


Faculty Information	<p>Dr. Amentahru Wahlrab  E-mail: <a href="mailto:awahlrab@uttyler.edu">awahlrab@uttyler.edu</a> (best contact method; Please include <b>POLS2305.[insert section number here]</b> in the subject line)  Office: CAS 124A &amp; Zoom  Office Hours: <b>M/W 12:30pm to 2pm</b> (please email to schedule an appointment if you can't make these times)</p> <p>I am guaranteed to check email at least once a day (not including Sunday). You should expect a response within 3 business days.</p> <p>Email policy: per university request, I will only communicate with students via your Patriot email accounts. The university has had several problems reaching students with vital questions or information because they do not check their Patriot email, and they have asked faculty to require that students use their Patriot email accounts. <u>All responses to student email will be sent only to your Patriot email account</u> (even if you send the email from some other account). <u>Email sent from any non-Patriot email account will not be answered.</u></p>
Canvas and Technical Support	<p>This online class will be conducted through Canvas. If you experience any problems logging into Canvas or any technical problems with the system you should seek help from <a href="#">Campus Computing</a>. They can be reached via email at <a href="mailto:itsupport@patriots.uttyler.edu">itsupport@patriots.uttyler.edu</a>. Please include your full name, student ID number and date of birth in any communications you send to them.</p>
Textbook <b><u>Available free through UT Tyler Library</u></b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Anthony R. Dimaggio, <i>Political Power in America: Class Conflict and the Subversion of Democracy</i> (Albany: State University of New York, 2019).   Marc Owens, Kenneth Bryant, Eric Lopez, <i>Game of Politics: Conflict, Power, and Representation</i>, (Tyler, TX: University of Texas at Tyler Press, 2020).</li> </ol>

<p>Course Description and Objectives</p>	<p>This course is an examination of the United States political system, including its intellectual foundations and the design of the Constitution through a political-economy lens. It includes study of the major institutional factors, wealth and class, the impact of interest groups and the media, and the processes of policy-making. It may be taken in fulfillment of statutory requirements for a baccalaureate degree.</p> <p>The primary goal is to successfully complete a required course with minimal pain and suffering while gathering useful information. To that end, after successfully completing this course, students should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrate familiarity with terminology used to study political science and American government</li> <li>• Describe the historical evolution of American governmental structures</li> <li>• Defend the constitutional, institutional, political and legal processes and structures of the United States</li> <li>• Explain the interrelationships of American governmental institutions</li> <li>• Summarize the basic values of American political culture</li> </ul> <p>Credit Hours: 3; Prerequisites: None</p>
<p>Course Structure</p>	<p>This course will be conducted in five units (This course will run at a “go-at-your-own pace” schedule though the following schedule should be viewed as a strong suggestion.) and there will be one exam over the material in each unit (note: there is no comprehensive final exam in this course). All units will be available until the last day of classes, and you may work through them at you own pace so long as you complete all required materials for each unit before the end of classes. The units will close (i.e. no longer be available) at the end of the <u>last day of class April 27, 2024.</u></p>

Grading	<p>Your grade in this class will consist of the following components:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Chapter Quizzes –There will be one quiz for each chapter and each quiz will be worth 10 points. You may take up to 18 quizzes but I will count only the 10 highest scores (up to 100 points).</li><li>• Unit Exams (400 points) – there will be five exams (one over each unit), each worth 100 points. Your lowest exam grade will be dropped.</li></ul> <p>Course grades will be assigned as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 90 – 100% = A</li><li>• 80 – 89% = B</li><li>• 70 – 79% = C</li><li>• 60 – 69% = D</li><li>• 0 – 59 % = F</li></ul> <p>You must turn in <u>all assigned work to pass this class.</u></p>
Late and Make up work	<p>This is a go-at-your-own-pace class. You must finish all material before the end of the last day of class.</p>

<p>Academic Dishonesty: <b>DON'T CHEAT!</b></p>	<p>The UT Tyler community regards cheating as an extremely serious matter and deals severely with those who violate the standards of academic integrity. Examples of academic dishonesty include (but are not limited to):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Copying from another person's test paper</li> <li>• During a test, possession of materials not authorized by the person administering the test</li> <li>• Discussing the contents of an examination with another student who will take the examination or the divulging of examination contents to another when an instructor has allowed the exam to be kept by the student</li> <li>• Working with others in taking tests or preparing academic assignments when not authorized by the course instructor</li> <li>• Obtaining by any means another person's work and submitting that work as one's own. This included the downloading of academic papers or the purchase of papers written by others.</li> </ul> <p>If a student is suspected of academic dishonesty, the classroom instructor may ask the student to meet with him or her to discuss the incident. A student may admit to allegations of academic dishonesty, waive the right to a hearing and accept penalties imposed by the instructor. The student may also deny all allegations and ask to see the Dean of Student Affairs. An accused student may accept the decision of the Dean of Student Affairs or ask for a hearing before an impartial hearing officer appointed by the university. Witnesses may be called and evidence presented. The hearing officer will consider all evidence and make a decision. The decision of the hearing officer may be appealed to the President by either the student or the Dean of Student Affairs. For a discussion of possible penalties, please see the <a href="#">Guide to Student Conduct and Discipline</a>.</p>
<p>University Policies</p>	<p><b>UT Tyler Honor Code</b> 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.</p> <p><b>Students Rights and Responsibilities</b> To know and understand the policies that affect your rights and responsibilities as a student at UT Tyler, please follow this link: <a href="http://www.uttyler.edu/wellness/rightsresponsibilities.php">http://www.uttyler.edu/wellness/rightsresponsibilities.php</a></p> <p><b>Campus Carry</b> We respect the right and privacy of students 21 and over who are duly licensed to carry concealed weapons in this class. License holders are expected to behave responsibly and keep a handgun secure and concealed. More information is available at <a href="http://www.uttyler.edu/about/campus-carry/index.php">http://www.uttyler.edu/about/campus-carry/index.php</a></p> <p><b>UT Tyler a Tobacco-Free University</b> All forms of tobacco will not be permitted on the UT Tyler main campus, branch campuses, and any property owned by UT Tyler. This applies to all members of the University community, including students, faculty, staff, University affiliates, contractors, and visitors. Forms of tobacco not permitted include cigarettes, cigars, pipes, water pipes (hookah), bidis, kreteks, electronic cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, snuff, chewing tobacco, and all other tobacco products. There are several cessation programs available to students looking to quit smoking, including counseling, quitlines, and group support. For more information on cessation programs please visit <a href="http://www.uttyler.edu/tobacco-free">www.uttyler.edu/tobacco-free</a>.</p> <p><b>Grade Replacement/Forgiveness and Census Date Policies</b> 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. Grade Replacement Contracts are available in the Enrollment Services Center or at <a href="http://www.uttyler.edu/registrar">http://www.uttyler.edu/registrar</a>. 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.</p>

	<p>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 is the deadline for many forms and enrollment actions of which students need to be aware. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Submitting Grade Replacement Contracts, Transient Forms, requests to withhold directory information, approvals for taking courses as Audit, Pass/Fail or Credit/No Credit.</li> <li>• Receiving 100% refunds for partial withdrawals. (There is no refund for these after the Census Date)</li> <li>• Schedule adjustments (section changes, adding a new class, dropping without a “W” grade)</li> <li>• Being reinstated or re-enrolled in classes after being dropped for non-payment</li> <li>• Completing the process for tuition exemptions or waivers through Financial Aid</li> </ul> <p><b>State-Mandated Course Drop Policy</b> Texas law prohibits a student who began college for the first time in Fall 2007 or 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.</p> <p><b>Disability/Accessibility Services</b> 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 <a href="https://hood.accessiblelearning.com/UTTyler">https://hood.accessiblelearning.com/UTTyler</a> and fill out the New Student application. The Student Accessibility and Resources (SAR) office will contact you when your application has been submitted and an appointment with Cynthia Lowery, Assistant Director of Student Services/ADA Coordinator. For more information, including filling out an application for services, please visit the SAR webpage at <a href="http://www.uttyler.edu/disabilityservices">http://www.uttyler.edu/disabilityservices</a>, the SAR office located in the University Center, # 3150 or call 903.566.7079.</p> <p><b>Student Absence due to Religious Observance</b> Students who anticipate being absent from class due to a religious observance are requested to inform the instructor of such absences by the second class meeting of the semester.</p> <p><b>Student Absence for University-Sponsored Events and Activities</b> If you intend to be absent for a university-sponsored event or activity, you (or the event sponsor) must notify the instructor at least two weeks prior to the date of the planned absence. At that time the instructor will set a date and time when make-up assignments will be completed.</p> <p><b>Social Security and FERPA Statement</b> 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.</p> <p><b>Emergency Exits and Evacuation</b> 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.</p> <p><b>Student Standards of Academic Conduct</b> Disciplinary proceedings may be initiated against any student who engages in scholastic dishonesty, including, but not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or</p>
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	<p>materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts.</p> <p>i. “Cheating” includes, but is not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• copying from another student’s test paper;</li> <li>• using, during a test, materials not authorized by the person giving the test;</li> <li>• failure to comply with instructions given by the person administering the test;</li> <li>• possession during a test of materials which are not authorized by the person giving the test, such as class notes or specifically designed “crib notes”. The presence of textbooks constitutes a violation if they have been specifically prohibited by the person administering the test;</li> <li>• using, buying, stealing, transporting, or soliciting in whole or part the contents of an unadministered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program;</li> <li>• collaborating with or seeking aid from another student during a test or other assignment without authority;</li> <li>• discussing the contents of an examination with another student who will take the examination;</li> <li>• divulging the contents of an examination, for the purpose of preserving questions for use by another, when the instructors 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;</li> <li>• substituting for another person, or permitting another person to substitute for oneself to take a course, a test, or any course-related assignment;</li> <li>• 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, home solution or computer program;</li> <li>• falsifying research data, laboratory reports, and/or other academic work offered for credit;</li> <li>• 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 such conduct; and</li> <li>• misrepresenting facts, including providing false grades or resumes, for the purpose of obtaining an academic or financial benefit or injuring another student academically or financially.</li> </ul> <p>ii. “Plagiarism” includes, but is not limited to, the appropriation, buying, receiving as a gift, or obtaining by any means another’s work and the submission of it as one’s own academic work offered for credit.</p> <p>iii. “Collusion” includes, but is not limited to, the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing academic assignments offered for credit or collaboration with another person to commit a violation of any section of the rules on scholastic dishonesty.</p> <p>iv. All written work that is submitted will be subject to review by plagiarism software.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Additional Syllabus Information</b></p> <p><b>UT Tyler Resources for Students</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UT Tyler Writing Center (903.565.5995), <a href="mailto:writingcenter@uttyler.edu">writingcenter@uttyler.edu</a></li> <li>• UT Tyler Tutoring Center (903.565.5964), <a href="mailto:tutoring@uttyler.edu">tutoring@uttyler.edu</a></li> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• UT Tyler Counseling Center (903.566.7254)</li> </ul>
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## COURSE SCHEDULE

### UNIT 1

(Weeks 1-2)

**Themes:** Introduction, Class Politics, Theories of Government, American Political Culture, the Founding and the Constitution, Federalism

**Readings:**

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>! Introduction: A Class Analysis of the American Political System</li> <li>! Chapter 1: Theories of Government, Early American History, and the Politics of Class Conflict</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>! Chapter 2: A Constitution in Question: How Democratic is the Founding Document?</li> <li>! Chapter 3: Federalism and the Struggle for Democracy</li> </ul> |
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**Assignments:** check Canvas for quizzes 1-4 and Unit 1 Exam

### UNIT 2

(Weeks 3-5)

**Themes:** Interest Groups, Congress, the Executive Branch, and the Bureaucracy

**Readings:**

- ! Chapter 4: Interest Groups and the Upper-Class Perversion of Political Power
- ! Chapter 5: Congress: the Dysfunction Branch
- ! Chapter 6: The Executive Branch: Political Power, The Imperial Presidency, and the Threat to Democracy
- ! Chapter 7: The Bureaucracy and Rising Threats to the Common Good

**Assignments:** check Canvas for quizzes 5-8 and Unit 2 exam

### UNIT 3

(Weeks 6-8)

**Themes:** Political Parties, Campaigns, Elections, and The Media

**Assignments:** check Canvas for quizzes 9-12 and Unit 3 exam

**Readings:**

- ! Chapter 8: The Courts and Judicial Process: Ideology, Conflict, and Class Elitism
- ! Chapter 9: Political Parties: a Crisis of Public Confidence
- ! Chapter 10: Elections and Voting: Electoral Capture by Elites
- ! Chapter 11: Politics and the Media: Bias in Pursuit of Elite Agendas

**UNIT 4****(Weeks 9-11)****Themes:** Public Opinion and Ideology, Civil Liberties, Civil Rights, and the fight for Equality**Readings:**

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| ! Chapter 12: Public Opinion and Ideology: The Rise of | Right-Wing Politics and Mass Resistance | Quest for Corporate Personhood                        |
|  | ! Chapter 13 Civil Liberties and the    | ! Chapter 14: Civil Rights and the Fight for Equality |

**Assignments:** check Canvas for quizzes 13-15 and Unit 4 exam**UNIT 5****(Weeks12-14)****Themes:** Economic Policy, Foreign policy, and Conclusion**Readings:**

- ! Chapter 15: Economic Policy: Growing Inequality and Business Power in Politics
- ! Chapter 16: Imperialism and U.S. Foreign Policy: Protecting Business Interests Abroad
- ! Conclusion: Where do we go from here?

**Assignments:** check Canvas for quizzes and exam**Final Exam: There is no final exam for this class! Good luck with the rest of your classes!**