

 FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY	COURSE CHANGE REQUEST Undergraduate Programs	UUPC Approval <u>1/29/24</u> UFS Approval _____ SCNS Submittal _____ Confirmed _____ Banner Posted _____ Catalog _____
	Department <u>NA</u> College <u>Honors</u>	
Current Course Prefix and Number <u>POS 2041</u>		Current Course Title <u>Honors Government of the United States</u>
<i>Syllabus must be attached for ANY changes to current course details. See Template. Please consult and list departments that may be affected by the changes; attach documentation.</i>		
Change title to: Change prefix From: _____ To: _____ Change course number From: _____ To: _____ Change credits* From: _____ To: _____ Change grading From: _____ To: _____ Change WAC/Gordon Rule status** Add <input type="checkbox"/> Remove <input type="checkbox"/> Change General Education Requirements*** Add <input type="checkbox"/> Remove <input type="checkbox"/> <small>*See Definition of a Credit Hour.</small> <small>**WAC/Gordon Rule criteria must be indicated in syllabus and approval attached to this form. See WAC Guidelines.</small> <small>***GE criteria must be indicated in syllabus and approval attached to this form. See Intellectual Foundations Guidelines.</small>		Change description to: In this course, students will investigate how the national government is structured and how the American constitutional republic operates. It covers the philosophical and historical foundations of American government, including but not limited to the Declaration of Independence, the United States constitution and all its amendments, and The Federalist Papers. The course examines the branches of government and the government's laws, policies, and programs. It also examines the ways in which citizens participate in their government and ways their government responds to citizens. Change prerequisites/minimum grades to: Change corequisites to: Change registration controls to: Please list existing and new pre/corequisites, specify AND or OR and include minimum passing grade (default is D-).
Effective Term/Year for Changes: <u>Spring 2025</u> Summer 2024		Terminate course? Effective Term/Year for Termination:
Faculty Contact/Email/Phone <u>Julie Earles jearles@fau.edu 561 799 8673</u>		
Approved by Department Chair <u>Miguel Ángel Vázquez</u> College Curriculum Chair <u>Rachel Carr</u> College Dean <u>Julie Earles</u> UUPC Chair <u>Korey Sorge</u> Undergraduate Studies Dean <u>Dan Meeroff</u> UFS President _____ Provost _____		Date <u>1/22/24</u> <u>1/22/24</u> <u>1/22/24</u> <u>1/29/24</u> <u>1/29/24</u> _____ _____

Email this form and syllabus to mjenning@fau.edu seven business days before the UUPC meeting.

POS 2041 HONORS GOVERNMENT OF THE U.S.

Prof. Mark Tunick

3 credits

No prerequisites

Tuesday/Thursday 12:30-1:50pm in SR 258

Description: In this course, students will investigate how the national government is structured and how the American constitutional republic operates. It covers the philosophical and historical foundations of American government, including but not limited to the Declaration of Independence, the United States constitution and all its amendments, and The Federalist Papers. The course examines the branches of government and the government's laws, policies, and programs. It also examines the ways in which citizens participate in their government and ways their government responds to citizens.

Honors statement: this course is at the honors level. There will be readings and assignments including Supreme Court opinions, empirical research papers by political scientists, and other supplementary readings that go deeper into the material; students will have a written component to their exam and be expected to make an oral presentation as part of a class debate. These aspects of the course are intended to develop deeper critical thinking and communication skills.

Student Learning Outcomes: Students who satisfy the Social and Behavioral Analysis requirement will demonstrate the ability to:

- Describe patterns of human behavior.
- Describe how political, social, cultural, or economic institutions influence human behavior and how humans influence these institutions.
- Apply appropriate disciplinary methods and/or theories to the analysis of social, cultural, psychological, ethical, political, technological, or economic issues or problems.

Course Learning Objectives: 1. Students will demonstrate an understanding of the basic principles and practices of America's constitutional republic. 2. Students will demonstrate knowledge of the nation's founding documents, including the Declaration of Independence, the U.S. Constitution and its amendments, and The Federalist Papers. 3. Students will demonstrate knowledge of landmark U.S. Supreme Court cases, landmark legislation and landmark executive actions. 4. Students will demonstrate knowledge of the history and development of the American federal government and its impact on law and society. 5. Students will demonstrate an ability to apply course material to contemporary political issues and debates. 6. Students will demonstrate the ability to engage in discussion and civil debate on American politics that are associated with multiple points of view.

Requirements: Students are required to participate in class discussions, which requires doing the reading prior to class. Grading will be based on participation in class discussions (10 points), quizzes, short assignments and discussion board posts (35 points), a class debate (5 points), and a final exam (50 points).

For each unexcused absence beyond 2 you will lose 1.5 points.

The default grading scale is 94-100 (A), 90<94 (A-), 87<90 (8+), 84<87 (8), 80<84 (8-), 77<80 (C+), 74<77 (C), 70<74 (C-), 67<70 (D+), 64<67 (D), 61<64 (D-), <61 (F). I may utilize a curve but only if doing so would yield a higher rather than a lower grade than what the student would earn using the default scale.

Readings: Krutz et.al., American Government 3e (AG), [free through openstax](#). Additional readings are available in Canvas or online, and some films will be streamed.

Canvas: This course makes use of Canvas: each topic has its own Module with background information and links to the reading, quizzes to help you understand the material, and

discussion boards. We will also have graded class debates. Be sure to check Canvas regularly.
Office Hours: Tue-Thu 11-12, 2-3 (in person, HC104); other times via zoom at this zoom link.
Email tunick@fau.edu Phone 799-8670.

Schedule: The specific topics and readings listed below are subject to change. Consult Canvas for up-to-date schedule and additional required readings as well as for quizzes, discussion boards, and other assignments.

Part One: Foundations of Constitutional Government

Foundations of Government

Aug 23 AG ch. 1

Aug 25 Hardin, 'Tragedy of the Commons' excerpts; Socialist Platform of 1912

The Constitution

Aug 30 Articles of Confederation; the Constitution; AG ch. 2.1-2.3

Sept 1 AG ch. 2.4-2.5

Federalism

Sept. 6: Brutus, Antifederalist No. 1; AG ch. 3

Sept. 8: Arizona v. U.S. (2012)

Constitutional Rights/Civil Liberties

Sept. 13: AG ch. 4.1; Slaughterhouse Cases excerpt; McDonald v City of Chicago excerpts

Sept. 15: AG ch. 4.2; Jonathan Rauch, 'In Defense of Prejudice', Harper's Magazine v. 290 (May 1995); Snyder v. Phelps excerpt

Sept. 20: AG ch. 4.3-4.4; Roe v. Wade excerpt; Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health (2022) excerpt

Civil Rights and Equality

Sept 22: AG ch. 5.1-5.2; Shelby County v. Holder, 570 U.S. 529 (2013)

Sept 27: AG ch. 5.3-5.5; Village of Arlington Heights v Metropolitan Housing Devt Corp excerpt; North Carolina State Conf of NAACP v McCrory excerpt

Part Two: Politics

Public Opinion

Sept. 29: AG ch. 6; Campbell, Polarized: Making sense of a divided America (excerpt)

Media and Politics

Oct 4: AG ch. 8; Allcott and Gentzkow, "Social Media and Fake News in the 2016 Election" (2017)

Voting and Elections

Oct 6: AG ch. 7.1-7.3

Oct 11: AG ch. 7.4-7.5; Rucho v. Common Cause; Drutman, 'The 2 Party System Needs Reform' (2020)

Political Parties

Oct 13: AG ch. 9

Oct 18: MacWilliams, Who Decides when the Party Doesn't? Authoritarian Voters and the Rise of Donald Trump (2016); Barber and Pope, 'Does Party Trump Ideology?' (2019)

Political influence: interest groups, lobbying, political protests, and campaign finance

Oct 20: Citizens United v FEC excerpts; Schatzinger and Martin, Dark Money (2020) (excerpts)

Oct 25: AG ch. 10; Film: Berkeley in the 60's

Part Three: Institutions of Government

The Presidency

Oct 27: Film 'Vice' (2018)

Nov. 1: AG ch. 12; Steel Seizure Case excerpt

Nov 3: Howell, Presidential Unilateral Power without Persuasion (2003), excerpt; news articles on Insurrection Act

Congress

Nov 8 (Election Day): Film, 'Mr. Smith Goes to Washington', dir. Capra

Nov. 10: AG ch. 11.1-11.2; Lee, Insecure Majorities in Congress (2016)(excerpt)

Nov 15: AG ch. 11.3-5; US Term Limits v. Thornton excerpts

The Courts

Nov 17: AG ch. 13

Nov 22: Marbury v. Madison

Bureaucracy

Nov 29: AG ch. 15

Dec 1: Review for Final

Dec. 8: Final Exam, 10:30am-1pm

Additional notes:

Policy on Accommodations: In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act (ADAAA), students who require reasonable accommodations due to a disability to properly execute coursework must register with Student Accessibility Services (SAS) and follow all SAS procedures. SAS has offices across three of FAU's campuses -- Boca Raton, SU 131 (561-297-3880); in Davie, LA 131 (954-236-1222); in Jupiter and all Northern Campuses, SR 111F (561-799-8585). Disability services are available for students on all campuses. For more information, please visit SAS website at www.fau.edu/sas/.

Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) Center: Life as a university student can be challenging physically, mentally and emotionally. Students who find stress negatively affecting their ability to achieve academic or personal goals may wish to consider utilizing FAU's Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) Center. CAPS provides FAU students a range of services - individual counseling, support meetings, and psychiatric services, to name a few - offered to help improve and maintain emotional well-being. For more information, go to <http://www.fau.edu/counseling/>

Code of Academic Integrity Policy Statement: Students at Florida Atlantic University are

expected to maintain the highest ethical standards. Academic dishonesty is considered a serious breach of these ethical standards, because it interferes with the university mission to provide a high quality education in which no student enjoys an unfair advantage over any other. Academic dishonesty is also destructive of the university community, which is grounded in a system of mutual trust and places high value on personal integrity and individual responsibility. Harsh penalties are associated with academic dishonesty. For more information, see University Regulation 4.001 and the WHC Academic Honor Code at <http://www.fau.edu/honors/academics/honor-code.php>.

Classroom Etiquette Policy: In order to enhance and maintain a productive atmosphere for education, personal communication devices such as smartphones are to be disabled during class.

Attendance Policy: Students are expected to attend all of their scheduled University classes and to satisfy all academic objectives as outlined by the instructor. The effect of absences upon grades is determined by the instructor, and the University reserves the right to deal at any time with individual cases of non-attendance. Students are responsible for arranging to make up work missed because of legitimate class absence, such as illness, family emergencies, military obligation, court-imposed legal obligations or participation in University-approved activities. Examples of University-approved reasons for absences include participating on an athletic or scholastic team, musical and theatrical performances and debate activities. It is the student's responsibility to give the instructor notice prior to any anticipated absences and within a reasonable amount of time after an unanticipated absence, ordinarily by the next scheduled class meeting. Instructors must allow each student who is absent for a University-approved reason the opportunity to make up work missed without any reduction in the student's final course grade as a direct result of such absence.

Florida Atlantic University policies regarding incomplete grades can be found in the University Catalog. Late work is subject to a grade reduction.