San José State University
College of Social Sciences/Department of Political Science
Political Science 101, S: American Government for Teachers
Fall 2022

Course and Contact Information
Instructor(s): Faith Daly
Office Location: Clark Hall, 406J
Email: faith.daly@sjsu.edu
Office Hours: Monday 4:45 pm to 5:45 pm
Class Days/Time: Monday 6:00 pm to 8:45 pm
Classroom: Dudley Moorehead 208

Course Description
Introduction to the institutions and processes of American and California governments with emphasis on meeting CCTC Teacher Preparation Standards. Topics include U.S. Constitution, federalism, political participation, civil rights and liberties, Congress, the presidency.

Course Format
POLS 101 will meet in person on Mondays, 6pm to 8:45 pm. Readings on the syllabus should be completed before class. Additional assignments will be assigned and completed during class.

Faculty Web Page and MYSJSU Messaging
Course materials such as syllabus, handouts, notes, assignment instructions, etc. can be found on Canvas Learning Management System course login website. You are responsible for regularly checking with the messaging system through MySJSU on Spartan App Portal (or other communication system as indicated by the instructor) to learn of any updates.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)
Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to demonstrate:

1. An understanding of the foundations of the political system, including the evolution of the philosophies of the U. S. and California Constitutions, political culture, separation of powers, bureaucracy, federalism and relations among various levels of government within an international, comparative context.

2. An understanding of the links between the people and government, including participation and voting, political parties, interest groups, public opinion and socialization. Students should be able to analyze the rights and obligations of citizens, the tension between various freedoms of expression and due process and the maintenance of order and efforts to end racial and gender discrimination in both the public and private sectors of society.

3. An understanding of the operation of the U.S. and California governments, including the similarities and differences between the California and U.S. Constitutions, the relationship between state and local government in California, the basic issues of California politics and a careful assessment of the impact of demographic changes on the history and politics of the state and nation.

4. An understanding of the California History/Social Science Standards and Framework as well as the California Common Core Standards for Grades 9-12 as they specifically relate to teaching government and civics.
5. The ability to create a lesson plan based on the California Standards for grade 12.

**Required Texts/Readings**

**Textbook**


You may purchase a hard copy of the text here: [https://shop.teachtci.com/social-studies/ss-hs/gov/gov-2020](https://shop.teachtci.com/social-studies/ss-hs/gov/gov-2020). We will not be using the student subscription service.

**Other Readings**


**Course Requirements and Assignments**

All activities and assignments are designed with the purpose of understanding American and California government, mastery of the California Content Standards and Framework, and exploration of pedagogical tools to successfully teach Grade 12 Government with a focus on equity, inclusion, and culturally-sustaining pedagogies.

**Interactive Notebook**

Students are expected to arrive in class on time, having completed the reading and preparation assignments for the day. This will include reading assignments as well as Interactive Notebook reflections on the assigned reading. Due dates are listed in the calendar below.

**Reading Quizzes**

Periodically during class, students will complete quiz assignments to check for understanding on the reading assignments. Students may use their Interactive Notebook to help complete the quiz, but may not use electronic devices, the textbook, or other notes or aids.

**Class Activities**

Learning activities during class will be broken up into two portions. The first portion of class will be spent on a content and skill-based lesson modeling how one might teach the concepts in a Grade 12 Government course. Themes, content, and skills will be explored using a variety of activities, including but not limited to lecture, small and large group discussion, creative projects, document analysis, simulations, and writing exercises. The second portion of class will include a variety of
discussion protocols and reflections analyzing pedagogy surrounding the teaching of Government. This can include informal discussions, Socratic Seminars, FishBowl Discussions, group projects, and other formats. Work completed during class time will be submitted for either completion credit or content assessment.

**Current Events**
All students will complete a current events assignment that analyzes a current event in government and politics from multiple journalistic perspectives. Students will lead a class discussion on their topic. Topic signups will occur via Canvas in October.

**Model Lesson Plan**
Students will create a Model Lesson Plan (details, template, and rubrics on Canvas) that demonstrates their ability to create a lesson aligned with the California History-Social Science Content Standards and Framework for Grade 12. All students will present their Model Lesson during the second to last class of the semester.

**Midterm and Final Examination**
Students will complete a Midterm and a Final Examination that demonstrate their mastery of the content for the course through multiple modalities. Students will respond to multiple choice and short answer questions, as well as essay prompts. Notes are not permitted on the Midterm or the Final Examination.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment/Assessment</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Percent of Grade</th>
<th>CLO Assessed</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Interactive Notebook &amp; Reading Quizzes</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>20 percent</td>
<td>CLO 1, 2, 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class Activities &amp; Current Event</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>20 percent</td>
<td>CLO 1, 2, 3, 4, 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm and Final Exams</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>30 percent</td>
<td>CLO 1, 2, 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Model Lesson Plan Final Assignment</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>30 percent</td>
<td>CLO 1, 2, 3, 4, 5</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

“Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of 45 hours over the length of the course (normally three hours per unit per week) for instruction, preparation/studying, or course related activities, including but not limited to internships, labs, and clinical practica. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus.”

**Grading Information**
Assignments are due on the dates indicated, but equity issues will be considered. Students may contact the instructor to request an extension. Reduction in grades may occur if assignments are turned in late without requested permission prior to the deadline, or if the instructor deems it
essential that assignments be submitted on the due date. Students may attend office hours and/or contact the instructor if additional help is needed to complete assignments.

Please see the detailed rubrics for papers and other major assignments on our Canvas course page. You may, and are highly encouraged, to self-assess your own work using these rubrics prior to formally submitting your assignments for grading.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A plus</td>
<td>960 to 1000</td>
<td>96 to 100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>930 to 959</td>
<td>93 to 95%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A minus</td>
<td>900 to 929</td>
<td>90 to 92%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B plus</td>
<td>860 to 899</td>
<td>86 to 89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>830 to 859</td>
<td>83 to 85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B minus</td>
<td>800 to 829</td>
<td>80 to 82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C plus</td>
<td>760 to 799</td>
<td>76 to 79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>730 to 759</td>
<td>73 to 75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C minus</td>
<td>700 to 729</td>
<td>70 to 72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D plus</td>
<td>660 to 699</td>
<td>66 to 69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>630 to 659</td>
<td>63 to 65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D minus</td>
<td>600 to 629</td>
<td>60 to 62%</td>
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**Classroom Protocol**

**Attendance** is critical to success in any class. Students are expected to arrive on time and ready to participate fully in class activities. While attendance is not graded, activities completed during class time will make up a portion of the grade.

**Respect** for self, classmates, and the instructor are necessary to foster a productive learning environment. While you may not always agree with others in the room, if we can express ourselves in a manner that is both intelligent and respectful, we can learn much from each other.

**Cell phones** should be silenced and put away during class, except for academic use or emergencies.

**Laptops and tablets** are encouraged, and will sometimes be required for class activities. If a laptop or tablet is required on a specific day, it will be noted on Canvas. Laptops and tablets should be closed when not in use for class activities.

**University Policies**

Per [University Policy S16-9](https://www.sjsu.edu/curriculum/courses/syllabus-info.php), relevant university policy concerning all courses, such as student responsibilities, academic integrity, accommodations, dropping and adding, consent for recording of class, etc. and available student services (e.g. learning assistance, counseling, and other resources) are listed on [Syllabus Information web page](https://www.sjsu.edu/curriculum/courses/syllabus-info.php). Make sure to visit this page to review and be aware of these university policies and resources.
# POLS 101, Fall 2022, Course Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topics</th>
<th>Readings, Assignments, Deadlines</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8/22</td>
<td>Introductions&lt;br&gt;Overview of the History/Social Science Framework and Content Standards&lt;br&gt;Above and Beyond the Standards&lt;br&gt;Emancipatory education through anti-racist/anti-oppressive &amp; culturally sustaining pedagogies</td>
<td>Readings: “H/SS Framework”, chapter 17 &amp; “H/SS Content Standards”, p. 54-59</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/5</td>
<td><strong>No class Labor Day [Campus Closed]</strong></td>
<td>None</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/10</td>
<td>The Role of the Media in American Public Life</td>
<td>Readings: H/SS Content Standard 12.8&lt;br&gt;H/SS Framework p. 449&lt;br&gt;Textbook: Unit 3, Lesson 9, p. 155-169</td>
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</table>

*Midterm Completed During Class*
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Readings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 10/24 | The Three Branches of Government – The Legislative Branch             | Readings: H/SS Content Standard 12.4.1, 12.4.2, 12.4.3  
H/SS Framework p. 439-440  
Textbook: Unit 4, Lessons 11-12, p. 197-229 |
| 10/31 | The Three Branches of Government – The Executive Branch               | Readings: H/SS Content Standard 12.4.4  
H/SS Framework p. 441-442  
Textbook: Unit 5, Lessons 13-14, p. 233-267 |
| 11/7  | The Three Branches of Government – The Judiciary                      | Readings H/SS Content Standard 12.4.5 & 12.4.6  
H/SS Framework p. 442  
Textbook: Unit 6, Lessons 15-16, p. 271-307 |
| 11/14 | Interpreting the Constitution – Landmark Supreme Court Cases          | Readings: H/SS Content Standard 12.5  
H/SS Framework p. 443-445  
Court Case Summaries on Canvas |
| 11/21 | The United States and the World                                       | Readings: Readings: H/SS Content Standard 12.9  
H/SS Framework p. 450-454  
Textbook: Unit 7, Lessons 17-18, p. 311-341 |
| 11/28 | Compelling Questions and Contemporary Issues – Teaching Current Events| Readings: H/SS Content Standard 12.10  
H/SS Framework p. 454-456  
**Current Events Assignments Due** |
| 12/5  | Student Presentations of Model Lessons                                | **Model Lessons Due** |
| 12/12 | Final Exam                                                            | **Final Exam Completed During Exam Period**  
(5:15-7:30 PM) |