

STATE COLLEGE OF FLORIDA, MANATEE-SARASOTA
Social and Behavioral Sciences and Community Services

POS 1041, American Government

Spring Semester, 2023

Course CRN: 20146; 21200; 21888

Course Seq: B02 B04 B06

Instructor's Name: Ralph Baker

Office Location: Building 9, Room 202

Office Hours: Before and After class and By Appointment

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Last Day for Add/Drop: 01/14/2023

Last Day to Withdraw Without Academic Penalty: 03/31/2023

Course Description:

POS 1041 American Government (3) (A.A.) This course meets Area III for the A.A./A.S./A.S. general education requirements. This course focuses on the structure and operation of our national government emphasizing the relationships that exist under a federal system of government and within the national administration.

Student Learning Outcomes:

The student, at the successful completion of this course, should be able to:

- Diagram the powers of each of the branches in the American political system and how they relate to each other.
- Summarize the responsibilities of citizenship in America democracy.
- Describe the underlying theories and principles of the American constitution.
- Assess the differences between federal, unitary and confederal systems of government
- Explain the liberties granted to citizens by the Constitution and its amendments.
- Explain how civil rights have evolved in America over time.

- Critique the role of the media in American politics.
- Summarize the role of political parties and interest groups in the political process.
- Describe the steps of the policy- making process.
- Analyze important contemporary political issues.
- Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the basic principles and practices of American democracy and how they are applied in our republican form of government.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the United States Constitution and its application.
- Demonstrate knowledge of the founding documents and how they have shaped the nature and functions of our institutions of self-government.
- Demonstrate an understanding of landmark Supreme Court cases, landmark legislation and landmark executive actions and their impact on law and society.

Course Curriculum

Text and Materials:

The following text is REQUIRED for this course:

Losco, Joseph and Baker, Ralph, AM GOV, Seventh Edition, ISBN10: 126024935 or ISBN13: 9781260242935

Topics Covered

Unit 1: Chapters 1-3: Introduction, The Constitution, Federalism

Unit 2: Chapters 4-6: Civil Liberties, Civil Rights, Public Opinion

Unit 3: Chapters 7-10: Political participation, Interest Groups, Political Parties, Media

Unit 4: Chapters 11-14: Congress, Presidency, Bureaucracy, Federal Courts

Assessment of Student Performance

Grading Policy

The following grading scale will be used in this course:

Grade	Percentage
A	90-100%
B	80-89 %
C	70-79 %
D	60- 69%
F	0-59%

After each unit there will be an exam. The exams will be taken on Canvas and books and notes will be allowed. During the work in each unit will be 3 to 4 short quizzes, the scores of which will be added to the exam scores. For each unit, students will be asked to provide a reasoned answer on an assigned topic.

Grades will be recorded in the Canvas Gradebook for all exams and assignments.

ASSIGNMENTS AND WEIGHTS:

Assignments	Weighted%
Exams and Quizzes	80%
Assignments	20%
Total	100%

Other Policies

Attendance Policy:

Regular attendance is the key to doing well in this class. Regular attendance will be taken and a grade reduction scale will be incorporated after 6 missed classes. After 6 missed classes, a 5 percentage point reduction will be applied to the overall course grade. Then, a 10 % reduction after 8 misses, 15 % after 10 misses, 20 % after 12 misses, 25 % after 14 misses, 30 % after 16 misses etc.

There is a general attendance policy available in the SCF Catalog: Punctual and regular class attendance is expected of all students. Any class session missed, regardless of cause, reduces the opportunity for learning and often adversely affects the grade a student achieves in a class.

Late Work:

IT IS REALLY IMPORTANT TO TURN IN YOUR WORK ON TIME. THERE IS A 10 % REDUCTION FOR LATE WORK AND NO CREDIT FOR MISSING WORK. JUST CHECK THE DATES WHEN THE DISCUSSIONS AND EXAMS ARE AVAILABLE AND WHEN THEY ARE DUE.

Calendar Assignment with Term-Specific Dates. Such a calendar will be provided in the syllabus on or before first day of class.

Technology Requirements: This course does not have any additional requirements other than the minimum requirements to access Canvas, though a pair of headphones may prove helpful for any online videos.

Technical Support Information: For technical issues with Canvas, contact Canvas technical support by clicking the question mark icon in the lower left-hand corner of the Canvas window and choosing “Report a Problem” or “Chat with Canvas Support.” Also, Canvas support can be contacted via phone at 844-920-2764.

For technical issues with My SCF, contact SCF technical support by calling 941-752-5357 or emailing helprequest@scf.edu.

Department Chair Information:

If a student encounters a problem in the course, they should work with the professor to resolve it. If the student needs help and the professor is unable to

help or is unavailable, contact one of the following people, depending on where your course is located:

Gladys Green, Chair of Bradenton Social and Behavioral Science
(greeng@scf.edu)

SCF MANDATED POLICIES

Email:

Students are required to communicate with their instructor using their official SCF email address.

No-Show Policy:

Students who do not drop a course that they have never attended will be reported as a No-Show by the course instructor during the No-Show period. This drop may have financial aid implications for the student who is dropped.

Recording:

Students may, without prior notice, record video or audio of a class lecture for a class in which the student is enrolled for their own personal educational use. A class lecture is defined as a formal or methodical oral presentation as part of a college course intended to present information or teach enrolled students about a particular subject. Recording class activities other than class lectures, including but not limited to lab sessions, student presentations (whether individually or part of a group), class discussion (except when incidental to and incorporated within a class lecture), clinical presentations such as patient history, academic exercises involving student participation, test or examination administrations, field trips, and private conversations between students in the class or between a student and the faculty member is prohibited. Recordings may not be used as a substitute for class participation and class attendance and may not be published or shared without the written consent of the faculty member. Failure to adhere to these requirements may constitute a violation of the student code of conduct.

Recording in Go Live with SCF Online Course Teams Sessions:

If this course is a Go Live with SCF Online course, the instructor may record live class discussions and instructor presentations. Therefore, as a student in

this class, your participation in live class discussions may be recorded by the instructor. These recordings will be made available only to students enrolled in the class to assist those who cannot attend the live session or to serve as a resource for those who would like to review content that was presented.

Where recordings are made, a notice that recording has started is presented to students in the class using the Teams session.

Withdrawal Policies:

Students should consult the College Catalog for a complete listing of withdrawal policies.

A withdrawal is a change in the student's course schedule where one or more courses are withdrawn before the end of the term. Withdrawn courses appear on the student's transcript as a "W" and are classified as attempts. No refunds are permitted for withdrawn courses.

Withdrawing from a course(s) - Course withdrawal is defined as withdrawal from one or more classes for a term but not complete withdrawal from the college. Failure to completely process a drop form or drop a class online may result in the student being assigned a grade of "F".

Financial Aid Impact:

Withdrawing from one or more courses during the semester, without complete withdrawal from the college, may have an impact on both the amount of aid received for the semester and a student's academic eligibility to continue receiving financial aid for future enrollment. Students should contact the Office of Financial Aid for further information regarding the impact of withdrawing from one or more courses.

Faculty Withdrawal:

Before the course withdrawal deadline and upon approval of the Department Chair, Assistant Dean, or other appropriate academic administrator, a faculty member may withdraw a student when the student has stopped attending or engaging in the class for an extended period of time as defined in the course syllabus, and has not formally withdrawn from the course, resulting in their inability to successfully pass the class.

If a student's absences, tardiness, or misconduct is causing disruption, the faculty member may file a code of conduct violation with the Dean of Students. The Dean of Students will work with the faculty member and the appropriate academic administrator before determining if a withdrawal is appropriate.

In the event of an approved faculty withdrawal, a grade of W will be recorded. The grade is recorded on the student's permanent academic record. Fees are applied for all courses accordingly and are counted as attempted courses.

Statement of Plagiarism:

Plagiarism is the use of ideas, facts, opinions, illustrative material, data, direct or indirect wording of another scholar and/or writer—professional or student—without giving proper credit. Expulsion, suspension, or any lesser penalty may be imposed for plagiarism.

Copyright:

The unauthorized copying, sharing, or distribution of copyrighted material is prohibited. It is a violation of the Copyright Act, Academic Ethics, and the Code of Student Conduct. Students who violate copyright are subject to discipline.

Honorlock Online Proctoring:

In cases where written work does not match answers submitted on an exam or Honorlock flags an exam as suspicious, faculty may ask students to re-work test questions in real time. In the event a student cannot satisfactorily reproduce the work submitted during the proctored test session, students may face sanctions for an academic integrity violation. Sanctions may include the loss of the privilege of using Honorlock online proctoring which could result in remaining tests being proctored in person.

Standards of Conduct: Students are expected to abide by all SCF Student Handbook guidelines.

COVID-19

Like all institutions of higher education, SCF has been impacted by COVID-19. In response, SCF considers the current recommendations of the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), Department of Health (DOH), Florida Department

of Education (FLDOE), Florida College System (FCS), local and state officials. The latest SCF plan and protocols can be found linked from the College's Coronavirus website listed below. The website includes useful information for students regarding precautions, operations, monitoring, and instruction.
<https://www.scf.edu/Administration/PublicSafety/Coronavirus.asp>

Disability Resource Center:

State College of Florida, in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, will provide classroom and academic accommodations to students with documented disabilities. Students must submit application and documentation to the Disability Resource Center (DRC). Once registered, the Memorandum of Accommodations containing all approved accommodations, important information, and links to forms and processes will be emailed to instructors. Students and instructors are encouraged to work collaboratively throughout the semester to facilitate appropriate use of accommodations. DRC Contact Information: Email: drc@scf.edu

DRC Phone: 941-752-5295

Statement of Nondiscrimination:

State College of Florida, Manatee-Sarasota does not discriminate on the basis of sex (including pregnancy), race, religion, age, national origin/ethnicity, color, marital status, disability, genetic information and sexual orientation in any of its educational programs, services or activities, including admission and employment. Direct inquiries regarding nondiscrimination policies to: Equity Officer, 941-752-5323, PO Box 1849, Bradenton, FL 34206. Human Resources Equal Opportunity website

Religious Observances:

Students who expect to be absent due to religious observances must provide their instructor with advance notification, in writing, of the purpose and anticipated length of any absence by the end of the second week of classes. At that time, the instructor and student will agree upon a reasonable time and method to make up any work or tests miss