

**PS1100 American Government - Lecture Section 1**  
**(Ref #53172) Fall Semester 2019**

**Professor** Jay Dow  
**Office:** 310 Professional Building  
**Phone/e-mail:** 882-0047/dowj@missouri.edu  
**Office Hours:** Monday/Wednesday 2:00-3:30  
and by Appointment

**Class: 11:00-11:50 MWF**  
Middlebush Hall 142  
(Walter Johnson Auditorium)

**Course Description**

This is an introductory course in American government. We will give roughly equal attention to American political thought, political institutions and processes, political behavior and public policy. The course will proceed with the expectation that we will read two or three chapters per week from the text and accompanying readers. Still, I may deviate from this schedule as circumstances demand.

**Required Texts**

*American Politics Today, 6<sup>th</sup> core ed.* William T. Bianco and David T. Cannon (APT)

*University of Missouri Readings in American Government*

*A Guide to the Missouri Constitution.* Gregory Casey and Justin Dyer.

**Note:** All readings are available electronically on Canvas and as hardcopy at the MU bookstore. All syllabus readings that are \*not\* identified by APT are selections from the reader or the guide to the Missouri constitution and should be accessed through Canvas or a hardcopy edition.

Please read a national newspaper such as *New York Times*, *Washington Post* or *Wall Street Journal* on a daily basis. The *New York Times* is available on campus free of charge to all MU students. I will regularly illustrate concepts discussed in class with examples drawn from these newspapers.

**Important Dates**

8/19	First Day of Class	8/30	Last Day to Change Grading Option
9/2	No Class – Labor Day	<b>9/16</b>	<b>First Midterm Exam</b>
<b>10/21</b>	<b>Second Midterm Exam</b>	<b>11/11</b>	<b>Third Midterm Exam</b>
11/23	Begin Thanksgiving Recess	12/2	Last Day to Withdraw from a Class
12/4	Last Day of Class	<b>12/11</b>	<b>Final Exam (12:30 – 2:30)</b>

## Grades

Semester grades are determined by three midterm examinations (3@20%), a *cumulative* final examination (1@30%) and fourteen on-line Inquizitive scores (10%). The midterm examinations will consist of approximately 50 multiple choice questions. The final examination will use the same format and be about twice this length. Please bring two sharpened number 2 pencils to the exams.

### Inquizitive

The Inquizitive system presents 20 questions per APT chapter for a potential score of 10 points. These quizzes are in Canvas under the assignments tab. You must complete the quizzes according to the schedule below. If you do not complete each quiz by its closure date there is no opportunity to make up these points. You must complete the first three quizzes (How to Use Inquizitive, How to Read Charts and Graphs, Understanding American Politics) by **August 25<sup>th</sup>**. I will count a maximum of 130 Inquizitive points towards your final grade. This means you may skip one quiz without penalty or miss points on some quizzes without negative effect on your final grade.

Quiz	Date Available	Date Closed
How to Use Inquizitive	8/19	8/25
How to Read Charts and Graphs	8/19	8/25
Understanding American Politics	8/19	8/25
The Constitution and the Founding	8/26	9/1
Federalism	9/9	9/15
Congress	9/16	9/22
The Presidency	9/30	10/6
The Bureaucracy	10/7	10/13
The Courts	10/14	10/20
Interest Groups	10/21	10/27
Political Parties	10/28	11/3
Elections	11/4	11/10
Civil Liberties	11/11	11/17
Civil Rights	11/18	12/4

I use the following, percentage-based, grading scale:

A+	97.9 – 100	C+	77.9 – 79.9	F	< 60.0
A	92.1 – 97.8	C	72.1 – 77.8		
A-	90.0 – 92.0	C-	70.0 – 72.0		
B+	87.9 – 89.9	D+	67.9 – 69.9		
B	82.1 – 87.8	D	62.1 – 67.8		
B-	80.0 – 82.0	D-	60.0 – 62.0		

## Important Information

### 1. Make-up Examinations and Late Assignments

In general, a missed examination may not be made up. Likewise, I do not accept late assignments. In either of these cases, you will not receive credit for the exam or assignment. I may provide exceptions for those with an acceptable written excuse from a university administrator, health care professional or member of the clergy. This note should be on letterhead with the name, address and telephone number of the person verifying the reason for the missed examination or late assignment. I am the final arbitrator of whether an excuse is acceptable. **Please note the dates and times of the examinations. Please bring your student ID to the exam.**

### 2. Examination Locations

The midterm examinations are administered in Middlebush Auditorium during the regular class hour. The final exam is also in Middlebush Auditorium during our scheduled exam period. Please arrive at the auditorium early on exam days and bring two sharpened No. 2 pencils. I will provide the scantron forms.

### 3. Canvas

The text and reader are available through the AutoAccess process on Canvas. I will demonstrate how to view these texts in class. Please note that APT, *MU Readings in American Government* and *A Guide to the Missouri Constitution* are **required** texts.

I will place the course syllabus, TA contact information and additional material on the MU Canvas system (<https://courses.missouri.edu>). In addition, I will record your exam scores on Canvas. I typically release scores the week following the exam. I will post announcements and other class information on Canvas. Please consult the class canvas page weekly to see this information.

### 4. Classroom Decorum and Behavior Policy

Behave like an adult.

### 5. Electronic Devices Policy

Every student has the right to listen to the lecture undistracted by electronic devices such as cellular phones, PDAs, laptop computers and other electronic devices. Likewise, I expect the same courtesy with respect to my ability to present lectures. To ensure that electronics do not distract the class, and to facilitate, rather than impede, learning, their uses in this class are subject to the following rules.

**A. Cellular Phones, Pagers, PDAs, Ipods/MP3 Players and related.**

These devices have no place in the classroom, and they may not be used during lecture. Please turn these off before you enter the auditorium.

**B. Laptop Computers**

Laptop computers are welcome in the classroom for note taking purposes, but may not be used for any other application. Web surfing, text messaging, email and other non-class related computer activities are not permitted during lecture.

N.B. I do not think typing class notes on a computer is a good idea. Note taking is not the same as dictation, and taking effective notes is a skill that must be learned and practiced. I recommend that you take notes using pen and paper, and then summarize and rephrase my lecture points in a manner that is meaningful to you. In the long-run you will learn more, and develop a skill that is more useful than typing quickly.

**6. ADA**

Please inform me immediately if you have special needs addressed by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and need assistance with examinations or other course requirements. You should also notify the Disability Services office regarding ADA considerations relevant to your performance in this class. I will make a reasonable effort to accommodate your needs.

**7. Academic Honesty**

Academic honesty is fundamental to the activities and principles of a university. All members of the academic community must be confident that each person's work has been responsibly and honorably acquired, developed and presented. Any effort to gain advantage not given to all students is dishonest whether or not the effort is successful. The academic community regards academic dishonesty as an extremely serious matter, with serious consequences that range from probation to expulsion. Please contact me if you are in doubt about what constitutes plagiarism, inappropriate paraphrasing, quoting, or collaboration. All examinations in this class must be completed independently.

## Class Schedule

### Part I: Foundations

**8/19 -8/23 Class Introduction - Thinking About Democracy and American Government.**

- APT Chapter 1.
- *The Declaration of Independence* APT Appendix (A1)
- Samuel Adams *The Rights of the Colonists*
- Alexis de Tocqueville *Democracy in America* – Author’s Introduction

**8/26-8/30 Introduction to the Constitution of the United States of America.**

- APT Chapter 2
- *The Constitution of the United States of America* (no amendments) APT Appendix
- Jay Dow *The Federalist and Anti-Federalist Debates*
- Justin Dyer *Slavery and the American Constitution*

**9/2-9/6 The Constitution of the United States of America – Continued**

- *The Constitution of the United States of America* (no amendments) APT Appendix
- *Federalist No. 10* James Madison APT Appendix
- *Federalist No. 51* James Madison APT Appendix
- Anti-Federalist Essays Nos. III&V

**9/9–9/13**

**Federalism**

- APT Chapter 3
- *McCulloch vs. Maryland (1819)*
- *Gibbons vs. Ogden (1824)*
- *Sanctuary Cities: Protecting Citizens or Violating the Law?* American Bar Association
- *The Constitution of the United States of America* (Re-read Article I §8-10, Articles IV&VI) APT Appendix
- *The Constitution of the United States of America*. Amendments 10, 11, 14, 16 APT Appendix
- *The Constitution of the State of Missouri* (Review by Professor Dow in Lecture. **Skim** by accessing at <http://www.moga.mo.gov/mostatutes/moconstn.html> **Do not Print.**)

**\*First Midterm Exam 9/16\***

## Part II. The Primary Institutions

9/16-9/20

### The Legislature

- APT Chapter 11
- David Mayhew *Congress: The Electoral Connection*
- *The Constitution of the United States of America*. Re-read Article I. Amendments 17&27.
- *A Guide to the Missouri Constitution* pp. 39-40 Section 1. pp. 45-47, Section 8 & p. 47 Table.

9/23 – 9/27

### The Legislature - II

- *The Constitution of the United States of America*. Re-read Article I with particular focus on sections 7, 8 and 9.
- Carl Hulse. *Behind Noisy Clashes: Two Chambers That Don't Understand Each Other*
- Adrian U-Jin Ang and L. Marvin Overby *Retirements, Retentions and Who Controls Congress*
- *A Guide to the Missouri Constitution* pp. 49-50 Section 20. pp. 50-53, Sections 21-23, 31-33.

9/30-10/4

### The Executive

- APT Chapter 12
- Stephen Skowronek *Presidential Leadership in a Political Time*
- *The Constitution of the United States of America*. Re-read Article II. Amendments 12, 20, 22, 23, 25. APT Appendix
- *A Guide to the Missouri Constitution* pp. 75-86 Sections 1-4.

10/7-10/11

### The Bureaucracy

- APT Chapter 13
- James Q. Wilson *Bureaucracy and the Public Interest*
- *A Guide to the Missouri Constitution* pp. 108-109. Table pg. 108.

10/14 -10/18

### Judiciary

- APT Chapter 14
- David Scharfenberg *Can the Supreme Court Be Saved?*
- *The Constitution of the United States of America*. Re-read Article III. APT Appendix
- *A Guide to the Missouri Constitution* pp. 122-129. Sections 1-3. pp. 148-152. Section 25(a), 25(b), 25(c)(1)

**\*10/21 Second Midterm Examination\***

### **Part III. Political Parties, Interest Groups and Elections**

#### **10/21 -10/25 Interest Groups**

- *APT Chapter 10*
- Mancur Olson *The Logic of Collective Action*
- E.E. Schattschneider *The Scope and Bias of the Pressure System*

#### **10/28-11/1 Political Parties**

- *APT Chapter 8*
- John H. Aldrich *Why Parties? The Origin and Transformation of Political Parties.*

#### **11/4-11/8 Elections**

- *APT Chapter 9*
- United States Constitution. Article I, section 4. Article II, section 1. Amendments 12, 15, 19, 26. *APT Appendix*
- *Trustees of Dartmouth College vs. Woodward*
- *Citizens United vs. the Federal Election Commission*
- Jay Dow *The Single-Member District System*

**\*11/11 Third Midterm Exam\***

### **Part IV: Civil Liberties and Civil Rights**

#### **11/11-11/15 Civil Liberties**

- *APT Chapter 4*
- *The Constitution of the United States of America.* Re-read Article I, Section 9, Article III, Section 3. Article VI, Amendments 1-10, 14. *APT Appendix*
- Justin Dyer *Natural Rights*
- Justin Dyer *Unenumerated Rights*

#### **11/18-11/22 Civil Liberties and Civil Rights**

- *APT Chapter 5*
- *The Constitution of the United States of America.* Re-read Article III, Section 3. Article VI, Amendments 13-15, 24. *APT Appendix*
- James Endersby and William Horner *Lloyd Gains and the Fight to End Segregation*
- *Brown v. Board of Education I*
- *Brown v. Board of Education II*
- Martin Luther King Jr. *Letter from Birmingham Jail*

#### **11/25-11/29 Thanksgiving Break**

**12/2-12/5 Civil Rights Continued. Course Conclusion**

- *Civil Rights Act of 1964*
- *Voting Rights Act of 1965*
- *Shelby County, AL vs. Holder*
- *Obergefell vs. Hodges*

In Class Video. *Of Civil Wrongs and Rights; The Fred Koramatsu Story*

**Final Examination 12/11 (12:30-2:30)**