

**POS 2041**  
Behavioral and Social Sciences  
Department

**Instructor**  
Dr. Harold "Trey" Orndorff III

**Telephone**  
Office: 386-506-3433

**Email**  
[orndorh@daytonastate.edu](mailto:orndorh@daytonastate.edu)

**Twitter**  
@treyorndorff

**Office Location**  
Room 221, Bldg. 330  
Daytona Campus

**Office Hours**  
MW: 8:00am - 9:30am  
T: 11:00 - 4:00pm

## Overview Information

### Required Texts

*Readings in American Politics* by Ken Kollman (ISBN: 978-0-393-91282-1)

*We The People* by Ginsberg, Lowi, Weir and Tolbert (ISBN: 978-0-393-91308-8)

Credit Hours: 3 Semester Hours. Degree: A.A. and A.S.

Contact Hours: 45 hours

Course Description: Constitutional rights of the individual; structure and functions of our legislative, executive, and judicial branches; role of the citizen in political parties and the electoral process

### *Student Learning Outcomes*

By completing this course students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate a general knowledge and understanding of the differences between the House of Representatives and the Senate.
2. Demonstrate a general knowledge and understanding of how a bill becomes law.
3. Demonstrate a general knowledge and understanding of the powers and functions of the three branches of government.
4. Demonstrate a general knowledge and understanding of how citizens can become more effective participants in the political process.
5. Demonstrate a general knowledge and understanding of the major components of the U.S. Constitution.

### Equipment and Supplies

This course will require access to Florida Online (found here: <http://online.daytonastate.edu>), word processing software (Microsoft Word, WordPerfect, OpenOffice or GoogleDocs), and projection software (Microsoft Power Point, OpenOffice, or Google Presentations).

## Grading Policy

A variety of examination methods will be employed. There are 1,000 possible points for the class.

### *Multiple Choice Examinations (400 points)*

There will be a midterm and a final. Each are worth 200 points. These will be standard multiple choice tests where you select the best answer given a single section tree. Textbook readings and lecture notes will constitute the base from which question will be drawn. Reading and accurate note taking will be central to good grades on these exams.

### *Reading Summarizations (150 points)*

**Part 1:** Students will complete reading summarizations each week for class participation. These will be collected at random (50 points).

**Part 2:** Students will choose one summarization to be submitted for grading and feedback by the midterm (50 points).

**Part 3:** Students will submit a final summarization to be graded prior to the final (50 points).

### *Class Participation (150 points)*

For each week of class there are a number of readings. Students need to have read the week's readings in advance. Students should come prepared with their reading summarizations either in hard copy or digitally. I will randomly call on students each week to give a reading overview. Class participation will be based on being present and performing well on these overviews and/or turning in the summarizations as required by the professor.

### *Annotated Bibliography (250 points)*

Students will compile an annotated bibliography on one of the following topics:

- Presidents or Presidential Power
- Congress / Congressional Behavior
- Political Communication
- Supreme Court Decision Making

*See handout for more information.*

### *Post-test (50 points)*

A comprehensive posttest will open in the last two weeks of class. This test is used to measure the effectiveness of classes at Daytona State. It will constitute 5% of your final grade.

### *Pretest (0%)*

A pretest will be administered during the first two weeks of class. This test is ungraded. However, *it is a prerequisite to take the post test.*

## **Incomplete Grades**

An Incomplete (“I”) is a temporary grade issued to a student who is passing a course but who, for valid and unforeseen reasons, is not able to complete the course requirements within the semester. Students receiving the “I” must have written documentations of the extenuating circumstances and already completed 75% of the required coursework for the class. The student agrees to complete all of the requirements before the middle of the next major semester. A grade of “I” automatically converts to an “F” if the requirements are not met.

## **Attendance Policy**

Students are expected to participate in class. Students who consistently fail to attend will be penalized. Note that VA students are not allowed to accumulate three absences within thirty days of classes.

## **Withdrawing**

Instructors cannot withdraw students from courses. Students who wish to withdraw must use Falcon Online. Not attending class is not the same as withdrawing it. Deadlines are posted in the College Academic Calendar. Note that withdrawing is still counted as an attempt for a course.

Students who no longer want to attend class:

- 1) Must withdraw by the deadline for the semester (published in the academic calendar).
- 2) May initiate the withdrawal process at the Registration Office at any Daytona State College campus by presenting picture identification.
- 3) Students with extenuating circumstances (ie: hospitalized, out of town, etc.) may withdraw by mail provided the request is postmarked by the deadline and contains an original signature of the student.

For more information contact: [Registration@DaytonaState.edu](mailto:Registration@DaytonaState.edu).

## **Special Needs and Student Disabilities**

The office of *Student Disability Services* (SDS) offers support services and academic accommodations for Daytona State students with documented disabilities in compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, as amended. SDS determines the types of support services and academic accommodations or adjustments for which a student is eligible to receive. SDS makes determinations based solely on documentation from licensed medical and or mental health professionals, which clearly delineate the limitations resulting from a person's disability. *If you have a disability and need accommodations, we encourage you to register with SDS and request the accommodations that you need.* Accordingly, Daytona State College provides an environment that fosters independence and autonomy for students with disabilities. Registering with SDS will ensure that you have every opportunity to fully participate in the college experience. For more information you can contact SDS at 386-506-3238.

## **Makeup Exam Policy**

Makeup exams will not be given unless extenuating circumstances prevent the student from taking the exam as scheduled. Determination of extenuating circumstances will be at the sole discretion of the instructor, and will be limited to incidents such as illness, court appearances, etc. that are documented in writing. A student that simply states that he/she missed an exam due to illness (or other reasons) and cannot provide written documentation will not be allowed an opportunity to take a make-up exam. There is no guarantee that a student will be allowed the opportunity for a makeup exam.

## **Academic Integrity Policy**

In order to preserve academic excellence and integrity, the College expects you to know, understand, and comply with the Academic Integrity Policy, which prohibits academic dishonesty in any form, including, but not limited to, cheating and plagiarism. Grades conferred by instructors are intended to be, and must be, accurate and true reflections of the coursework actually produced and submitted by you.

All cases of suspected violations of the Student Code of Conduct, including academic dishonesty, are reported to the Judicial Affairs Office for resolution. *All academic dishonesty committed in this class will result in a grade of F for the class.*

## **Class Etiquette**

Fostering a learning environment means there are certain ground rules required of all students both towards each other and towards the professor. When discussing material students should be prepared to pay attention and participate. When talking with other students respect must always be shown. There should be no shouting (or caps shouting online) or other types of intimidation or violence. The professor wants to help you, but I will not be subject to abuse – verbal or physical – and I will not change grades on the basis of such behavior. Students who cannot abide the rules will be asked to leave or reported to the Judicial Affairs Office for resolution.

### *Cell Phones and Etiquette*

The use of cellphones are restricted in this class. Students who are using phones, or other devices, for any purpose the instructor deems inappropriate will be asked to leave. Habitual offenders may also receive penalties affecting their final grade. Assume the same rules apply here as in a standard business meeting.

## **Syllabus Revisions**

This syllabus is subject to change at the sole discretion of your professor, Dr. Orndorff. I will give you notice as to any changes, but any or all of this class may change as circumstances may dictate.