

American National Government – 2023 Summer A
POS 2041-70
Online

INSTRUCTOR: Jay Thompson

EMAIL: via Canvas. Please use thompsoj@cf.edu **only** in the event of a Canvas blackout.

PHONE: 854-2322 Ext. 1723

OFFICE LOCATION: 8-107B

OFFICE HOURS: TBA

CLASSROOM: Online

Extended Emergency Closure.

“For emergency campus closings (natural disasters, etc.) call 352-291-4499 or 800-831-9244 or check our website www.cf.edu.”

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This is an introductory course of the American Federal government. Particular attention is devoted to the constitution, the three branches of government, parties, pressure groups and current issues.

CREDIT HOURS: 3

TEXTBOOK

Gateways to Democracy: An Introduction to American Government by Geer, et al

Mindtap code purchase is required.

These can be purchased together and the book is available as a lower cost digital book- physical copies are also available.

Purchase of Cengage Unlimited is recommended. This will give you access to all required course material as well as all Cengage material.

SUPPLIES

- ✓ An email account and internet access is **necessary**.

ATTENDANCE

Attendance through regular weekly participation is expected and crucial to your success in the course. Failure to login at least twice a week **will** result in missing assignments, which will have a negative impact on your grade.

POS 2041 American National Government

The following chart offers students a consistent way to see how CF's global learning outcomes are assessed in each class. This is for information only and does not change the grading system used in this class.

Institutional Learning Outcomes	Quiz	Exam	Project/ Paper	Classroom Activity	Service Learning
Critical Reasoning: The student will reflect, analyze, synthesize, and apply critical thinking.					
1. State question at issue.			x		
2. Identify purpose of argument.			x		
3. Identify the ideas and concepts, information and data, and the use of such in the argument.			x		
4. Identify assumptions, bias, and point of view of information presented.			x		
5. Create plausible solutions and implications of solutions.			x		
6. Evaluate (Steps 1-5) and revise if needed.			x		
Communication: The student will read, write, speak, and listen effectively.					
1. Read materials and effectively understand essential facts and concepts.	x	x	x	x	
2. Write an organized document that communicates effectively and appropriately for the situation.			x		
3. Listen actively to comprehend main ideas and essential details.	x	x	x	x	
4. Express clear, well-organized ideas through oral communication.				x	
Global Socio-Cultural Responsibility: The student will be an informed and responsible citizen in social, cultural, and global matters.					
1. Demonstrate an understanding of the values and	x				

expressions of other cultures that arise from human experience.					
2. Identify scientific principles underlying human influence upon the Earth and its inhabitants.	x				
3. Recognize complex historical, cultural, economic, and political forces that create societies as well as how these forces shape personal identity.	x				
4. Understand the local and global connections among power, knowledge, gender, and class.	x				
Computer & Information Skills: The student will be able to evaluate the importance of technology and its applications.					
1. Organize data or information using appropriate electronic media.	x	x	x		
2. Access, research, and retrieve information using the Internet.	x	x	x		
3. Communicate with others using electronic media.				x	

GRADING POLICY

Module Examinations	30%
Mindtap Assignments	35%
Discussions	30%
Quizzes	5%

FINAL GRADE SCALE

A = 90%-100%

B+ = 87%-89%

B = 80%-86%

C+ = 77%-79%

C = 70%-76%

D = 60%-69%

F = 59% and under

FF = failure due to violation of academic integrity

HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS

All assignments are due on the date as listed on the course syllabus schedule. Late work is not accepted except in extreme circumstances at the sole discretion of the instructor. I may require additional documentation. It is your responsibility to keep track of the due dates, do not expect weekly reminders that something is due.

COURSE SCHEDULE

This is not a completely self-paced course. New topics will be covered each week, and work will be required to be submitted each week. The new information will be posted by Monday morning at 8 am in a separate folder for the week. Each folder will include at least a power point presentation and a discussion post, though many will include additional material such as articles, video clips, quizzes, etc. You are responsible for all this information as well as the reading for that topic as assigned in the course schedule below. Assignments in each folder are due by the time the next folder is opened, the next Monday at 8 a.m. Once closed, assignments may not be made up except in extreme circumstances at the sole discretion of the instructor. Once the course closes no work will be accepted.

CANVAS

This course utilizes the Canvas system available to you via MyCF under the "Academics" tab. All course lectures and examinations will be posted in this system. This system also features a secure email system which will allow you to discuss your grade with the instructor without violating FERPA. This will be the primary method of communicating with me and I with you. Be sure to check your Canvas course site often as this is where important class information will be posted. Any issues regarding the system such as login etc. should be directed to distance learning ext. 1317. This system can be accessed remotely so you can use it at home.

EXAMINATIONS

All examinations for this class will be administered online via the Canvas system available through MyCF system. Exams must be taken during the time they are available on the course website. No makeup examinations will be given except in extreme circumstances as determined solely by the instructor. All material covered in the course website as well as in the assigned reading is considered "fair game" for the examinations. Exams can be administered in any method I see fit, including multiple choice, matching, short answer, essay etc. Exam reviews, both before and after the exam will be administered at the sole discretion of the instructor.

An exam will be administered at the end of each module. You are strongly encouraged to complete the module work before you complete the module exam. You will only be allowed one attempt for each module exam, and you

will not be allowed to retake the examination if you decided to take the exam before completing the module's work.

ONLINE DISCUSSION POSTINGS

You must keep up with the information that I post on the course website (CANVAS). This will include blog entries, news stories, research journal articles and discussion posts. Expect at least one discussion post every week which you will be required to take part in. I will be looking for meaningful and thoughtful responses which will be a minimum of six sentences. Your postings should be majority your original thoughts, though supporting quotes are acceptable with proper citation (source) information. I expect proper spelling and grammar to be used as well as showing proper respect as though you were in the class. Failure to follow these policies will result in a lowering of the grade and further action that I deem necessary.

QUIZZES

Quizzes will be given throughout the semester. These quizzes will be taken via the Canvas system. If given, quizzes will be included in the weekly modules. However, please note that these quizzes are separate assignments from the Mindtap Chapter Quizzes. Any course material, including readings and videos, can be used in the quizzes.

MINDTAP

Each week's module will contain homework from the Mindtap course shell. You will be able to access this from Canvas, but you must purchase a Mindtap code to be able to do so. All work assigned must be completed during that week. Late work will not be accepted. Work not completed due to a failure to purchase a valid Mindtap code will not be reopened. Purchase of Cengage Unlimited WILL give you access to Mindtap as well as an electronic copy of the course textbook.

GRADES

The instructor will post the student's grades in the Canvas course shell. It is the responsibility of the student to keep track of his/her own grades and current course average. Students are encouraged to check their grades under the Reports tab in Canvas for accuracy **before** June 22. Students must contact the instructor before this date if there are questions or potential errors that need adjusting. After the last day of regular class sessions, it may be too late to make any changes to grades posted under the Canvas gradebook.

EXTRA CREDIT

Do not expect extra credit opportunities for this course. In the unlikely event that extra credit is offered it is at the sole discretion of the instructor

and will be offered to the entire class. Individual extra credit will **NOT** be offered. Extra credit, if offered, cannot be made up. Cheating on extra credit will result in the same penalty as cheating on a normal assignment.

COURSE MATERIAL

A student shall not, without my express authorization, make or receive any type of recording, including but not limited to audio and video recordings, of any class, co-curricular meeting, organizational meeting, or meeting with me. You do not have permission to post recordings on the web. Further you do not have my permission to post my class lectures/course materials on the web.

COMMUNICATING WITH THE INSTRUCTOR

I will have a General Questions discussion board available for you in the course website. This discussion board is also where I will post course announcements. If you have a question about the syllabus, the reading, an assignment or exam, this would be the place to ask it. Likely another student has the same question so it will be available to them as well. However, please keep in mind this is a PUBLIC forum, so anything that is personal in nature that you need to communicate to me should be done via the email system WITHIN Canvas. This is a completely private system, only I can see the message (as long as you send it to just me).

When you send a message either through the General discussion board or through the Canvas email system, expect responses on Mondays and Wednesdays during my office hours.

COURSE COMMUNICATION

When communicating with the instructor and fellow students on the discussion boards or email, proper formatting, grammar and spelling are expected. So called internet speak or texting language is not appropriate for these environments. You are expected to treat your fellow students and instructor with respect and proper decorum in these discussion posts and emails. Your posts are not anonymous, and improper conduct will result in a warning and possible further action as necessary.

COLLEGE POLICIES

In the Canvas shell under Navigation there is a section labeled "College Policies". Please reviews those policies as they are considered part of this syllabus.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Please see the "College Policies" section for institutional policies regarding Academic Integrity. In addition to policies listed in that section, you will

receive at a minimum a 0 grade for any work that violates academic integrity on the first offense and a failing grade for the semester for any further offenses. The instructor reserves the right to fail a student for the course on the first offense in the case of an egregious violation of academic integrity. This is at the sole discretion of the instructor. The instructor reserves the right to require the use of services such as Turnitin.com and Honorlock to enforce these policies.

CLASSROOM POLICIES

- ✓ Proper respect will be given to the instructor and your fellow students.
- ✓ Disruptive behavior will not be tolerated, even in an online environment.
- ✓ This course is not an internet bulletin board. I expect proper, full sentences and no "texting" language. I also expect you will show proper respect to your fellow students in the discussion boards.
- ✓ When communicating with the instructor via email, proper grammar, spelling and formatting is expected.
- ✓ Failure to observe the policies stated in this syllabus, the college handbook and by the instructor will result in removal from the course. You will not be allowed to return to the course until you have met with the college administration. Further violations will result in expulsion from the course with the appropriate grade.

RIGHT TO CHANGE SYLLABUS

If necessary, some components of this syllabus may change. However, any such changes will be announced to the students in class and online. The student is responsible for any such announced changes. Absences, excused or unexcused, do not release the student of this responsibility.