NOTE to prospective students: This syllabus is intended to provide students who are considering taking this course an idea of what they will be learning. A more detailed syllabus will be available on the course site for enrolled students and may be more current than this sample syllabus. Summer term courses may be accelerated – please check the Ecampus Schedule of Classes for more information.

PS 201
INTRODUCTION TO UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

COURSE CREDITS:
(4) This course combines approximately 120 hours of instruction, online activities, and assignments for 4 credits.

PREREQUISITES, CO-REQUISITES AND ENFORCED PREREQUISITES:
See the Office of the Registrar website for information on Prerequisite Enforcement.

COURSE DESCRIPTION FROM CATALOG

PS 201. INTRODUCTION TO UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS (4).
This course serves as an introduction to the basic institutions, actors and processes of the U.S. political system. Particular attention is paid to the historical development of U.S. politics, but a focus on contemporary issues and problems is also central. Students taking this course should emerge with a clear understanding of the basic features of the U.S. political system, a sense of how that system has changed since its inception, and (hopefully) have developed a critical lens through which the problems and issues central animating U.S. politics today can be viewed. As such, students completing this course should be well prepared for both further study of U.S. politics, as well as more knowledgeable involvement on their own as political actors within this system.

Baccalaureate Core Course Attributes: Core, Pers, Soc Proc & Inst, Liberal Arts Social Core

CONTACT INFORMATION:

This course is offered through Oregon State University Extended Campus. For more information, contact:
Web: ecampus.oregonstate.edu      Email: ecampus@oregonstate.edu      Telephone: 800-667-1465
Sample syllabi may not have the most up-to-date information. For accuracy, please check the ECampus Schedule of Classes to see the most current instructor information. You can search for contact information by name from the OSU Home Page.

LEARNING RESOURCES:
There is one text available for purchase:


NOTE: For textbook accuracy, please always check the textbook list at the OSU Bookstore website. Sample syllabi may not have the most up-to-date information.

Students can also click the OSU Beaver Store link associated with the course information in the Ecampus schedule of classes for course textbook information and ordering.

COURSE SPECIFIC MEASURABLE STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

**Measurable Student Learning Outcomes:**

Students will be able to...

- Use theoretical frameworks to interpret the role of the individual within social process and institutions.
- Analyze current social issues and place them in historical context(s).
- Critique the nature, value, and limitations of the basic methods of the social sciences.

**Additional Bacc Core Social Processes and Institutions Learning Outcomes:**

- Knowledge of the structure, and operation of the institutions of our federal government.
- Comprehension of terminology associated with the study of the actors the institutions within and affecting our federal government.
- Awareness of the role of citizens, interest groups, political parties, and politicians within the American political system.
- Recognition of the role of politics and strategy in the operation and impact of the government.
- An understanding of some of the major general theories underlying the study of American government.
The ability to synthesize the material from the course to develop their own opinion regarding the proper role of the government in our society.

EVALUATION OF STUDENT PERFORMANCE:

In the OSU online catalog, refer to AR 18 and AR 19 regarding assignment of grades.

COURSE CONTENT AND POLICIES:

COURSE SITE LOGIN INFORMATION

Information on how to login to your course site can be found HERE.

STATEMENT REGARDING STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Oregon State University is committed to student success; however, we do not require students to use accommodations nor will we provide them unless they are requested by the student. The student, as a legal adult, is responsible to request appropriate accommodations. The student must take the lead in applying to Disability Access Services (DAS) and submit requests for accommodations each term through DAS Online. OSU students apply to DAS and request accommodations at our Getting Started with DAS page.

Accommodations are collaborative efforts between students, faculty and Disability Access Services (DAS). Students with accommodations approved through DAS are responsible for contacting the faculty member in charge of the course prior to or during the first week of the term to discuss accommodations. Students who believe they are eligible for accommodations but who have not yet obtained approval through DAS should contact DAS immediately at 541-737-4098.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND STUDENT CONDUCT (OSU POLICY)

Students are expected to be honest and ethical in their academic work. Intentional acts of academic dishonesty such as cheating or plagiarism may be penalized by imposing an “F” grade in the course.
Student conduct is governed by the universities policies, as explained in the Office of the Dean of Student Life: Student Conduct and Community Standards. In an academic community, students and faculty, and staff each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment, whether online or in the classroom. Students, faculty, and staff have the responsibility to treat each other with understanding, dignity, and respect.

Students are expected to conduct themselves in the course (e.g. on discussion boards, email postings, etc.) in compliance with the university's regulations regarding civility. Students will be expected to treat all others with the same respect as they would want afforded to themselves. Disrespectful behavior (such as harassing behavior, personal insults, inappropriate language) or disruptive behaviors are unacceptable and can result in sanctions as defined by Student Conduct and Community Standards.

For more info on these topics please see:

- Statement of Expectations for Student Conduct
- Student Conduct and Community Standards - Offenses
- Policy On Disruptive Behavior

PLAGIARISM

You are expected to submit your own work in all your assignments, postings to the discussion board, and other communications, and to clearly give credit to the work of others when you use it. Academic dishonesty will result in a grade of “F.”

- Statement of Expectations for Student Conduct
- Avoiding Academic Dishonesty

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

If you experience computer difficulties, need help downloading a browser or plug-in, assistance logging into the course, or if you experience any errors or problems while in your online course, contact the OSU Help Desk for assistance. You can call (541) 737-3474, email osuhelpdesk@oregonstate.edu or visit the OSU Computer Helpdesk online.

TUTORING

For information about possible tutoring for this course, please visit our Ecampus NetTutor page. Other resources include:

- Writing Center
- Online Writing Lab
STUDENT EVALUATION OF TEACHING
We encourage you to engage in the course evaluation process each term – online, of course. The evaluation form will be available toward the end of each term, and you will be sent instructions through ONID. You will login to “Online Services/MyOSU” to respond to the online questionnaire. The results on the form are anonymous and are not tabulated until after grades are posted. Course evaluation results are very important and are used to help improve courses and the learning experience of future students. Results from questions are tabulated anonymously and go directly to instructors and unit heads/supervisors. Unless a comment is “signed,” which will associate a name with a comment, student comments on the open-ended questions are anonymous and forwarded to each instructor. “Signed” comments are forwarded to the unit head/supervisor.

REFUND POLICY INFORMATION
Please see the Ecampus website for policy information on refunds and late fees.