

**American Government  
POLI 101-07 (CRN 11407)  
General Education Social Science  
Fall 2017  
MWF 11-11:50, Education Center 118  
Instructor: David Hinton**

**General Education Social Science Learning Outcome:** Students apply social science concepts, models or theories to explain human behavior, social interactions or social institutions.

The learning outcome will be assessed through the Political Socialization Self -Evaluation.

**Course Objective:** This course is an overview of American Government, its political institutions, concepts and their development. The goal is to familiarize you with the goals and tools of the U.S. government, to present you with possibilities for participation, and to lay the groundwork for more in-depth study. The course is structured in a way that connects debates over the goals and tools of government to contemporary political events, policies and debates.

**How to Contact Me:**

Speak with me after class

Call: *make an appointment*: Office: 953-6102. Home: 406-0761. Do not call after 5 p.m.

E-mail: [hintond@cofc.edu](mailto:hintond@cofc.edu) Make the subject **AMGOV**

My office is at 114 Wentworth St., Room 102. Office Hours: Monday 3:15-4:15, Tuesday 10:45-11:45, and by appointment.

**The Text:** Morone and Kersh, *By the People, brief 3<sup>rd</sup> edition*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2018.

You will need access to the *New York Times*.

Since the chapters are relatively short reading, I will post additional materials on OAKS.

Attempting to succeed in this course without acquiring the textbook is typically disastrous.

**Class Policies:** 1 Attendance: If you miss 10 Classes you will receive a failing grade (WA) for the course. 2 Be on time. 3 If you are asleep, you are absent. 4) Turn off electronic devices. Do not talk on the telephone or “text” in class. 5) There are no extensions of due dates. Plan accordingly. Please feel free to ask me why.

**Students With Disabilities:**

The College will make reasonable accommodations for persons with documented disabilities. Students should apply for services at the Center for Disability Services/SNAP located on the first floor of the Lightsey Center, Suite 104. Students approved for accommodations are responsible

for notifying me as soon as possible and for contacting me one week before accommodation is needed.

**Your Grade:** There will be 3 exams, a political self-evaluation, current events quizzes, a Constitution quiz and a paper.

3 Exams	15% each
Current events Quizzes	10%
Research Paper	15%
Political Self-Evaluation	10%
Class Participation	10%
Constitution Quiz	10%

**Grading Scale:**

A 94-100	A- 91-93	
B+ 88-90	B 84-87	B- 81-83
C+ 77-80	C 73-76	C- 69-72
D+ 66-68	D-61-66	
F 60 and below		

**Class Participation:** 1 Read; take notes on the reading 2 Inquire. 3 Express yourself. 4 Be prepared to answer questions.  
5 Stay current. 6 Experience awake-ness.

*Trigger Words*—some uncomfortable ideas may come up; be warned: plurality, integrity, diversity, growth/learning, as well as the politics of class, race, war, gender, and sexuality.

**The Paper:** A 10-page paper is required for this course. The paper should be a presentation of a contemporary issue regarding Federalism (For example: same-sex marriage, medical marijuana, immigration enforcement, etc.). Your work must be your own based on a minimum of 7 journal articles and books. Your paper must have a works cited page and some form of internal citations. Cite everything. Plagiarism will result in a failing grade for the course.

Political Science Citation: <http://polisci.cofc.edu/documents/12policitationguide.pdf>

If you give me half a paper, I will give you half a grade. You need to meet the minimum requirements of the assignment (page length, number and quality of sources, etc.)

**Fall 2017 American Government Calendar**

**W August 23:** Intro to American Government: Syllabus and Course Objectives

**F August 25:** Read and learn vocabulary for Chapter 1: institutions, concepts, and values.

**M August 28:** Re-read and Learn vocabulary for Chapter 1.

**W August 30:** Founding and Constitution, read Chapter 2, 40-53.

**F September 1:** Founding and Constitution, re-read Chapter 2, 55-79.

**M September 4: Labor Day**

**W September 6: Political socialization exercise due.** Constitution wrap-up; read Federalist Papers #10 & #51 (Appendix or <http://www.constitution.org/fed/federa10.htm> )

**F September 8:** Eras of Federalism; read chapter 3

**M September 11: Constitution Quiz;** Contemporary Issues in Federalism: Same-Sex Marriage, Abortion, legalized Marijuana, Immigration Law Enforcement, etc.; re-read chapter 3.

**W September 13:** Civil Liberties (Restrictions on Government Actions) -- Religion: read Chapter 4, 107-120.

**F September 15:** Civil Liberties (Restrictions on Government Action) – Speech: read Chapter 4, 120-127

**M September 18:** Civil Liberties—Rights of the accused: read Chapter 4, 130-139.

**W September 20:** Civil Rights--Equality before the Law: read Chapter 5, 142-159.

**F September 22:** Civil Rights--Equality before the Law: read Chapter 5, 160-183.

**M September 25:** Civil Rights--Equality before the Law: re-read Chapter 5.

**W September 27:** exam 1 review; Congress: read Chapter 10.

**F September 29:** Congress: re-read Chapter 10.

**M October 2: Exam 1**

**W October 4:** Congress: re-read Chapter 10 and reading TBA.

**F October 6:** The Presidency: read Chapter 11, 360-380.

**M October 9:** The Presidency: read Chapter 11, 380-397.

**W October 11:** Bureaucracy: chapter 12.

**F October 13:** Supreme Court: read Chapter 13, 428-443.

**M October 16: Fall Break**

**W October 18:** Supreme Court: read Chapter 13, 444-465.

**F October 20:** Public Opinion: read chapter 6, 184-198.

**M October 23: Paper Due;** exam 2 review

**W October 25:** Public Opinion & Participation: read chapter 6, 198-219.

**F October 27: Exam 2**

**M October 30:** Media: read chapter 7.

**W November 1:** Media: re-read chapter 7; & reading on propaganda.

**F November 3:** Interest groups: read Chapter 9, 282-298.

**M November 6:** Political Parties: read Chapter 9, 301-323.

**W November 8:** 3rd Parties: Political Parties: re-read Chapter 9, 301-323.

**F November 10: discussion:** decline of parties

**M November 13:** Campaigns & Elections: read chapter 8.

**W November 15:** Campaigns & Elections: re-read chapter 8.

**F November 17:** catch-up

**M November 20:** Domestic Policymaking, Read Chapter 14, 466-485.

**W November 22: Thanksgiving Holiday; Nov 23: Thanksgiving Holiday**

**F November 24: International Buy-Nothing Day**

**M November 27:** Domestic Policymaking, Read Chapter 14, 466-485.

**W November 29:** catch-up

**F December 1:** Foreign Policy, chapter 14, 486-506.

**M December 4: Last Day of Class;** Wars and Rumors of Wars; Review for Final

**Final Exam: Monday, December 11, 12-3 p.m.**

The schedule may change; I hope not. **Print this.**

## **“College of Charleston Honor Code and Academic Integrity**

Lying, cheating, attempted cheating, and plagiarism are violations of our Honor Code that, when suspected, 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 status indicator 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.

Students should be aware that unauthorized collaboration--working together without permission-- is a form of cheating. 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>