



A	Course Title & Number	POLS 1: Introduction to United States Government											
B	Course Attributes	Title 5 Category: AA Degree Applicable ~ Grade or P/NP Transfer Credit: CSU and UC Repeatability: 00 – Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP Recommended Preparation: Eligibility for ENGL 1A or equivalent or appropriate placement based on AB705 mandates											
C	Units	3.00											
D	Faculty Name	Johannes A.A.M. van Gorp											
E	Term/ Year	Fall 2021											
F	Sections	<table><tr><th>Sect</th><th>Course</th><th>Location</th></tr><tr><td>0848</td><td>POLS 1</td><td>Online</td></tr></table>				Sect	Course	Location	0848	POLS 1	Online		
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G	Instructor Information	<table><tr><th>Instructor</th><th>Office</th><th>Telephone</th><th>Email</th></tr><tr><td>J.A.A.M. van Gorp</td><td>Call 675</td><td>707-778-3962</td><td>jvangorp@santarosa.edu</td></tr></table> <p><u>Communication:</u></p> <p>I usually respond to email within 24 hours from Monday to Friday.</p> <p>When emailing me, please use proper salutations and include your full name and section number.</p> <p><u>Office Hours:</u></p> <p>Tuesday and Thursday from 11:00 to 12:30, Monday from 12:15 to 13:00, and 15:15 to 16:45, and Friday from 12:30 to 13:30 by appointment. To access my office hours, please book a 15 minute appointment on one of those days using the following link.</p>				Instructor	Office	Telephone	Email	J.A.A.M. van Gorp	Call 675	707-778-3962	jvangorp@santarosa.edu
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J.A.A.M. van Gorp	Call 675	707-778-3962	jvangorp@santarosa.edu										
H	Course Description from Catalog	Principles and problems of government with emphasis on national, state and local governments in the United States.											
I	Course Outline	The course outline of record can be found here .											
J	Student Learning Outcomes	Upon completion of the course, students will be able to: 1. Analyze American political institutions and processes; 2. Assess how government impacts their daily lives; 3. Engage in discourse about contemporary political problems and issues, applying critical thinking skills and analysis to support a point of view.											
K	Textbook and other Instructional Material and Resources	Required: 1. Kernell, S., Jacobson, G. C., Kousser, T. and Vavreck, L. (2020). <i>The Logic of American Politics, 9 Edition</i> . Thousand Oaks, CA: CQ Press 2. Occasional selections from <i>The Economist’s</i> America section. (can be found on Canvas) 3. Select readings that can be found on Canvas.											



L	Teaching and Learning Methodologies	This class relies on multiple teaching and learning methodologies. These include online lectures, discussions, and exams.																																			
M	Grading Scale, Grading Distribution, and Due Dates	<div><u>Grading Scale</u></div> <table><tr><td>90.00 – 100.0</td><td>4</td><td>A</td></tr><tr><td>80.00 – 89.99</td><td>3</td><td>B</td></tr><tr><td>70.00 – 79.99</td><td>2</td><td>C</td></tr><tr><td>60.00 – 69.99</td><td>1</td><td>D</td></tr><tr><td>Less than 59.99</td><td>0</td><td>F</td></tr></table> <div><u>Pass-No Pass (P/NP)</u> You may take this class P/NP. You must decide before the deadline, and add the option online with TLC or file the P/NP form with Admissions and Records. With a grade of C or better, you will get P. You must file for the P/NP option by October 7, 2021. Once you decide to go for P/NP, you cannot change back to a letter grade. If you are taking this course as part of a certificate program, you can probably still take the class P/NP. Check with a counselor to be sure.</div> <div><u>Grading Distribution</u></div> <table><tr><th>Assessment</th><th>Weight</th><th>Due Date</th></tr><tr><td>Discussion Posts</td><td>40%</td><td>Weekly</td></tr><tr><td>Quizzes</td><td>20%</td><td>Weekly</td></tr><tr><td>Midterm</td><td>20%</td><td>Sun. Oct. 31 @ 11:59pm</td></tr><tr><td>Final Exam</td><td>20%</td><td>Mon. Dec. 13 @ 11:59pm</td></tr><tr><td>Total</td><td>100%</td><td></td></tr></table> <div><i>Your final grade will be based exclusively on these course components. If extra credit is offered, it is offered to the whole class. Once posted, grades are final and will not be changed barring a mathematical or clerical error.</i></div>			90.00 – 100.0	4	A	80.00 – 89.99	3	B	70.00 – 79.99	2	C	60.00 – 69.99	1	D	Less than 59.99	0	F	Assessment	Weight	Due Date	Discussion Posts	40%	Weekly	Quizzes	20%	Weekly	Midterm	20%	Sun. Oct. 31 @ 11:59pm	Final Exam	20%	Mon. Dec. 13 @ 11:59pm	Total	100%	
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O	Explanation of Assessments	<div>1. <i>Discussion Posts</i> = There will be graded on-line discussions throughout the course. These will happen every week and will be based on a prompt given to you that week. <u>I read these discussion posts closely, so make sure you proofread your posts, that the commentary is coherent, and that you integrate that week’s readings into your post(s).</u> Your post for each week will be due on Thursday by 18:00. You will then have until Friday at 20:00 to respond to two classmates. Because we can’t always deliver our best work, the lowest discussion grade will be dropped.</div>																																			



	<ol style="list-style-type: none">2. <i>Quizzes</i> = Beginning in week 2 you will have a quiz once a week. These quizzes are there to ensure that you have an incentive to stay on top of your readings. They are also there so that the instructor can be sure that you are comprehending these readings. There will not be makeup quizzes. Because life happens the two lowest quiz grades will be dropped.3. <i>Midterm</i> = The midterm consists 20 multiple choice questions and 4 short answer questions (each answer should be about a paragraph in length).4. <i>Final Exam</i> = The final exam will consist of 2 short answer questions (each answer should be about a paragraph in length) and an essay.
P Academic Integrity Policy	All written work is to be original; plagiarism of any kind will result in a failing grade on that assignment. Students who plagiarize or cheat may be suspended – for one or two class meetings by the instructor – and referred to the Conduct Dean for discipline sanction, in cases of egregious violation. Please see Policy 3.11 for Academic Integrity.
Q Accommodation and Access for Students with a Disability	It is the mission of the Santa Rosa Junior College to support inclusive learning environments. If there are aspects of the instruction or design of this course that result in barriers to your inclusion or to accurate assessment of achievement—such as time-limited exams, inaccessible web content, or the use of non-captioned videos—please notify the instructor as soon as possible. Students are also welcome to contact the Disability Resources Department (DRD). DRD is a resource for students that provides authorization for academic accommodations, training and access to assistive technology, and collaborates on strategies for academic success.
R Course Website and Technology	<p>Students will use the Canvas course website for assignment instructions, finding source materials, submitting assignments, viewing classmates' work, sharing resources, and viewing grades.</p> <p>You need to make sure you have the following software installed and working properly on your computer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Adobe Reader• QuickTime Player• Open Office (If needed) <p>You should ensure that all your programs are up to date. If you have Zoom installed on your computer, please ensure you regularly update it to the latest software.</p>
S Course Tips Policies	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Readings</i> – Course readings are an integral part of the course and should not be taken lightly. Considering this is an online course, readings form the bulk of the course content and are necessary to do well on the exams. That is why you should stay on top of your readings and take notes on them closely. You should complete the reading(s) assigned for each week at the beginning of each module.• <i>Make up Quizzes and Exams</i> – The scheduled exam dates are firm. In case of an emergency situation (e.g. illness, death in the family), inform the instructor at least twenty-four hours in advance of the scheduled exam. A missed exam lacking appropriate documentation will count as zero points in the final grade.• <i>Technology and Submissions</i> – Last minute computer or typing crises (corrupted USB keys, crashing hard-drives, etc.) are not considered as acceptable emergencies for not submitting work.



- *Netiquette* – When engaging in online discussion, remain courteous at all times. Remember that you are communicating with other humans; there is a real person with real feelings on the receiving end of your email or discussion post. While the exchange of diverse thoughts and ideas is important in a scholarly environment, this should happen in a constructive and respectful manner, especially when engaging with someone who has different ideas. Capitalizing whole words is generally seen as shouting and is often perceived as offensive by the reader. Be careful when using sarcasm and humor. Since there are no social cues like facial expressions or body language in an on-line environment, such remarks can come across as hurtful or offensive. Finally, writing should be professional and consist of complete sentences, be free of grammatical errors, and avoid spelling mistakes.

SCHEDULE

Readings are to be completed ***before*** the class for which they are assigned. Readings are listed below under the title of each lecture.

Week / Date	Topic/Readings	Assignment(s)
<u>Part I: The Foundations of U.S. Government</u>		
1. Mon. Sep. 13 - Sun. Sep. 19	<u>Introduction: Collective Action Problems and Institutions</u> - Kernell, et. al., Chapter 1	Discussion Week 1 – Introductions <i>Extra Credit</i> 1. Canvas Quiz 2. Syllabus Quiz
2. Mon. Sep. 20 - Sun Sep. 26	<u>The Study Roots of the Republic and the Constitution</u> - Kernell, Jacobsen, Kousser and Vavreck, Chapter 2 - Kernell et. al., <i>The Declaration of Ind.</i> , pp. 678-680 (Appendix 2) - Kernell et. al., <i>Fed. No. 10</i> , pp. 694-698 (Appendix 4) - Kernell et. al., <i>Fed. No. 51</i> , pp. 699-701 (Appendix 2)	Quiz 1 Discussion Week 2
3. Mon. Sep. 27 – Sun. Oct. 3	<u>Federalism, American Style</u> - Kernell, Jacobsen, Kousser and Vavreck, Chapter 3	Quiz 2 Discussion Week 3
4. Mon. Oct. 4 – Sun. Oct. 10	<u>California Government and Politics</u> - Anagnoson et. al., <i>Governing California in the Twenty-First Century</i> , Chapter 1 + Chapter 2 (available on Canvas)	Quiz 3 Discussion Week 4
<u>Part II: Governmental Institutions</u>		
5. Mon. Oct. 11 - Sun. Oct. 17	<u>The Executive Branch</u> - Kernell, Jacobsen, Kousser and Vavreck, Chapter 7	Quiz 4 Discussion Week 5
6. Mon. Oct. 18 – Sun. Oct. 24	<u>The Legislative Branch</u> - Kernell, Jacobsen, Kousser and Vavreck, Chapter 6	Quiz 5 Discussion Week 6
7. Mon. Oct. 25 – Sun. Oct. 31	<u>The Federal Judiciary</u> - Kernell, Jacobsen, Kousser and Vavreck, Chapter 9	Midterm due Sun. Oct. 31 by 11:59pm
<u>Part III: Linkage Institutions</u>		
8. Mon. Nov. 1 - Sun. Nov. 7	<u>Public Opinion</u> - Kernell, Jacobsen, Kousser and Vavreck, Chapter 10	Quiz 6 Discussion Week 8



9. Mon. Nov. 8 – Sun. Nov. 14	<u>Voting, Campaigns, and Elections</u> - Kernell, Jacobsen, Kousser and Vavreck, Chapter 11	Quiz 7 Discussion Week 9
10. Mon. Nov. 15 - Sun. Nov. 21	<u>The Role of the Media</u> - Kernell, Jacobsen, Kousser and Vavreck, Chapter 14	Quiz 8 Discussion Week 10
11. Mon. Nov. 22 Sun. Nov. 28	<u>Political Parties</u> - Kernell, Jacobsen, Kousser and Vavreck, Chapter 12	Quiz 9 Discussion Week 11
<u>Part IV: Citizens and the State</u>		
12. Mon. Nov. 29 - Sun. Dec. 5	<u>Civil Liberties and the Incorporation of the Bill of Rights</u> - Kernell, Jacobsen, Kousser and Vavreck, Chapter 5	Quiz 10 Discussion Week 12
13. Mon. Dec. 6 - Fri. Dec. 10	<u>Civil Rights: American Slavery, American Freedom</u> - Kernell, Jacobsen, Kousser and Vavreck, Chapter 4 - Coates, Ta-Nahisi (2014). “The Case for Reparations”. <i>The Atlantic</i> . (available on Canvas)	Final Exam due Mon. Dec. 13 by 11:59pm