

# **Political Science 101: American Politics**

**Course Description:** Survey of American politics and government.

**Credits:** 3

**GEP:** Social Science; US Diversity

## **Instructor Information**

**Instructor:** Brad Martins

**Virtual Office Hours:** Wednesdays, 11:00am-12:00pm via Zoom

Zoom URL:

<https://uwsp.zoom.us/j/95880801533?pwd=MDBzR0EzS2RWb1ZJeFJZdyszWGI5dz09>

Meeting ID: 958 8080 1533

Passcode: 740458

**E-mail:** [bmapesma@uwsp.edu](mailto:bmapesma@uwsp.edu)

## **Expected Instructor Response Times**

I will attempt to respond to student emails within 24 hours. If you have not received a reply from me within 24 hours please resend your email. I will attempt to reply to and assess student discussion posts within 48 hours of discussions closing. I will attempt to grade written work within 7 days. However, longer written assignments may take me longer to read and assess.

## **Textbook & Course Materials**

**Required Text:** Available through UWSP Text Rental.

Lowi, Benjamin, et al. 2019. *American Government: Power and Purpose, 15th ed.* W.W. Norton

ISBN: 978-0-39365-5537

**Other Materials:** All other materials will be provided through Canvas.

## **Course Learning Outcomes**

Students will identify important examples and explain how ...

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

## **Course Schedule**

<b>Week</b>	<b>Module</b>
1	Welcome
2	Principles of Politics
3	Founding and Constitution
4	Federalism and Separation of Powers
5	Civil Liberties
6	Civil Rights
7	Unit 1 Exam
8	Congress
9	The Presidency
10	The Federal Courts
11	Unit 2 Exam
12	Public Opinion
13	Elections
14	Political Parties
15	Interest Groups
16	Unit 3 Exam

## Grading Policy

Assignment	Quantity	Points per Assignment	Subtotal
Quizzes	13	20	260
Discussion Topics	13	5	65
Unit Exams	3	125	375
		<b>Total</b>	700

A	700-651	B+	630-611	C+	560-541	D+	490-456
A-	650-631	B	610-581	C	540-511	D	455-421
		B-	580-561	C-	510-491	F	420-0

## Student Expectations

In this course you will be expected to complete the following types of tasks.

- communicate via email
- complete basic internet searches
- download and upload documents to the LMS
- read documents online
- view online videos
- participate in online discussions
- complete quizzes/tests online
- upload documents to Canvas to submit an assignment
- participate in synchronous online discussions

## Complete Assignments

**All assignments for this course will be submitted electronically through Canvas unless otherwise instructed.** Assignments must be submitted by the given deadline or special permission must be requested from instructor *before the due date*. Extensions will not be given beyond the next assignment except under extreme circumstances.

All discussion assignments must be completed by the assignment due date and time. Late or missing discussion assignments will affect the student's grade.

## **Late Work Policy**

Pay close attention to deadlines—there will be no make-up assignments or quizzes, or late work accepted without a serious and compelling reason and instructor approval.

## **Technology**

### **Protecting your Data and Privacy**

UW-System approved tools meet security, privacy, and data protection standards. For a list of approved tools, visit this website. <https://www.wisconsin.edu/dle/external-application-integration-requests/>

Tools not listed on the website linked above may not meet security, privacy, and data protection standards. If you have questions about tools, contact the UWSP IT Service Desk at 715-346-4357.

Here are steps you can take to protect your data and privacy.

- Use different usernames and passwords for each service you use.
- Do not use your UWSP username and password for any other services.
- Use secure versions of websites whenever possible (HTTPS instead of HTTP).
- Have updated antivirus software installed on your devices.

### **Honorlock (Online Exam Proctoring)**

I will be using Honorlock to proctor your exams this semester. Honorlock is an online proctoring service that allows you to take your exam from the comfort of your home. You DO NOT need to create an account, download software or schedule an appointment in advance. Honorlock is available 24/7 and all that is needed is a computer, a working webcam, and a stable Internet connection.

Before you get started, please review the Honorlock Student module in Canvas to familiarize yourself with Honorlock. All exam proctoring services, including Honorlock, can seem invasive because of the way they function. Honorlock will record your webcam, audio, and computer screen during your exam to help ensure integrity of the course for all users. Honorlock has been vetted and approved by both UW-Stevens Point and UW System, to ensure that it meets security and privacy requirements.

If you have concerns, please contact me directly.

To get started, you will need Google Chrome and to download the Honorlock Chrome Extension. You can download the extension at [www.honorlock.com/extension/install](http://www.honorlock.com/extension/install).

You are strongly encouraged to take the Honorlock Practice Quiz before attempting any graded exams. The Honorlock Practice Quiz will allow you to test Honorlock to ensure you are comfortable using the system and to ensure that your computer will function properly.

When you are ready to test, log into Canvas, go to your course, and click on your exam. Clicking "Launch Proctoring" will begin the Honorlock authentication process, where you will take a picture of yourself, show your ID, and complete a scan your room. Honorlock will be recording your exam session by webcam as well as recording your screen. Honorlock also has an integrity algorithm that can detect search-engine use, so please do not attempt to search for answers, even if it's on a secondary device. Good luck!

Honorlock support is available 24/7/365. If you encounter any issues, you may contact them by live chat, phone (844-243-2500), and/or email ([support@honorlock.com](mailto:support@honorlock.com)).

If you encounter issues with Canvas, please contact Canvas Support directly by clicking the Help Button (question mark inside a circle) located at the bottom of the left navigation bar in Canvas.

### **Course Technology Requirements**

- View this website to see [minimum recommended computer and internet configurations for Canvas](#).
- You will also need access to the following tools to participate in this course.
  - webcam
  - microphone
  - printer
  - a stable internet connection (don't rely on cellular)

### **UWSP Technology Support**

Visit with a [Student Technology Tutor](#)

Seek assistance from the [IT Service Desk](#) (Formerly HELP Desk)

- IT Service Desk Phone: 715-346-4357 (HELP)
- IT Service Desk Email: [techhelp@uwsp.edu](mailto:techhelp@uwsp.edu)

## **Understand When You May Drop This Course**

It is the student's responsibility to understand when they need to consider unenrolling from a course. Refer to the UWSP [Academic Calendar](#) for dates and deadlines for registration. After this period, a serious and compelling reason is required to drop from the course. Serious and compelling reasons includes: (1) documented and significant change in work hours, leaving student unable to attend class, or (2) documented and severe physical/mental illness/injury to the student or student's family.

## **Inform Your Instructor of Any Accommodations Needed**

If you have a documented disability and verification from the [Disability and Assistive Technology Center](#) and wish to discuss academic accommodations, please contact your instructor as soon as possible. It is the student's responsibility to provide documentation of disability to Disability Services and meet with a Disability Services counselor to request special accommodation *before* classes start.

The Disability and Assistive Technology Center is located in 609 Albertson Hall and can be contacted by phone at (715) 346-3365 (Voice) (715) 346-3362 (TDD only) or via email at [datctr@uwsp.edu](mailto:datctr@uwsp.edu).

## **Statement of Policy**

UW-Stevens Point will modify academic program requirements as necessary to ensure that they do not discriminate against qualified applicants or students with disabilities. The modifications should not affect the substance of educational programs or compromise academic standards; nor should they intrude upon academic freedom. Examinations or other procedures used for evaluating students' academic achievements may be adapted. The results of such evaluation must demonstrate the student's achievement in the academic activity, rather than describe his/her disability.

*If modifications are required due to a disability, please inform the instructor and contact the Disability and Assistive Technology Center in 609 ALB, or (715) 346-3365.*

## **UWSP Academic Honesty Policy & Procedures**

### **Student Academic Disciplinary Procedures**

UWSP 14.01 Statement of principles

The board of regents, administrators, faculty, academic staff and students of the university of Wisconsin system believe that academic honesty and integrity are fundamental to the mission of

higher education and of the university of Wisconsin system. The university has a responsibility to promote academic honesty and integrity and to develop procedures to deal effectively with instances of academic dishonesty. Students are responsible for the honest completion and representation of their work, for the appropriate citation of sources, and for respect of others' academic endeavors. Students who violate these standards must be confronted and must accept the consequences of their actions.

UWSP 14.03 Academic misconduct subject to disciplinary action.

(1) Academic misconduct is an act in which a student:

- (a) Seeks to claim credit for the work or efforts of another without authorization or citation;
- (b) Uses unauthorized materials or fabricated data in any academic exercise;
- (c) Forges or falsifies academic documents or records;
- (d) Intentionally impedes or damages the academic work of others;
- (e) Engages in conduct aimed at making false representation of a student's academic performance; or
- (f) Assists other students in any of these acts.

(2) Examples of academic misconduct include, but are not limited to: cheating on an examination; collaborating with others in work to be presented, contrary to the stated rules of the course; submitting a paper or assignment as one's own work when a part or all of the paper or assignment is the work of another; submitting a paper or assignment that contains ideas or research of others without appropriately identifying the sources of those ideas; stealing examinations or course materials; submitting, if contrary to the rules of a course, work previously presented in another course; tampering with the laboratory experiment or computer program of another student; knowingly and intentionally assisting another student in any of the above, including assistance in an arrangement whereby any work, classroom performance, examination or other activity is submitted or performed by a person other than the student under whose name the work is submitted or performed.

### **Religious Beliefs**

Relief from any academic requirement due to religious beliefs will be accommodated according to UWS 22.03, with notification within the first three weeks of class.