

POLITICAL SCIENCE 1101—SPRING 2017

DALTON STATE COLLEGE

DR. KEN ELLINGER

Associate Professor of Political Science

Office: 240 Liberal Arts

Office phone: 706-272-2677

Office Fax: 706-272-2698

Office Hours: MW: 9:15-9:25 am; 10:40-11 am; 12-12:15 pm; 1:30-1:40 pm; 2:55-3:25 pm; 4:30-4:45; 6-7 pm.

TR: 9:10-9:25 am and 10:40-11 am (first half of semester ONLY); 12-12:15 am; 1:30-3:25 pm (all semester)

I am also available at other times by appointment—so don't hesitate to ask me for an appointment that fits your schedule!

E-mail Address: kellinger@daltonstate.edu (*I prefer e-mail over all other forms of communication*). If e-mail is not possible, you may of course call my office at the number listed above or leave a note in the box on my office door. If you call my office phone and fail to reach me, please leave a message and I will automatically receive it by e-mail. You may also call or preferably text me at home (before 11 pm) if it's urgent. My personal cell number is 706-280-0059.

Overall Structure of the Course:

I recently received a grant from the University System of Georgia to find course materials that are available *at no cost to students*. **Consequently, there is a FREE online OPEN STAX textbook required for this class!** We will also usually watch several 8-10 minute "Crash Course" videos over each topic covered in this course. I will also show a variety of brief YouTube-style videos, a few short segments of full-length DVD's that I own, plus a variety of short online articles that we will read in class and immediately discuss. These videos and articles cover a wide variety of political and governmental topics. I have a wide variety of resources that I will hold you responsible for this semester, and it does require a fair amount of time to become **familiar enough with all of this material** so that you can keep it all straight when taking my rather lengthy exams (typically 65-75 questions on the first 3 exams and around 90-100 questions on the final exam). Don't worry! The questions and answers are typically brief, so you should have plenty of time to take the exams in the allotted time. Also, I will talk about almost all of the test material in class—plus you can ask questions over ANY of it that you don't understand. I would estimate that 30%-40% of my students make A's and B's in any given class, and almost everyone else who completes the class makes a C. Final Grades of either "D" or "F" in my class are very rare! If you care and if you try hard, it is unlikely that you would make lower than a C in this course.

Course Description:

A survey of American national government--plus Georgia state and local government.

Course Objectives:

The successful completion of this course will satisfy the civic educational goal of that section of the Georgia code which requires that a minimum knowledge of government be obtained by all college students in state-supported institutions of higher learning before they can be awarded a degree. The instructional objectives to achieve this goal will involve use of the text, handouts, exams, videos, short papers, etc. It is my hope that you will realize the relevance of government to your life, and also identify your own self-interest in the laws and policies that are created by government officials.

Social Sciences Divisional Goal Statement:

The Division of Social Science assists students in developing an ability to acquire data, understand relationships, process information, draw conclusions, and critically evaluate issues related to the society and culture of the United States, both internally and externally.

Social Sciences Division Intended Student Learning Outcomes:

- 1) Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of course content acquired through listening, reading, research, and use of electronic media.
- 2) Students will be able to utilize frameworks, models, and concepts appropriate to social science disciplines in order to analyze human behavior and social institutions.
- 3) Students will be able to comprehend major forces, events, influences, and ideas that have shaped society.
- 4) Students will be able to analyze and understand different perspectives on issues and recognize viewpoints other than their own.

Political Science 1101 Intended Student Learning Outcomes:

- 1) Students will articulate the constitutional principles and governmental processes fundamental to American democracy and political participation.
- 2) Students will be able to articulate and understanding of major forces and events, influences, or ideas that have shaped society and history.
- 3) Students will analyze, evaluate, and provide convincing reasons in support of conclusions and arguments

Course Requirements/Expectations:

- 1) Successful performance on major exams and other graded work (short papers and quizzes, for example).

Attendance:

Attendance and participation is rewarded. Each student will start with 100 attendance points, but you will lose 5 points every time you miss class (no points are deducted for an "excused" absence when you provide documentation that you were ill, if you were absent because of a school-sponsored activity, or if you were absent for a legal court proceeding with documentation). Being in class will also definitely help most students do better on my exams. I spend a great deal of class time talking very specifically about the information you will need in order to answer specific test questions, so most students have found that attending class has a very strong tendency to improve their grades. Students with good reading comprehension and some previous familiarity and experience with American government will obviously not suffer as much from poor attendance as those who don't have those qualities and experiences. Finally, your comprehension of what I talk about in class will be greatly enhanced if you have read the review material that I e-mail to everyone **BEFORE** coming to class.

I also conduct multiple (usually three or four) out-of-class review sessions before every exam (a schedule for these review sessions will be e-mailed to all students at your MyDaltonState e-mail account at least one week prior to that exam's first review session). Ask any student who has ever attended one of my review sessions—I make it well worth your time to show up! In other words, your attendance at these sessions will significantly help your test grade in my class without any question!!

Emergency Instructional Plan:

If the college is closed due to inclement weather or other conditions, please consult your DSC e-mail account for messages regarding assigned readings and other possible assignments to be turned in upon your return to class. It is possible that I will send PowerPoint presentations, YouTube videos, or the like as e-mail attachments so check your DSC e-mail account every day for assignments and due dates while the college is closed. Class days may have to be made up if the total number of days lost exceeds the equivalent of one week of class time.

Grading/Evaluation System and Assignments:

A=	90%, or more of all points available in the course (approx. 700 points are typically available in the course.)
B=	80% or more of all points available in the course
C=	65% or more of all points available in the course
D=	50% or more of all points available in the course
F=	Less than 50% of all points available in the course

There will be **FOUR** major exams in the semester, and these exams will be given every three to four weeks. The final exam is **not** comprehensive, so it will only cover the material found in the last two chapters. The first 3 exams are typically worth between 110 and 140 points--with the final usually worth 170-190 pts.--for a total of approx. 525--575 exam points overall.

Short opinion papers are also written in class immediately after any major video is shown in class. There are usually at least a dozen of these videos in a semester, and if you are present and turn in a paper you will typically get all of the 5-7 points available. Sometimes, instead of a short paper, we will have a 3-5 point quiz over a short article or a very brief video that we read or see in class the that day. This is essentially an attendance quiz that rewards those who came to class that day, and virtually everyone makes a perfect score on these quizzes (they are easy and I give hints!). These video papers and in-class quizzes usually CANNOT be made up (unless you are sick and show me a doctor's note, involved in a court proceeding, or absent for a school activity), and they are designed to give a grade boost to those who attend class faithfully. You can also do a movie review for up to 5 bonus points on EVERY exam. There are about two dozen or so classic political movies that I keep on reserve under my name at the Roberts Library Circulation Desk (located immediately on your left as you walk into the Library). You have to actually go to the Library to get a copy of the movie list (this will be useful for those who have never been to the Library before!). These reserve videos can only be watched in the viewing room at the Library. However, some of these movies are also available on

Netflix or Amazon Prime (you can get a free trial subscription to Netflix for one month, which is more than enough time to watch a movie for every test!) These movie reviews should be double-spaced, typed, and about two pages in length. The first page of the review must be a detailed plot summary of the movie (convince me that you watched it), and the second page is simply your opinion about what the movie meant to you, whether or not you liked it and why, and finally tell me why you think I put that movie on the list. The extra credit movie reviews are always turned in on the day of an exam—and they will **not** be accepted late.

Access Statement for Students with Disabilities:

Students with disabilities or special needs are encouraged to contact the Disability Access office. In order to make an appointment or to obtain information on the process for qualifying for accommodations, the student should visit the Disability Access Library Guide at <http://libguides.daltonstate.edu/c.php?g=24716&p=149667> or contact the Disability Access office. Contact information:

Andrea Roberson, Assoc. Director of Disability Access & Student Support Services, Pope Student Center—upper level
Office Phone: 706/272-2524 E-mail address: aroberson@daltonstate.edu

Sex Discrimination, Harassment, & Assault

Sexual harassment is unwelcome, gender-based verbal or physical conduct that is sufficiently severe, persistent or pervasive that it has the effect of interfering with, denying or limiting someone's ability to participate in or benefit from the college's educational program and/or activities, and is based on power differential (*quid pro quo*), the creation of a hostile environment, or retaliation.

Sexual misconduct is a form of sexual harassment prohibited by Title IX. Sexual misconduct refers to "physical sexual acts perpetrated against a person's will or where a person is incapable of giving consent due to the victim's use of drugs or alcohol. An individual also may be unable to give consent due to an intellectual or other disability." Sexual misconduct includes dating violence, domestic violence, rape, sexual assault, sexual battery, stalking, and sexual coercion.

Reporting Options

Call 911 if you are in an emergency situation. Dalton State Public Safety (this report is confidential):
Room 300 Health Professions Building (Upper Level facing the Liberal Arts Building). Phone: 706-272-4461

Online Sexual Assault Report form:

<https://dynamicforms.ngwebsolutions.com/ShowForm.aspx?RequestedDynamicFormTemplate=3fe5724c-a8bd-4a31-9c25-1a3d35110a51>

If you would like to report to Dalton State Administration: (this report is not confidential) Report Title IX complaint online:
http://daltonstate.edu/campus_life/student-conduct-about.cms

Report Student-on-Student Title IX complaint in person: Brittnee Lee, Office of Student Life Coordinator for Student Responsibility & Service/ Deputy Title IX Coordinator, Pope Center room 113, balee@daltonstate.edu, 706-272-2999

Report Title IX complaint involving Faculty or Staff in person: Faith Miller, Human Resources Director/ Title IX Coordinator Memorial 122, fmiller@daltonstate.edu 706- 272-2034

If you would like to talk with someone confidentially: Dalton State Counseling & Career Services, Academic Resources, Lower Pope Center 706-272-4429, e-mail: counseling@daltonstate.edu <http://libguides.daltonstate.edu/Counseling>

Student Behavior:

Dalton State is committed to respect via the Roadrunner Respect pledge. To learn more, please visit https://www.daltonstate.edu/campus_life/respect-photo-gallery.cms. "I pledge to show my fellow Roadrunner students, faculty, staff, and administration respect by treating others the way they want to be treated and by thinking about others first before making decisions that might affect them."

Class Withdrawal:

The deadline to drop this class is **Friday, March 24, 2017**. If you drop this class by this date you will receive a grade of "W." After this date, withdrawal without penalty is permitted only in cases of extreme hardship as determined by the Vice-President for Academic Affairs; otherwise a grade of "WF" will be issued. Students who wish to drop this class or withdraw from all classes should go to the Enrollment Services Office in Westcott Hall to complete the necessary form. Students who do not complete their course work and who fail to complete the official drop/withdrawal procedure before the deadline will receive a grade of F. ***Withdrawal from class is a student responsibility.*** Before dropping any class, the College ***strongly advises*** that students meet with their advisor and their instructor to discuss the impact of a withdrawal on their graduation plans. The college also strongly advises students who are receiving financial aid to visit the Financial Aid Office in Pope Student Center to discuss the impact a drop or withdrawal may have on their financial aid status. The grade of "W" counts as hours attempted for the purposes of financial aid.

Late Work:

Major exams are made up only for legitimate and verifiable reasons (see attendance policy above), and they will always be taken in the Testing Center in Room 103 of the Liberal Arts Building. Those who take make-up exams without an excused absence will never receive any extra credit--and non-excused make-up exams potentially include an additional essay component not found on the regular exam that is taken by the rest of the class. In order to take any make-up exam in the Testing Center, you must first call the Center at **272-2606** at least the day **BEFORE** you want to take it and set up an appointment. My expectation is that you will make up the test **on the very first day that you return to school.** Making up exams quickly is **VERY** important to me. It is also your responsibility to notify me the moment you realize that you are going to miss the test! ***This is also very important to me, so do not fail to do it!!*** If you know in advance that you will be absent on a test day, it is always in your best interest to take the exam early to avoid the possibility of essay questions and to get a chance to earn extra credit points. Allow me to repeat myself: **You are expected to contact me via phone or e-mail immediately once you realize that you will miss--or have missed--the test. It is very unprofessional for a student to be an unexplained "no-show" for an exam unless there are emergency circumstances.**

Cheating/Plagiarism:

Cheating on any test or other assignment will result in a zero for that grade. On the second offense it will result in failure for the entire course. Plagiarism, which is defined as copying the written work of another without acknowledgment, will also result in zero credit for that assignment. A second offense will result in failure for the entire course.

POLS 1101 Course Schedule: Exams are given approximately every 3--4 weeks (the exact exam date will always be announced at least 10 days prior to the exam--and usually earlier!)

Exam 1: The Constitution and Federalism

Exam 2: The Presidency, political parties, and interest groups

Exam 3: Civil Rights and Civil Liberties

Final Exam: Congress and the Court System

Instructor: Matthew Hipps
Email: mhipps@daltonstate.edu

Office: LIA 242

Phone: 706-272-2676

Office Hours: MWF 8:50-9:20, 10:20-10:50; TR 10:40-12:10 and By Appointment

**POLS 1101
AMERICAN GOVERNMENT
MONDAY/WEDNESDAY/FRIDAY**

Course Location: MEM 130

Course Time: 9:25-10:15 AM

Course Description

Government is not reason; it is not eloquent; it is force. Like fire, it is a dangerous servant and a fearful master.

George Washington

Welcome to American Government! In this course, we will explore government and the political world around us. Have no fear; you do not need to be a political expert to do well in this class. In fact, most students have very little background in politics, and still manage to do very well in this course. This type of class is one where asking questions and being curious is a good thing. If you don't know, ask! The only way that we can make the world make sense is to ask questions and think critically about the answers. Discussion, conversation and debate is expected and encouraged. I want you to understand, I am not the absolute truth on politics and government. Many of these issues will require you to think critically about a subject and then draw your own conclusions as to what is correct and what is incorrect.

SOCIAL SCIENCES DIVISIONAL GOAL STATEMENT

The Division of Social Science assists students in developing an ability to acquire data, understand relationships, process information, draw conclusions, and critically evaluate issues related to the society and culture of the United States, both internally and externally.

POLITICAL SCIENCE PROGRAM OUTCOMES

Graduates of Associates degree programs in the School of Liberal Arts will....

- Demonstrate competence in written communication
- Think critically
- Read critically
- Demonstrate competence in the social sciences.

POLITICAL SCIENCE 1101 INTENDED STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Instructor: Matthew Higgs
Email: mhiggs@daltonstate.edu

Office: LIA 242

Phone: 706-272-2676

Office Hours: MWF 8:50-9:20, 10:20-10:50; TR 10:40-12:10 and By Appointment


Students will...

- Articulate the constitutional principles of governmental processes fundamental to American democracy and political participation.
- Articulate an understanding of major forces and events, influences, or ideas that have shaped history and society within the framework of a federal system of government.
- Analyze, evaluate and provide convincing arguments regarding issues pertaining to the structure and operation of American government.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK

I have explored cost reducing options for students and have decided to use an open textbook this semester. The term *open* implies information or technology that is shared freely without copyright restrictions.

The open text for this course allows students to read, download, and/or print the book at no cost. The textbook is embedded by chapter in the course material and the modules that constitute the course, but the full version can be accessed below.

Title	<i>American Government</i>
Authors	Timothy O. Lenz & Mirya Holman
Publisher	University Press of Florida
Edition/Year	2013
Access	A PDF version of the text is embedded within the course content; however, you can download the full-text or purchase a printed copy of the text by accessing the following link: http://ufdc.ufl.edu/AA00016298/00001
	Click HERE to download the full-text version.
Type (Required/Optional)	Required
License	 CC BY-NC-ND 3.0 http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/3.0/legalcode

COURSE FORMAT & STRUCTURE

This is a survey level course and therefore we will cover a wide breadth of material dealing with American Government. This means that we might not go into great detail on all things government, but we will explore a lot of important ideas in American government over the course of the semester. The course will be broken into five “units” that will give you a good

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overview of the landscape of American government. There will be an examination at the end of each "unit". The units are as follows:

Unit 1: The Basics of American Government (Ch. 1 & 2)

Unit 2: Institutions of Government (Ch. 3-5)

Unit 3: Mass Politics (Ch. 8-11)

Unit 4: Fundamental Rights of Americans (Ch. 18)

Unit 5: Media & Public Policy (Ch. 7)

COURSE PREPARATION

The class is a combination of lecture and discussion. Because discussion is often tangential we will not go over every page in the book during class time. Lectures are intended to go over the major themes of the chapters in that particular unit. These lectures will simply highlight the major focus of each of the chapters and I will answer any questions that you have regarding the chapter. We will discuss a major idea from the chapters during each class period. Though there will be some summarization of the chapters, **we will not simply go over the textbook during class time. At times it may seem as if we are not covering the textbook. Please know that my in-class lectures/conversations are intended to compliment the book. [This means that if you are reading the book and listening in class you should get a complete picture of American government].** We will engage in in-class discussions regarding current events regularly, and will conclude each module with an examination covering the chapters related to that particular module.

During class you may be asked to reflect on the discussion or to work with your classmates and come up with a solution to a real world political problem. This work will be collected at the end of each class session it is assigned. Work collected in class cannot be made up. If absent, you will simply miss the opportunity for that day (assuming, of course, we had that opportunity arise).

ATTENDANCE & LATE WORK

Simply put, showing up matters. I care about your attendance and therefore expect you to be in class. I will take attendance every day (by passing around a sign in sheet). It is your job to ensure that you sign the attendance sheet. If you fail to sign in to the class, you will be marked absent (regardless of your actual attendance in the class). Before I collect the attendance sheet I will ask if everyone had a chance to sign the attendance sheet. If you arrive after the attendance sheet has been collected, you will not be permitted to sign in for that day. As a general rule, you are not permitted to arrive late or leave early.

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Email: mhipps@daltonstate.edu

Office: LIA 242

Phone: 706-272-2676

Office Hours: MWF 8:50-9:20, 10:20-10:50; TR 10:40-12:10 and By Appointment

Please note: **Students who miss more than 6 classes with unexcused absences (excused absences include military service, documented illness, DSC sponsored events) will receive a "F" for their attendance grade (F= 0 points). On your 9th absence, regardless of your grade in the course at the time, you will receive an "F" in the class.**

Late Work

No in-class assignments that are missed can be made up. No late assignments or work will be accepted without written permission from the instructor.

THE CLASSROOM ENVIRONMENT

Mutual Respect: RESPECT is the only ground rule we have in this course. I will treat you with respect, and expect you to treat me and your fellow students with respect. In discussing controversial issues it is important that students feel comfortable expressing their opinion, yet it is imperative that you refrain from using derogatory or offensive language.

Conversation: The learning environment is social environment that we should all contribute to in a positive way. Therefore, conversation should be related to the discussion at hand and comments should not be directed toward specific individuals. Private conversations or any other activities which might distract class members are non-productive to the learning environment so please be courteous and avoid them.

ACCESS STATEMENT FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

If you have disabilities or special needs are encouraged to contact Disability Support Services in Academic Resources. In order to make an appointment to obtain information on the process of qualifying for accommodations, it is **your** responsibility to contact Disability Support Specialist. Contact information:

Andrea Roberson
Pope Student Center, Lower Level
706-272-2524
aroberson@daltonstate.edu

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

If a student receiving aid administered by the DSC Workforce Development Department drops this class or completely withdraws from the College, the Schedule Adjustment Form must be

Instructor: Matthew Hipps

Office: LIA 242

Phone: 706-272-2676

Email: mhipps@daltonstate.edu

Office Hours: MWF 8:50-9:20, 10:20-10:50; TR 10:40-12:10 and By Appointment taken to the Workforce Development Office located in Room 112 of the Technical Education Building. The Office is open on the following schedule:

Monday/Tuesday/Thursday: 9:00 a.m.-12:15 p.m. and 1:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Friday: 8:00 a.m.- 12:00 p.m.

The office phone number is 272-2635.

DROP/WITHDRAWAL STATEMENT

The last day to drop this class without penalty is **Thursday, March 17, 2016**. You will be assigned a grade of **WP**. After this date, withdrawal without penalty is permitted only in cases

of extreme hardship as determined by the Vice President for Academic Affairs, otherwise a grade of **WF** will be issued. Students who wish to drop this class should go to the enrollment services office in Wescott Hall to complete the necessary form. Students who fail to complete the official drop/withdrawal procedure will receive a grade of **F**. **Withdrawal from class is student responsibility. As the Professor, I CAN NOT drop you from this course.** Before dropping any class, the College strongly advises that students meet with their academic advisor and their instructor to discuss the impact of a withdrawal on their graduation plans. The College also strongly advises students who are receiving any type of financial aid to visit the Financial Aid Office in Pop Student Center to discuss the impact a withdrawal may have on their financial aid status. The grade of **W** counts as hours attempted for the purpose of financial aid.

DROP/WITHDRAWAL STATEMENT

The last day to drop this class without penalty is **Thursday, October 27, 2015**. You will be assigned a grade of **WP**. After this date, withdrawal without penalty is permitted only in cases of extreme hardship as determined by the Vice President for Academic Affairs, otherwise a grade of **WF** will be issued. Students who wish to drop this class should go to the enrollment services office in Wescott Hall to complete the necessary form. Students who fail to complete the official drop/withdrawal procedure will receive a grade of **F**. **Withdrawal from class is student responsibility. As the Professor, I CAN NOT drop you from this course.** Before dropping any class, the College strongly advises that students meet with their academic advisor and their instructor to discuss the impact of a withdrawal on their graduation plans. The College also strongly advises students who are receiving any type of financial aid to visit the Financial Aid Office in Pop Student Center to discuss the impact a withdrawal may have on their financial aid status. The grade of **W** counts as hours attempted for the purpose of

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financial aid.

SEX DISCRIMINATION, HARASSMENT, & ASSAULT

Sexual harassment is unwelcome, gender-based verbal or physical conduct that is sufficiently severe, persistent or pervasive that it has the effect of interfering with, denying or limiting someone's ability to participate in or benefit from the college's educational program and/or activities, and is based on power differential (quid pro quo), the creation of a hostile environment, or retaliation.

Sexual misconduct is a form of sexual harassment prohibited by Title IX. Sexual misconduct refers to "physical sexual acts perpetrated against a person's will or where a person is incapable of giving consent due to the victim's use of drugs or alcohol. An individual also may be unable to give consent due to an intellectual or other disability." Sexual misconduct includes dating violence, domestic violence, rape, sexual assault, sexual battery, stalking, and sexual coercion.

Reporting Options

Call 911 if you are in an emergency situation

Dalton State Public Safety (this report is not confidential)

Tech Building- Upper Level - 706-272-4461

Online Sexual Assault Report -

<https://dynamicforms.ngwebsolutions.com/ShowForm.aspx?RequestedDynamicFormTemplate=3fe5724c-a8bd-4a31-9c25-1a3d35110a51>

If you would like to report to Dalton State Administration: (this report is not confidential)

Report Title IX complaint online - [http://daltonstate.edu/campus life/student-conduct-about.cms](http://daltonstate.edu/campus_life/student-conduct-about.cms)

Report Student-on-Student Title IX complaint in person:

Brittnie Lee, Office of Student Life

Coordinator for Student Responsibility & Service/ Deputy Title IX Coordinator

Pope 113

balee@daltonstate.edu, 706-272-2999

Report Title IX complaint involving Faculty or Staff in person:

Faith Miller, Human Resources

Director of Human Resource/ Title IX Coordinator

Memorial 122

fmiller@daltonstate.edu 706-272-2034

If you would like to talk with someone confidentially:

Dalton State Counseling & Career Services, Academic Resources

Lower Pope

706-272-4429

counseling@daltonstate.edu

<http://libguides.daltonstate.edu/Counseling>

Instructor: Matthew Hipps
Email: mhipps@daltonstate.edu

Office: LIA 242

Phone: 706-272-2676

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EMERGENCY INSTRUCTIONAL PLAN

If the college is closed for inclement weather or other conditions, please consult the course calendar (located in both the syllabus and on Georgia View) in order to complete the assigned readings or assignments. Then, check your DSC email for additional assignments, activities and due dates. If it becomes impossible for me to email you additional assignments or instructions because of a loss of power, please write at least 2 questions based on the questions that we would have covered in class. If the assignment was a video, they will be accessible under the "Links" tab in Georgia View. As always, I will be available to answer questions via email (assuming, of course, there is power). Compensatory make-up days may be required if the total number of days lost exceeds the equivalent of one week of class time.

GRADING/STUDENT EVALUATION

Assignments	Points Possible	Percentage
In-Class Assignments	300 points	30%
Attendance	100 points	10%
Examinations (4)	400 points	40%
Final Exam	200 points	20%
Total Points Possible	1,000 points possible	100%

In Class Assignments- In class, we will engage in a variety of activities that you will do both in groups, and by yourself. These may include (but are not limited to) short writing assignments, small projects related to American Government, documentary reviews, etc.) In order to turn these assignments in, you must be present in class. There will be no make-up assignments for the in class assignments.

Attendance- Attendance will be taken daily. All students will begin with 100 points and will lose 3 points for every absence that a student incurs. Students who miss more than 8 classes will receive a "F" (F=0 points) on their Attendance grade for the semester.

Examinations- you will complete four examinations. All examinations will consist of multiple choice type questions. All examinations will be taken in class. Makeup exams are only given in the case of documented emergencies, and I must be informed of an absence **PRIOR** to the start of the examination to be eligible for a makeup. All makeup examinations will be essay

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examinations. The main page of each "unit #" tab on the course website contains information pertinent to each of the examinations.

Final Examination- You will take a **comprehensive final examination**. This means that the examination will cover material from the entire semester, Unit 1 through Unit 5. There will be a study guide available for this examination available under the "Final Examination" tab on the LibGuide.

GRADING SCALE

The grading scale is absolute. I will not round scores or "bump" you to the next letter grade. You must earn the required number of points in order to receive the corresponding grade.

A= 890 points or greater

B= 780 – 889 points

C= 680- 779 points

D= 650-679 points

F= 649 points and Below

COURSE OUTLINE (Subject to change)

NOTE: We will do our best to adhere to the syllabus; however, things may come up during the semester that causes us to deviate from our plans. Rest assured, no assignment will ever be due SOONER than is listed on the syllabus.

Date	Topic
Monday, August 15th	Introduction to the Course
Wednesday, August 17th	What is Government? http://libguides.daltonstate.edu/ld.php?content_id=22013132
Friday, August 19th	Why Does Government Matter? http://libguides.daltonstate.edu/ld.php?content_id=22013132
Monday, August 22nd	Principles That Shape Our Nation (Part I)
Wednesday, August 24th	Principles That Shape Our Nation (Part II)
Friday, August 26th	The U.S. System of Constitutional Government http://libguides.daltonstate.edu/ld.php?content_id=22013132

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Office Hours: MWF 8:50-9:20, 10:20-10:50; TR 10:40-12:10 and By Appointment

Monday, August 29th	The U.S. System of Constitutional Government http://libguides.daltonstate.edu/ld.php?content_id=22013132
Wednesday, August 31st	The U.S. System of Constitutional Government http://libguides.daltonstate.edu/ld.php?content_id=22013132
Friday, September 2nd	EXAMINATION #1 (Ch. 1 & 2)
Monday, September 5th	NO CLASS- DSC HOLIDAY
Wednesday, September 7th	Congress http://libguides.daltonstate.edu/ld.php?content_id=22040086
Friday, September 9th	Congress http://libguides.daltonstate.edu/ld.php?content_id=22040086
Monday, September 12th	The Presidency http://libguides.daltonstate.edu/ld.php?content_id=22040605
Wednesday, September 14th	The Presidency http://libguides.daltonstate.edu/ld.php?content_id=22040605
Friday, September 16th	The Courts http://libguides.daltonstate.edu/ld.php?content_id=22041462
Monday, September 19th	The Courts http://libguides.daltonstate.edu/ld.php?content_id=22041462
Wednesday, September 21st	Bureaucracy
Friday, September 23rd	Examination #2 (Ch. 3-5)
Monday, September 26th	Political Socialization http://libguides.daltonstate.edu/ld.php?content_id=22042095
Wednesday, September 28th	Public Opinion http://libguides.daltonstate.edu/ld.php?content_id=22042095

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Friday, September 30 th	Political Ideology http://libguides.daltonstate.edu/ld.php?content_id=22042568
Monday, October 3 rd	Political Ideology http://libguides.daltonstate.edu/ld.php?content_id=22042568
Wednesday, October 5 th	Political Parties http://libguides.daltonstate.edu/ld.php?content_id=22045834
Friday, October 7 th	Political Parties http://libguides.daltonstate.edu/ld.php?content_id=22045834
Monday, Wednesday, October 10 th	FALL BREAK- NO CLASS
Wednesday, October 12 th	Political Participation http://libguides.daltonstate.edu/ld.php?content_id=22045779
Friday, October 14 th	Political Participation http://libguides.daltonstate.edu/ld.php?content_id=22045779
Monday, October 17 th	Interest Groups
Wednesday, October 19 th	Election 2016: A Conversation
Friday, October 21 st	EXAMINATION #3 (Ch.8-11)
Monday, October 24 th	Civil Liberties: Free Speech http://libguides.daltonstate.edu/ld.php?content_id=22045850
Wednesday, October 26 th	Civil Liberties: Freedom of Religion http://libguides.daltonstate.edu/ld.php?content_id=22045850
Friday, October 28 th	Civil Liberties: Your Right to Bear Arms http://libguides.daltonstate.edu/ld.php?content_id=22045850
Monday, October 31 st	Civil Liberties: The Rights of the Accessed http://libguides.daltonstate.edu/ld.php?content_id=22045850
Wednesday, November 2 nd	Civil Liberties: The Death Penalty http://libguides.daltonstate.edu/ld.php?content_id=22045850
Friday, November 4 th	Civil Rights http://libguides.daltonstate.edu/ld.php?content_id=22045850
Monday, November 7 th	Civil Rights http://libguides.daltonstate.edu/ld.php?content_id=22045850

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Wednesday, November 9th	Civil Rights http://libguides.daltonstate.edu/ld.php?content_id=22045850
Friday, November 11th	Civil Rights http://libguides.daltonstate.edu/ld.php?content_id=22045850
Monday, November 14th	Civil Rights http://libguides.daltonstate.edu/ld.php?content_id=22045850
Wednesday, November 16th	Civil Rights: A Current Perspective http://libguides.daltonstate.edu/ld.php?content_id=22045850
Friday, November 18th	EXAMINATION #4 (Ch. 18)
Monday, November 21st	The Media http://libguides.daltonstate.edu/ld.php?content_id=22045850
Wednesday, November 23rd Friday, November 25th	NO CLASS- THANKSGIVING BREAK
Monday, November 28th	The Media http://libguides.daltonstate.edu/ld.php?content_id=22045850
Wednesday, November 30th	The Media http://libguides.daltonstate.edu/ld.php?content_id=22045850
Friday, December 2nd	Bringing it All Together: Why This All Matters
Monday, December 5th	Review Session for the Final Examination