Introduction to American Government
POLI 2051
Summer 2010

Instructor:          Dr. K. Bratton
Class Location:     109 Turcaud Hall
Office:             208 Stubbs Hall
Phone:              81912
Office Hours:       Monday thru Friday, 9:30-10:30, 1:00-2:00
Email:              bratton@lsu.edu

Class Overview

The objectives for this class are:
   (1) To understand the origins of our democratic republican form of government, and
       critically analyze how that form of government has changed in operation and influence over time
   (2) To understand civil rights and liberties in the U.S.
   (3) To understand the powers and limits of national government institutions in the
       U.S., and how those institutions can influence public opinion
   (4) To critically analyze the influence that the mass public has (and the limits of that
       influence) over public policy making.
   (5) To examine how emerging political issues fit into our existing political system.

Required Texts

Greenberg & Page, The Struggle for Democracy

Grading Scale

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<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Score</th>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>90-</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>80-89</td>
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<td>C</td>
<td>70-79</td>
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<td>D</td>
<td>60-69</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Below 60</td>
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Course Requirements

1. Two Midterms June 18th, July 1st  
   20%, 25%
2. Cumulative Final  
   25%
3. Participation  
   10%
4. Short essay (June 25th)  
   20%

Tentative Schedule

Tuesday, June 8  
Constitutional Foundation (Chapter 1, G&P)

Wednesday, June 9  
Federalism (Chapter 2 and 3, G&P)
Final date to drop without "W"

Thursday, June 10  
Federalism
Final date to add courses for credit and to make section changes

Friday, June 11  
Public Opinion (Chapter 5, G&P)

Monday, June 14  
Media (Chapter 6, G&P)

Tuesday, June 15  
Interest Groups (Chapter 7, G&P)

Wednesday, June 16  
Social Movements (Chapter 8, G&P)

Thursday, June 17  
Catch Up / Review

Friday, June 18  
Midterm I (through Interest Groups)

Monday, June 21  
Political Parties (Chapter 9, G&P)

Tuesday, June 22  
Voting & Elections (Chapter (Chapter 10, G&P)

Wednesday, June 23  
Voting & Elections

Thursday, June 24  
Congress (Chapter 11, G&P)

Friday, June 25  
Presidency & Executive Branch (Chapters 12 & 13, G&P)
5 Page Essay Assignment Due

Monday, June 28  
Courts (Chapter 14, G&P)

Tuesday, June 29  
Civil Liberties (Chapter 15, G&P)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, June 30</td>
<td>Civil Liberties</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, July 1</td>
<td>Midterm II (Interest Groups through Congress)</td>
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<td>Friday, July 2</td>
<td>Civil Rights (Chapter 16, G&amp;P)</td>
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<td>Monday, July 5</td>
<td><strong>July 4th Holiday</strong></td>
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<td>Tuesday, July 6</td>
<td>Economic Policy (Chapter 17, G&amp;P)</td>
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<td>Wednesday, July 7</td>
<td>Social Policy (Chapter 18, G&amp;P)</td>
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<td>Thursday, July 8</td>
<td>Foreign Policy (Chapter 19, G&amp;P)</td>
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<td>Friday, July 9</td>
<td>Classes end</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday, July 10</td>
<td>Final examination</td>
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