Course Description
This self-paced course will deepen your understanding of the institutions, processes, and problems of US politics. The textbook will expose you to a variety of viewpoints on some of the most important aspects of U.S. political cultures, political institutions, actors and political processes.

Required Texts
Do NOT purchase older versions of the textbook because it will not adequately prepare you for the chapter tests. The course structure follows that of this required textbook; there is one exam per chapter.

Evaluation
You will have to complete all quizzes and also write a paper. All quizzes will be taken on-line via CANVAS. The quizzes are all contained within the folder called “Quizzes.”

Seventy percent (70%) of our grade for the class will be based on these chapter quizzes, all taken on-line via CANVAS. You will have 60 minutes to take each exam, and you may re-take this exam once, and the highest grade will be recorded. The number of questions per test may vary. These scores will then be averaged.

THERE IS NO MIDTERM OR FINAL EXAM IN THIS CLASS. YOU CAN TAKE THESE CHAPTERS QUIZZES AT ANY TIME DURING THE TERM AS LONG AS YOU COMPLETE THEM ALL BY THE END OF THE TERM.

The remaining 30% of your grade will be based on a 5-8 page opinion paper on one of the following topics, due no later than Dec. 4th via VeraCite. You may turn in this paper at any time, but it is highly recommended that you wait until you have read the relevant chapters in the assigned textbook. You will need to have a minimum of five non-internet sources for this paper.

1) Does government work in the U.S. and how could it be improved?
2) Describe your political socialization process, and how you feel about voting?
3) How much does economics affect politics in the U.S.?
4) How much confidence do you have in the average U.S, voter?
5) Why do so few eligible U.S. citizens actually vote?
6) Why has Economic class been relatively ignored in the U.S. until the recent 1% movement?
7) How much influence does money have on U.S. politics?
8) What’s wrong, if anything, with relations between the U.S. Congress and the U.S. Presidency?
9) Why is the U.S. an international superpower?
10) Analyze how concerns about terrorism may affect civil liberties.

Grading Scale:

A = 94 - 110  
A- = 90 - 93  
B+ = 87 - 89  
B  = 84 - 86  
B- = 80 - 83  
C+ = 77 - 79  
C  = 74 - 76  
C- = 70 - 73  
D+ = 67 - 69  
D  = 60 - 66

Technological Requirements:

- You will need regular access to a competent computer with web access.
- **No incompletes** can be given for this course due to its web-based nature. If you do not complete a quiz for any reason, you will receive a “0.” If you have trouble accessing any quiz, please contact me immediately.
- All quizzes must be completed by 11:59 p.m., Friday, December 4th.
- PS 201 cannot be repeated for credit – the traditional lecture course PS 201 and the independent study/distance education course PS 201 are treated as the same course by the Registrar's office.
- Please email me with any questions from 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. Monday-Friday, and I will respond within 24 hours.

Class Web Sites:

- **CANVAS** This web site is the main web site used for this class. All class information will be run through this website.
- **Chapter Quizzes** – all due Friday, December 4th, 11:59pm.

The chapter quizzes can be found in CANVAS under the tab “Tests.” You will take one test for each chapter that will cover material in the *We the People* textbook. These are not proctored, but they are closed book. In order to take them you will need to promise that you are not looking things up in the book, sharing questions or answers with classmates, printing out the exam, or using a exam or exam answers provided by another person. **If you engage in any of these activities even once, your grade for all the quizzes will be a zero**, which will make it essentially impossible to pass the class.

You will be given 60 minutes to take each chapter exam. After completing the test, please make sure you press the submit button about 30 seconds before the 60 minute time limit because it takes the system about that long to process your quiz.

You have two attempts to take each quiz. You will receive the highest grade. You are not required to take the quiz two times. You must finish the quiz within the time allotted or you will not get a grade. If for some reason you lose a connection, you can use your second attempt to take the quiz again.