LIBERTY UNIVERSITY

Online · Helms School of Government · Government

American Government

GOVT-220

CG   Section 8WK   11/08/2019 to 04/16/2020   Modified 02/08/2022

🖥 Course Description

The issues, interest and institutions of American politics, emphasizing the struggle between liberalism and conservatism.

Requisites

For information regarding prerequisites for this course, please refer to the [Academic Course Catalog (https://catalog.liberty.edu/)](https://catalog.liberty.edu/).

◎ Rationale

The primary purpose of this course is to train the student for effective citizenship. No one can be an effective citizen without an understanding of how his/her government operates. This is especially true today because the growth in size of government at all levels has increased its impact on our daily lives. No one can avoid involvement with government. As both Christians and citizens, the student needs to understand his/her duties to the government and how he/she can defend the heritage of liberty.

📊 Course Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

A. Identify the main provisions of the U.S. Constitution.
B. Analyze the meaning of important constitutional provisions.
C. Identify characteristics of liberalism and conservatism.
D. Identify the constitutional powers granted to each branch of government.
E. Differentiate between formal and informal changes made to the Constitution.
F. Identify ways in which citizens can effectively participate in the political process.
G. Identify the extent of Christian influence on the underlying principles of the U.S. Constitution and the way recent Supreme Court rulings have limited this influence.
H. Identify the main features of a worldview, assessing cultural, political, economic, and industrial implications.
I. Relate government and/or culture to various aspects of life.
J. Apply the Christian principles and general practices for effectively engaging people from different social and/or cultural backgrounds.
K. Relate the human experience within various civic and global structures to participation in the redemptive work of God.

Foundational Skills Learning Outcomes (FSLO): Civic and Global Engagement (CGE)

Upon successful completion of the course, the student will be able to:

1. CGE1: Identify the main features of a worldview, assessing the cultural, political, economic, and industrial implications.
2. CGE2: Relate government and/or culture to various aspects of life.
3. CGE3: Apply the Christian principles and general practices for effectively engaging people from different social and/or cultural backgrounds.
4. CGE4: Describe the impact of a person's global perspective on evangelism and cross-cultural engagement.
5. CGE5: Relate the human experience within various civic and global structures to participation in the redemptive work of God.

📘 Course Resources

Click on the following link to view the required resource(s) for the term in which you are registered: [Liberty University Online Bookstore (https://bncvirtual.com/liberty)](https://bncvirtual.com/liberty).

Additional Materials for Learning

A. Computer with basic audio/video output equipment
B. Internet access (broadband recommended)
C. Canvas [recommended browsers (https://community.canvaslms.com/t5/Canvas-Basics-Guide/What-are-the-browser-and-computer-requirements-for-Canvas/ta-p/66)](https://community.canvaslms.com/t5/Canvas-Basics-Guide/What-are-the-browser-and-computer-requirements-for-Canvas/ta-p/66)
D. Microsoft Word
E. U.S. Constitution including the Bill of Rights

📋 Course Assignments

Textbook readings and lecture presentations

Course Requirements Checklist

After reading the Course Syllabus and [Student Expectations (https://www.liberty.edu/institutional-effectiveness/student-expectations/)](https://www.liberty.edu/institutional-effectiveness/student-expectations/), the student will complete the related checklist found in the Course Overview.

Discussions (2)

Discussions are collaborative learning experiences. Therefore, the student will create a thread in response to the provided prompt for each Discussion. Each Discussion will be divided into 2 parts: a thread of at least 300 words and 2 or more replies of at least 125 words each. (FSLO: CGE 2, 4, 5.)

Presentation Assessment Assignments (2)

After viewing the assigned presentation, the student will answer questions about the presentations in a 2 1/2 to 3-page paper. Answers to the questions must be well-organized and use proper grammar. Templates for the student's responses are provided for each presentation. (FSLO: CGE 1, 2, 3, 5.)

Mindtap Quizzes (16)

The student will complete 12 interactive assignments based on the required reading.

The student will complete 4 longer assessments that are open-book/open-notes, consists of 50 multiple-choice and true/false questions, and have a time limit of 1 hour and 30 minutes. Each Module: Week, the student will also have an opportunity to create an optional self-check quiz in preparation for the longer course assessments; this will have no effect on the final grade.

Research Paper: Becoming and Informed Voter Assignment

The student will write a paper of at least 6 pages (not including the title page or reference page) adhering to the format specified in the Writing Style Guide. The purpose of this paper is to provide practical application of Reading & Study materials by developing concepts discussed in the presentations. The paper must demonstrate mastery of material from the lectures as well as presentation of factual materials from peer-reviewed sources. (FSLO: CGE 4.)

Quiz: World View I and II (2)

The student will view **Watch: World View I** and **Watch: World View II** in the Learn items for Module 6: Week 6. The Watch items will discuss the link between competing worldviews and various political ideologies. The student will then complete Quiz: World View I and Quiz: World View II. Each quiz will consist of 25 multiple-choice questions, is open-book/open notes, is limited to 2 hours, and allows for 2 attempts. (FSLO: CGE 1, 3.)

✔ Course Grading

Course Requirements Checklist	10
Discussions (2 at 100 pts ea)	200
Presentation Assessment Assignments (2 at 75 pts ea)	150
Mindtap Quizzes (4 at 10 pts ea, 4 at 15 pts ea, 4 at 25 pts ea, 4 at 50 pts ea)	400
Research Paper: Becoming an Informed Voter Assignment	200
Quiz: World View I	25
Quiz: World View II	25
Total	1010

🏛 Policies

Late Assignment Policy

Course Assignments, including discussions, exams, and other graded assignments, should be submitted on time.

If the student is unable to complete an assignment on time, then he or she must contact the instructor immediately by email.

Assignments that are submitted after the due date without prior approval from the instructor will receive the following deductions:

1. Late assignments submitted within one week after the due date will receive up to a 10% deduction.
2. Assignments submitted more than one week and less than 2 weeks late will receive up to a 20% deduction.
3. Assignments submitted two weeks late or after the final date of the course will not be accepted outside of special circumstances (e.g. death in the family, significant personal health issues), which will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis by the instructor.
4. Group projects, including group discussion threads and/or replies, and assignments will not be accepted after the due date outside of special circumstances (e.g. death in the family, significant personal health issues), which will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis by the instructor.

Disability Assistance

Students with a disability and those with medical conditions associated with pregnancy may contact Liberty University's Online Office of Disability Accommodation Support (ODAS) at LUOODAS@liberty.edu for accommodations. Such accommodations require appropriate documentation of your condition.   For more information about ODAS and the accommodations process, including how to request an accommodation, please visit https://www.liberty.edu/online/online-disability-accommodation-support/ (https://www.liberty.edu/online/online-disability-accommodation-support/). Requests for accommodations not related to disabilities or pregnancy must be directed to the Registrar's Office, which generally handles medical needs support.

If you have a complaint related to disability discrimination or an accommodation that was not provided, you may contact ODAS or the Office of Equity and Compliance by phone at (434) 592-4999 or by email at equityandcompliance@liberty.edu. Click to see a full copy of Liberty's Discrimination, Harassment, and Sexual Misconduct Policy

(https://www.liberty.edu/media/1226/Liberty_University_Discrimination_Harassment_and_Sexual_Misconduct_Policy.pdf) or the Student Disability Grievance Policy and Procedures (http://www.liberty.edu/media/8021/Disability_Grievance_Procedures.pdf).

Course Attendance

In an effort to comply with U.S. Department of Education policies, attendance is measured by physical class attendance or any submission of a required assignment within the enrollment dates of the course (such as examinations, written papers or projects, any discussion posts, etc.) or initiating any communication with one's professor regarding an academic subject. More information regarding the attendance policy (https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwiki.os.liberty.edu%2Fdisplay%2FIE%2FOnline%2BAttendance%2Band%2BNon-Attendance&data=02%7C01%7Caccollins2%40liberty.edu%7Cd91431fa6ac547056b5408d833029e1a%7Cbaf8218eb3024465a9934a39c97251b2%7C0%7C0%7C637315433613719138&sdata=%2BNBTsPOoXuHAPLflSQRugK7cRSuV6UyC7qD3agf3l2k%3D&reserved=0) can be found in the Academic Course Catalogs (https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.liberty.edu%2Findex.cfm%3FPID%3D791&data=02%7C01%7Caccollins2%40liberty.edu%7Cd91431fa6ac547056b5408d833029e1a%7Cbaf8218eb3024465a9934a39c97251b2%7C0%7C0%7C637315433613729132&sdata=DjjhMiRBhnF%2B2ZJUC8eBd1OdNb26S9ADukODYsilXlA%3D&reserved=0). Regular attendance in online courses is expected throughout the length of the term. Students who do not attend within the first week of a sub-term by submitting a required academic assignment (such as the Course Requirements Checklist, an examination, written paper or project, discussion post, or other academic activity) will be dropped from the course. Students who wish to re-engage in the course are encouraged to contact Academic Advising to discuss their enrollment options. Students who begin an online course, but at some point in the semester cease attending, and do not provide official notification to withdraw, will be assigned a grade of "FN" (Failure for Non-Attendance (https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwiki.os.liberty.edu%2Fdisplay%2FIE%2FUnofficial%2BWithdrawals&data=02%7C01%7Caccollins2%40liberty.edu%7Cd91431fa6ac547056b5408d833029e1a%7Cbaf8218eb3024465a9934a39c97251b2%7C0%7C0%7C637315433613729132&sdata=MoMvZdPfza69InuhVHMHAVgu59ZP0Fw45xJTu9PIBrU%3D&reserved=0)). Students wishing to withdraw from courses after the official start date should familiarize themselves with the withdrawal policy.

Grading Scale

A	B	C	D	F
900-1010	800-899	700-799	600-699	0-599

For courses with a Pass/NP final grade, please refer to the Course Grading section of this syllabus for the assignment requirements and/or point value required to earn a Passing final grade.

Add/Drop Policy

The full policy statement and procedures are published in the Policy Directory (https://wiki.os.liberty.edu/display/IE/Dropping+and+Adding+Online+Classes).

Honor Code

Liberty University comprises a network of students, Alumni, faculty, staff and supporters that together form a Christian community based upon the truth of the Bible. This truth defines our foundational principles, from our Doctrinal Statement to the Code of Honor. These principles irrevocably align Liberty University's operational procedures with the long tradition of university culture, which remains distinctively Christian, designed to preserve and advance truth. Our desire is to create a safe, comfortable environment within our community of learning, and we extend our academic and spiritual resources to all of our students with the goal of fostering academic maturity, spiritual growth and character development.

Communities are predicated on shared values and goals. The Code of Honor, an expression of the values from which our Doctrinal Statement was born, defines the fundamental principles by which our community exists. At the core of this code lie two essential concepts: a belief in the significance of all individuals, and a reliance on the existence of objective truth.

While we acknowledge that some may disagree with various elements of the Code of Honor, we maintain the expectation that our students will commit to respect and uphold the Code while enrolled at Liberty University.

Adherence to the principles and concepts established within facilitates the success of our students and strengthens the Liberty community.

The Code of Honor can be viewed in its entirety at http://www.liberty.edu/index.cfm?PID=19155 (http://www.liberty.edu/index.cfm?PID=19155).

📅 Schedule

When	Topic	Notes
Course Overview	Student Acknowledgements	Course Requirements Checklist
	Technology Integration Set-Up	Prepare: Cengage MindTap
Module 1: Week 1	Learn	Read: 2 items Watch: 4 items
	Apply	Presentation Assessment: Biblical Origins of the Constitution Assignment Quiz: Study of American Government
Module 2: Week 2	Learn	Read: 4 items Watch: 3 items
	Apply	Presentation Assessment: Attacks on Christianity Assignment Quiz: Federalism Quiz: The Constitution Quiz: American Government, the Constitution, and Federalism
Module 3: Week 3	Learn	Read: 4 items Watch: 2 items Explore: 2 items
	Apply	Discussion Thread: Applying Concepts of Conservatism and Liberalism Quiz: Civil Liberties Quiz: Civil Rights
Module 4: Week 4	Learn	Read: 2 items Watch: 1 item
	Apply	Discussion Replies: Applying Concepts of Conservatism and Liberalism Quiz: The Judiciary Quiz: Civil Liberty, Civil Rights, the Judiciary
Module 5: Week 5	Learn	Read: 2 items Watch: 1 item
	Apply	Research Paper: Becoming an Informed Voter Assignment Quiz: Congress

When	Topic	Notes
Module 6: Week 6	Learn	Read: 4 items Watch: 3 items
	Apply	Quiz: The Presidency Quiz: The Bureaucracy Quiz: Congress, the Presidency, and the Bureaucracy Quiz: World View I Quiz: World View II
Module 7: Week 7	Learn	Read: 4 items Watch: 2 items
	Apply	Discussion Thread: State Party Platform Quiz: Political Parties Quiz: Interest Groups
Module 8: Week 8	Learn	Read: 2 items Watch: 2 items
	Apply	Discussion Replies: State Party Platform Quiz: Elections and Campaigns Quiz: Political Parties, Interest Groups, Elections and Campaigns