra credit opportunities that are presented to the class**

General Education Social Science Learning Outcome - Successfully completing POLI 101 earns Social Science General Education credit at the College of Charleston and the College has established a General Education learning outcome for students which specifies that upon completion of the course, **students can apply social science concepts, models or theories to explain human behavior, social interactions or social institutions.** This outcome will be assessed for the purposes of General Education through one of your writing assignments. Each writing assignment (you have a choice to complete 2 out of 3 writing assignments) is worth 10% of your grade (a total of 20% for both writing assignments).

Methods of Evaluation:

Assessment	Weight
Discussion Board Participation	20%
Writing Assignments (2 out of 3 choices)	20% (10% each)
Quizzes	20%
Final Comprehensive Exam	15%
Discussion Leading Assignment	15%
Poll Everywhere Polls	<u>10%</u>
Total:	100%

Grading Scale:

93 – 100	A
89 – 92	A-
85 – 88	B+
81 – 84	B
77 – 80	B-
74 – 76	C+
71 - 73	C
68 – 70	C-
64 – 67	D+
60 – 63	D
56 – 59	D-
55 & Below	F

**Course Assignments: (Express I: Tuesday August 22nd –Friday October 6th (last day of classes);
Final Exam available in OAKS (Under Grades – Quizzes) Saturday October 7th & due Tuesday
October 10th by 11:59 p.m.)**

Part I: Introduction to Politics, Political Culture & Governmental Foundations

Week 1 (Module 1): Intro to the Course, Politics & Political Socialization (August 22 - 28, 2017)

Overview of Class and Administration: View Welcome "News" Posting in OAKS, Orientation Video in OAKS & take Orientation-Syllabus Quiz as well as any Module 1 Assignments posted in OAKS

Politics: Who Gets What, When and How? Chapter 1, Dye

Political Culture: Ideas & Conflict Chapter 2, Dye

Constitutional Government... & Second Treatise, Of Civil Government, Locke (OAKS)

****Review & Complete Module 1 Assignments in OAKS****

Week 2 (Module 2): The Constitution & Federalism (August 29 – Sept. 4, 2017)

Writing Assignment # 1 (Civil Liberties) due by Monday September 4th via OAKS dropbox (11:59 p.m.)

The Constitution: Limiting Governmental Power Chapter 3, Dye

The Declaration of Independence: <http://constitutionus.com/>

The U.S. Constitution (Including the Bill of Rights – 1st 10 amendments): <http://billofrights.org/>

The Anti-Federalist Papers No. 17 & No. 84 (OAKS)

Federalist 44, James Madison (access link below & scroll down to select paper no 44):
<http://www.foundingfathers.info/federalistpapers/fedindex.htm>

Federalism: Dividing Governmental Power Chapter 4, Dye

****Review & Complete Module 2 Assignments in OAKS****

Part II: Public Opinion & Political Behavior

Week 3 (Module 3): Public Opinion & Parties (Sept. 5 – Sept. 11, 2017)

**Writing Assignment # 2 (Political Polling) – due by Monday September 11th via OAKS dropbox (11:59 p.m.) **

Opinion and Participation: Thinking and Acting in Politics Chapter 5, Dye

Political Parties: Organizing Politics Chapter 7, Dye
Toward a More Responsible Two-Party System, Committee on Parties, APSA (OAKS)

****Review & Complete Module 3 Assignments in OAKS****

Week 4 (Module 4): Campaigns & Elections (Sept. 12 - 18, 2017)

Campaigns and Elections: Deciding Who Governs Chapter 8, Dye
Voting Behavior... & Democratic Practice & Democratic Theory, Berelson et al. (OAKS)

****Review & Complete Module 4 Assignments in OAKS****

Part III: Political Institutions

Week 5 (Module 5): (Sept. 19 – 25, 2017) The Presidency & Congress

Writing Assignment #3 (Congress) due by Monday September 25th via OAKS dropbox (11:59 p.m.)

Congress: Politics on Capitol Hill Chapter 10, Dye
The President: White House Politics Chapter 11, Dye
Home Style & Washington Career, Fenno Jr. (OAKS)
Presidential Power, Neustadt (OAKS)

****Review & Complete Module 5 Assignments in OAKS****

Week 6 (Module 6): (Sept. 26 - Oct. 2, 2017) The Judiciary

Courts: Judicial Politics Chapter 13, Dye
Judicial Decision-Making... & How the S. C. Arrives at Decisions, Brennan Jr. (OAKS)

****Review & Complete Module 6 Assignments in OAKS****

Part IV: Civil Liberties

Week 7 (Module 7): (Oct. 3 – 6, 2017) *Discussion Board Questions (Short week - only 2 posts required) **No discussion leaders this week****

Last official day of classes – Friday October 6th

Makeup Writing Assignment (Civil Liberties) due by Friday October 6, 2017 at (11:59 p.m.)

Politics and Personal Liberty Chapter 14, Dye

****Review & Complete Module 7 Assignments in OAKS****

Week 8: (Saturday October 7 – Tuesday October 10, 2017) – Final Exam

(Final Exam available in OAKS (Under Grades – Quizzes) Saturday October 7th & is due for completion/submission no later than Tuesday October 10th at 11:59 p.m.)

(Comprehensive over chapters 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 10, 11, 13 & 14)

The course schedule is subject to change. Changes will be communicated a minimum of one week prior to any changes