

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

POS 1041 American Government

Spring 2023

Course CRN: 20410; Blended

Course SEQ: ZB1

Tuesdays 7:00pm – 8:50pm, Bldg. 9 Room# 110

Instructor's Name: Michelle Morgan

Office Location: Bradenton Campus, Building 9, Room 119

Office Hours: Available to meet by request

Telephone: (941) 752-5314

Email Address: morganm2@SCF.edu – The best way to contact me is through Canvas. Please allow time for a response.

Last Day for Add/Drop: 2/11/23

Last Day to Withdraw Without Academic Penalty: 4/4/23

Course Description:

This course meets Area III for the A.A./A.S. general education and civic literacy 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:

1. Diagram the powers of each of the branches in the American political system and how they relate to each other.
2. Summarize the responsibilities of citizenship in American democracy.
3. Describe the underlying theories and principles of the American constitution.
4. Assess the differences between federal, unitary and confederal systems of government.
5. Explain the liberties granted to citizens by the Constitution and its amendments.
6. Explain how civil rights have evolved in America over time.
7. Critique the role of the media in American politics.
8. Summarize the role of political parties and interest groups in the political process.
9. Describe the steps of the policy-making process.
10. Analyze important contemporary political issues.

11. Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the basic principles and practices of American democracy and how they are applied in our republican form of government.
12. Demonstrate an understanding of the United States Constitution and its application.
13. Demonstrate knowledge of the founding documents and how they have shaped the nature and functions of our institutions of self-government.
14. Demonstrate an understanding of landmark Supreme Court cases, landmark legislation and landmark executive actions and their impact on law and society.

Text and Materials:

The following text and tools are required:

1. Textbook: American Politics Today (Essentials Seventh Edition) by Bianco and Canon
2. InQuizitive: Norton’s Bundled online quizzing/homework platform

POS 1041 American Government courses are participating in SCF’s EZ Access Program. This means all students enrolled in the course have access to their required materials on day one of class. SCF has negotiated the cheapest price possible for the required course materials and this charge can be seen on your SCF Account after Add/Drop. Students may ‘Opt-Out’ of the program through the link emailed but will lose the discount by doing so. If you opted out in error, you may opt back in before the add/drop date. If you are a dual enrolled student do NOT ‘opt-out’ as this could result in student out of pocket expense.

Questions pertaining to EZ Access can be directed to: ezaccessstore@follett.com

Attendance Policy:

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 course. Attendance is measured in this course through the completion of syllabus quiz, InQuizitive quizzes, Canvas assignments, and unit tests. Failure to complete any TWO (2) quizzes, assignments, parts of a unit test (i.e. the multiple choice and short answer sections of a unit test), or any combination thereof, by the deadline may lead to a student being considered for administrative withdrawal for non-attendance or a no-show report at the appropriate time in the semester.

Grading Policy and Rubrics:

Grading policy and assignments are subject to change. Grades may be located under the “Grades” tab in Canvas. (Please keep in mind that your InQuizitive grades will be out of 300

points total and will adjust at the end of the term as quizzes are due.) Due dates for assignments are listed in Canvas, InQuizitive, and the syllabus.

There are 6 assessed activity types as outlined below:

Assessed Activities Breakdown

Quantity	Activity Description	Points per Each Item	Total Points for Activity
1	Introductory/Syllabus Quiz	20	20
16	InQuizitive Quizzes (Two Introductory Quizzes, Chapters 2-15)	20	320
2	Unit Tests	175	350
2	Discussions	25	50
3	Simulations	20	60
1	Final Exam	200	200
Total Assessment Points for Course =			1,000

Grading Scale

This course uses a standard SCF grading scale:

Percentage	Letter Grade
89.5% or Higher	A
79.5% - 89.4%	B
69.5% - 79.4%	C

59.5% - 69.4% D

59.4% or Lower F

To calculate your percentage: your total number of points earned in the course will be divided by the total number available in the course (1,000 points). For example, if you earn 700 points out of 1000, your final grade will be a 70% or a "C."

Course Assignments/Curriculum:

Introductory/Syllabus Quiz:

After the Course Information module is complete, students will be asked to take a quiz about the syllabus. It is open note/open syllabus. The purpose of this quiz is to make sure that students have read and understand the syllabus. This quiz serves as an introductory assignment for the course.

InQuizitive Quizzes:

Each module finishes with an InQuizitive quiz (say that five times fast). More info on these quizzes may be found in the Getting Started Module.

Unit Tests and Simulations:

The first two units will finish with a test.

Discussions:

Contribute to course discussions with an initial post and then reply to at least two classmates.

Final Exam:

The final exam will be a comprehensive exam.

Topics Covered:

In the course of POS 1041, the student will encounter the following topics:

Unit 1:

- The Constitution
- Federalism
- Civil Liberties

- Civil Rights

Unit 2:

- Public Opinion
- The Media
- Campaigns and Elections
- Political Parties
- Interest Groups

Unit 3:

- Congress
- The Presidency
- The Bureaucracy
- The Courts

Unit 4:

- Domestic Public Policy
- Foreign Policy

Late Work:

For assignments/tests/quizzes in this class there are **no make-ups, and late work will not be accepted**. Exceptions may be made at the discretion of the instructor in the case of documented extenuating circumstances or advance approval from the instructor. Extra credit may or may not be offered by the instructor. Extra credit is at the sole discretion of the instructor. The instructor is not required to offer any extra credit or alternative assignments.

Technology Requirements:

This course has no special technological requirements other than regular access to the internet. The course uses Norton publisher material in the form of InQuizitive quizzes. More information on accessing the InQuizitive website is provided in the Getting Started module through Canvas. The course does not require any special hardware, though having speakers or headphones might be helpful with the frequent videos. As a reminder, the SCF library has computers available for your use!

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. If you have any issues with InQuizitive or accessing your digital textbook, please contact Norton Publishing directly at wwnorton.com.

Department Chair or other academic supervisor 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 Gladys Green, Chair of Social and Behavioral Sciences and Community Services, by email, GreenG@SCF.edu.

Assignment/Test Due Dates Calendar:

The assignment schedule is as follows. Please note that this schedule and anything therein is SUBJECT TO CHANGE:

Canvas Module	Assignments/Tests/Etc.	Assignments Due Date (Due Tuesdays by 11:59pm)
Getting Started	• Syllabus Quiz	
	• “How to Use InQuizitive” Quiz	2/14/23
	• InQuizitive “How to Read Charts...” Quiz	
2	• InQuizitive Chapter 2 Quiz	2/14/23
3	• InQuizitive Chapter 3 Quiz	2/21/23
4	• InQuizitive Chapter 4 Quiz	2/21/23
	• Discussion 1	
5	• InQuizitive Chapter 5 Quiz	2/28/23
6	• InQuizitive Chapter 6 Quiz	2/28/23
	• Simulation 1	
7	• InQuizitive Chapter 7 Quiz	3/14/23
	• Unit 1 Test	

8	• InQuizitive Chapter 8 Quiz	3/21/23
9	• InQuizitive Chapter 9 Quiz	3/21/23
10	• InQuizitive Chapter 10 Quiz • Simulation 2	3/28/23
11	• InQuizitive Chapter 11 Quiz	3/28/23
12	• InQuizitive Chapter 12 Quiz • Unit 2 Test	4/4/23
13	• InQuizitive Chapter 13 Quiz • Simulation 3	4/11/23
14	• InQuizitive Chapter 14 Quiz • Discussion 2	4/18/23
15	• InQuizitive Chapter 15 Quiz	4/18/23
16	• Final Exam	4/25/23

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

DRC Website: [Disability Resource Center website](#)

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 missed.