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| NORTH CENTRAL TEXAS COLLEGECOURSE SYLLABUS |

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| *Course Title:*  | **American National Government** |
| *Course Prefix & Number:*  | **GOVT2305** | *Section Number:*  | 410 | *Semester/Year:*  | Spring‘18 |
| *Semester Credit Hours:*  | 3 | *Lecture Hours:*  | 3 | *Lab Hours:*  | 0 |
| *Course Description (NCTC Catalog):* Origin and development of the U.S. Constitution, structure and powers of the national government including the legislative, executive, and judicial branches, federalism, political participation, the national election process, public policy, civil liberties, and civil rights.  |
| *Course Prerequisite(s): None* |
| *Required or Recommended Course Materials:*Patterson, Thomas E.  We the People. 12th edition. McGraw Hill. (E-book with Connect Plus Access)ISBN 9781260200607 |

**INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION**

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| *Name of Instructor:* | Mustafa Kirisci |
| *Campus/Office Location:* | Corinth/331 |
| *Telephone Number:* | - |
| *E-mail Address:* | mkirisci@nctc.edu  |

**OFFICE HOURS (will be determined)**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *Monday* | *Tuesday* | *Wednesday* | *Thursday* | *Friday* |
|  | 12:30-2:30 |  | 12:30-2:30 |  |
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**STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES** (From Academic Course Guide Manual/Workforce Education Course Manual/NCTC Catalog

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| *At the successful completion of this course the student will be able to:* |
|  | Explain the origin and development of constitutional democracy in the United States. |
|  | Demonstrate an understanding of our federal system. |
|  | Describe separation of powers and checks and balances in both theory and practice. |
|  | Demonstrate knowledge of the legislative, executive, and judicial branches of the federal government. |
|  | Evaluate the role of public opinion, interest groups, and political parties in the political system. |
|  | Analyze the election process. |
|  | Describe the rights and responsibilities of citizens. |
|  | Analyze issues and policies in U.S. Politics. |
|  | Research and compose an essay assignment/argument using proper grammar/English and basic computer skills. |

**GRADING CRITERIA**

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| *# of Graded Course Elements* | *Graded Course Elements* | *Percentage or Point Values* |
| 2 | Exams | 50 |
| 1 | Research Project | 25 |
|  | M-H Connect – Reading Assignments | 15 |
|  | M-H Connect – Notebook Assignments | 10 |

**COURSE SUBJECT OUTLINE** (Major Assignments, Due Dates, and Grading Criteria)

A detailed Assignment Guide for each Graded Course Element is available on Canvas under the “Modules” tab beneath the “Course Files” heading. These include assignment details, grading criteria, and tips for success. Specific due dates for each assignment can also be found on Canvas, along with the dropboxes for the written assignments.

We will cover 17 chapters in total. There are **two in-class exams**. Each exam consists of several testing methods, including multiple choice, matching, true-false, fill-in-the-blank, short answer, and an essay question. A **Research Project** in which the student identifies a national problem, researches credible information on it, and recommends policy solutions will be submitted in the due date that is noted below. The online **Reading Assignments** and interactive **Notebook Assignments** are completed via the McGraw-Hill Connect system integrated to Canvas.

**The important dates**

**The due for the submission of the research project: April 12, 11:59 PM**

**The date of Exam 1: March 8 in the regular class time**

**The date of Exam 2: May 8 in 11:00-12:50**

**ATTENDANCE POLICY**

Regular and punctual attendance is expected of all students in all classes for which they have registered. All absences are considered to be **unauthorized** unless the student is absent due to illness or emergencies as **determined by the instructor**. It is the student responsibility to provide documentation as to the emergency for approval and judgement by the faculty member. Approved college sponsored activities are the only absences for which a student should not be held liable and only when provided by a college official ahead of the absence. Valid reasons for absence, however, do not relieve the student of the responsibility for making up required work. Students will not be allowed to make up an examination missed due to absence unless they have reasons acceptable to the instructor. A student who is compelled to be absent when a test is given should petition the instructor, **in advance if possible**, for permission to postpone the exam. Student will be dropped from a class by the Registrar upon recommendation of the instructor who feels the student has been justifiably absent or tardy a sufficient number of times to preclude meeting the course’s objectives. Persistent, unjustified absences from classes will be considered sufficient cause for College officials to drop a student from the rolls of the College. From Board Policy FC (LOCAL)

Attendance will be kept throughout the semester **via sign-in sheets** distributed *randomly* during class time by the instructor. **The instructor reserves the right to remove any student who exceeds 4 unexcused absences.**

The **last day to withdraw** from a course is April 5.

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**DISABILITY SERVICES** (Office for Students with Disabilities)

The Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD) provides support services for students with disabilities, students enrolled in technical areas of study, and students who are classified as special populations (i.e. single parents).

Support services for students with disabilities might include appropriate and reasonable accommodations, or they may be in the form of personal counseling, academic counseling, career counseling, etc. Furthermore, OSD Counselors work with students to encourage self-advocacy and promote empowerment. The Counselors also provides resource information, disability-related information, and adaptive technology for students who qualify.

For support, please contact the counselors at (940) 498-6207 or (940) 668-4321. Alternatively, students may stop by Room 170 in Corinth or Room 110 in Gainesville.

**CORE CURRICULUM FOUNDATIONAL COMPONENT AREA** (For classes in the Core)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Communication

 Mathematics

 Life and Physical Science

 Language, Philosophy & Culture

 Creative Arts

X Government/Political Science

 Social and Behavioral Sciences

 Component Area Option

 American History

**REQUIRED CORE OBJECTIVES** (For classes in the Core)

X Critical Thinking

 Communication

 Empirical and Quantitative

 Teamwork

X Personal Responsibility

X Social Responsibility

**COURSE TYPE**

 Academic General Education Course (from ACGM but not in NCTC Core)

**X** Academic NCTC Core Curriculum Course

**** WECM Course

**STUDENT HANDBOOK**

Students are expected to follow all rules and regulations found in the student handbook and published online.

**ACADEMIC DISHONESTY**

Scholastic dishonesty shall include, but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, academic falsification, intellectual property dishonesty, academic dishonesty facilitation and collusion. Faculty members may document and bring charges against a student who is engaged in or is suspected to be engaged in academic dishonesty. See Student Handbook, “Student Rights & Responsibilities: Student Conduct ([FLB(LOCAL)]”.

Any student engaged in the aforementioned behaviors will forfeit all points on the assignment in questions and may be removed from the course at the instructor’s discretion. Any such instance will be reported to NCTC.

**QUESTIONS, CONCERNS, or COMPLAINTS**

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| Name of Chair/Coordinator:  | Crystal R.M. Wright |
| Office Location: | Gainesville Campus, Room 824 |
| Telephone Number: | 940-668-7731, ext. 4320 |
| E-mail Address: | cwright@nctc.edu |
| Name of Instructional Dean:  | Dr. Bruce King |
| Office Location: | Gainesville Campus |
| Telephone Number: | 940-668-4267 |
| E-mail Address: | bking@nctc.edu  |

**Tentative Schedule**

Week 1

January 16, Tuesday: Introduction/Overview of the Course

No reading is assigned

January 18, Thursday: Political Thinking and Political Culture

Reading: Chapter 1, all

Week 2

January 23, Tuesday: Constitutional Democracy

Reading: Chapter 2, pp.26-40

January 25, Thursday: Constitutional Democracy

Reading: Chapter 2, pp.41-58

Week 3

January 30, Tuesday: Federalism

Reading: Chapter 3, pp.60-74

February 1, Thursday: Federalism

Reading: Chapter3, pp.75-90

Week 4

February 6, Tuesday: Civil Liberties

Reading: Chapter 4, pp.92-111

February 8: Civil Liberties, pp.112-125

Week 5

February 13, Tuesday: Equal Rights

Reading: Chapter 5, pp. 127-142

February 15, Thursday: Equal Rights, pp. 142-157

Week 6

February 20, Tuesday: Congress

Reading: Chapter 11, pp. 307-327

February 22, Thursday: Congress

Reading: Chapter 11, pp.328-344

Week 7

February 27, Tuesday: The Presidency

Reading: Chapter 12, pp.346-362

March 1: Chapter 12, pp. 363-380

Week 8

March 6, Tuesday: The Federal Bureaucracy

Reading: Chapter 13, pp. 382-395

**March 8: Exam 1**

**Week 9**

**Spring Break**

Week 10

March 20, Tuesday: The Federal Bureaucracy

Reading: Chapter 13, pp. 396-413

March 22, Thursday: The Federal Judicial System

Reading: Chapter 14, all

Week 11

March 27, Tuesday: Public Opinion and Political Socialization

Reading: Chapter 6, pp. 159-170

March 29, Thursday: Public Opinion and Political Socialization

Reading: Chapter 6, pp.171-186

Week 12

April 3, Tuesday: Political Participation

Reading: Chapter 7, all

April 5, Thursday: Political Parties, Candidates and Campaigns

Reading: Chapter 8, pp.214-232

Week 13

April 10, Tuesday: Political Parties, Candidates and Campaigns

Reading: Chapter 8, pp. 232-246

April 12, Thursday: Interest Groups **(the due date for the research paper submission)**

Reading: Chapter 9, 248-261

Week 14

April 17, Tuesday: Interest Groups

Reading: Chapter 9, pp. 261-277

April 19, Thursday: The News Media

Reading: Chapter 10, all

Week 15

April 24, Tuesday: Economic and Environmental Policy

Reading: Chapter 15, pp.446-458

April 26, Thursday: Economic and Environmental Policy

Reading: Chapter 15, pp.458-472

Week 16

May 1, Tuesday: Income, Welfare and Education Policy

Reading: Chapter 16, all

May 3, Thursday: Foreign Policy

Reading: Chapter 17, all

Week 17

**Final exam week**