



SYLLABUS

Course Title	American Politics
Course Number	PSI 101
Number of Credits	3
Course Dates	3/9/20 - 5/9/20
Instructor	Adam Morfeld
Email Address	adam.morfeld@doane.edu
Office Hours/Availability	I am available at any time for email and text. Given my busy work schedule, calls can be tough but I am happy to talk on the phone. My goal is to respond to email, texts, and calls within 24 hours.
Phone Number	Cell: 402-613-0724 (I accept texts)
Textbook Information: (e.g. title, edition, publisher, ISBN)	American Government (11th Edition), by Neal Tannahill, Pearson, ISBN: 0205210554
Additional Course Materials	NA
Course Description	An analysis of American political institutions and behavior.

Foundational Area of Knowledge	<p>FAK: Community and Identity</p> <p>Students will work to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • explore dimensions of human experience with regard to perceptions of self • understand how individuals interact to form communities and social structures • analyze the practical and ethical implications of interactions between individuals and those social structures
Course Learning Outcomes/Objectives	<p>Upon successful completion of the course, students will have demonstrated the knowledge and skills outlined here:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand and be able to discuss the US Constitution – the foundation of American government • Understand the design, purpose, and functions of the branches of US government • Understand the impact of non-governmental organizations on the political process • Understand and analyze political parties and their platforms • Develop and use analytical and critical thinking skills to analyze political speech, issues, and punditry to make informed decisions related to American government • Understand the individual citizens role in government and their impact •
Technology Requirements	https://www.doane.edu/faq/minimum-computer-requirements

Course Schedule

PSI 101 Grading and Assignment Schedule

Elected Official Letter: 200

Policy Paper: 100

Class Participation: 300

Final Group Presentation: 400

Total: 1000 Points

Week One

Reading: Intro to Chapter 1

Assignment: Identify elected official and letter topic.

Week Two

Reading: Chapters 2,3

Assignment: Send letter to elected official, and email Adam your policy paper topic and one liner.

Week Three

Reading: Read chapters 4, 5

Assignment: Get paired with your group and meet with them in class to pick your final presentation topic.

Week Four

Reading: Read chapters 6, 7, 8

Assignment: None.

Week Five

Reading:Read chapters 10, 11, 12

Assignment: Turn in policy paper.

Week Six

Reading: Read chapters 13 14, 15

Assignment: Turn in letter to elected official response and reaction/analysis.

Week Seven

Reading: Assigned

Assignment: No Assignment - Practice Presentations in Class

Week Eight

Assignment: Final Presentations

Grading Assessments

A+ = 97-100%	A = 94-96%	A- = 90-93%	B+ = 87-89%	B = 84-86%	B- = 80-83%
C+ = 77-79%	C = 74-76%	C- = 70-73%	D+ = 67-69%	D = 64-66%	D- = 60-63%
F= 59% or below					

Participation Policy	A student is expected to be prompt and regularly attend on-ground classes in their entirety. Participation in class discussions is an integral part of your grade and an integral part of American democracy and thus a significant portion of your grade!
Study Time	Expectation of the amount of time the course requires students to spend preparing and completing assignments. Typically, students could expect to spend approximately 12 hours a week preparing for and actively participating in this 8-week 3 credit hour course. This actual time for study varies depending on students' backgrounds.
Late Work	Assignments turned in after the due date will be accepted IF the student contacts the faculty member prior to the assignment due date.
Submitting Assignments	Submit all assignments in paper form on the day they are due in class.
Communication Policy including Assignment Feedback	Mastery is the focus of this course. Any assignments that are graded will be returned to you the next and can be edited for additional credit the following week the student receives them. Always feel free to reach out if the expectations are not clear or you just need help!
Academic Integrity Policy	<p>Doane University expects and requires all its students to act with honesty and integrity and respect the rights of others in carrying out all academic assignments. Academic dishonesty, the act of knowingly and willingly attempting or assisting others to gain academic success by dishonest means, is defined in four categories:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cheating - "Intentionally using or attempting to use unauthorized information or study aids in an academic exercise." 2. Fabrication - "Intentional and unauthorized falsification of invention or any information or citation in an academic exercise." 3. Facilitating Academic Dishonesty - "Intentionally or knowingly helping or attempting to help another to commit an act of dishonesty," and/or coercing others to do the same. 4. Plagiarism - "Intentionally or knowingly representing the words or ideas of another as one's own in any academic exercise," in both oral and written projects. <p><i>Gehring, D., Nuss, E.M., & Pavela, G. (1986). Issues and perspectives on academic integrity. Columbus, OH: National Association of Student</i></p>

	<p><i>Personnel Administrators</i></p> <p>For more information on the sanctions for academic dishonesty, please visit the website:</p> <p>https://catalog.doane.edu/content.php?catoid=16&navoid=1333</p>
Academic Support	<p>Please contact academicsupport@doane.edu</p> <p>https://www.doane.edu/graduate-and-adult/academic-support</p>
Disability Services	<p>https://www.doane.edu/disability-services</p> <p>Doane University supports reasonable accommodations to allow participation by individuals with disabilities. Any request for accommodation must be initiated by the student as soon as possible. Each student receiving accommodations is responsible for his or her educational and personal needs while enrolled at Doane University.</p>
Military Services	<p>https://www.doane.edu/graduate-and-adult/military</p>
Anti-Harassment Policy	<p>http://catalog.doane.edu/content.php?catoid=5&navoid=452</p>
Grade Appeal Process	<p>http://catalog.doane.edu/content.php?catoid=5&navoid=238</p>
Credit Hour Definition	<p>Doane University follows the federal guideline defining a credit hour as one hour (50 minutes) of classroom or direct faculty instruction and a minimum of two hours of out-of-class student work each week for approximately fifteen weeks (one semester), or the equivalent amount of work over a different time period (e.g., an 8-week term). This definition applies to courses regardless of delivery format, and thus includes in-person, online, and hybrid courses (combination of in-person and online). It also applies to internship, laboratory, performance, practicum, research, student teaching, and studio courses, among other contexts.</p>
Syllabus Changes	<p>Circumstances may occur which require adjustments to the syllabus. Changes will be made public at the earliest possible time.</p>

