Course Description

The origins and development of American and Texas constitutions – including the Declaration of Independence, the Articles of Confederation, and the US and Texas Bill of Rights.

Requirements of the Course

You are expected to read each module. You should also stay informed of current political events by reading the paper, watching the news, browsing political websites, etc. Doing so will help you understand how the US and Texas constitutions have evolved through time.

Grading Policy

Quizzes: At the conclusion of each module you will be given a ten (10) questions quiz consisting of multiple choice and/or true/false questions. Quizzes for each module will cover material from that module only. Each question is worth two points for a total of 100 possible points. You will have ten (10) minutes to complete each quiz.

Grading Policy: Grades will be determined by the five quizzes on a pass/fail scale. The following scale will be used for this course, based on a total of 100 points available for the course.

Pass = 60 - 100 points
Fail = Less than 60 points

Attendance: Attendance will not be taken.

Required Reading – Module content on D2L.

Academic Integrity

The Code of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity outlines the prohibited conduct by any student enrolled in a course at SFA. It is the responsibility of all members of all faculty, staff, and students to adhere to and uphold this policy.

Articles IV, VI, and VII of the new Code of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity outline the violations and procedures concerning academic conduct, including cheating, plagiarism,
collusion, and misrepresentation. Cheating includes, but is not limited to: (1) Copying from the test paper (or other assignment) of another student, (2) Possession and/or use during a test of materials that are not authorized by the person giving the test, (3) Using, obtaining, or attempting to obtain by any means the whole or any part of a non-administered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program, or using a test that has been administered in prior classes or semesters without permission of the Faculty member, (4) Substituting for another person, or permitting another person to substitute for one’s self, to take a test, (5) Falsifying research data, laboratory reports, and/or other records or academic work offered for credit, (6) Using any sort of unauthorized resources or technology in completion of educational activities.

Plagiarism is the appropriation of material that is attributable in whole or in part to another source or the use of one’s own previous work in another context without citing that it was used previously, without any indication of the original source, including words, ideas, illustrations, structure, computer code, and other expression or media, and presenting that material as one’s own academic work being offered for credit or in conjunction with a program course or degree requirements.

Collusion is the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing academic assignments offered for credit or collaboration with another person to commit a violation of any provision of the rules on academic dishonesty, including disclosing and/or distributing the contents of an exam.

Misrepresentation is providing false grades or résumés; providing false or misleading information in an effort to receive a postponement or an extension on a test, quiz, or other assignment for the purpose of obtaining an academic or financial benefit for oneself or another individual or to injure another student academically or financially.

**General Education Core Curriculum Objectives/Outcomes**

In any given semester, one or more of the following Exemplary Educational Objectives (EEO)s for Social and Behavior Sciences may be assessed.

- **EEO#3** – “To use and critique alternative explanatory systems or theories”
- **EEO #5** – “To analyze the effects of historical, social, political, economic, cultural, and global forces on the area under study”
- **EEO #6** – “To comprehend the origins and evolution of the U.S. and Texas political systems, with a focus on growth of political institutions, the constitutions of the U.S. and Texas, federalism, civil liberties, and civil and human rights”
- **EEO #8** – “To differentiate and analyze historical evidence (documentary and statistical) and differing points of view”
- **EEO #9** – “To recognize and apply reasonable criteria for the acceptability of historical evidence and social research”
- **EEO #11** – “To recognize and assume one’s responsibility as a citizen in a democratic society by learning to think for oneself, by engaging in public discourse, and by obtaining information through the news media and other appropriate information sources about politics and public policy”
- EEO #12 – “To identify and understand differences in commonalities within diverse cultures”

**Program Learning Outcomes**

This course is a general education core curriculum course and no specific program learning outcomes for a political science major are addressed in this course.

**Student Learning Outcomes**

By the end of the course, you should be able to:

- To think critically about American and Texas politics, especially the theoretical foundations of both systems
- To discuss the foundations of the US and Texas Constitutions

**Withheld Grades Semester Grades Policy:** Ordinarily, at the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic chair/director, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course work because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F. If students register for the same course in future terms the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average.

**Students with Disabilities:** To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325, 468-3004 / 468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations.

For additional information, go to [http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/](http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/).