



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 2022											
F Sections	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 15%;">Sect</th> <th style="width: 15%;">Course</th> <th style="width: 30%;">Time</th> <th style="width: 40%;">Location</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>0848</td> <td>POLS 1</td> <td>MW from 12:00 to 14:00</td> <td>Call Building 657, Petaluma</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>				Sect	Course	Time	Location	0848	POLS 1	MW from 12:00 to 14:00	Call Building 657, Petaluma
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G Instructor Information	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 25%;">Instructor</th> <th style="width: 25%;">Office</th> <th style="width: 25%;">Telephone</th> <th style="width: 25%;">Email</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>J.A.A.M. van Gorp</td> <td>Call 675</td> <td>707-778-3962</td> <td>jvangorp@santarosa.edu</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>				Instructor	Office	Telephone	Email	J.A.A.M. van Gorp	Call 675	707-778-3962	jvangorp@santarosa.edu
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<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 12:30 to 15:00. To access my office hours, please book a 15-minute appointment on one of those days using the following link. If these times do not work with your schedule, please email me so we can agree on a different time to meet during the week.</p>												
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., Vavreck, L., and Johnson, T. R. (2022). <i>The Logic of American Politics, 10 Edition</i> . Thousand Oaks, CA: CQ Press 2. Occasional selections from <i>The Economist's</i> America section. (uploaded weekly 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	<p><u>Grading Scale</u></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="488 432 894 606"> <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> <p><u>Pass-No Pass (P/NP)</u></p> <p>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.</p> <p>You must file for the P/NP option by October 5, 2022. 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.</p> <p><u>Grading Distribution</u></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="496 1100 1463 1346"> <thead> <tr> <th>Assessment</th> <th>Weight</th> <th>Due Date</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Quizzes</td> <td>15%</td> <td>Weekly</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Group Presentation</td> <td>15%</td> <td>See Schedule</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Research Paper</td> <td>30%</td> <td>Fri. Dec. 9 @ 11:59 pm</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Midterm</td> <td>20%</td> <td>Wed. Oct. 19</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Final Exam</td> <td>20%</td> <td>Wed. Dec. 7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>100%</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><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></p>			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	Quizzes	15%	Weekly	Group Presentation	15%	See Schedule	Research Paper	30%	Fri. Dec. 9 @ 11:59 pm	Midterm	20%	Wed. Oct. 19	Final Exam	20%	Wed. Dec. 7	Total	100%	
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O Explanation of Assessments	<p>1. <i>Quizzes</i> = Beginning in week 2 you will have a quiz once a week. These quizzes will take place the first 5 minutes of class. These quizzes are there to ensure that you have an incentive to stay on top of your readings (that week’s chapter and the Economist articles assigned). They are also there so that the instructor can be sure that you comprehend these readings. There will be no makeup quizzes. Because life happens, the two lowest quiz grades are dropped.</p>																																						



2. *Group Presentation* = On designated days of the semester you will have a dual task: (1) to give a group presentation, and (2) to lead a discussion on the readings of the past few days. Here is what is expected of each:

- A. You will be asked to give a 15 minute group presentation on one of the first ten amendments to the constitution during class at some point during the semester (sign-up sheet will be handed out the second week of class). In the presentation you should discuss how and why this amendment still matters today. Ideally the presentation would link theory to current events in American politics. Presentations will be followed by a 10-15 minute Q&A and discussion session you are responsible for leading. Presentations should clearly identify the problem you are presenting on and be in PowerPoint. They should have a clear thesis.
- B. Following your presentation, you are responsible as a group to lead a discussion for the remainder of the class that discusses and analyzes that week's readings.

Suggested sources you can look at for your presentation include: *The New York Times*, *The New Yorker*, *Rolling Stone Magazine*, *The Atlantic*, *Vox News*, *Talking Points Memo*, *FiveThirtyEight.com*, *The Brookings Institute*, *The Heritage Foundation*, *The American Enterprise Institute*, *The Economist*, and *The Financial Times*.

This really is intended to be a group presentation. This means that everyone should have approximately equal presenting time: it should not be one person doing most of the presenting – it truly should be a group effort.

You will be graded on the following criteria:

- i. Having a thorough grasp of your subject's background information;
- ii. Not just summarizing the material, but actually analyzing it as well. (this will be the difference between a good and an excellent presentation)
- iii. Ability to lead discussion;
- iv. Style: how you compose yourself in front of the class (i.e. not staring at the floor, actually speaking to the class, not just reading notes, etc).
- v. Handing in materials on time. (24 hours before class in case of the required PowerPoint and Bibliography).

3. *Research Paper* = You are expected to write a 3,000 word paper in this course (double spaced, font Times New Roman and 1" margins). Besides the course readings, the papers should draw from at least 4 other peer-reviewed, or primary sources. Papers should have an introduction, a clear thesis statement, a conclusion and be properly cited using Harvard-style. There should be at least two paragraphs a page, with at least two sources referenced per paragraph. Papers must be submitted electronically using the provided link in Canvas.

Prompt: answer one of the following:

- i. How has the role of the presidency changed in the American political system in the course of the 20th century? In your opinion, is this for the better?



	<p>ii. Has Congress become more dysfunctional? If so, why? If not, why not? What likely implications is this going to have for the future of American politics?</p> <p>Research papers are due on the last day of class by 11:59 pm. Per college policy, this is the absolute last time I can accept written work. Therefore, late papers will not be accepted.</p> <p><u>Plagiarism</u>: Papers will be examined for plagiarism. When you use other people’s words or ideas without giving them credit it is plagiarism. This includes using direct quotes without citation marks, copying directly from the web, an academic article, or a book without a citation. It can also be the borrowing a central idea from an author or a classmate without acknowledging them. It is a serious offense and will result in disciplinary action against you. If you are ever in doubt, please ask me before turning in your written work. For more information, please see below.</p> <p>4. <i>Midterm</i> = The midterm consists of 4 short answer questions (each answer should be about a paragraph in length). It will take place on Wednesday October 19 during class time.</p> <p>5. <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. The exam is scheduled during class time on Wednesday December 7. Unless there are unusual circumstances, the final cannot be rescheduled for another time.</p>
<p>P Academic Integrity Policy</p>	<p>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.</p>
<p>Q Accommodation and Access for Students with a Disability</p>	<p>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.</p>
<p>R Course Website and Technology</p>	<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)



	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.
S	<p>Course Tips Policies</p> <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. • <i>Netiquette</i> – 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. Wed. Sep. 7	<u>Introduction: Collective Action Problems and Institutions</u> - Kernell, et. al., Chapter 1	<i>Extra Credit</i> 1. Canvas Quiz 2. Syllabus Quiz
2. Mon. Sep. 12 Wed. Sep. 14	<u>The Study Roots of the Republic and the Constitution</u> - Kernell, Jacobsen, Kousser and Vavreck, Chapter 2, pp. 33-53 - Kernell et. al., <i>The Declaration of Ind.</i> , pp. 678-680 (Appendix 2) - Kernell, Jacobsen, Kousser and Vavreck, Chapter 2, pp. 53-87 - 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 on Wednesday
3. Mon. Sep. 19 Wed. Sep. 21	<u>Federalism, American Style</u> - Kernell, Jacobsen, Kousser and Vavreck, Chapter 3, pp. 89-114 - Kernell, Jacobsen, Kousser and Vavreck, Chapter 3, pp. 114-129	Quiz 2 on Wednesday



4. Mon. Sep. 26	<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 on Wednesday
Wed. Sep. 28	- Anagnoson et. al., <i>Governing California in the Twenty-First Century</i> , Chapter 1 + Chapter 2 (available on Canvas)	
<u>Part II: Citizens and the State</u>		
5. Mon. Oct. 3	<u>Civil Liberties and the Incorporation of the Bill of Rights</u> - Kernell, Jacobsen, Kousser and Vavreck, Chapter 5, pp. 185-207	Quiz 4 on Wednesday
Wed. Oct. 5	- Kernell, Jacobsen, Kousser and Vavreck, Chapter 5, pp. 207-229	
6. Mon. Oct. 10	<u>Civil Rights: American Slavery, American Freedom</u> - Kernell, Jacobsen, Kousser and Vavreck, Chapter 4, pp. 131-146	Quiz 5 on Wednesday
Wed. Oct. 12	- Kernell, Jacobsen, Kousser and Vavreck, Chapter 4, pp. 146-183	
7. Mon. Oct. 17	<u>Civil Rights: American Slavery, American Freedom</u> - Coates, Ta-Nahisi (2014). "The Case for Reparations". <i>The Atlantic</i> . (available on Canvas)	Midterm on Wed. Oct. 19
Wed. Oct. 19	<i>MIDTERM</i>	
<u>Part III: Governmental Institutions</u>		
8. Mon. Oct. 24	<u>The Executive Branch</u> - Kernell, Jacobsen, Kousser and Vavreck, Chapter 7, pp. 297-313	Quiz 6 on Wednesday
Wed. Oct. 26	- Kernell, Jacobsen, Kousser and Vavreck, Chapter 7, pp. 313-345	Presentation 1 on Wednesday
9. Mon. Oct. 31	<u>The Legislative Branch</u> - Kernell, Jacobsen, Kousser and Vavreck, Chapter 6, pp. 231-277	Quiz 7 on Wednesday
Wed. Nov. 2	- Kernell, Jacobsen, Kousser and Vavreck, Chapter 6, pp. 277-295	Presentation 2 on Wednesday
10. Mon. Nov. 7	<u>The Federal Judiciary</u> - Kernell, Jacobsen, Kousser and Vavreck, Chapter 9, pp. 391-412	Quiz 8 on Wednesday
Wed. Nov. 9	- Kernell, Jacobsen, Kousser and Vavreck, Chapter 9, pp. 412-433	Presentation 3 on Wednesday
<u>Part IV: Linkage Institutions</u>		
11. Mon. Nov. 14	<u>Public Opinion</u> - Kernell, Jacobsen, Kousser and Vavreck, Chapter 10	Quiz 9 on Wednesday
Wed. Nov. 16	<u>Voting, Campaigns, and Elections, Part I</u> - Kernell, Jacobsen, Kousser and Vavreck, Chapter 11, pp. 475-486	Presentation 4 on Wednesday
12. Mon. Nov. 21	<u>Voting, Campaigns, and Elections, Part II</u> - Kernell, Jacobsen, Kousser and Vavreck, Chapter 11, 486-504	Quiz 10 on Wednesday
Wed. Nov. 23	<u>The Role of the Media, Part I</u> - Kernell, Jacobsen, Kousser and Vavreck, Chapter 14, pp. 593-601	Presentation 5 on Wednesday
13. Mon. Nov. 28	<u>The Role of the Media, Part II</u> - Kernell, Jacobsen, Kousser and Vavreck, Chapter 14, pp. 601-621	Quiz 11 on Wednesday



Wed. Nov. 30	<u>Political Parties, Part I</u> - Kernell, Jacobsen, Kousser and Vavreck, Chapter 12, pp. 507-522	Presentation 6 on Wednesday
14. Mon. Dec. 5	<u>Political Parties, Part II</u> - Kernell, Jacobsen, Kousser and Vavreck, Chapter 12, pp. 522-546	Final exam Dec. 7 during class time
Wed. Dec. 7	<i>FINAL EXAM</i>	Papers due Fri. Dec. 9 @ 11:59 pm