

POLITICAL SCIENCE 1101

American Politics

This is an information sheet only, not the course syllabus.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Analysis of the dynamics and processes of the evolving American constitutional democracy: its origins, structure and problems. Areas of study include an in-depth discussion of the U.S. Constitution, federalism, civil liberties, interest groups, political parties, campaigns, elections, mass media, Congress, the courts and the presidency. Course requires Reading Placement Test Score-Category One. **IAI S5 900** (3 credit hours)

REQUIRED AND RECOMMENDED COURSE MATERIALS

Please follow the instructions below to locate information on the textbook and other materials for this course.

1. From [COD home page](#), click on **myACCESS**.
2. Click on **Search for Credit Classes**.
3. From the **Term** drop-down box select the term.
4. Choose your course from the **Subjects** drop-down menu.
5. In the **Course #** field, enter your course number.
6. In the **Section** field, enter the course section number if known.
7. From the **Course Types** drop-down menu select **Internet/Online**.
8. Scroll to the bottom of the page and click on **SUBMIT**.
9. Click on the **Section Name and Title** link.
10. Click on **Click here for prices of required textbook(s) and supplies** and course material information will be displayed.

Alternatively, you can visit the [COD Bookstore](#) website to find this information.

COURSE ACTIVITIES

The course is divided into **4 units**, each of which covers several chapters of the book. The units correspond to the PARTS of your textbook, with the exception of UNIT 4, which covers part IV and part V of the book. For each unit you need to take one exam, complete a simulation exercise and complete one assignment which is based on the Internet or on your reading of a newspaper and post a comment on the discussion board. In summary that means:

Activity	Points
4 multiple choice exams with 50 questions each	50 points each
4 simulation exercises	20 points each
4 web-based/newspaper assignments	20 points each
4 posts on the discussion board	10 points each

EVALUATION/GRADING

Grade	Points
A	360-400
B	320-359
C	280-319
D	220-279
F	Less than 220

SATISFACTORY/FAIL OPTION

A Satisfactory/Fail request option is available to students and must be made via email to the instructor. **Contact the instructor for the specific due date of this request.** A Satisfactory grade (S) will be awarded, when the average of all unit grades is equivalent to at least a 70% or a 'C' letter grade. If the average grade is less than 70%, a failure (F) grade will be given.

INCOMPLETE GRADE POLICY

A grade of incomplete will only be granted if the student can show that circumstances beyond her/his control have caused them to fall behind with their work. Students must have completed a minimum of two units, before they can request an incomplete (I). Contact the instructor to request an I grade. The instructor will give a deadline for the work to be completed (typically one *semester*). If the missing work has not been handed in by that deadline, the grade will automatically become an F.