Mrs. Rebecca J. McElyea

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ALWAYS Check Canvas for announcements

I will respond to e-mails during the weekdays in a timely manner if they are received before 1700. Emails received after 1700 will not be answered until the following business day. If you e-mail me during the weekend I will not respond until the following Monday.

Course Objectives and Learning Outcomes:

This course is designed to acquaint the student with the study of political science. The student will be able to understand the institutions and processes that govern Texas and other states, as well as the localities (such as cities and counties) within them. The student will become familiar with the historical antecedents which made up the political culture and regions of Texas. The student will learn to characterize the trends of Texas political history. The student will be able to trace the changing political partisan face of Texas from a one party Democratic state to a state with a strong Republican party. The student will become cognizant of the changes facing Texas in ethnic diversity and population growth.

Required Materials:

**Governing Texas 3rd Edition, Anthony Champagne, Edward J. Harpman, and Jason P. Casellas**

Publisher: Norton
There is an e-book available of this text for $45.00

Additional Readings and online videos will be assigned on Canvas accordingly.

The textbook is absolutely required to succeed in this course as well as reading all assigned chapters.

Method of Instruction:

The outline of the textbook will serve as the basic outline for the course. Please be prepared to keep yourself aware of due dates and activity assignments which can be found on your Canvas calendar.

In this course you are to read, watch the assigned videos, make careful notes, and complete all course work.
Assignments and Grading

Your grade in this course will be based on the following:

Animation Quizzes  10%
By The Numbers Quizzes  10%
Simulation Exercises  10%
Video Exercises  10%
You Decide Exercises  10%
Pre-Tests (one per Chapter)  5%
Post-Tests (Chapter Tests)  45%

Grades for assignments and exams will be posted in Canvas.

Course Requirements and Evaluation

In this course we will use several different tools to assess student learning. Since deep understanding of Texas politics and government is our mission, students will demonstrate learning and understanding using several different tools. Each of the assessment tools we use will have a specific weight that will contribute to your overall grade in the course. While some of the tools used are not weighted heavily—they will give you guidance and feedback and others (like post-tests) are more heavily weighted. Please pay close attention to these weights and to the expectations.

Students are expected to read, make careful notes, and complete online activities by the assigned deadlines. Although, some credit will be given for student who complete assignments late.

Exams: There will be examinations at the end of each chapter. Covering the assigned material from each chapter. The exams will be drawn from the materials covered in the most recent section of the course: for example, Exam 2 will cover material studied after Exam 1. Alternative make-up examinations may differ from the original exam being made up. If you have a University excused absence, you must inform the professor prior to the exam for alternate arrangements.

Exam Content: Questions on examinations may be drawn from your textbook, materials presented in Canvas, and/or additional materials provided by the instructor as announced in Canvas.

Class Policies: Please provide a respectful learning environment for your fellow students.

Extra Credit: Throughout the semester several extra credit opportunities may arise, if you wish to receive extra credit you will need to pay attention to when and where it is accepted. Some extra credit opportunities may consist of volunteering off campus, I will notify you as extra credit opportunities arise. Pay attention to Canvas and in class announcements for this information.

University Policies and Procedures:
The following University policies must appear on each course syllabus or be provided as an informational sheet (web-links to these policies may be used in the print or electronic syllabus)
http://www.uttyler.edu/academicaffairs/syllabuspolicies.pdf

UT Tyler Honor Code

Every member of the UT Tyler community joins together to embrace: Honor and integrity that will not allow me to lie, cheat, or steal, nor to accept the actions of those who do.

Students Rights and Responsibilities

To know and understand the policies that affect your rights and responsibilities as a student at UT Tyler, please follow this link:

http://www.uttyler.edu/wellness/rightsresponsibilities.php

Campus Carry

We respect the right and privacy of students 21 and over who are duly licensed to carry concealed weapons in this class. License holders are expected to behave responsibly and keep a handgun secure and concealed. More information is available at http://www.uttyler.edu/about/campus-carry/index.php

UT Tyler a Tobacco-Free University

All forms of tobacco will not be permitted on the UT Tyler main campus, branch campuses, and any property owned by UT Tyler. This applies to all members of the University community, including students, faculty, staff, University affiliates, contractors, and visitors.

Forms of tobacco not permitted include cigarettes, cigars, pipes, water pipes (hookah), bidis, kretexs, electronic cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, snuff, chewing tobacco, and all other tobacco products.

There are several cessation programs available to students looking to quit smoking, including counseling, quitlines, and group support. For more information on cessation programs please visit www.uttyler.edu/tobacco-free.

Grade Replacement/Forgiveness and Census Date Policies

Students repeating a course for grade forgiveness (grade replacement) must file a Grade Replacement Contract with the Enrollment Services Center (ADM 230) on or before the Census Date of the semester in which the course will be repeated. (For Fall, the Census Date is Sept. 12.) Grade Replacement Contracts are available in the Enrollment Services Center or at http://www.uttyler.edu/registrar. Each semester’s Census Date can be found on the Contract itself, on the Academic Calendar, or in the information pamphlets published each semester by the Office of the Registrar.

Failure to file a Grade Replacement Contract will result in both the original and repeated grade being used to calculate your overall grade point average. Undergraduates are eligible to exercise grade replacement for only three course repeats during their career at UT Tyler; graduates are eligible for two grade replacements. Full policy details are printed on each Grade Replacement Contract.

The Census Date (Sept. 12th) is the deadline for many forms and enrollment actions of which students need to be aware. These include:
Submitting Grade Replacement Contracts, Transient Forms, requests to withhold directory information, approvals for taking courses as Audit, Pass/Fail or Credit/No Credit.

Receiving 100% refunds for partial withdrawals. (There is no refund for these after the Census Date)

Schedule adjustments (section changes, adding a new class, dropping without a “W” grade)

Being reinstated or re-enrolled in classes after being dropped for non-payment

Completing the process for tuition exemptions or waivers through Financial Aid

State-Mandated Course Drop Policy

Texas law prohibits a student who began college for the first time in Fall 2007 or thereafter from dropping more than six courses during their entire undergraduate career. This includes courses dropped at another 2-year or 4-year Texas public college or university. For purposes of this rule, a dropped course is any course that is dropped after the census date (See Academic Calendar for the specific date).

Exceptions to the 6-drop rule may be found in the catalog. Petitions for exemptions must be submitted to the Enrollment Services Center and must be accompanied by documentation of the extenuating circumstance. Please contact the Enrollment Services Center if you have any questions.

Disability/Accessibility Services

In accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the ADA Amendments Act (ADAAA) the University of Texas at Tyler offers accommodations to students with learning, physical and/or psychological disabilities. If you have a disability, including a non-visible diagnosis such as a learning disorder, chronic illness, TBI, PTSD, ADHD, or you have a history of modifications or accommodations in a previous educational environment, you are encouraged to visit https://hood.accessiblelearning.com/UTTyler and fill out the New Student application. The Student Accessibility and Resources (SAR) office will contact you when your application has been submitted and an appointment with Cynthia Lowery, Assistant Director of Student Services/ADA Coordinator. For more information, including filling out an application for services, please visit the SAR webpage at http://www.utttyler.edu/disabilityservices, the SAR office located in the University Center, # 3150 or call 903.566.7079.

Student Absence due to Religious Observance

Students who anticipate being absent from class due to a religious observance are requested to inform the instructor of such absences by the second class meeting of the semester.

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Student Absence for University-Sponsored Events and Activities

If you intend to be absent for a university-sponsored event or activity, you (or the event sponsor) must notify the instructor at least two weeks prior to the date of the planned absence. At that time the instructor will set a date and time when make-up assignments will be completed.

Social Security and FERPA Statement

It is the policy of The University of Texas at Tyler to protect the confidential nature of social security numbers. The University has changed its computer programming so that all students have an identification number. The electronic
transmission of grades (e.g., via e-mail) risks violation of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act; grades will not be transmitted electronically.

**Emergency Exits and Evacuation**

Everyone is required to exit the building when a fire alarm goes off. Follow your instructor’s directions regarding the appropriate exit. If you require assistance during an evacuation, inform your instructor in the first week of class. Do not re-enter the building unless given permission by University Police, Fire department, or Fire Prevention Services.

**Student Standards of Academic Conduct**

Disciplinary proceedings may be initiated against any student who engages in scholastic dishonesty, including, but not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts.

i. “Cheating” includes, but is not limited to:
   - copying from another student’s test paper;
   - using, during a test, materials not authorized by the person giving the test;
   - failure to comply with instructions given by the person administering the test;
   - possession during a test of materials which are not authorized by the person giving the test, such as class notes or specifically designed “crib notes”. The presence of textbooks constitutes a violation if they have been specifically prohibited by the person administering the test;
   - using, buying, stealing, transporting, or soliciting in whole or part the contents of an unadministered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program;
   - collaborating with or seeking aid from another student during a test or other assignment without authority;
   - discussing the contents of an examination with another student who will take the examination;
   - divulging the contents of an examination, for the purpose of preserving questions for use by another, when the instructors has designated that the examination is not to be removed from the examination room or not to be returned or to be kept by the student;
   - substituting for another person, or permitting another person to substitute for oneself to take a course, a test, or any course-related assignment;
   - paying or offering money or other valuable thing to, or coercing another person to obtain an unadministered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program or information about an unadministered test, test key, home solution or computer program;
   - falsifying research data, laboratory reports, and/or other academic work offered for credit;
   - taking, keeping, misplacing, or damaging the property of The University of Texas at Tyler, or of another, if the student knows or reasonably should know that an unfair academic advantage would be gained by such conduct; and
   - misrepresenting facts, including providing false grades or resumes, for the purpose of obtaining an academic or financial benefit or injuring another student academically or financially.

ii. “Plagiarism” includes, but is not limited to, the appropriation, buying, receiving as a gift, or obtaining by any means another’s work and the submission of it as one’s own academic work offered for credit.

iii. “Collusion” includes, but is not limited to, the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing academic assignments offered for credit or collaboration with another person to commit a violation of any section of the rules on scholastic dishonesty.
iv. All written work that is submitted will be subject to review by plagiarism software.

**UT Tyler Resources for Students**

- UT Tyler Writing Center (903.565.5995), writingcenter@uttyler.edu
- UT Tyler Tutoring Center (903.565.5964), tutoring@uttyler.edu
- The Mathematics Learning Center, RBN 4021, this is the open access computer lab for math students, with tutors on duty to assist students who are enrolled in early-career courses.
- UT Tyler Counseling Center (903.566.7254)

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**Important Dates:**

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<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class Begins</td>
<td>June 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Census Date</td>
<td>June 8</td>
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<td>Last Day to Withdraw</td>
<td>June 26</td>
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<td>Independence Day Holiday</td>
<td>July 4</td>
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**Please find below an outline to follow throughout the course to stay on pace:**

Please note deadlines for assignments in Canvas.

- June 5-11 Chapter One/ Chapter Two
- June 11-13 Chapter Three
- June 13-15 Chapter Four
- June 17-20 Chapter Five
- June 21- 22 Chapter Six
- June 23- 27 Chapter Seven/ Chapter Eight
- June 27-29 Chapter Nine/ Chapter Ten
- June 30- July 3 Chapter Eleven
- July 5- 7 Chapter Twelve/ Chapter Thirteen
- Final Exams               | July 7-8   |
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