

# **U.S. Constitutional Development**

POLS 3300 University of Texas at Tyler Spring 2001

Prof. Larry E. Carter  
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Office: BUS 267

Office hours: 10:00-11:00 MWF 2:00-3:00 Weds (Tyler)  
5pm-6 pm Weds (Longview) or by appointment

## **Required Text**

*American Government* Wilson, Brief 5<sup>th</sup> Edition, Houghton Mifflin.

## **Class Meeting Schedule**

Wednesdays 6-8:40 pm Instructor in Longview. ITV in Tyler BUS 106

## **Purpose**

This course will provide an overview of the structure and functioning of the American political system. Four basic areas will be covered:

- (1) Constitutional framework
- (2) Political institutions
- (3) Political processes
- (4) Public policy

## **Accommodation Policy**

Any student in this course who has a disability that may prevent him or her from fully demonstrating his or her abilities should contact me personally as soon as possible so we can discuss accommodations necessary to ensure full participation and facilitate your educational opportunities.

## **Academic Dishonesty**

University policy will be followed.

## **Exams**

Exams will consist of multiple choice and short answer questions. Make-ups exams will be allowed only with permission by the instructor.

## **Class Participation**

Students should always be prepared to discuss assigned readings and write short reaction papers. Some guest speakers may give presentations and students are responsible for any material they may introduce.

## **Grading**

First Exam	30%
Second Exam	30%
Final Exam	30%
Class Participation	<u>10%</u>
	100%

## **Class Schedule**

(Tentative)

Jan 10 Introduction

Jan 17 Chapter 1 What Should We Know About American Government

**(January 20<sup>th</sup>, George W. Bush sworn in as President of the U.S.)**

Jan 24 Discussion of Presidential Inauguration/Chapter 2 The Constitution

Jan 31 Chapter 3 Federalism

Feb 7 Chapter 4 Public Opinion and the Media

Feb 14 **Exam 1**

Feb 21 Chapter 5 Political Parties and Interest Groups

Feb 28 Chapter 6 Campaigns and Elections

Mar 7 Chapter 7 Congress

**Mar 10-18 Spring Break**

Mar 21 Chapter 8 The Presidency

Mar 28 Chapter 9 The Bureaucracy

**Apr 4 Exam 2**

Apr 11 Chapter 10 The Judiciary

Apr 18 Chapter 11 Civil Liberties and Civil Right

Apr 25 Chapter 12 Politics and Public Policy/Chapter 13 Summary

**Final Exam Weds May 2 6-8 pm**