

POL 1560 - American Government

Fall 2026 Syllabus, Section 02, CRN 41329,

Credit hours: 3

Instructor

Dr. Cryshanna A. Jackson Leftwich

Professional Qualifications:

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Course Description

1560. American Government. The foundations of American democratic government with an emphasis on the responsibilities of citizenship, civil rights, and civil liberties, parties and elections, and American political institutions. Students are encouraged to understand and discuss issues of social justice, equality and freedom, and majoritarianism. Topics include the civil rights movement, campaign finance reform, federalism, and affirmative action. 3 s.h.

Course Readings

Group	Title	Author	ISBN
Required	We the People 15th Essentials Edition:	Ginsberg, Lowi, et al.	9781324085454

The course readings are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances, research developments, current events, and/or to ensure better learning.

Course Outline

Week of	Reading(s)	Proposed Topic	Due/To Prepare for Class
8/24	Textbook CH 1	Americans & Their Political Values	Video Lecture 1 Quiz 1
8/31	Textbook CH 2	The Founding and the Constitution	Video Lecture 2 Feedback Fruits 1 Quiz 2
9/7	Textbook CH 10	Congress	Video Lecture 3 Quiz 3
9/14	Textbook CH 4	Civil Liberties	Video Lecture 4 Feedback Fruits 2 Quiz 4
9/21	Textbook CH 6	Public Opinion	Video Lecture 5 Quiz 5



9/28	Textbook CH 7	The Media & Political Information	Video Lecture 6 Quiz 6 TEST 1
10/5	Textbook CH 9	Participation Campaigns & Elections	Video Lecture 7 Feedback Fruits 3 Quiz 7
10/12	Textbook CH 3	Federalism	Video Lecture 8 Quiz 8
10/19	Textbook CH 12	Bureaucracy	Video Lecture 9 Quiz 9
10/26	Article: Social Contract Theory	Social Contract Theory	Video Lecture 10 Quiz 10
11/2	Textbook CH 8	Political Parties and	Video Lecture 11 Quiz 11 TEST 2
11/9	Textbook CH 13	The Federal Courts	Video Lecture 12 Feedback Fruits 4 Quiz 12
11/16	Textbook CH 5	Civil Rights	Video Lecture 13 Feedback Fruits 5 Quiz 13
11/23	Federalist Papers #10 & 51	Dangers of Factions & Checks and Balances	Video Lecture 14 Quiz 14
11/30	Article: Reading the Constitution	Political Trends	Video: Constitution USA Feedback Fruits 6 Quiz 15
12/7		EXAM WEEK	TEST 3

The course schedule, policies, procedures, and assignments in this course are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances, by mutual agreement, and/or to ensure better learning.