

San José State University
Department of Political Science
Pols 15. Essentials of US and California Government
Class number: Pols 15-81
Section: 27151
Spring 2023

COURSE AND CONTACT INFORMATION

Instructor: Robert Ovetz, Ph.D.

Office location: online

Phone: Please email me for my personal phone number in cases of personal emergency

Email: robert.ovetz@sjsu.edu

Office hours: Office hours: Tuesdays 1:30-2:30 pm by Zoom (no appointment needed), Thursdays 1:30-2:30 pm in person, or by prior appointment (please email specific day and time)

Office location: Clark Hall 402D

Class days and time: There are no class meetings. This class is asynchronous and does not meet.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Treatment of essentials of U.S. and California government. Satisfies the American institutions requirements in U.S. Constitution US2 and California government US3, GE Area D2, and the Core GE requirement in Social Sciences: Social Issues D3.

SJSU GE GUIDELINES

In this course, you will be exposed to alternative interpretations of the historical events and political processes that have shaped the social, economic, and political system in which you live. This course will provide a multicultural framework, including both conflict and consensus perspectives, of the choices and options available to individuals and groups in their social, economic, and political relations. The focus of the course is the growth of a multicultural society and the interactions, including cooperation and conflict, as these many and varied peoples have dealt with social economic, and political issues.

WORKLOAD AND CREDIT HOUR REQUIREMENTS

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 3 hours per unit per week with 1 of the hours used for lecture) for instruction or preparation/studying or course related activities as described in the syllabus.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

Political Science Program Learning Outcomes (PSPLO)

Upon completion of the Political Science major program, students should be able to demonstrate the following learning outcomes.

PSPLO 1 Breadth: Students should possess a broad knowledge of the theory and methods of the various branches of the discipline.

PSPLO 2 Application and Disciplinary Methods: Students should be able to formulate research questions, engage in systematic literature searches using primary and secondary sources, evaluate research studies, and critically analyze and interpret influential political texts. Students should be able to apply these techniques to identify, understand, and analyze domestic and international political issues and organizations.

PSPLO 3 Communication Skills: Students should master basic competencies in oral and written communication skills and be able to apply these skills in the context of political science. This means communicating effectively about politics and/or public administration, public policy, and law.

PSPLO 4 Citizenship: Students should acquire an understanding of the role of the citizen in local, state, national, and global contexts and appreciate the importance of lifelong participation in political processes.

General Education Learning Outcomes (GELO)

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.

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.

GELO 3 (D3): Place contemporary developments in cultural, historical, environmental, and spatial contexts.

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.

GELO 5 (D3): Evaluate social science information, draw on different points of view, and formulate applications appropriate to contemporary social issues.

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

Learning Outcomes	How the LOs Will be Assessed		
	Quizzes and Final Exam	Short Essays	Constitutional Amendment Paper
PSPLO 1	√		
PSPLO 2	√	√	√
PSPLO 3		√	√
PSPLO 4			√
GELO 1	√	√	√
GELO 2	√	√	

GELO 3	√		√
GELO 4	√		
GELO 5		√	√
GELO 6	√	√	√

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS

Important Dates

Wed 1/25—First day of class, Watch Video about the Syllabus & Canvas, and complete the optional **Syllabus Extra Credit** by Thurs 2/2 at 11:59 pm

Mon 2/6—**Democracy & Declaration of Independence Short Essay** due on-line by 11:59 pm

Wed 2/8—**Democracy & Declaration of Independence Quiz** due on-line by 11:59 pm

Wed 2/22—**US & CA Constitution & Federalism Short Essay** due on-line by 11:59 pm

Mon 2/27—**US & CA Constitution & Federalism Quiz** due on-line by 11:59 pm

Wed 3/15—**Congress & CA Legislative Branch Short Essay** due on-line by 11:59 pm

Mon 3/20—**Congress & CA Legislative Branch Quiz** due on-line by 11:59 pm

Mon 3/27 and Fri 3/31—No class, Spring Break

Mon 4/10—**US & CA Executive Branch Short Essay** due by 11:59 pm

Wed 4/12—**US & CA Executive Branch Quiz** due on-line by 11:59 pm

Wed 4/26—**US & CA Judicial Branch Short Essay** due on-line by 11:59 pm

Mon 5/1—**US & CA Judicial Branch Quiz** due on-line by 11:59 pm

Wed 5/10—**Elections & Money in Politics Short Essay** due by 11:59 pm

Mon 5/15—Last day of class; **Elections & Money in Politics Quiz** due on-line by 11:59 pm

Wed 5/17—**Constitutional Amendment Paper** due on Canvas by 11:59 pm

Fri 5/19—**Final exam** (complete by 11:59 pm); the last day that **Short Essays** and the **Constitutional Amendment Paper** may be turned in late by 11:59 pm

GRADING INFORMATION

Assignments	<u>Percentage (100 total points each)</u>
Quizzes (highest 5 of 6)	20
Final Exam	20
Short Essays (highest 4 of 6)	30
Constitutional Amendment Paper	30
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Total	100

Grading Scale

A plus	96-100
A	93-95
A minus	90-92
B plus	86-89
B	83-85

B minus	80-82
C plus	76-79
C	73-75
C minus	70-72
D	60-69
F	0-59

Student Evaluation/Grading Policies

- **No withdrawals (W) will be granted** except for **verifiable** medical reasons.
- 10 percent will be deducted for each **week** that Short Essays or the Constitutional Amendment Paper are turned in late. A period of seven days or less is consider one week.
- No Short Essays or the Final Paper will be accepted after the day of the final exam at 11:59 pm.
- The **lowest** quiz grade will be **dropped**.
- The **lowest two** Short Essay grades will be **dropped**.
- There are **no make up, early, or late quizzes or exam**. If you **miss** without a **demonstrable excuse** you will receive a 0. Missed quizzes or exam due to demonstrable medical, religious, or university related activities may be made up. A demonstrable excuse should be related to a medical, religious, or university related events only. Please contact me in advance or as soon as possible and provide appropriate documentation.
- The quizzes or exam must be **taken and completed** by 11:59 pm of the last day of the week they are due.
- Short Essays and the Final Paper cannot be resubmitted after they are graded. Be sure your paper is complete before submitting it.
- Be sure to check your grades on Canvas closely. If there are any questions about specific assignments other than the final exam they must be made to me **no later than** the end of the last day of the course.
- Note that your grade in Canvas is only for the graded assignments at that point in time and are subject to change with each new graded assignment up until the final grade is officially posted. To estimate your grade at any point during the semester use the Canvas grade sheet tool to estimate their grade by filling in future ungraded assignments.
- All assignments must be cut and pasted into the assignment text box to be graded. Do not post a link. No assignments will be accepted by email.
- All late Short Essays and the Constitutional Amendment Paper may be turned in no later than the day of the Final Exam by 11:59 pm. No late assignments will be taken after that time.
- Grades will be rounded up to the next letter only when the difference is .49 or less.

Classroom Policy

- No copies of the class video lectures are allowed except as an accommodation with campus documentation. University Policy S12-7, <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-7.pdf>, requires students to obtain instructor's permission to record the course.
- Any act of plagiarism will result in an **automatic "F"** for the assignment.
- Any student who has special needs that may affect his or her performance in this class is asked to identify his or her needs to Dr. Ovetz in private by the end of the first day of class and provide documentation as soon as possible. Any resulting class performance problems that may arise for those who do not identify their needs will not receive any special grading considerations.
- If you expect to miss class for an extended period of time due to COVID please contact me ASAP and review the university policy to take extended leave.

Canvas

For help with using Canvas please see the Canvas Student Resources page at: https://www.sjsu.edu/ecampus/teaching-tools/canvas/student_resources/. If you need immediate help please contact the Canvas Help at the tab on the left side of the Canvas page.

COURSE MATERIALS

Required Readings

Required course readings can be found in the following assigned books and readings. You are expected to complete the readings *before* they are scheduled to be discussed.

The following books are required reading. You may purchase your own print or e-reader (if available) copies at the campus bookstore or on-line.

US Government Book

Katznelson, Ira, Mark Kesselman, and Alan Draper (2013) *The Politics of Power: A Critical Introduction to American Government*, W. W. Norton & Company: NY, 7th edition, 403 pp., ISBN-13: 978-0393919448. You may not use older editions of the book.

Ovetz, Robert (2022) *We the Elites: Why the US Constitution Serves the Few*, Pluto Press: London, 240 pp, ISBN 13: 9780745344720.

You may use the print or ebook copy. In addition to using the two copies available at the library reserve desk, my book can be accessed for free through the SJSU library here: <https://www-jstor-org.libaccess.sjlibrary.org/stable/j.ctv2x6f04j>

California Government Book

Field, Mona (2012) *California Government and Politics Today*, Pearson: NY, 14th edition, 160 pp., ISBN-13: 978-0205251780. You may use newer editions but not older editions of the book. If you use a newer edition be sure to match up the chapters with this edition to be sure you read the right chapters.

Additional Required Readings and Historical Documents

The additional required short readings and videos listed below in the Course Outline are also linked in the Canvas modules.

Other Resources

The CQ Researcher and ABC-CLIO American Government databases available through the SJSU library website are good reference resources for topics covered in this class.

For more detailed background explanation of each part of the US Constitution go to <https://www.law.cornell.edu/anncon/>, <https://constitutioncenter.org/interactive-constitution> or any other reputable annotated constitution.

LIBRARY LIAISON

Please contact the Political Science librarian Essy Barroso-Ramirez to answer questions and provide help with research, citations, and other library needs. Essy can be reached by email at essy.barroso-ramirez@sjsu.edu, 408-808-2041, and <https://libguides.sjsu.edu/politicalscience>

UNIVERSITY POLICIES

Per University Policy s16-9, university-wide policy information relevant to 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 \(https://www.sjsu.edu/curriculum/courses/syllabus-info.php\)](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.

OFFICE HOURS

I will be available by Zoom during office hours to talk about the readings, video lectures, and the writing assignments. Office hours are also an opportunity to discuss a current event you plan to write about for your Weekly Essay or a possible amendment for your Constitutional Amendment Paper.

Office hours will be conducted at the time listed above and do not require a reservation. Click on the Zoom link to enter. If there is another student already speaking with me you will be put into the waiting room until that student is finished. Please turn on your video and mic when you enter.

If you have a scheduling conflict with my designated office hour please send me a specific day and time from Mon to Fri before 6 pm in which you will call me. Your request should be sent at least 24 hours in advance.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

The required assignments will test your knowledge and ability to apply and assess principles and concepts of US and California government as models of representative democracy.

Required Video Lectures

The video lectures for each of the topics of the course listed below in the Course Outline are found in the modules on the Canvas home page.

Quizzes and Final Exam

This assignment assesses for PSPLO 1 and 2; GELO 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6

There will be six quizzes and one final exam taken on Canvas. The quizzes and exam are all multiple choice and based on the assigned readings and class video lecture. The final exam is comprehensive, incorporating all previous course content. No proctoring is required.

The quizzes and final exam must be **taken and completed** by 11:59 pm of the assigned day. Be sure not to miss the quizzes and exam as **there are no make-ups** without a **demonstrable excuse** (medical, religious, or university related activities only). No quizzes or exam may be taken early. Once you start taking the quizzes or exam it cannot be paused.

Be sure to take the quizzes and exam on a computer with a stable internet connection and leave yourself sufficient time to **complete** the quizzes or exam by 11:59 pm. You do not need to use any proctoring service. **No additional time will be given** except for previously arranged university accommodations.

Beginning the next day at 12 am you may print out the quizzes or exam or save it as a pdf so you can have the questions to review later. Corrected quizzes or exam will be available for only one week after the quizzes or exam closes.

The questions will address concepts, terminology, and important events covered in class video lectures and the readings. In order to prepare for the quizzes or exam I strongly encourage you to form study groups, visit me during office hours, and use campus tutoring resources. Contact Peer Connections: https://peerconnections.sjsu.edu/resources/academic_resources/index.html

What Each Quiz and the Final Exam Cover

Quiz 1 covers Democracy & the Declaration of Independence

Quiz 2 covers US & CA Constitution & Federalism

Quiz 3 covers US & CA Legislative Branch

Quiz 4 covers US & CA Executive Branch

Quiz 5 covers US & CA Judicial Branch

Quiz 6 covers Elections & Money in Politics

Final Exam is comprehensive

Constitutional Amendment Paper

This assignment assesses for PSPLO 1 - 4 and GELO 1, 2, 5 and 6.

After studying the federal and state constitutional systems of government what is one thing you would change about the US constitution and what would it accomplish? For your concluding paper, write a maximum 1,000 words paper on what amendment of the US constitution you would propose and why. If you need examples about how other constitutions address your issue use: <https://www.constituteproject.org/search?lang=en>. For ideas about aspects of of the constitution that can be amended use: <https://www.secondratedemocracy.com/>

Watch the short video about the **Constitutional Amendment Paper** in the window where the paper is turned in for further instructions. See the “Pols 15 Grading Rubric” under the Constitutional Amendment Paper module on Canvas to see how the paper will be graded.

What your paper should include:

- Explain which part of the US constitution you would amend and why. Be specific about where it is located in the constitution by including the article, section, and clause (if included) or amendment, section, and clause (if included).
- If your issue is not addressed by the constitution explain whether it is entirely new and unrelated or a renewed effort related to a previous related proposed amendment. Note, if you propose something that is related to the constitution and you say it is not you will have a significant point deduction. For the complete list of previous proposed amendments see <https://www.archives.gov/open/dataset-amendments.html#how>

- Include the text of your amendment written in your own words
- Explain what your amendment would do and how it would address and solve the problem
- Explain if the idea of your amendment has ever been proposed before and if it was what was the outcome. Explain only prior proposed amendments, not proposed laws. You also need to explain how your amendment is different. To look up previous amendments go to www.congress.gov
- Explain which amendment method you would use and how you would campaign to get it passed

About Sources and References

- Use in text citations instead of footnotes. For example: TEXT. (Ovetz, 2020, p. 1)
- You must include **at least 4** references with in text citations and complete APA style citations in the bibliography. You must use **at least 1 of each type** of citation below. See “About Sources and References” and “About In Text Citations” below. Put the citations in alphabetical order. Do not number your references. All assigned readings and the National Archives list of previous amendments can be referenced but they do not count as outside sources.
- You must use the Lunsford APA Guide for all your complete APA references. The Lunsford APA Guide can be found in the Canvas Writing Guides folder under Files. Note that you are using APA only for the bibliographic references. Do not cut and paste your reference from any source because they are often incorrect.

How to format your Constitutional Amendment Paper

- Cut and paste your paper into the text box. Do not post a link. Check the text to make sure it is formatted correctly in Canvas before you submit it.
- Keep your paper to no more than maximum 1,000 words (it is ok to be within 10% of the limit)
- Include your name, date, and name of the assignment
- Write your paper as a research paper with an introductory paragraph including a clear declarative thesis and preview, logically organized subsections, and a conclusion
- Do not write in first person
- Organize your paper into clear sections separated by subtitles
- Avoid filler quotes. Explain the issue in your own words and include in text citations when you refer to the article.
- Include a concise introductory paragraph with a clear thesis and be sure to have a concise conclusion
- Check the formatting to make sure your paper is organized into clear paragraphs and readable
- Proofread your paper for everything in these directions at least once before turning it in
- Avoid filler quotes that add nothing of substance to your analysis. Paraphrase and include an in text citation instead.
- Correct syntax including verb tenses, sentence structure, punctuation, and spelling
- Do not include header, title page or page numbers
- Include the word count
- Check the “Pols 15 Grading Rubric” under Files on Canvas

About Sources and References

There are 3 types of acceptable sources that may be obtained through the library print and database sources. The 3 types of sources are:

- academic: books, specialized encyclopedias (academic field specific, do not use Britannica, Funk and Wagnall, etc), journal articles. These are written, read, and peer reviewed by academics and published by

academic presses. Do not cite an academic paper if it hasn't been published in a book, journal or encyclopedia. Just because it appears on a site ending in ".edu" doesn't mean it's been published.

- **trade:** publications specific to an industry or non-profit sector, and governments/inter-governmental organization reports and read only by people who work in that field. Do not use factsheets or press releases.
- **popular:** newspapers, newsmagazines, documentary films, TV/radio news. These can be read by anyone and are written by professional journalists or guest experts.

Types of **unacceptable sources:** commercial non-news sources, aggregators, personal websites, blogs, social media, press releases, factsheets, editorials, open source wikis, or unpublished academic papers.

About In Text and Bibliographic Citations

When citing sources in your paper and in the bibliography:

- Use APA citation style only (use the Lunsford style guide on Canvas)
- Use in text citations **and** a list of references. **Do not** use footnotes.
- When using APA in text citations the cite should appear as follows: TEXT (last name, year, page number). If you cite the video lecture the in text citation should be: (Ovetz, name of video lecture, 2020, hour:minute:second).
- At the end of your paper include a section titled Bibliography
- List your references in alphabetical order by last name—**do not** number your sources
- All bibliographic references should be in APA citation style only. Use the Lunsford style guide on Canvas. Do not use a citation generator or just cut and paste the citation from the database.

Short Essays

This assignment assesses for PSPLO 2 - 3 and GELO 1, 2, 5 and 6.

Students will write six maximum 100 word Short Essays connecting a key concept from any of the readings (the two textbooks or the reading packet) or the video lectures for the current class topic to a current news story about a current local, state or national issue concerning government or politics published during the past week. The current news issue must be about something that **actually occurred**, such as a bill that passed or a court ruling that was issued, for example. It **should not** be about opinions or perceptions about things that happened in the past or might happen in the future.

Before writing the first Short Essay I recommend watching "Short Essay Assignment Instructions video lecture" that can be found in the module near the top of the Canvas homepage.

Short Essays must be turned in on or before the due date no later than 11:59 pm. Short Essays must be about key concepts related to the current class topic. See the Course Outline below to see what topic we are currently studying.

The objective of the Short Essays is for you to practice identifying the key concepts from the readings and video lectures and learning to apply them to current issues of US and California government and politics. **Do not** use current issues not directly related to either the federal or California government and politics. These key concepts will form the basis of a study guide for the exams. They will also help you identify a possible topic for your Constitutional Amendment Paper.

How to write the short essay:

- The essay should include a brief summary of the current news issue, identify the key concept (use only one), explain how it connects to the news issue. The current issue should be about **an action or event that happened** rather than someone’s opinion about something that has or may happen.
- It should include two in text citations (see below).
- Use only key concepts from the current class topic for the week you present. See “Current Class Topics Covered by the Short Essays” below.
- Do not summarize the news issue. Instead, demonstrate your understanding of how the concept applies to the issue.
- Do not repeat a news issue already covered in previous weeks. Any repeated topics will receive a 0 and can be rewritten and resubmitted as late.
- Avoid filler quotes. Explain the issue in your own words and include in text citations when you refer to the article.
- Provide at least one in text citation for each APA reference. For example: TEXT (Ovetz, 2020, p. 1). If you cite the video lecture the in text citation should be: TEXT (Ovetz, name of video lecture, 2020, hour:minute:second).
- Provide a minimum of one APA citation for either one of the textbooks or one video lecture or reading packet readings and one more for the 3 types of outside sources explained above in “About Sources and References.” Use the Lunsford APA citation guide under Files on Canvas. Do not include an APA citation for the Declaration of Independence or the US and CA Constitutions. Note that you are using APA only for the bibliographic references. Do not use a citation generator or just cut and paste the citation from the source.
- See “About Sources and References” above about the kinds of sources you may cite.
- Cut and paste the Short Essay into the Canvas Assignment text box. Do not post a link.
- Remove large white spaces, line breaks, and other formatting issues before submitting your essay
- Include a word count. Please do not exceed the word limit by more than 10%. Excessively long essays will need to be rewritten and will be graded as late.
- Do not include a title page, header, or page numbers
- Arrange your bibliography in alphabetical order

Short essay grading rubric:

- Maximum of 100 words not including the in text and APA citations. Include word count.
- Each essay will graded as follows:
 - 80 maximum points for the essay, identifying the reading concept for the current class topic, and explaining how the concept applies to the current issue
 - 10 maximum points for correct grammar, spelling, punctuation, capitalization, syntax, word count, and word limit. Write in complete sentences and proofread before submitting your work.
 - 10 maximum points each for the two APA citations listed in alphabetical order. Be sure to use the Lunsford APA guide under Files.

Current Class Topics Covered by the Short Essays

Short Essay 1 covers Democracy or the Declaration of Independence

Short Essay 2 covers US or CA Constitution or Federalism

Short Essay 3 covers US or CA Legislative Branch

Short Essay 4 covers US or CA Executive Branch

Short Essay 5 covers US or CA Judicial Branch

Short Essay 6 covers Elections or Money in Politics

Grammar and Proofreading

You will be graded for grammar, punctuation and style to the extent that it reduces your ability to express your research and analysis clearly. While grammar, punctuation, and style are not the most significant part of the grade you will receive, it does affect your ability to communicate your ideas and analysis clearly and effectively. If you have any issues concerning your language skills you wish to discuss with me please visit me during office hours.

Where to Get Help with Your Writing

Although I do not proofread student papers before they are turned in I am happy to help you with specific selections of text. For help I encourage you to **first** go to the campus writing center for help with your writing and the campus reference librarians for help with research and citations.

I strongly encourage you to use the SJSU Writing Center's Homegrown Handouts on many aspects of the writing process here: <https://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter/handouts/>

The Writing Center, <https://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter/>, also offers up to two 45 minutes sessions per week by emailing them a request at writingcenter@sjsu.edu. It is also partnered with MLK Library to offer live chat services for students who have quick writing-related questions that can be addressed in 10-15 minutes. Live chat is available during select hours and no appointment is necessary.

You may also use the Lib Guide cited above and the short guides to writing research papers at <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/sitemap/>

COURSE SCHEDULE

Notes:

- The schedule is subject to change with fair notice by email or on Canvas.
- See “Current Class Topics Covered by the Short Essays” above.

Week	Dates	Topic	Katznelson Book	Ovetz Book	Field Book	Other Readings & Videos in Canvas Modules
Week 1	Wed 1/25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First day of the course • Watch Video about the Syllabus & Canvas • Democracy 	ch. 1	None	None	None
Week 2	Mon 1/30	Democracy	ch. 2 & 5	ch. 1	None	None
Week 2	Wed 2/1	Declaration of Independence	None	None	None	Declaration of Independence
Week 3	Mon 2/6	Democracy & Declaration of Independence Short Essay due on-line by 11:59 pm	None	None	None	None
Week 3	Wed 2/8	Democracy & Declaration of Independence Quiz due on-line by 11:59 pm	None	None	None	None
Week 4	Mon 2/13	US Constitution	None	ch. 2 & 9	None	1. Madison , “Federalist Paper #10” 2. Boot , <i>Washington Post</i> 3. US Constitution 4. Levinson , “The Ratification Referendum”
Week 4	Wed 2/15	CA Constitution	None	None	ch. 1 & 2	None
Week 5	Mon 2/20	Federalism	ch. 3	None	None	Federal-State Relations , 4/27/2018: Is partisanship putting governance at risk? by Alan Greenblatt in the CQ Researcher library database
Week 5	Wed 2/22	US & CA Constitution & Federalism Short Essay due on-line by 11:59 pm	None	None	None	None
Week 6	Mon 2/27	US & CA Constitution & Federalism Quiz due on-line by 11:59 pm	None	None	None	None

Week 6	Wed 3/1	Congress	ch. 7	None	None	ProPublica/Washington Post , “How Congress Stopped Working,” https://www.propublica.org/article/how-congress-stopped-working?utm_source=pardot&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=dailynewsletter
Week 7	Mon 3/6	Congress	ch. 9	None	None	None
Week 7	Wed 3/8	Congress	ch. 10	None	None	None
Week 8	Mon 3/13	CA Legislative Branch	None	None	ch. 8 & 13	None
Week 8	Wed 3/15	CA Legislative Branch; Congress & CA Legislative Branch Short Essay due on-line by 11:59 pm	None	None	None	Watch “ The First Angry Man ” in the library Kanopy database at https://sjsu.kanopy.com/ (access through the library webpage)
Week 9	Mon 3/20	Congress & CA Legislative Branch Quiz due on-line by 11:59 pm	None	None	None	None
Week 9	Wed 3/22	US Executive Branch	ch. 6 & 11	None	None	None
	Mon 3/27 and Fri 3/31	No class, Spring Break	None	None	None	None
Week 10	Mon 4/3	US Executive Branch	None	None	None	None
Week 10	Wed 4/5	CA Executive Branch	None	None	ch. 9	None
Week 11	Mon 4/10	US & CA Executive Branch Short Essay due by 11:59 pm	None	None	None	None
Week 11	Wed 4/12	US & CA Executive Branch Quiz due on-line by 11:59 pm	None	None	None	None
Week 12	Mon 4/17	US Judicial Branch	ch. 8	None	None	1. Brennan , “Judicial Interpretation” 2. Ovetz , <i>Marin IJ</i> 3. Watch “ Soul of Justice ” in the library Kanopy database at https://sjsu.kanopy.com/ (access through the library webpage)
Week 12	Wed 4/19	US Judicial Branch	None	None	None	None

Week 13	Mon 4/24	CA Judicial Branch	None	None	ch. 11	None
Week 13	Wed 4/26	US & CA Judicial Branch Short Essay due on-line by 11:59 pm	None	None	None	None
Week 14	Mon 5/1	US & CA Judicial Branch Quiz due on-line by 11:59 pm	None	None	None	None
Week 14	Wed 5/3	Elections & Money in Politics	ch. 4	None	ch. 5	Watch “ Money is Speech: A Musical History of Campaign Finance ,” at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3d-bYU2cZ48
Week 15	Mon 5/8	Elections & Money in Politics	None	None	None	Read opensecrets.org links to 2022 campaign spending tables under the column “ Elections Overview ”: https://www.opensecrets.org/elections-overview
Week 15	Wed 5/10	Elections & Money in Politics Short Essay due by 11:59 pm	None	None	None	None
Week 16	Mon 5/15	Last day of the semester; Elections & Money in Politics Quiz due on-line by 11:59 pm	None	None	None	None
Finals Week	Wed 5/17	Constitutional Amendment Paper due by 11:59 pm	None	None	None	None
Finals Week	Fri 5/19	Final exam , (comprehensive, complete by 11:59 pm); the last day that late Short Essays & Constitutional Amendment Paper may be turned in late by 11:59 pm	None	None	None	None