POLS 205

***American National Government***

Tentative Class Schedule

**Isaiah 33**  
22 For the LORD is our judge,   
the LORD is our lawgiver,   
the LORD is our king;   
it is he who will save us.

Harding University Spring 2016

Instructor: Lori Klein Office: 208 Ganus Building

Contacts/Office Hours: You can reach me, yea verily, in a multitude of ways: Office phone: 279-4375; Home: 279-0628 (please leave a message if you call); Rachel, our supremely competent and helpful Departmental Secretary: 279-4427; Facebook; e-mail - [lklein@harding.edu](mailto:lklein@harding.edu) ; my website - <http://www.harding.edu/lklein> and the always popular note under the door. I will make my best effort to be in my office for drop-ins on Mondays and Wednesdays from 3:00-5:00, and on Tuesday and Thursday from 3:45-4:45. I will also be keeping office hours by appointment this semester.

**Text: James Q. Wilson’s American Government, Brief Version, Wadsworth/Cengage, 12th edition. ISBN-10: 1305109007 ISBN-13: 9781305109001 This text is available from Cengage as an eBook.**

Tentative American National Government Schedule

Unit **Reading Assignment**/Topics Covered Date

Why Politics? **Read Wilson, Chapter 1**

Introductions, Pre-Test and Class Syllabus - Highlighters January 11

The Role of Government January 13

 Politics, Power, & Other Dirty Words/Constitution 101 January 15

Dr. Martin Luther King **HOLIDAY!** (Class will not meet.) January 18

The Constitution **Read Chapter 2**

                                                A Brief Historical Interlude… January 20

1. If Angels Governed Angels… Checks & Balances January 22

                                                2. Federalism January 25

3. Judicial Review – Marbury and beyond January 27

                                                4. Limited Government; A Living Document January 29

***Constitution Quiz One, which covers the original seven Articles***

***is to be taken in the Testing Center between January 20-25.***

***Constitution Quiz Two, which covers Amendments 1-10 - The Bill of Rights***

***is to be taken in the Testing Center between January 26-29.***

***Constitution Quiz Three, which covers Amendments 11-27***

***is to be taken in the Testing Center between February 1-4.***

**Review for Test One** (Patriots’ Day is Sept. 11) **February 01**

**TEST ONE** February 03

Return and Review Test One February 05

 The Legislative Branch **Read Chapter 9**

1. Constitution/History February 08

2. I'm Just a Bill…How Congress Works February 10

3. Power and Politics…How Congress Really Works February 12

                                                4. Apportionment (Maps) February 15

5. Appropriations (Money) February 17

The Executive Branch **Read Chapter 10**

                                                1. Constitution/History February 19

                                              2. Presidential Hats February 22

3. Cabinets/The Executive Office of the President February 24

**Please notice: There is no in class presentation on the Bureaucracy, but there are test questions from the following assigned pages. This is outside of class learning. From Chapter 11, read pages 336 – 342. (Read to the end of the box on page 342.) Read the summary beginning on page 359.**

**TEST TWO** (The Friday before Spring Break) February 26

**SPRING BREAK February 27 – March 06**

Return and Review Test Two March 07

The Judicial Branch **Read Chapter 12**

***Reading Quiz in Testing Lab March 07-11***

1. Constitution/History and the Federal Courts System March 09

                                                2. The Supreme Court March 11

3. Judicial Activism March 14

Elections **Pay attention to the readings, they get a little tricky.**

1. Constitution/History March 16

2. Political Parties **Read Chapter 7, pages 173-199** March 18

3. Polls and Elections **Read Chapter 8** March 21

**TEST THREE** March 23

Return and Review Test Three March 25

*Note: This test occurs during Spring Sing Week – please plan ahead to balance*

*your academic and social obligations.*

Under Pressure  **There is a LOT of reading for this unit. Don’t fall behind!**

1. The Media **Chapter 6, pages 154 - 170** March 28

2. Interest Groups **Chapter 7, pages 199 - 216** March 30

 3. Lobbyists (Finish Ch. 7 readings if you haven’t.) April 01

***The Extra Credit Constitution Quiz, which covers the entire Constitution***

***is to be taken in the Testing Center between April 04-08.***

4. Pressure from State and Local Gov’t **Chapter 3** April 04

**TEST FOUR** April 06

ASI Speaker David Barton April 7 @ 7:30

Return and Review Test Four April 08

Civil Rights & Civil Liberties **Read Chapters 4 and 5**

1. Constitution/History and the Parable of the Sheep April 11

2.  The SPRAP Five: 1st Amendment Protections April 13

3.   The Balance of the Bill of Rights April 15

4. Strange Math: Expanding on the Bill of Rights April 18

***Reading Quiz in Testing Lab April 18-22***

5. The Struggle for Civil Rights; Colin, Karen and Condi April 20

(May 2nd is the last day to drop a class.)

6. Christians in Government April 22

**TEST FIVE** and Post Test April 25

Return and Review Test Five April 27

Review Session for Final Exam April 29

Final Exam Schedule:

MWF 1:00 class - Monday, May 2nd at 1:00-3:00

MWF 2:00 class - Tuesday, May 3rd at 1:00-300

I want you to be well prepared to understand the topics which are being presented and discussed in class; therefore it is very important that you keep up with the readings. Read the assigned chapters before the scheduled lectures on the topics and you will have an excellent foundation for learning in the classroom. If you read them during the time we are discussing the topic in class, they will provide reinforcement for what we are learning. If you read them before the test as a review, they will provide a comprehensive overview of the topic. I don’t care when you read ‘em. Just read ‘em! **There will always be test questions taken only from the readings. Do your readings or gnomes will come in and eat your grades up.**