General Class and Course Information

Course Section: POS 1041 54
Course Title: Introduction to American Government (AA)
Credits/ Clock Hours: 3.00
Term/Date: Summer 2024   06/27/2024 - 08/08/2024
Meeting Times:
Mon/Tues/Wed/Thurs | 12:30PM - 2:15PM | 06/27/24 - 08/08/24
Room: Live Online/Canvas

Course Description:
This course provides a detailed study of the origin and development of America's unique constitutional democracy and its political institutions, highlighting the federal level of government. It will include information about the U.S. Constitution, Bill of Rights, branches of government, public policy, political ideologies, interest groups, political parties, elections, mass media and other critical components of the political process.

Live Online courses require no physical classroom meetings. Courses are held on set days/times for online lectures and interactions. Instruction/information will be transmitted through electronic delivery methods (i.e., Zoom lectures & meetings, Microsoft Teams remote labs, video conferencing, chats, collaborations, or social learning technologies)

This class is a real-time virtual course. Your class will meet online during designated times as listed on your class schedule. You must have access to an Internet connected computer with a camera.

Gordon Rule Class

This class has been designated as a Gordon Rule class for writing. This means that the course has significant writing requirements. Please see the web page at
https://www.palmbeachstate.edu/learningoutcomes/Documents/Gordon_Rule_Statement_Student.pdf

Instructor's Information

Name: Alex Bruno
Telephone: (561) 207-5078
Faculty Webpage: https://www.palmbeachstate.edu/pf/Faculty.aspx?id=brunoa

Email: brunoa@palmbeachstate.edu

Information on REQUIRED textbooks

We The People by Thomas E. Patterson and McGraw Hill - Connect
We The People captures our vivid world and changing nature of American politics. Its concise approach, exciting interactives and happening narrative, promotes the presentation of applicable and relatable examples challenging readers to think critically and construct meaning based on their experiences all the while develops their mindset. Students come to class prepared to lead inspiring conversations, opening a unique teaching experience to motivate.
ISBN: 15 2024 9781265630669
Thomas E. Patterson
McGraw Hill
Fifteenth Edition

Other Information on Textbooks and Materials Needed for Class

About the Course Text

'We The People' is a concise approach to American government, emphasizing critical thinking through questions and examples relevant to today's students. This exceptionally readable text provides opportunities to engage with the political process through tools that help students learn how to think about politics, utilizing digital resources that connect learners with the material in a personalized way. Each chapter features provocative boxes that ask students to think critically about contemporary questions, including How the U.S. Differs, and 'How the 50 States Differ' and 'Fake or Fact?', all of which provide tools for students to assess data and claims for themselves. Finally, each chapter includes suggestions on how you the student can participate as a citizen of our democracy. The suggestions are categorized by the founding principle they embody —liberty, equality, or self-government—reinforcing the relevance of these principles today.

About the Author

Thomas E. Patterson is Bradlee Professor of Government and the Press in the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. He was previously Distinguished Professor of Political Science in the Maxwell School of Citizenship at Syracuse University. Raised in a small Minnesota town near the Iowa and South Dakota borders, he attended South Dakota State University as an undergraduate and served in the U.S. Army Special Forces in Vietnam before enrolling at the University of Minnesota, where he received his PhD in 1971.

Other Course Materials

We may also engage with other material especially during in-class activities, but you will be informed ahead of time.

Course Learning Outcomes

- Students will develop and demonstrate an understanding of the United States Constitution and its application.
- Students will develop and demonstrate a greater awareness of the role of the citizen in the American system and an ability to become more politically aware and active in the local and global community.
- Students will develop and demonstrate an understanding of landmark Supreme Court cases, landmark legislation, and landmark executive actions and their impact on law and society.
- Students will develop and demonstrate an understanding of political and policy-making institutions, the American system of separated power and checks and balances, the role of state and local government in a federal system, U.S. national interests and domestic and foreign policy making.
- Students will develop and demonstrate an understanding of the basic principles and practices of American democracy and how they are applied in our republican form of government.
- Students will develop and demonstrate knowledge of political culture and ideology, the political process, the role of political parties, interest groups, elections, public opinion and the media in the U.S. government system and the way in which different individuals and groups behave and participate in American politics.
- Students will develop and demonstrate knowledge of the founding documents and how they have shaped the nature and functions of our institutions of self-governance.

Grading

Grades Header & Breakdown

Smart Book Engage.	60 points
Quizzes 4 @ 25	100 points
Midterm Exams	120 points
Gordon Rule Exams	110 points
SCL Tutoring	10 points
Attendance	25 points
Participation	25 points
Civic Exams	10 points
Final Exams	120 points
USCCA Presentation	20 points

Total	600 points

Grading Scale:

550 – 600 A
500 – 549 B
450 – 499 C
400 – 449 D
000 – 399 No Credit

Please note that all Smart Book engagements, quizzes, and exams will be given online through Canvas/Connect. You will have two attempts at each assignment and an average of both graded attempts, for each assignment, will be automatically saved to your gradebook. There is a fluctuating number of questions on each of the Smart Book assessment, 25 questions on the midterm and 50 questions on the finals.

Attendance Policy

Students are expected to attend all courses and course activities for which they are registered. Any class meeting missed, regardless of cause, reduces the opportunity of learning and may adversely affect a student's achievement in the course. Students are required to attend at least 90% of the class meetings in order to receive credit for the course. An accurate record of attendance will be kept for each course. If a student misses one-third or more of a class session, the student will be counted absent. Three tardies will count as one absence. Leaving early is the same as being tardy. Credit may be assessed for perfect attendance.

Electronic Device Policy

Cell phones, tablets, laptops and other such electronic devices may only be used in class when they are being utilized for course work such as reference usage or note taking, and course-related interactive exercises. Distracting use(s) of cell phones and other electronic devices, especially for personal matters, during class may result in dismissal from the class on the first offense and withdrawal from the class on the second or repeated offense(s). If you have a situation which requires you to be on your device, inform the instructor ahead of time.

You are encouraged to record your request for formal interaction with the instructor, and students may email the instructor at any time. Please note: Due to Florida's broad open records law, most written communication to or from college employees is public record, available to the public and the media upon request. Therefore, this e-mail communication may be subject to public disclosure. All official communications to and from the student and professor will be completed by using your PBSC email address or via Canvas. Your email address may be found on your PantherWeb page. It will need to be activated. Please follow instructions given the first time you sign in. As a reminder, my email address: brunoa@palmbeachstate.edu

Late Assignment Policy

All assignments count towards the final grade. Students should establish connections with other students to get notes and assignments from missed classes. Students must contact the instructor as soon as possible after missing an assignment to make the necessary arrangements with the instructor. Late assignments will be accepted up to one class day after it is originally due. Ten (10) points will or may be deducted from the final score of late work, if there is no acceptable excuse. Late work will be accepted only two times per student per semester.

Make-up Exam Policy

Students must contact the instructor as soon as possible after missing a review or exam (all of which count toward the final grade) to make arrangements with the instructor. I may allow make-up review(s) or exams at my own discretion, and this could be a different version of the test which may be required to be completed on the student's own time.

Academic Dishonesty Policy

[Academic Dishonesty](#)

Academic dishonesty includes the following actions, as well as other similar conduct aimed at making false representation with respect to the student's academic performance: (1) Cheating on reviews or exams, (2) Collaborating with others on work to be presented, if contrary to the stated rules of the course, (3) Submitting, if contrary to the rules of the course, work previously submitted in another course, (4) Knowingly and intentionally assisting another student in any of the above actions, including assistance in an arrangement whereby work, classroom performance, examination, or other activity is submitted or performed by a person other that the student under whose name the work is submitted or performed, (5) Plagiarism; over reliance on, and wholesale use and submission of AI generated assignments also fall under the plagiarism category.

Academic Dishonesty Penalty for Violation

Penalty for Violation

Academic dishonesty, if proven beyond reasonable doubt, will result in a failing grade for this class.

Other Policy

The Honor Code

I adopt the honor code in this class community. This code is built on trust and shared values. A determination to be fair and responsible drives the code which is tied to those ethical principles that govern the wider Palm Beach State College (PBSC) academic community. Members are urged to display such honorable behaviors which mirror the overall PBSC academic culture. As part of this honor code, I ask that you suggest ways on improving the learning experience.

The Course Pledge

Please consider this class your safe getaway from illusions of doubt, inferiority, and inability. Instead, embrace hope, passivity, progress and comradery as we navigate these precious weeks of learning together. I shall do everything in my power to conduct this class in a way which is pleasurable and dynamically engaging for the collective body, and to each individual learner.

Withdrawal Policy

A student may be withdrawn by the professor for excessive absences, and particularly after missing four consecutive classes.

Accessibility Statement

Students with disabilities are advised, in compliance with federal and state laws, that accommodations and services are available through the office of the Center for Student Accessibility (CSA). It is the student's responsibility to contact the Center for Student Accessibility Advisors and to submit appropriate documentation prior to receiving accommodations and/or services. Please see the website at https://www.palmbeachstate.edu/csa/ for web address for the Center for Student Accessibility.

Live Online Class Information

This course consists of Live Online Meetings/Lectures during regularly scheduled class-time delivered via a Webinar software system and is supported/supplemented with Online Instruction/Activities delivered in the Canvas Learning Management System.
Some courses may require students to take examination(s) in a proctored lab setting. Before you decide to take the course via Live Online delivery, it is recommended that you carefully review the:
Live Online Course Syllabus Supplement

(<u>https://www.palmbeachstate.edu/canvas/documents/student/syllabus-supplement-canvas.htm</u>)
to obtain Detailed Facts & Information about:

Canvas Course Access

- Access to your Live Online Course is AVAILABLE (for review/read-only purposes only) each term 48 hours BEFORE the FIRST DAY OF CLASS

Canvas Orientation and Assistance

- How to Register for the free Canvas Online Orientation Course: **ELO1000 Passport to Canvas**
- How to obtain Canvas assistance from the **Canvas Student Support Center**

Canvas Tips & Tutorials

- How to Ensure your Computer is Compatible
- Ensure you Understand the Examination Proctoring System and Assignment Plagiarism System
- Learn the Functions of Canvas

Then Proceed to Palm Beach State
Canvas Login Page
(<u>https://www.palmbeachstate.edu/canvas</u>)
to Login to your Live Online Course (limited 'read-only' access available 48 hours before the first day of class) using the same **USERNAME and PASSWORD** you used to register for classes.

Distance Learning Requirements

Computer Systems
Your computer system resources must be compatible with the Canvas Learning Management System (LMS) used to deliver/manage course content. System Requirements and System Check (analysis) are provided at:

System Requirements and System Check
(<u>https://community.canvaslms.com/t5/Canvas-Basics-Guide/What-are-the-browser-and-computer-requirements-for-Canvas/ta-p/66</u>)

Your computer needs to be configured per recommended settings. Failure to do so generally results in test submission and other participative action errors. These types of errors are generally not accepted as an excuse for missed submissions.

SLC Computer Labs and Libraries
If students do not have access to a computer at home, the SLC Computer Labs and Libraries at a Palm Beach State campuses can be used to complete course assignments. Visit the <u>SLC Computer</u>

Labs (https://www.palmbeachstate.edu/slc) and the Library (https://www.palmbeachstate.edu/library) webpages for information about locations and hours.

Student Computer & Learning Management System Skills
 Students need to possess basic web-browsing skills and need to learn the functions of the Canvas Learning Management System (LMS). Students can learn how to use Canvas by enrolling in a free '**ELO1000 Passport to Canvas**' student online orientation course. Instructions on how to register for this course are provided on the Course Syllabus Supplement page (https://www.palmbeachstate.edu/canvas/documents/student/syllabus-supplement-canvas.htm).

Additionally, online Canvas functions/tools video tutorials are provided here: Canvas Tools Video Tutorials (https://www.palmbeachstate.edu/canvas/documents/student/Student-CanvasVideoTutorials.pdf).

Course Login
 Information on how to change your password and solving other login related issues is provided on the Canvas Login Page (https://www.palmbeachstate.edu/canvas) – simply follow the link Forgot Your Password? (https://passwordreset.microsoftonline.com/?whr=my.palmbeachstate.edu).

Please keep in mind:
 Username: Your PBSC Student ID
 Password: Your PBSC Password

Online Textbook Purchase
 The textbook(s) can be purchased at the PBSC Campus Bookstores or the Online Bookstore (https://www.bkstr.com/palmbeachstcentralstore).

For Live Online Course Assistance, please contact your:

- **Professor/Instructor** – with Course Instructional Content (assignment/test availability dates, course instructions, etc.) issues.

- **Canvas Support** – for questions about the functions/features of Canvas: for **live chat** or **email** support use the '**Help**' **button** on the left green navigation bar inside your course or call **877-376-9392**.

- **Student IT Service Desk** – with Username/Password & General Access issue: visit the Online Service Desk (https://help.palmbeachstate.edu/TDClient/1971/Portal/Home) (see the Student Tech Support section) or call **561-868-4000**.

Student Code of Conduct

Unauthorized Use of Voice and Video Recording

I do not typically do lectures; I communicate with students. So, while lectures may be reordered as per new legal precedence, class interaction may not. Thus, using any device to make an audio or video recording of any person without their prior knowledge or express consent is prohibited.

Be prepared to become engaged with the material. You will be immersed in a dynamic class community where your views shall always be respected. There is no shaming and judging, and we expect members of the community to have their own preconceived political ideology and/or affiliations. Just be willing to submit your idea(s) to the scrutiny of others, and remain open to learn new ways of seeing politics and the world.

EAB Navigate – Student Success Platform

Navigate connects students to valuable resources needed for success, such as: Academic advising, SLC, Career Center, Technology Support, and alerts issued by your instructor and/or advisor. Access Navigate now in the MyPBSCApp or: https://www.palmbeachstate.edu/eab-navigate/

College Policies

Academic Dishonesty/Integrity
Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, unauthorized use of aids, cheating, fabrication, plagiarism, or facilitating academic dishonesty in the classroom or other college environments, as defined below:

Plagiarism

- Taking the words or specific substance of another and either copying or paraphrasing the work without giving credit to the source.
- Submitting a term paper, examination or other work written by someone else
- Submitting the same term paper, slightly altered paper, other work, or examination, for more than one course, whether in the same term or another term. This is self-plagiarism.
- Failure to give credit in a footnote for ideas, statements of facts or conclusions derived by another.
- Failure to use quotation marks when quoting directly from another person, whether it is a paragraph, a sentence or even a part thereof.
- Similar and extended paraphrasing of another.

For more information to help you understand and recognize plagiarism, please refer to the Library Guide.

Plagiarism-Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) Programs
Artificial intelligence programs (AI) such as ChatGPT can craft papers that resemble the work of human researchers. AI has many legitimate uses in business, government, and society. A primary mission of Palm Beach State College is to advance human intelligence, so presenting work completed

by AI rather than by the student's efforts is counterproductive and deceptive. Palm Beach State College has state-of-the-art software to detect the use of AI writing. The use of AI directly violates Palm Beach State College's standards for plagiarism, expressly "Submitting a term paper, examination, or other work written by someone else." Students submitting work completed by AI, in whole or in part, without proper citations and explicit instructor permission, are guilty of academic dishonesty and subject to the process and penalties described in the Student Handbook under Academic Policies.

Cheating
Using unauthorized notes, study aids, or information from another student or student's paper on an in-class examination; altering a graded work after it has been returned, then submitting the work for regrading; and allowing another person to do one's work and to submit the work under one's own name or otherwise not following the rules or instruction to gain an advantage. Unauthorized collaboration, the sharing of work or knowledge specific to the completion of a project, quiz, or examination without the permission or knowledge of the instructor, is also cheating. This includes collaboration on individual assignments using technology in all courses modes or sharing of assignment-specific information (such as quiz questions) with students in other sections of the same course.

Fabrication
Presenting data in a piece of work not gathered in accordance with guidelines defining the appropriate methods for collecting or generating data and failing to include a substantially accurate account of the method by which the data were generated or collected.

Aiding and Abetting Dishonesty
Providing material or information to another person with knowledge that these materials or information will be used improperly pursuant to 877.17, Fla. Stat. (2011).

Forgery
Altering documents affecting academic records; forging a signature of authorization or falsifying information on an official academic document, election form, grade report, letter of permission, petition, or any document designed to meet or exempt a student from an established College academic regulation.

Warning: Students may not withdraw from a class to avoid a failing grade as a result of such a violation.

Please refer to the Palm Beach State College Student Handbook (https://palmbeachstate.smartcatalogiq.com/current/Student-Handbook for link to the student handbook).

Classroom Etiquette and Student Behavior Guidelines
Students will demonstrate respect for professors and fellow students. Behavior that is deemed

disruptive to a positive learning environment will be addressed by the professor and may result in a warning. If the student's behavior is deemed extreme in nature, the student will be referred to the dean of students for disciplinary action in accordance with the Student Handbook. Consequences for such behavior may result in formal conduct charges and sanctions.

Computer Competency Component
Each student will, to the satisfaction of the professor, demonstrate a fundamental understanding of basic computer operations through various professor-determined exercises and/or assignments.

Center for Student Accessibility
Students with disabilities are advised, in compliance with federal and state laws, that accommodations and services are available through the Center for Student Accessibility (CSA). It is the student's responsibility to contact the Center for Student Accessibility office and to submit appropriate documentation prior to receiving accommodations or services. Please see the website at https://www.palmbeachstate.edu/CSA for additional information.

Eating, Drinking and Smoking
Eating and drinking are confined to areas designated on the campus. Smoking, including electronic cigarettes (also known as e-cigarettes, vapors, vaporizers, or nicotine vaporizers), is not permitted in any College building and only in areas designated at each campus.

Final Course Grade Appeal
The evaluation of academic work is the responsibility of the faculty member/instructor. The method for assigning the final course grade is established by the faculty member/instructor. Per Board Rule 6Hx-18-3.191, faculty/instructors shall communicate the grading policy of the course to their students in writing. If this policy changes during the term, students should be notified of any changes in writing. The method to determine final course grades must be communicated to students in a course syllabus prior to the beginning of the course. Should a student have a question about a final course grade, please follow the procedures as outlined in the student handbook: https://palmbeachstate.smartcatalogiq.com/current/Student-Handbook.

Mid-Term Grade Reporting
Within one week after the close of the mid-term grading period, mid-term grades will be made available to all students for each class by either written notification or individual conference.

Intellectual recording-HB233
Students may, without prior notice, record video or audio of a class lecture for a class in which the student is enrolled for their own personal educational use. A class lecture is defined as a planned presentation by a PBSC faculty member or instructor, during scheduled class times, delivered for the purpose of transmitting knowledge or information that is reasonably related to the pedagogical objective of the course in which the student is enrolled. Recording class activities other than class lectures, including but not limited to class discussions, clinical activities and presentations, student presentations, labs, studios, academic exercises involving student participation, test or examination

administrations, field trips, and private conversations between students in the class or between a student and the faculty member are prohibited. Students are expressly prohibited from recording any other student's image or voice. Recordings may not be used as a substitute for class participation and class attendance and may not be published or shared without the written consent of the faculty member. Failure to adhere to these requirements may constitute a violation of the Student Code of Conduct.

Student Responsibility Policy

When a student attends the College, s/he becomes subject to its jurisdiction. Students are expected to conduct themselves in a responsible manner, in all areas of campus life. By enrolling, they pledge to obey the rules and regulations of the College and are responsible for observing all College policies and procedures as published in the student handbook, the College catalog, and other College publications which may be related to specific program of study. The student will be responsible for preparing for class, participating in class, and completing assignments on time.

Palm Beach State Websites of Interest

Please see this web page (https://www.palmbeachstate.edu/library/) for a list of web addresses for students.

Withdrawal Policy

The last day to withdraw from a course with a "W" grade is **2024-07-25**. It is the responsibility of the student to complete a withdraw request online through Workday. An official withdrawal would entitle the student to a grade of "W" in the course.

Other Information from your Professor

Be prepared to become engaged with the material. You will be immersed in a class community where your views shall <u>always</u> be respected. There is no shaming and judging, and we expect members of the community to have their own preconceived political ideology and/or affiliations. Just be willing to submit your idea(s) to the scrutiny of others, and remain open to learn new ways of seeing politics and the world.

Department Contact Information

David S. Pena, Ph.D.

Interim Associate Dean

Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences

Director, Library Learning Resource Center

Palm Beach State College, Palm Beach Gardens Campus

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