

Course Syllabus

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 **Edit**

PS 2305 – 060

Introductory American Government

Spring 2022

01/10 – 04/30

Dr. Kenneth Bryant Jr.

CAS 125

kbryant@uttyler.edu (<mailto:kbryant@uttyler.edu>)

Zoom Film Screenings Access:

<https://uttyler.zoom.us/j/5733552444>

(<https://uttyler.zoom.us/j/5733552444>)

Passcode: **ALAS**

Introduction

In this course, we will begin with a fundamental dynamic of the American political system: conflict. At the heart of conflict within this system is our Constitution and the concept of federalism and each of its iterations. You will also examine the institutions of government, and why and how conflict exists among them. Furthermore, students will focus on interest groups, parties, the bureaucracy, citizenship rights, and public

Course Chat



opinion, all important facets of American government and its
continuation and an enduring conflict in our nation.

Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Examine the concept of federalism and its influence on the government.
2. Have an introductory understanding of American government, the presidency, Congress, and the bureaucracy.
3. Identify the differences between civil liberties and civil rights and their importance in American democracy.
4. Think critically about "hot button" political issues and their impact on society.

Grade

Quizzes – 15%

Film Screenings - 10%

Exam 1 – 25%

Exam 2 – 25%

Final Exam – 25%

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Note - If you miss an exam, you *must* have one of the following: A) a note from a doctor proving you were too ill during the week of the exam to take it. Be aware that receipts from the Student Health Center are not sufficient documentation of a serious illness; or B) a copy of an obituary, in the unfortunate case you have to attend a funeral. No other excuses will be accepted for a missed exam. If an exam is missed, the student will receive a grade of *zero*, and (unlike a summer in Texas) that ain't going to be too hot.

Grade Assignme

Below 60 = F

60 and less than 70 :

70 and less than 80 :

80 and less than 90 :

90 and less than 100

Accommodation

If you need accommodations because of a disability information to share with me, please inform me immediately. To request academic accommodations (for example, a

exams), students must also register with the Office of Student Accessibility and Resources (SAR) (<https://www.uttyler.edu/disabilityservices/>), located at UC 3150 (903-566-7079). It is the campus office responsible for reviewing documentation provided by students requesting academic accommodations, and for accommodations planning in cooperation with students and instructors, as needed and consistent with course requirements.

Important Covid-19 Information for Classrooms and Laboratories

Students are required to wear face masks covering their nose and mouth, and follow social distancing guidelines, at all times in public settings (including classrooms and laboratories), as specified by Procedures for Fall 2020 Return to Normal Operations. The UT Tyler community of Patriots views adoption of these practices consistent with its Honor Code and a sign of good citizenship and respectful care of fellow classmates, faculty, and staff.

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Students who are feeling ill or experiencing symptoms or a higher than normal temperature will be excused from class and may join the class remotely. Students who are unable to attend class for Covid-19 safety policies for health reasons are also excused from class and may join the class remotely. Students needing additional accommodations should contact Student Accessibility and Resources at University Center 2079 or email saroffice@uttyler.edu.

Recording of Class Sessions

Class sessions may be recorded by the instructor for the course. Recordings that contain personally identifiable information subject to FERPA shall not be shared with anyone outside the course unless appropriate consent is obtained from the student. Course recordings are reserved only for the use of student records for educational purposes. Course recordings should not be distributed in any form without express permission.



Schedule

Refer to Canvas modules.

UT Tyler Honor Code

Every member of the UT Tyler community joins together to embrace: Honor and integrity that will not allow me to lie, cheat, or steal, nor to accept the actions of those who do. Students Rights and Responsibilities To know and understand the policies that affect your rights and responsibilities as a student at UT Tyler, please follow this link: <http://www.uttyler.edu/wellness/rightsresponsibilities.php> (<http://www.uttyler.edu/wellness/rightsresponsibilities.php>)

Campus Carry

We respect the right and privacy of students 21 and carry concealed weapons in this class. License holders should carry responsibly and keep a handgun secure and concealed at <http://www.uttyler.edu/about/campus-carry/index.php>

UT Tyler a Tobacco-Free University

All forms of tobacco will not be permitted on the UT Tyler campuses, and any property owned by UT Tyler. This includes the University community, including students, faculty, staff, contractors, and visitors. Forms of tobacco not permitted include pipes, water pipes (hookah), bidis, kreteks, electronic cigarettes, snuff, chewing tobacco, and all other tobacco products. Quitting programs available to students looking to quit smoking include quitlines, and group support. For more information on cessation programs please visit www.uttyler.edu/tobacco-free (<http://www.uttyler.edu/tobacco-free>)

Grade Replacement/Forgiveness and Census Date Policies

Students repeating a course for grade forgiveness (grade replacement) must file a Grade Replacement Contract with the Enrollment Services Center (ADM 230) on or before the Census Date of the semester in which the course will be repeated. (For Fall, the Census Date is Sept. 12.) Grade Replacement Contracts are available in the Enrollment Services Center or at <http://www.uttyler.edu/registrar> (<http://www.uttyler.edu/registrar>). Each semester's Census Date can be found on the Contract itself, on the Academic Calendar, or in the information pamphlets published each semester by the Office of the Registrar. Failure to file a Grade Replacement Contract will result in both the original and repeated grade being used to calculate your overall grade point average. Undergraduates are eligible to exercise grade replacement for only three course repeats during their career at UT Tyler; graduates are eligible for two grade replacements. Full policy details are printed on each Grade Replacement Contract.



The Census Date (Sept. 12th) is the deadline for many items of which students need to be aware. These include:

- Submitting Grade Replacement Contracts, Transcripts, and directory information, approvals for taking courses for Credit.
- Receiving 100% refunds for partial withdrawals. (before the Census Date)
- Schedule adjustments (section changes, adding or dropping a "W" grade)
- Being reinstated or re-enrolled in classes after being dropped
- Completing the process for tuition exemptions or State-Mandated Course

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Drop Policy

Texas law prohibits a student who began college for the first time in Texas thereafter from dropping more than six courses during their entire undergraduate career. This includes courses dropped at another 2-year or 4-year Texas public college or university. For purposes of this rule, a dropped course is any course that is dropped after the census date (See Academic Calendar for the specific date). Exceptions to the 6-drop rule may be found in the catalog. Petitions for exemptions must be submitted to the Enrollment Services Center and must be accompanied by documentation of the extenuating circumstance. Please contact the Enrollment Services Center if you have any questions.

Disability/Accessibility Services

In accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the ADA Amendments Act (ADAAA) the University of Texas at Tyler offers accommodations to students with learning, physical and/or psychological disabilities. If you have a disability, including a non-visible diagnosis such as a learning disorder, chronic illness, TBI, PTSD, ADHD, or you have a history of modifications or accommodations in a previous educational environment, you are encouraged to visit <https://hood.accessiblelearning.com/UTTyler> and fill out the Accessibility Services Request Form.

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The Student Accessibility and Resources (SAR) office application has been submitted and an appointment with the Director of Student Services/ADA Coordinator. For more information on how to request an application for services, please visit the SAR website at <http://www.uttyler.edu/disabilityservices> (http://www.uttyler.edu/disabilityservices), the SAR office located in the University Center, #300.

Student Absence due to Religious Observance

Students who anticipate being absent from class due to religious observance are requested to inform the instructor of such absences at the beginning of the semester. (Revised 05/17)

Student Absence for University-Sponsored Events

If you intend to be absent for a university-sponsored event (e.g., a conference or event sponsor) must notify the instructor at least two weeks in advance of a planned absence. At that time the instructor will set alternative assignments that will be completed.

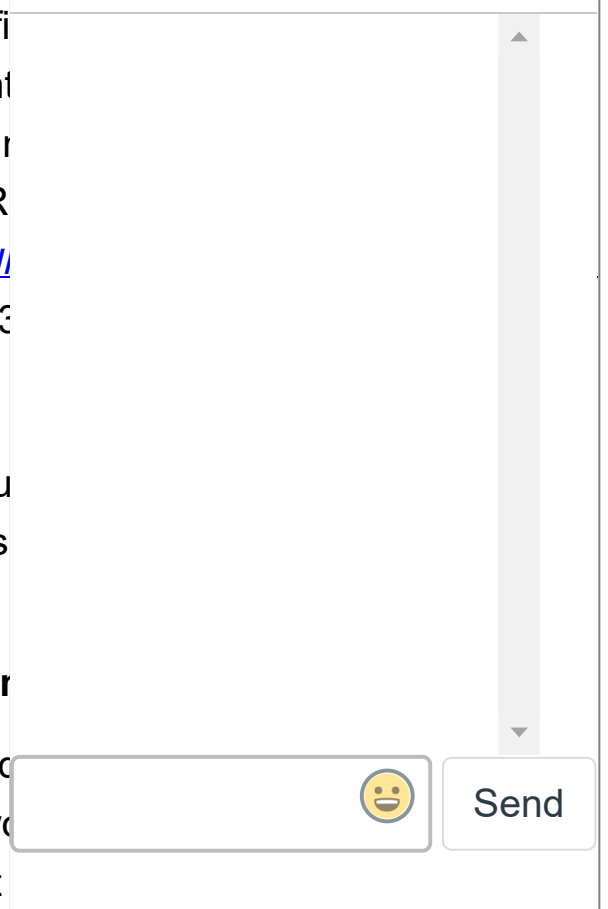
Social Security and FERPA Statement

It is the policy of The University of Texas at Tyler to protect the confidential nature of social security numbers. The University has changed its computer programming so that all students have an identification number. The electronic transmission of grades (e.g., via e-mail) risks violation of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act; grades will not be transmitted electronically.

Emergency Exits and Evacuation

Everyone is required to exit the building when a fire alarm goes off. Follow your instructor's directions regarding the appropriate exit. If you require assistance during an evacuation, inform your instructor in the first week of class. Do not re-enter the building unless given permission by University Police, Fire department, or Fire Prevention Services.

Student Standards of Academic Conduct



The image shows a chat window with a text input field, a smiley face emoji button, and a 'Send' button. The text input field is empty. The smiley face emoji button is a yellow circle with a simple smile. The 'Send' button is a white rectangle with a grey border and the word 'Send' in black text.

Disciplinary proceedings may be initiated against a student for academic dishonesty, including, but not limited to, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are copied from another person, taking an examination for another person, or giving unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to do so.

“Cheating” includes, but is not limited to:

- copying from another student’s test paper;
- using, during a test, materials not authorized by the instructor;
- failure to comply with instructions given by the person administering the test;
- possession during a test of materials which are not authorized for use in giving the test, such as class notes or specifically prohibited materials; the presence of textbooks constitutes a violation if their use is prohibited by the person administering the test;
- using, buying, stealing, transporting, or soliciting materials for an unadministered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program;
- collaborating with or seeking aid from another student during a test or other assignment without authority;
- discussing the contents of an examination with another student who will take the examination;
- divulging the contents of an examination, for the purpose of preserving questions for use by another, when the instructor has designated that the examination is not to be removed from the examination room or not to be returned or to be kept by the student;
- substituting for another person, or permitting another person to substitute for oneself to take a course, a test, or any course-related assignment;
- paying or offering money or other valuable thing to, or coercing another person to obtain an unadministered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program or information about an unadministered test, test key, homework solution or computer program;
- falsifying research data, laboratory reports, and/or other academic work offered for credit;

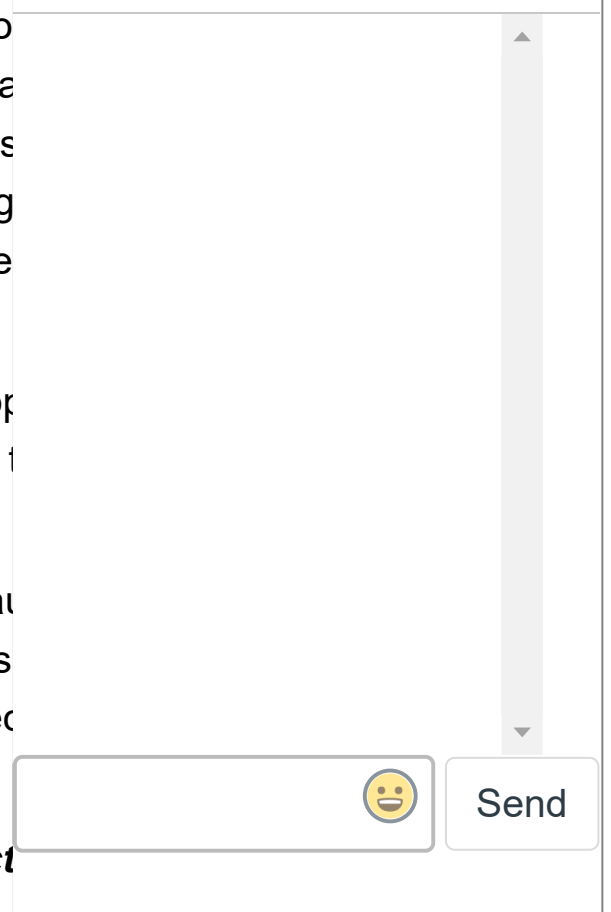


- taking, keeping, misplacing, or damaging the property of the University of Texas at Tyler, or of another, if the student knows or reasonably should know that an unfair academic advantage would be gained by so doing.
- misrepresenting facts, including providing false information, for the purpose of obtaining an academic or financial benefit, or acting unethically, academically or financially.

“Plagiarism” includes, but is not limited to, the appropriation of another’s work, gift, or obtaining by any means another’s work and submitting it as one’s own academic work offered for credit.

“Collusion” includes, but is not limited to, the unauthorized assistance of another person in preparing academic assignments or the agreement with another person to commit a violation of any section of the University’s code of dishonesty.

All written work that is submitted will be subject to plagiarism detection software.



UT Tyler Resources for Students












- UT Tyler Writing Center (903.565.5995), writingcenter@uttyler.edu (<mailto:writingcenter@uttyler.edu>)
- UT Tyler Tutoring Center (903.565.5964), tutoring@uttyler.edu (<mailto:tutoring@uttyler.edu>)
- The Mathematics Learning Center, RBN 4021, this is the open access computer lab for math students, with tutors on duty to assist students who are enrolled in early-career courses.
- UT Tyler Counseling Center (903.566.7254)



Course Summary:

Date	Details
Sun Jan 16, 2022	 The Politics of the American Founding (U.S. Constitution) https://uttyler.instructure.com/courses/28707/assignments/557095
Sun Jan 23, 2022	 Federalism due by 11:59pm https://uttyler.instructure.com/courses/28707/assignments/557095
Sun Jan 30, 2022	 Fundamental American Liberties (Civil Liberties) due by 11:59pm https://uttyler.instructure.com/courses/28707/assignments/557087
Sun Feb 6, 2022	 The Struggle for Equal Rights due by 11:59pm https://uttyler.instructure.com/courses/28707/assignments/557099
Sun Feb 13, 2022	 Exam 1 due by 11:59pm https://uttyler.instructure.com/courses/28707/assignments/557093
Sun Feb 20, 2022	 Public Opinion due by 11:59pm https://uttyler.instructure.com/courses/28707/assignments/557084
Sun Mar 6, 2022	 Media due by 11:59pm https://uttyler.instructure.com/courses/28707/assignments/557097

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Date	Details
	 Voting, Campaigns, Elections https://uttyler.instructure.com/courses/28707/assignments/557091
Sun Mar 13, 2022	 Political Parties https://uttyler.instructure.com/courses/28707/assignments/557092
Sun Mar 20, 2022	 Exam 2 https://uttyler.instructure.com/courses/28707/assignments/557093
Sun Mar 27, 2022	 Congress https://uttyler.instructure.com/courses/28707/assignments/557094
Sun Apr 3, 2022	 Presidency https://uttyler.instructure.com/courses/28707/assignments/557095
Sun Apr 17, 2022	 Interest Groups https://uttyler.instructure.com/courses/28707/assignments/557091
	 Bureaucracy https://uttyler.instructure.com/courses/28707/assignments/557094
Sun Apr 24, 2022	 The American Legal System and the Courts (The Judiciary) https://uttyler.instructure.com/courses/28707/assignments/557092
Fri Apr 29, 2022	 Film #1 https://uttyler.instructure.com/courses/28707/assignments/557100
	 Film #2 https://uttyler.instructure.com/courses/28707/assignments/557101
	 Film #3 https://uttyler.instructure.com/courses/28707/assignments/557102

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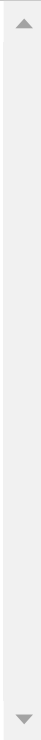
Course Chat ▲


Date

Details

 [Film #4 \(Optional\) - Score Replacement](#)
(<https://uttyler.instructure.com>)

 [Final Exam](#)
(<https://uttyler.instructure.com>)





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