

Dr. Brad Mapes-Martins
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OFFICE HOURS: CCC 472
Mon. & Wed. 11:00am-12:00pm
or by appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Politics surround you, but what you see isn't always what matters and what matters isn't always what you see. Consider the decisions that impact the country – taxes, education, war, healthcare, prisons, roads, food inspection. How are these decisions made and whose views do they reflect? This course aims to help you connect two aspects of the political system.

Unit 1: Representation. Given our diversity, what goals do we agree upon? Whose viewpoint gets heard? How do politicians know what people want?

Unit 2: Constitution. How do we coordinate 51 governments? What decisions are 'out of bounds'? What ensures our rights and liberties are upheld?

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Students will identify important examples and explain how ...

- plurality of ideas and interests leads to competing goals,
- political preferences are expressed in many forms,
- laws and rights require and restrict government.

GRADE ALLOCATION

<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Points</u>
Quizzes (10 x 3 pts.)	30
Exams (2 x 20 pts.)	40
Essay	30
Total	100

A	100 – 93	C+	79.9 – 77
A-	92.9 – 90	C	76.9 – 73
B+	89.9 – 87	C-	72.9 – 70
B	86.9 – 83	D+	69.9 – 65
B-	82.9 – 80	D	64.9 – 60
		F	59.9 – 0

REQUIRED MATERIALS

TEXT RENTAL. Ginsberg, et al. *We the People*, 10th Essentials Ed.

SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS. All other materials will be provided via Desire2Learn (D2L).

WEEK	TOPICS	ASSIGNMENTS
UNIT 1: REPRESENTATION		
01.22-01.24	Introduction	Read Syllabus and p. 10-18
01.29-01.31	Public Opinion	Read Ch. 5 <i>Quiz 1</i>
02.05-02.07	Media	Read Ch. 6 <i>Quiz 2</i>
02.12-02.14	Parties and Elections	Read Ch. 7 <i>Quiz 3</i>
02.19-02.21	Interest Groups	Read Ch. 8 <i>Quiz 4</i>
02.26-02.28	<i>Essay: Interpretation</i>	Read <i>Federalist</i> , No. 10 (p. A33-A37) and No. 51 (p. A38-A41)
03.05-03.07	Congress	Read Ch. 9 <i>Quiz 5</i>
03.12-03.14	Unit 1 Exam (03.12)	<i>Essay: Thesis & Structure</i> (03.14)
UNIT 2: CONSTITUTION		
03.19-03.21	Constitutional Debate	Read <i>Federalist</i> , No. 39 and <i>Centinel</i> , No. 1 (D2L)
04.02-04.04	Civil Rights and Liberties	Read p. 53-56 and 95-134 <i>Quiz 7</i>
04.09-04.11	Federalism	Read Ch. 3 and <i>Federalist</i> , No. 31 & 45 <i>Quiz 8</i>
04.16-04.18	<i>Essay: Revision</i> (04.16)	Essay Due (04.18)
04.23-04.25	Executive – Presidency	Read Ch. 10 and p. 446-457 <i>Quiz 9</i>
04.30-05.02	Executive – Bureaucracy	Read Ch. 11 <i>Quiz 10</i>
05.07-05.09	Judiciary	Read Ch. 12 <i>Quiz 11</i>
05.14-05.18	Final Exam (see AccessPoint for your section's scheduled exam period)	

POLICIES

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT: All UWSP policies regarding academic misconduct (e.g., plagiarism) are defined in [Chapter 14](#) of *UWSP Community Bill of Rights and Responsibilities*. Violations may result in a failing grade for the course or disciplinary sanctions by the University.

EQUAL ACCESS: If you have a disability warranting classroom accommodation, please contact UWSP [Disability Services Office](#) with your documentation as early as possible in the semester. They will notify me confidentially of the accommodations.