

<p>Faculty Information</p>	<p>Dr. Amentahru Wahlrab                  E-mail: awahlrab@uttyler.edu (best contact method; Please include <b>POLS2305.[insert section number here]</b> in the subject line)                  Office: Zoom only                  Office Hours: by Zoom: by appointment (please email to schedule an appointment)</p> <p>I am guaranteed to check email at least once a day (not including Sunday). You should expect a response within 3 business days.</p> <p>Email policy: per university request, I will only communicate with students via your Patriot email accounts. The university has had several problems reaching students with vital questions or information because they do not check their Patriot email, and they have asked faculty to require that students use their Patriot email accounts. <u>All responses to student email will be sent only to your Patriot email account</u> (even if you send the email from some other account). <u>Email sent from any non-Patriot email account will not be answered.</u></p>
<p>Canvas and Technical Support</p>	<p>This online class will be conducted through Canvas. If you experience any problems logging into Canvas or any technical problems with the system you should seek help from <a href="#">Campus Computing</a>. They can be reached via email at <a href="mailto:itsupport@patriots.uttyler.edu">itsupport@patriots.uttyler.edu</a>. Please include your full name, student ID number and date of birth in any communications you send to them.</p>
<p>Textbook Required but <b><u>Available for free in ebook from UT Tyler library</u></b></p>	<p>1. Anthony R. Dimaggio, <i>Political Power in America : Class Conflict and the Subversion of Democracy</i> (Albany: State University of New York, 2019).</p>

<p>Course Description and Objectives</p>	<p>This course is an examination of the United States political system, including its intellectual foundations and the design of the Constitution. It includes study of the major institutional factors, the impact of interest groups and the media, and the processes of policy-making. It may be taken in fulfillment of statutory requirements for a baccalaureate degree.</p> <p>The primary goal is to successfully complete a required course with minimal pain and suffering while gathering useful information. To that end, after successfully completing this course, students should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrate familiarity with terminology used to study political science and American government</li> <li>• Describe the historical evolution of American governmental structures</li> <li>• Defend the constitutional, institutional, political and legal processes and structures of the United States</li> <li>• Explain the interrelationships of American governmental institutions</li> <li>• Summarize the basic values of American political culture</li> </ul> <p>Credit Hours: 3; Prerequisites: None</p>
<p>Course Structure</p>	<p>This course will be conducted in five units (This course will run at a “go-at-your-own pace” schedule though the following schedule should be viewed as a strong suggestion. <b>Please see course schedule beginning on page 8.</b>) and there will be one exam over the material in each unit (note: there is no comprehensive final exam in this course). All units will be available until the last day of classes, and you may work through them at you own pace so long as you complete all required materials for each unit before the end of classes. The units will close (i.e. no longer be available) at the end of the <u>last day of class</u>.</p>

<p>Grading</p>	<p>Your grade in this class will consist of the following components:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chapter Quizzes –There will be one quiz for each chapter and each quiz will be worth 10 points. You may take up to 16 quizzes but I will count only the 10 highest scores (up to 100 points).</li> <li>• Unit Exams (400 points) – there will be five exams (one over each unit), each worth 100 points. You may take all five exams but I will count only the four highest scores.</li> </ul> <p>Course grades will be assigned as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 90 – 100% = A</li> <li>• 80 – 89% = B</li> <li>• 70 – 79% = C</li> <li>• 60 – 69% = D</li> <li>• 0 – 59 % = F</li> </ul> <p>You must turn in <u>all assigned work to pass this class.</u></p>
<p>Late and makeup work</p>	<p>This is a go-at-your-own-pace class. You must finish all material before the end of the last day of class.</p>

<p>Academic Dishonesty: <b>DON'T CHEAT!</b></p>	<p>The UT Tyler community regards cheating as an extremely serious matter and deals severely with those who violate the standards of academic integrity. Examples of academic dishonesty include (but are not limited to):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Copying from another person’s test paper</li> <li>• During a test, possession of materials not authorized by the person administering the test</li> <li>• Discussing the contents of an examination with another student who will take the examination or the divulging of examination contents to another when an instructor has allowed the exam to be kept by the student</li> <li>• Working with others in taking tests or preparing academic assignments when not authorized by the course instructor</li> <li>• Obtaining by any means another person’s work and submitting that work as one’s own. This included the downloading of academic papers or the purchase of papers written by others.</li> </ul> <p>If a student is suspected of academic dishonesty, the classroom instructor may ask the student to meet with him or her to discuss the incident. A student may admit to allegations of academic dishonesty, waive the right to a hearing and accept penalties imposed by the instructor. The student may also deny all allegations and ask to see the Dean of Student Affairs. An accused student may accept the decision of the Dean of Student Affairs or ask for a hearing before an impartial hearing officer appointed by the university. Witnesses may be called and evidence presented. The hearing officer will consider all evidence and make a decision. The decision of the hearing officer may be appealed to the President by either the student or the Dean of Student Affairs. For a discussion of possible penalties, please see the <a href="#">Guide to Student Conduct and Discipline</a>.</p>
<p>Course Policy on use of Artificial Intelligence (A)</p>	<p>UT Tyler is committed to exploring and using artificial intelligence (AI) tools as appropriate for the discipline and task undertaken. We encourage discussing AI tools’ ethical, societal, philosophical, and disciplinary implications. All uses of AI should be acknowledged as this aligns with our commitment to honor and integrity, as noted in UT Tyler’s Honor Code. Faculty and students must not use protected information, data, or copyrighted materials when using any AI tool. Additionally, users should be aware that AI tools rely on predictive models to generate content that may appear correct but is sometimes shown to be incomplete, inaccurate, taken without attribution from other sources, and/or biased. Consequently, an AI tool should not be considered a substitute for traditional approaches to research. You are ultimately responsible for the quality and content of the information you submit. Misusing AI tools that violate the guidelines specified for this course (see below) is considered a breach of academic integrity. The student will be subject to disciplinary actions as outlined in UT Tyler’s Academic Integrity Policy.</p> <p>For this course, AI is not permitted in this course at all. a. Example 1: I expect all work students submit for this course to be their own. I have carefully designed all assignments and class activities to support your learning. Doing your own work, without human or artificial intelligence assistance, is best for your efforts in mastering course learning objectives. For this course, I expressly forbid using ChatGPT or any other artificial intelligence (AI) tools for any stages of the work process, including brainstorming. Deviations from these guidelines will be considered a violation of UT Tyler’s Honor Code and academic honesty values.</p>



## COURSE SCHEDULE

### UNIT 1

**(Week 1: July 6-12)**

**Themes:** Introduction, Class Politics, Theories of Government, American Political Culture, the Founding and the Constitution, Federalism

**Readings:**

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>! Introduction: A Class Analysis of the American Political System</li> <li>! Chapter 1: Theories of Government, Early American History, and the Politics of Class Conflict</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>! Chapter 2: A Constitution in Question: How Democratic is the Founding Document?</li> <li>! Chapter 3: Federalism and the Struggle for Democracy</li> </ul> |
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**Assignments:** check Canvas for quizzes 1-4 and Unit 1 Exam

### UNIT 2

**(Week 2: July 13-19)**

**Themes:** Interest Groups, Congress, the Executive Branch, and the Bureaucracy

**Readings:**

- ! Chapter 4: Interest Groups and the Upper-Class Perversion of Political Power
- ! Chapter 5: Congress: the Dysfunction Branch
- ! Chapter 6: The Executive Branch: Political Power, The Imperial Presidency, and the Threat to Democracy
- ! Chapter 7: The Bureaucracy and Rising Threats to the Common Good

**Assignments:** check Canvas for quizzes 5-8 and Unit 2 exam

### UNIT 3

**(Week 3: July 20-26)**

**Themes:** Political Parties, Campaigns, Elections, and The Media

**Assignments:** check Canvas for quizzes 9-12 and Unit 3 exam

**Readings:**

- ! Chapter 8: The Courts and Judicial Process: Ideology, Conflict, and Class Elitism
- ! Chapter 9: Political Parties: a Crisis of Public Confidence
- ! Chapter 10: Elections and Voting: Electoral Capture by Elites
- ! Chapter 11: Politics and the Media: Bias in Pursuit of Elite Agendas

## UNIT 4

**(Week 4: July 27-August 2)**

**Themes:** Public Opinion and Ideology, Civil Liberties, Civil Rights, and the fight for Equality

**Readings:**

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|--|---|---|
| ! Chapter 12: Public Opinion and Ideology: The Rise of | Right-Wing Politics and Mass Resistance | Quest for Corporate Personhood                        |
|  | ! Chapter 13 Civil Liberties and the    | ! Chapter 14: Civil Rights and the Fight for Equality |

**Assignments:** check Canvas for quizzes 13-15 and Unit 4 exam

## UNIT 5

**(Week 5: August 3-August 8)**

**Themes:** Economic Policy, Foreign policy, and Conclusion

**Readings:**

- ! Chapter 15: Economic Policy: Growing Inequality and Business Power in Politics
- ! Chapter 16: Imperialism and U.S. Foreign Policy: Protecting Business Interests Abroad
- ! Conclusion: Where do we go from here?

**Assignments:** check Canvas for quizzes 16-18 and Unit 5 exam