San José State University  
Department of Political Science Political Science 15-84,  
Summer 2019

Course and Contact Information
Instructor: Garrick L. Percival  
Office Location: Clark Hall 453  
Telephone: (408) 924-5553  
Email: garrick.percival@sjsu.edu  
Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 11am-12pm (online, on Canvas) and by appointment (please email to schedule)  
Class Days/Time: Online  
Classroom: N/A

GE/SJSU Studies Category: US2, US3, D3

Course Format
This course is completely delivered online—all readings, lectures, and assignments are delivered and will be completed online. Students must have access to a computer and reliable internet connection to be successful in this course.

Faculty Web Page and MYSJSU Messaging
Course materials such as syllabus, assignment instructions, etc. can be found on the Canvas Learning Management System (login at http://sjsu.instructure.com). You are responsible for regularly checking with the Canvas messaging system to learn of any updates (also automatically forwards to your email – make sure your preferred email is listed on MySJSU at http://my.sjsu.edu).

Course Description
From the SJSU Catalog: Treatment of essentials of U.S. and California government. Satisfies the American institutions requirements in U.S. Constitution (US2) and California government (US3), and the Core GE requirement in Social Sciences: Social Issues (D3).

General Education Learning Outcomes (GELOs)

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

GELO 1 (US2): Explain how political decisions are made, their consequences for individuals and society, and how individuals and groups may affect the decision-making process. Analyze the meaning and content of the democratic process as it has evolved in the United States and
California, and describe the foundations of the political system and the evolving institutions of
government, the links between the people and government, and the operations of California
government. (assessed by Quizzes, Midterm Exam; Online Activities, Writing Assignments)

GELO 2 (US3): Identify the tools of political action and collective decision making at the local,
state, national, and global level, and articulate the values and assumptions that inform their civic
engagement. (assessed by Quizzes, Midterm Exam; Writing Assignments)

GELO 3 (D3): Place contemporary developments in cultural, historical, environmental, and
spatial contexts. (assessed by Quizzes, Final Exam; Writing Assignments)

GELO 4 (D3): Identify the dynamics of ethnic, cultural, gender/sexual, age-based, class,
regional, national, transnational, and global identities and the similarities, differences, linkages,
and interactions between them. (assessed by Quizzes, Final Exam; Online Activities, Writing
Assignments)

GELO 5 (D3): Evaluate social science information, draw on different points of view, and
formulate applications appropriate to contemporary social issues. (assessed by Quizzes, Final
Exam; Online Activities, Writing Assignments)

GELO 6 (D3): Apply multidisciplinary material to a topic relevant to policy and social action at
the local, national, and/or international levels. (Assessed by Quizzes, Paper, Writing
Assignments)

Required Texts/Readings
• The main textbook for this course is Globalyceum American Government. Go to:
https://www.globalyceum.com/, register, and subscribe for this course with the following
Unique Section Number NCNRZV48. (This number is case sensitive.) The cost of this
subscription is $44.99. This includes an added section you will need for our California
government material. You can also purchase a print copy of the essays, or text chapters,
on the site. The print copy will be sent to your home or the shipping address that you
provide. Your purchase options are debit/credit, or check/money order.

Please make sure to verify your browser and update it if necessary on the Sign In page.
Globalyceum recommends Chrome, Firefox, and Safari browsers. If you have any
technical problems during the term, please contact: support@globalyceum.com. You can
CC me on the email, but your first contact should be with Globalyceum.

This video, Getting Started on Globalyceum, will explain how to pay for Globalyceum
and features of the Student Portal:
https://glpro.s3.amazonaws.com/ah/00/stdt/g/00g01.mp4.

• A second (optional) textbook that you may find helpful is: The American Anomaly: US
This *optional* second book covers much of the same material as the required textbook, but because it compares U.S. politics to other countries around the world, it may be particularly helpful for international students and others interested in learning about the American political system in a global context. This book is available for purchase or rent on many commercial websites with prices ranging from $15-$50.

**Other technology requirements /equipment**

This is a 100% online course. You will need reliable access to the internet to complete readings from Globalyceum American Government, complete online homework assignments, upload assignments, and access syllabus, announcements, and course updates on Canvas. Computer access is available in the campus library and in Clark Hall 102, and laptops may be checked out at no cost from Student Computing Services (https://library.sjsu.edu/scs).

**Library Liaison**

The library liaison for Political Science is available to answer questions and provide one-on-one help using the library for research. His name and contact info is: Paul Kauppila, Librarian (Political Science Liaison). He can be reached by telephone (408) 808-2042 or by email Paul.Kauppila@sjsu.edu.

**Course Requirements and Assignments**

SJSU classes are designed such that to be successful, it is expected that students will spend a minimum of forty-five hours for each unit of credit (approximately 27 hours per week for this 5 week summer course), including preparing for class, participating in course activities, completing assignments, and so on. More details about student workload can be found in University Policy S12-3 at http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-3.pdf.

**Online Quizzes**

A total of five quizzes (24 points each for a total of 120 points, or 20% of your course grade) will be taken over the course of the term and are designed to test your knowledge and understanding of the assigned readings. These quizzes, 10 multiple choice/true false questions each, will be taken on Globalyceum course platform and will be due by 11:55pm on selected days (Please see the course schedule below for the exact due dates). Note: You will need an electronic device that can connect to the Internet and Globalyceum to complete the quizzes. This can include laptops, tablets, or smartphones. There are no makeup quizzes unless for a documented medical or family emergency. See late work and make up policy below for more information.

**Online Activities**

A total of five online activity assignments (24 points each for a total of 120 points, or 20% of the overall course grade) will be required. These will be completed on Globalyceum course platform (see the course schedule for assignment due dates). The nature of these assignments will vary, but will often ask that you critically analyze a short reading passage, a short video, or survey data. When constructing your answers for these online activities I highly encourage you to first write your responses in another app (MS Word, google docs, etc) and then paste your
answers into the appropriate field in Globalyceum. In this case, if there are any technical glitches your work will be backed up.

**Paper Assignments**
There will be three short paper assignments in this class (which collectively are worth 120 points, or 20% of your course grade). Details for each paper will be posted on our Canvas page.

| Paper #1 U.S. Constitution Outline | Due on Canvas 6/9 |
| Paper #2 Ideology Reflection Paper  | Due on Canvas 6/16 |
| Paper #3 Political Party Platforms | Due on Canvas 7/3 |

**Online Discussion Board**
Each week, students will be required to post one comment on the week’s readings (due by 11:55pm on Fridays), and post one response to another student’s comments (due by 11:55pm on Sundays). Students are free to post more than one comment and response but at least one comment and one response will be required each week to earn full credit for this assignment each week. These comments might include a discussion of a significant concept you learned from the readings; a comment that attempts to synthesize some of week’s readings, or perhaps a question or thought from the readings that really sparked your interest and curiosity. Comments and responses will be graded based upon their timeliness, relevance, and civility.

**We will cover a wide range of political and policy topics over the next five weeks. On some of these topics students may have strong opinions. It is vital that all online discussions and comments remain civil and respectful towards others in the class. If you disagree with a comment you see, find a way respectful and professional way to express your own view. It is fine to disagree with someone about a political or social issue but it is NOT ok to negatively target (e.g. name calling, bullying, belittling) an individual in the class.**

**Final Exam**
University Policy S06-4 ([http://www.sjsu.edu senate/docs/S06-4.pdf](http://www.sjsu.edu senate/docs/S06-4.pdf)) states that “There shall be an appropriate final examination or evaluation at the scheduled time in every course, unless specifically exempted by the college dean who has curricular responsibility for the course.” The final exam (150 points, or 25% of the overall course grade) cover material and assigned readings from the entire five week course. Students will not be allowed to take the final exam early for any reason.
Grading Information:
Students’ grades will be calculated using the following assignments (with corresponding points and percentages)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Percentage of total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Online Quizzes (5 @ 24 points each)</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>20.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online Activities 5 @ 24 points each)</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>20.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paper #1 U.S. Constitution Outline</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>5.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paper #2 Ideology Reflection</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>10.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paper #3 Party Platforms</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>10.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online Discussion Board 5 @ 12 points</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>10.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam (Cumulative, all units)</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>25.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>600</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Your final grade will be calculated by dividing your total points by 600. For example, consider the following: Total points = 550; so 550/600 = .916= 91%. Using the scale below, this individual would be assigned an A-. Final letter grades for the course will be assigned based on the following scale.

Course Letter Grades will be assigned using the following scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A plus</td>
<td>98 to 100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>93 to 97%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A minus</td>
<td>90% to 92%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B plus</td>
<td>87% to 89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>83% to 86%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B minus</td>
<td>80% to 82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C plus</td>
<td>77% to 79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>73% to 76%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade</td>
<td>Percentage Range</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------</td>
<td>------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C minus</td>
<td>70% to 72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D plus</td>
<td>67% to 69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>63% to 66%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D minus</td>
<td>60% to 62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>59% or less</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Classroom Protocol and Policies

Late Work and Make Up Policy
Late assignments, quizzes, or exam make-ups are only given in cases of medical or family emergencies, in accordance with the university’s policy on excused absences. In these cases, proper documentation must be provided. Missed online discussion board participation cannot be made up under circumstances. **Late papers and online activity assignments will be accepted but will be penalized 10% for every 24 hours past the original due date.** For example, late papers and online activities turned in 10 minutes past the scheduled time due date and time will be penalized 10%. This same penalty will apply to a paper or online assignment completed up to 24 hours past the original due date. For every 24 hours after that, a paper will be penalized an additional 10%. After 5 days the paper or online assignment will receive a zero.

University Policies
Per University Policy S16-9, university-wide policy information relevant to all courses, such as academic integrity, accommodations, etc. will be available on Office of Graduate and Undergraduate Programs’ Syllabus Information web page at [http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/dz](http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/dz)

Additional Class Notes
For several sections/topics of the course I will be posting PowerPoint slides with an audio recording on a private YouTube channel as we progress through the class. How you use these is up to you but they should be seen as another tool to help you conceptualize and understand some of the lessons, ideas, and arguments presented in the assigned readings on Globalceum. Since these notes are set to private on YouTube, I ask that you only use for them for this course; they are not intended to be shared with others or posted anywhere else online. I will be sending each student an email invite that gives access to the PowerPoint slides. The link for each set of lectures notes will also be posted on in a shared google drive (if you prefer to view them that way) as they become available. Finally, I am more than happy to help answer any questions you have about the course at any time during the five weeks we will spend together. Work hard and good luck!
### Political Science 15-80: Essentials in U.S. and California Government

*Schedule is subject to change with fair notice and will be announced via email and/or in-class announcement.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic, Readings, Assignments, and Deadlines</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1    | 6/3 – 6/7| Read “Students Start Here” section (Globalycuem hereafter GL)  
Online Activity #1 “Would Direct Democracy be Better? (GL) **DUE Thursday 6/6**  
Unit 1: Foundations of American Government Readings (GL)  
Unit 2: Federalism, Civil Liberties and Civil Rights Readings (GL)  
Quiz #1 **DUE Friday 6/7 11:55pm (GL)**  
Online Discussion Board Posted on CANVAS (post by Friday 6/7 11:55pm; respond by Sunday 6/9 11:55pm)  
Paper #1 **DUE Sunday 6/9 11:55pm** |
| 2    | 6/10 -6/14| Unit 3: Political Culture and Elections Readings (GL)  
Unit 4: Social Movements, Interest Groups, and Political Parties Readings (GL)  
Online Activity #2 “Citizenship Test” (GL) **DUE Thursday 6/13**  
Quiz #2 **DUE Friday 6/14 (GL)**  
Online Discussion Board Posted on CANVAS (post by Friday 6/14; respond by Sunday 6/16)  
Paper #2 **DUE Sunday 6/16 11:55pm** |
| 3    | 6/17 – 6/21| Unit 5: U.S. Congress Readings (GL)  
Unit 6: The U.S. President Readings (GL)  
Online Activity #3: Impeachment, Nixon and Clinton (GL) **DUE Thursday 6/20**  
Quiz #3 **DUE Friday 6/21 (GL)**  
Online Discussion Board Posted on CANVAS (post by Friday 6/21; respond by Sunday 6/23) |
| 4    | 6/24-6/28| Unit 7: U.S Supreme Court and Judiciary Readings (GL)  
Unit 8: Domestic and Foreign Policy Readings (GL)  
Online Activity #4 “Louisiana Literacy Test” (GL) **DUE Thursday 6/27**  
Online Discussion Board Posted on CANVAS (post by Friday 6/28; respond by Sunday 6/30)  
Quiz #4 **DUE Friday 6/28** |
| 5    | 7/1 – 7/5| Unit 8: California Government Readings (GL)  
Activity #5 “Six Californias” (GL) **Due Wednesday 7/3**  
Quiz #5 **DUE **Wednesday 7/3**  
Paper #3 **DUE Tuesday 7/2**  
Online Discussion Board Posted on CANVAS (post by Friday 7/5;
respond by Sunday 7/7

Timed Online Final Exam **DUE Friday 7/5** (Details will be posted on Canvas)