

DRAFT

**PS 201 Introduction to U.S. Politics
(On-Line Version)
Summer 2017**

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(subject to minor revisions before the first day of class)

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 Text

REVEL for *The Struggle for Democracy*, 2016 Election Edition -- Access Card, 12th Ed. By Edward S. Greenberg and Benjamin I. Page
ISBN-13: **9780134551760**
Publisher: Pearson, 2018

This is a digital version of this book that also includes an audio version of the entire textbook. If you wish to purchase an additional hard copy, you may do so through your Pearson account. See instructions at the end of this syllabus, as you will need to obtain an Access Card from the Pearson website

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 the (final exam or paper) by September 15, 2017 at 11:59 p.m. However, you may proceed at your own pace; you can take three quizzes in one week or one per week. This is your choice.

QUIZZES - All quizzes will be taken on-line via CANVAS. The quizzes are all contained within the folder called "Quizzes." Fifty percent (50%) of your grade for the class will be based on these chapter quizzes, all taken on-line via CANVAS. You will have 30 minutes to take each exam, and you may re-take this exam once, and the highest grade will be recorded. There are 25 multiple choice questions per test, but your second attempt may have different questions, as they are randomly picked from a larger test bank. These scores will then be averaged.

FINAL EXAM OR FINAL PAPER:

Option 1: Final Exam

Due to new mandatory security requirements, the final exam (worth 50% of your grade) must be taken in a setting where someone will check your ID and monitor your taking of the test. On-campus students can take their final exam at the SSIL Labs in McKenzie 445. Off-campus students in Portland can take this exam at the White Stag Building. All other students who are elsewhere, including foreign countries, will have to obtain a "Remote Proctor." Information on how to do this will be sent to all students and is

available on the CASIT website under “Off Campus Students.” You will only have ONE chance to take this final exam. There will be 75 multiple choice questions, and you will have 120 minutes to complete this exam.

Option 2: Final Paper

Instead, you may opt out of the final exam and write a 7-10 page paper. This paper must be submitted through Veracite on the CANVAS website for this class. Paper guidelines will be available on CANVAS.

Grading Scale:

A	= 94 - 110	C+	= 77 - 79
A--	= 90 - 93	C	= 74 - 76
B+	= 87 - 89	C--	= 70 - 73
B	= 84 - 86	D+	= 67 - 69
B--	= 80 - 83	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 and the (final exam or paper) must be completed by 11:59 p.m., September 15th.
- 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 and (Final Exam or Paper) – all due September 15th by 11:59pm.**

The chapter quizzes can be found in CANVAS under the tab “Quizzes.” You will take one quiz for each chapter that will cover material in the textbook. You will be given 30 minutes to take each chapter quiz. After completing the test, please make sure you press the submit button about 30 seconds before the 30 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.

PLEASE NOTE: It is a violation of the UO Student Conduct Code to open the

required textbook or other materials during a quiz, collaborate or consult with another person during a quiz, share questions or answers with others, print out the quiz, or use a quiz or quiz answers provided by another person, or to pay another person or organization to assist you in taking these quizzes. 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.

Student Instructions for Using the Digital Textbook

This course uses a Pearson digital product which contains important assignments and resources used throughout the term. The required link below is unique to this course. Here is how to register:

1. Visit this link: <https://console.pearson.com/enrollment/q8ncug>
2. Sign in with your Pearson Account. You can either: sign in with an existing Pearson username and password OR create a new Pearson account if this is your first Pearson digital product.
3. Choose your course under 'My Courses' and choose an access option: redeem an access code that you got from your school's bookstore or purchase access online. There is a free trial if you are waiting for financial aid.