

GOVT 2304 — Introduction to Political Science

Frank Phillips College

General Course Information

Credit Hours: 3

Prerequisite

Passage of or exemption from the Reading Section of a TSI approved test or completion of INRW 0322 with a grade of C or better.

Course Description

Introductory survey of the discipline of political science focusing on the scope, and methods of the field, and the substantive topics in the discipline including the theoretical foundations of politics, political interaction, political institutions and how political systems function.

THECB Approval Number45.1001.52.25

Statement of Purpose

Through the Texas Core Curriculum, students will gain a foundation of knowledge of human cultures and the physical and natural world, develop principles of personal and social responsibility for living in a diverse world, and advance intellectual and practical skills that are essential for all learning.

Core Objectives Required for Government/Political Science Courses

Courses in this category focus on consideration of the Constitution of the United States and the constitutions of the states, with special emphasis on that of Texas.

Courses involve the analysis of governmental institutions, political behavior, civic engagement, and their political and philosophical foundations.

- **Critical Thinking Skills** – to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information
- **Communication Skills** – to include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication
- **Personal Responsibility** – to include the ability to connect choices, actions and consequences to ethical decision-making
- **Social Responsibility** – to include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Define and apply political terms and concepts.
2. Define political science and identify the subfields.
3. Compare and contrast different political systems and institutions.

4. Apply the methods used to study politics.
5. Critically interpret and analyze contemporary political issues and problems.

Methods of Evaluation

Category	Percentage
Participation	20%
Project	35%
Essay(s)	25%
Exam(s)	20%
Total	100%

Academic Honesty and Integrity

Students attending Frank Phillips College are expected to maintain high standards of personal and scholarly conduct. Academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating, collusion (working with anyone else to produce work for which you take credit without the professor's permission), utilizing resources such as books and notes for a test without the professor's permission, and plagiarism is considered a serious offense and may result in disciplinary actions including:

- A grade of 0 for the test or assignment
- A semester grade of F for the course
- Administrative withdrawal from the course
- Academic suspension
- Notation of the student's transcript of "Academic Dishonesty."
- ***Faculty members have the right to assign a failing grade to a student who is guilty of academic dishonesty at any point during a semester. Faculty members may prohibit a student from dropping a course when academic dishonesty is discovered. However, if a student has dropped the course in accordance with the rules and dates applied to dropping a course and prior to the discovery of academic dishonesty, the grade of W will stand. Students currently enrolled in a course and students who have completed a course (A, B, C, D, CT, and I) may have a grade changed to an F if academic dishonesty is discovered. The faculty member must notify the student of the change to the final grade within one week of facilitating the change. The student will have the opportunity to appeal the final grade change according to the college policy stated in the catalog.

Class Attendance

Regular attendance is necessary for satisfactory achievement. Therefore, it is the responsibility of the student to attend class in accordance with requirements of the course as established by the instructor.

Students will be excused from class without penalty when either representing the college in an approved activity or having an approved reason for not attending. Reasons for absences must be approved by the instructor of the course. These exceptions do not relieve the student of the responsibility of making up the missed work as designated by the instructor concerned.

Students who enroll in one or more college-preparatory course(s) because of TSI deficiency will be administratively withdrawn from all classes if the course in which they are excessively absent is their only preparatory course. For a student enrolled in more than one preparatory course, the student may be dropped from only the course affected by absences.

Any student who is absent from classes for the observance of a religious holy day shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment scheduled for that day, provided that proper notification of the absence is given to the instructor of the course missed. The student should notify the instructor within the first fifteen (15) days of the semester that he or she intends to be absent on the specified holy day.

Cell Phones and Other Electronic Devices Procedure:

Cell phones and electronic devices in the classroom create a distraction for both students and faculty. Cell phones are also considered suspicious during test taking. Therefore, Frank Phillips College outlines the procedure for handling cell phone usage in a classroom as follows:

1. **First Offense:** the student will be warned verbally by the instructor to turn off the cell phone or electronic device or by appropriate administrative personnel at distance sites. The instructor will make a notation of the infraction.
2. **Second Offense:** the student will be asked to leave the class period for the day and will receive zeroes for any work done in class on that day; a student receiving instruction through remote connection at an off-campus site will be required to attend the class face to face in Borger from this class date forward.
3. **Third Offense:** the student will be administratively withdrawn from the class in which the infraction occurred and will receive no refund for the class.

Students should leave the college's main number with an appropriate contact in case of an emergency.

Borger: (806) 457-4200, ext. 0 or 886-5047 after hours

Dalhart: (806) 244-7669

Perryton: (806) 648-1450

Grievance Policy

If you have a dispute concerning your grade or policies in this class, it is your responsibility to **FIRST** contact the instructor, either by e-mail or in person, to discuss the matter. Should things remain unresolved after this initial contact, please follow the procedures described in the Academic Policies section of the Frank Phillips College Catalog. In the vast majority of cases, the matter can be resolved at the instructor/student level, and learning to communicate your concerns in a civilized manner is part of the college experience.

Important Information

Frank Phillips College is a Microsoft Office Campus. You must submit your electronic assignments in Microsoft Office programs only. If you do not have Microsoft Office, you may use one of the computer lab sites on campus for your class work.

Scans/Or Core Competencies That Will Be Addressed in the Class

Resources:

Allocates Time
Allocates Money
Allocates Material & Facility Resources

Interpersonal:

Participates as a Member of a Team
Teaches Others
Serves Clients/Customers
Exercises Leadership
Negotiates to Arrive at a Decision
Works with Cultural Diversity

Technology:

Selects Technology
Applies Technology
Maintains & Troubleshoots Technology

Basic Skills:

Reading
Writing
Arithmetic
Mathematics
Listening & Speaking

Information:

Acquires & Evaluates Information
Organizes & Maintains Information
Uses Computers to Process Information

Thinking Skills:

Creative Thinking
Decision Making
Problem Solving
Seeing Things in the Mind's Eye
Knowing How to Learn
Reasoning

Systems:

Understands Systems
Monitors & Corrects Performance
Improves & Designs Systems

Personal Qualities:

Responsibility
Self-Esteem
Sociability
Self-Management
Integrity/Honesty

Late Work

No student will be allowed to submit any assignment of any kind as late work. Once the due date has passed, then the assignment will not be accepted. There will be no exceptions.

Make-Up Exams and Work

NO STUDENTS WILL BE ALLOWED TO MAKE UP ANY ASSIGNMENT, OR EXAM, UNLESS THE STUDENT HAS BEEN EXCUSED FOR THE FOLLOWING REASONS:

- A. SCHOOL FUNCTIONS AS DEFINED BY FRANK PHILLIPS COLLEGE
- B. DEATH OF AN IMMEDIATE FAMILY MEMBER, (MOM, DAD, BROTHER, SISTER, WIFE, HUSBAND, CHILD)
- C. IF THE STUDENT IS SICK; OUT FOR SICKNESS, AND OR BOTH, THE STUDENT MUST PRESENT A DOCTOR'S NOTE UPON RETURN TO CLASS FOR THE ABSENCES TO BE EXCUSED... (ORIGINAL COPIES ONLY). ANY ABSENCES NOT COVERED BY THE ORIGINAL DOCTOR'S NOTE WILL NOT BE EXCUSED.

The instructor reserves the right to change the syllabus and class calendar to fit the needs of the class.