McLENNAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE

WACO, TEXAS

COURSE SYLLABUS

AND

INSTRUCTOR PLAN

Federal Government: Federal Constitution & Topics

GOVT 2304 Section 101

Mike Campenni

NOTE: THIS IS A SIX WEEK SUMMER ONE TERM CLASS

NOTE: THIS IS A TRADITIONAL LECTURE CLASS

Course Description:
GOVT 2304--Intro to Political Science. This is an introductory survey of the discipline of political science focusing on the scope and methods of the field, including the theoretical foundations of politics, political interaction, political institutions and how political systems function. THIS CLASS FOCUSES HEAVILY ON POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY.

Prerequisites and/or Co-requisites:
Prerequisite: Must have passed the reading portion of the TSI Assessment or have credit for INRW 0402. Semester Hours 3 (3 lecture).

Course Notes and Instructor Recommendations:
This is a traditional Face to Face Lecture Class that requires class attendance, participation, note taking, research and reading.

Instructor Information:
Instructor Name: Mike Campenni
MCC E-mail: mcampenni@mclennan.edu
Office Phone Number: 254-299-8941
Office Location: MAC 323
Office/Teacher Conference Hours: Monday- Friday, 8:30am to 10:00 noon. Other times are available by request. Zoom meetings are available for office meetings and tutoring. Other Information: It is a good idea to call or email to confirm appointments.

There is not a required text. Students will have to find the material online or in the library.

MCC Bookstore Website
http://www.mclennan.edu/bookstore/

Methods of Teaching and Learning:

This course utilizes lectures, readings and discussion to deliver content. It then uses five weekly class participation grades plus short essay answer tests to determine a Final Grade.

Course Objectives and/or Competencies:

Course involves the basic institutions, definitions and ideas of political science and then analyzes the basic political philosophies that underpin political science.

Student activities in this class will facilitate the development of the following competencies and the mastery of the following objectives.

Competencies:

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

Learning Outcomes (Course Objectives Upon successful completion of this course, students will):

Be able to define and apply political terms and concepts. Define political science and identify the subfields. Compare and contrast different political systems and institutions. Apply the methods used to study politics. Critically interpret and analyze contemporary political issues and problems.

Course Outline

This class covers the basic tenets of political science including various ideas, structures and institutions, and learning about the basic philosophical tenets of politics.

Week One—Basic political concepts, types of governmental structures, policy making, theories of government, social/political concepts.

Week Two---The Nature of Man, the State of Nature, the Nature of Society, Ethics and Obligations.

Week Three—The State, Why the State? Who Should Rule and Why?

Week Four—Liberty, Restraints on Liberty, Problems With Liberty

Week Five—Property, Distributive Justice, Property and Markets, Rawls and Justice, Injustice, Distribution, Oppression

Week Six—Justice For Everyone? Justice Everywhere? The World Order

Course Grading Information:

There are 600 total points available in this class. Your final grade will be based on how many points you earn out of those 600 points.

The points come from
1. Five weekly Participation Grades worth 20 points each.
2. Five short in class essay exams worth 100 points each.

Course Attendance/Participation Guidelines:

If a student is not in attendance in accordance with the policies/guidelines of the class as outlined in the course syllabus as of the course census date, faculty are required to drop students from their class roster prior to certifying the respective class roster. A student's financial aid will be re-evaluated accordingly and the student will only receive funding for those courses attended as of the course census date.

Before the 60% point of the semester, a student who is absent for 25% or more of a face-to-face or blended course or who miss 25% or more of assigned work for an online course will be withdrawn from the course with a grade of W. A student may also request to be withdrawn with a grade of W before the 60% point of the semester. After the 60% point of the semester, the student may request to be withdrawn (instructor's prerogative) if the student is passing, or be assigned the final grade earned at the end of the semester after grades have been updated to reflect missing work.

Late Work, Attendance, and Make Up Work Policies:

The instructor reserves the right to drop students for lack of attendance and work. If something comes up that prevents the timely completion of assignments, or attendance in class, the student should immediately contact the instructor. You may view your attendance/participation in Bright Space. If you fall behind on assignments or work in the class you will show absent. That's why it is important to contact me when things happen.

I promise to do my best to make this class work for you. I promise to work as hard as you do to get you through it. If you have problems and needs, I will do my best to address and solve them.

The instructor reserves the right to accept late work, or to assign make up work at his own discretion.

Student Behavioral Expectations or Conduct Policy:

I expect you to be courteous and respectful in class with me and other students. I expect you to take notes, participate in class discussion and refrain from using cell phones, ear phones, ear buds, etc., in class.

This class centers to a large extent on interaction between the student and the course material and the student and the instructor. I am available for one on one meetings in my office, via Zoom or phone and or email. I expect you to read and respond to my emails. Many of them are about your performance on assessments, sometimes they are inquiries about trends I see and sometimes I am exploring Government with you. Please view the email process with the same commitment that I do. Remember that we solely use the MCC Email system in this class.

Specific Course Policies For Govt 2305:

1. Please consult the Brightspace course's **ANNOUNCEMENTS** page daily for course updates, scheduling changes, lesson materials, test information and ideas. You can get help with Brightspace problems by contacting me, Academic Support Services and Network Services.
2. MCC has extensive filters and security protocols. Because of this, some email accounts may not work. I will use MCC email to contact you as per school policy. To access your MCC email, go to the MCC home page at: www.mclennan.edu and click on the student email icon. Please place your course and section number on the subject line of all emails. It is up to you to make sure that I am receiving your EMAILS and work product. I will always respond to your EMAIL within a day during the week and two days on a weekend. If I do not respond inside that time frame, assume that I didn't get your message and contact me again, or by phone.
3. If you have exceptional circumstances, please consult with the instructor about your individual case. New regulations make dropping classes very expensive and limited in number. Let me help you through any problems you have in this class. Something which you may consider insurmountable may be fairly easy to fix. **I AM HERE TO HELP YOU SUCCEED.** Remember that the school follows the state mandated **SIX DROP POLICY** (see catalog for an explanation). Again, I'm happy to work with you to make this class work.
4. Any student requiring special accommodations, due to a disabling or other condition, should contact the instructor as soon as possible. I'm here to make the class work for you. I'm happy to work with your special needs.

Faculty Bio and Teaching Statement

Hello! My name is Mike Campenni. I am the instructor for this course. I have been

teaching college for right at 47 years. I am a tenured, full professor in Government at MCC.

At MCC, I have won a NISOD (State-wide) Outstanding Teacher Award and the school's Minnie Piper state-wide Professor Nomination. Over the years, I have had research published in *Comparative Political Studies,* a book chapter on Public Finance and have presented at multiple American Political Science Association Conventions and the American Public Administration Conventions. In addition, I have presented at regional conferences. I am on the MCC Speakers' Bureau and speak frequently to civic groups. I have served on most of the standing faculty and institutional committees at MCC. I have served multiple terms on Faculty Council and have been both the Vice President and President of the Council. I am a member of the Texas Community College Teachers Association and have served as a state wide committee member (Services & Members and Legislative committees). I have served as a Faculty Advisor for the Ranch Club, the Non Traditional Students Club and the Politics Club.

My teaching philosophy is relatively straight forward. My job is to help you learn about government. Everything that I do is aimed towards that end. If I have done a good job, then your grades will reflect that effort. Generally, my lodestar is to do whatever helps the student learn about government. To that end, I'm willing to do whatever is ethical, equitable and possible to make this class work for you. The key is for you to let me know what you need from me to be successful and for us to work hard together.

Click Here for the MCC Attendance/Absences Policy
https://www.mclennan.edu/highlander-guide/policies.html
Click on the link above for the college policies on attendance and absences. In this class we use the timely submission of work to "take" attendance.

07/02/2024

MCLENNAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE

ACADEMIC RESOURCES/POLICIES

Accommodations/ADA Statement:

Any student who is a qualified individual with a disability may request reasonable accommodations to assist with providing equal access to educational opportunities. Students should contact Accommodations (Disability Services) as soon as possible to provide documentation and make necessary arrangements. Once that process is completed, appropriate verification will be provided to the student and instructor. Please note that instructors are not required to provide classroom accommodations to students until appropriate verification has been provided by the Accommodations Coordinator. For additional information, please visit www.mclennan.edu/disability

Students with questions or who require assistance with disabilities involving physical, classroom, or testing accommodations should contact:

disabilities@mclennan.edu (254)299-8122 Room 319, Student Services

Title IX:

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 is a Federal civil rights law that prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in educational programs and activities that receive Federal funds. We care about your safety and value an environment where students and instructors can successfully teach and learn together. If you or someone you know experiences unwelcomed behavior, we are here to help. Individuals who would like to report a Title IX incident are encouraged to immediately contact the Title IX Coordinator at titleix@mclennan.edu or by calling, Dr. Claudette Jackson, (Accommodations/Title IX) at (254) 299-8465.

Additionally, Title IX provides rights and protections for pregnant and newly parenting students which can include educational accommodations such as excused absences

and the opportunity to make up assignments and tests. Lactation spaces are also available on campus. Please email titleix@mclennan.edu for more information.

MCC employees are mandatory reporters and must report incidents immediately to the Title IX Coordinator. Faculty and Staff may email titleix@mclennan.edu to submit a report.

Individuals may also contact the MCC Police Department at (254) 299-8911 or the MCC Student Counseling Center at (254) 299-8210. The MCC Student Counseling Center is a confidential resource for students. Any student may report sexual harassment anonymously by visiting https://www.lighthouse-services.com

Visit McLennan's Title IX webpage at https://www.mclennan.edu/titleix/ to learn more about Title IX protections, reporting, and resources.

Student Support/Resources:

MCC provides a variety of services to support student success in the classroom and in your academic pursuits to include counseling, tutors, technology help desk, advising, financial aid, etc. A listing of these and the many other services available to our students is available at http://www.mclennan.edu/campus-resource-guide/

Academic Support and Tutoring is here to help students with all their course-related needs. Specializing in one-on-one tutoring, developing study skills, and effectively writing essays. Academic Support and Tutoring can be found in the Library and main floor of the Learning Commons. This service is available to students in person or through Zoom. You can contact the Academic Support and Tutoring team via Zoom or email (ast@mclennan.edu) by going to our website (https://www.mclennan.edu/academic-support-and-tutoring/)

At our campus, we understand that students face numerous challenges beyond the classroom. That's why we offer Success Coaches who are dedicated to helping you succeed. Our coaches know that life can sometimes get in the way of your educational goals. Through personalized meetings, Success Coaches empower you to overcome obstacles, maximize your potential, and create a clear path to both academic and personal success. Our Success Coaches are ready to help you achieve your dreams! Schedule your appointment today by calling 254-299-8226 or emailing success@mclennan.edu.

College personnel also recognize that food, housing, and transportation are essential for student success. If you are having trouble securing these resources and other essential resources, we encourage you to contact the CREW - Campus Resources Education Web by calling 254-299-8561 or emailing crew@mclennan.edu.

Paulanne's Pantry (MCC's food pantry) provides free food by appointment to students, faculty and staff. To schedule an appointment, go to https://calendly.com/paulannespantry-mcc/15min.

Success Coaching Services, the CREW, and Paulanne's Pantry are located on the second floor of the Student Services building in Success Coaching Services, suite 249.

The Student Counseling Center offers confidential mental health counseling to currently enrolled students at no charge. Counselors are trained to help students with problems related to personal, social, and emotional concerns. Sessions focus on short-term goals in order to facilitate students college success and adjustment. This service is available to students in person or through Zoom.

Make an appointment to meet with a counselor by visiting the center in the Wellness & Fitness building, room 101, calling 254-299-8210, or emailing counseling@mclennan.edu.

MCC Foundation Emergency Grant Fund:

Unanticipated expenses, such as car repairs, medical bills, housing, or job loss can affect us all. Should an unexpected expense arise, the MCC Foundation has an emergency grant fund that may be able to assist you. Please go to https://www.mclennan.edu/foundation/scholarships-and-resources/emergencygrant.html to find out more about the emergency grant. The application can be found at https://www.mclennan.edu/foundation/scholarships-and-resources/emergencygrant.html

MCC Academic Integrity Statement:

Please view our Academic integrity statement for more information about academic integrity, dishonesty, and cheating. The unauthorized use of artificial intelligence (AI) for classwork can be a violation of the College's General Conduct Policy. Whether AI is

authorized in a course and the parameters in which AI can be used in a course will be outlined by each instructor.

Minimum System Requirements to Utilize MCC's D2L|Brightspace:
Go to https://www.mclennan.edu/center-for-teaching-and-learning/Faculty-and-StaffCommons/requirements.html for information on the minimum system requirements needed to reliably access your courses in MCC's D2L|Brightspace learning management system.

Minimum Technical Skills:
Students should have basic computer skills, knowledge of word processing software, and a basic understanding of how to use search engines and common web browsers.

Backup Plan for Technology:
In the event MCC's technology systems are down, you will be notified via your MCC student email address. Please note that all assignments and activities will be due on the date specified in the Instructor Plan, unless otherwise noted by the instructor.

Email Policy:
McLennan Community College would like to remind you of the policy (http://www.mclennan.edu/employees/policy-manual/docs/E-XXXI-B.pdf) regarding college email. All students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to use their McLennan email addresses when conducting college business.

A student's McLennan email address is the preferred email address that college employees should use for official college information or business. Students are expected to read and, if needed, respond in a timely manner to college emails. For more information about your student email account, go to www.mclennan.edu/studentemail.

Instructional Uses of Email:
Faculty members can determine classroom use of email or electronic communications. Faculty should expect and encourage students to check the college email on a regular basis. Faculty should inform students in the course syllabus if another communication method is to be used and of any special or unusual expectations for electronic communications.

If a faculty member prefers not to communicate by email with their students, it should be reflected in the course syllabus and information should be provided for the preferred form of communication.

Email on Mobile Devices:

The College recommends that you set up your mobile device to receive McLennan emails. If you need assistance with set-up, you may email Helpdesk@mclennan.edu for help.

You can find help on the McLennan website about connecting your McLennan email account to your mobile device:

- Email Setup for iPhones and iPads
- Email Setup for Androids

Forwarding Emails:

You may forward emails that come to your McLennan address to alternate email addresses; however, the College will not be held responsible for emails forwarded to an alternate address that may be lost or placed in junk or spam filters.

For more helpful information about technology at MCC, go to MCC's Tech Support or email helpdesk@mclennan.edu.

Disclaimer:

The resources and policies listed above are merely for informational purposes and are subject to change without notice or obligation. The College reserves the right to change policies and other requirements in compliance with State and Federal laws. The provisions of this document do not constitute a contract.