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 2017

Instructor: Lori Klein Office: 204 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 4:00-5:00, and on Tuesday and Thursday from 2:45-4:45. 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 09

The Role of Government January 11

 Politics, Power, & Other Dirty Words/Constitution 101 January 13

Dr. Martin Luther King **HOLIDAY!** (Class will not meet.) January 16

The Constitution **Read Chapter 2**

                                                A Brief Historical Interlude… January 18

1. If Angels Governed Angels… Checks & Balances January 20

                                                2. Federalism January 23

3. Judicial Review – Marbury and beyond January 25

                                                4. Limited Government; A Living Document January 27

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

***is to be taken in the Testing Center between January 18-20, 23.***

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

***is to be taken in the Testing Center between January 24-26.***

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

***is to be taken in the Testing Center between January 27, 30-31.***

**Review for Test One**   **January 30**

**TEST ONE** February 01

Return and Review Test One February 03

 The Legislative Branch **Read Chapter 9**

1. Constitution/History February 06

2. I'm Just a Bill…How Congress Works February 08

3. Power and Politics…How Congress Really Works February 10

                                                4. Apportionment (Maps) February 13

5. Appropriations (Money) February 15

The Executive Branch **Read Chapter 10**

                                                1. Constitution/History February 17

                                              2. Presidential Hats February 20

3. Cabinets/The Executive Office of the President February 22

**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** February 24

Return and Review Test Two February 27

The Judicial Branch **Read Chapter 12**

***Reading Quiz in Testing Lab March 01-03***

1. Constitution/History and the Federal Courts System March 01

                                                2. The Supreme Court March 03

**SPRING BREAK March 04 – March 12**

3. Judicial Activism March 13

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

1. Constitution/History March 15

2. Political Parties **Read Chapter 7, pages 173-199** March 17

3. Polls and Elections **Read Chapter 8** March 20

**TEST THREE** March 22

Return and Review Test Three March 24

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

1. The Media **Chapter 6, pages 154 - 170** March 27

2. Interest Groups **Chapter 7, pages 199 - 216** March 29

 3. Lobbyists (Finish Ch. 7 readings if you haven’t.) March 31

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

***is to be taken in the Testing Center between April 03-07.***

4. Pressure from State and Local Gov’t **Chapter 3** April 03

**TEST FOUR** April 05

Return and Review Test Four April 07

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

1. Constitution/History and the Parable of the Sheep April 10

2.  The SPRAP Five: 1st Amendment Protections April 12

3.   The Balance of the Bill of Rights April 14

4. Strange Math: Expanding on the Bill of Rights April 17

***Reading Quiz in Testing Lab April 17-21***

5. The Struggle for Civil Rights; Colin, Karen and Condi April 19

6. Christians in Government April 21

**TEST FIVE** and Post Test April 24

Return and Review Test Five April 26

Review Session for Final Exam April 28

Final Exam Schedule:

MWF 12:00 class - Wednesday, May 3rd at 1:00-3:00

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

MWF 3:00 class - Monday, May 1st at 3:30-5:30

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.**