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**Ohio Articulation Number (OAN)  
Course Submission Form  
2005-2006**



College/University Youngstown State University

Course(s) Submitted(Title & Course #) American Government - 1560 for  
Ohio Articulation Number OSS 011

Date May 25, 2006 Course \_\_\_\_\_ of a \_\_\_\_\_ Course OAN mapping.

Name and title of individual submitting on behalf of the college/university

Name Paul A. Sracic Title Professor

Address Political Science Dept.  
Youngstown State University  
One University Plaza  
Youngstown, OH 44555

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Credit Hours 3 qtr \_\_\_\_\_ sem 3

Lecture Hours 3

Laboratory Hours \_\_\_\_\_ (if applicable)

Pre-Requisites(s) Course work (if applicable)

Placement Score (if applicable)

(Name of test)

(Domain) (Score)

Catalog/Course Description (Includes Course Title and Course #)

*American Government - 1560.* The foundations of American democratic government with an emphasis on the responsibilities of citizenship, civil rights, and civil liberties, parties and elections, and American political institutions. Students are encouraged to understand and discuss issues of social justice, equality and freedom and majoritarianism. Topics include the civil rights movement, campaign finance reform, federalism and affirmative action.

Texts/Outside Readings/Ancillary Materials

There is no assigned text for this class.

Course Objectives and/or Plan of Work

To encourage students to confront the values necessary for a democratic nation to prosper; help students understand important social issues that confront our society; provide students with the skills that they need to participate as active and critical citizens in a democracy, including the fundamentals of the Constitution, and the political institutions and ideals established by that document. This course will also familiarize students with important events in American political and social history and encourage them to gather and interpret political data from the internet.

Description of Assessment and/or Evaluation of Student Learning

The grade for Political Science 1560 will be determined by the results on 2 scheduled examinations which cover material in the syllabus readings, lectures, and class discussions. Examination will consist of a combination of objective questions and/or essay questions. The student in need of assistance with essay question writing should consult his/her English instructor or attend the writing center sessions. Makeup examination privileges will be extended only in case of absence on the scheduled date for reasons beyond the student's control. It is the responsibility of the student to be aware of exam dates. A make-up final exam will be given only on the basis of documented cause. (i.e. evidence of serious illness, accident, etc.)

Master Syllabi and Working Syllabi (if both are used)

**American Government**  
**Political Science 1560**  
**Cushwa 1111**  
**Tues. & Thurs. 9:30 - 10:45**  
**Spring 2006**

**Instructor: Dr. Paul A. Sracic**  
**444 DeBartolo Hall,**  
**(330) 941-1672**  
**[pasracic@ysu.edu](mailto:pasracic@ysu.edu)**

**Office Hours: Tuesday B 12:15 - 1:45 pm**  
**Thursday B 12:30 - 4:00**

**Course Description:** This course describes the government of the United States with an emphasis on understanding the impact that democratic theory has had on American political

institutions, as well as the role that effective citizenship has played and continues to play on the evolution of those institutions. Students are also asked to understand the important social issues that confront our society and those values necessary for a democratic nation to prosper.

**Course Goals and Objectives:** To encourage students to confront the values necessary for a democratic nation to prosper; help students understand important social issues that confront our society; provide students with the skills that they need to participate as active and critical citizens in a democracy, including the fundamentals of the Constitution, and the political institutions and ideals established by that document. This course will also familiarize students with important events in American political and social history and encourage them to gather and interpret political data from the internet.

**Course Materials:** There is no assigned text for this class.

**General Education Program Information:** Political Science 1560 is an approved course under the Societies and Institutions domain, designed to fulfill general education goals 11 (Evaluate the impact of theories, events and institutions of the social, economic, legal and political aspects of society) and 12 (Comprehend and appreciate the development of diversity in America in all its forms) while also addressing goals 1, 2, and 3 (for listing of the goals for the general education requirements please access YSU's general education website at <http://www.cc.ysu.edu/ger/genedg.html>).

**Performance Evaluation:** The grade for Political Science 1560 will be determined by the results on 2 scheduled examinations which cover material in the syllabus readings, lectures, and class discussions. Examination will consist of a combination of objective questions and/or essay questions. The student in need of assistance with essay question writing should consult his/her English instructor or attend the writing center sessions. Makeup examination privileges will be extended only in case of absence on the scheduled date for reasons beyond the student's control. It is the responsibility of the student to be aware of exam dates. A make-up final exam will be given only on the basis of documented cause. (i.e., evidence of serious illness, accident, etc.)

**Incomplete Grade Policy:**

An incomplete grade on "I" may be given to a student who has been doing satisfactory work in a course but, for reasons beyond control of the student and deemed justifiable by the instructor, had not completed all requirements for a course when grades were submitted. A written explanation of the reason for the "I" and a date (which must be within **one year**) by which all course requirements will be completed, must be forwarded to the Office of the Registrar for inclusion in the student's permanent record, with copies to the student and department chair person.

The instructor will initiate a grade change upon completion of the course requirements. **If no formal grade change occurs within one year, the "I" automatically converts to an "F".** If graduation occurs within the one-year period, the Incomplete Grade will be converted to an "F" before graduation.

## COURSE OUTLINE AND ASSIGNMENTS

### **I. A INTRODUCTION TO CITIZENSHIP AND GOVERNMENT**

#### **January 17 - 19: Democratic Government and Procedures**

<http://www.sos.state.oh.us/sos/ElectionsVoter/OhioElections.aspx?Section=15>

### **II. THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION**

#### **Jan. 24 - 31: Constitutional Theory**

Assignment: *The Declaration of Independence* B <http://www.yale.edu/lawweb/avalon/declare.htm>

Ref: Thomas Hobbes, *Leviathan*, Edwin Curley, ed. (Indianapolis: Indiana: Hackett, 1994); John Locke, *Second Treatise of Government*, C.B. Macpherson, ed., Indianapolis: Indiana: Hackett, 1980); Louis Hartz, *The Liberal Tradition in America* (New York: Harcourt, Brace, and World, 1955); Forrest McDonald, *Novus Ordo Seclorum: The Intellectual Origins of the Constitution* (Lawrence, KS: University of Kansas, 1985); Gordon S. Wood, *The Creation of the American Republic 1776-1787* (Chapel Hill, N.C.: University of North Carolina, 1969)

#### **Feb. 2 - 7: The Constitutional Setting**

Assignments: *Articles of Confederation* B <http://supreme.lp.findlaw.com/documents/aofc.html>;

Federalist 1 and 15 B <http://www.yale.edu/lawweb/avalon/federal/fed.htm>;

The Annapolis Convention B <http://www.yale.edu/lawweb/avalon/annapoli.htm>

Articles of Confed. Congress B <http://www.yale.edu/lawweb/avalon/const/const04.htm>

Virginia Plan: <http://www.yale.edu/lawweb/avalon/const/vatexta.htm>

Ref: Max Farrand, *The Framing of the Constitution of the United States* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1913)

#### **Feb. 9 - Mar. 2: The United States Constitution, Articles I - III; Amendments 12 and 25**

Assignments: *The Constitution* <http://www.yale.edu/lawweb/avalon/usconst.htm>

Marbury v. Madison B <http://www.oyez.org/oyez/resource/case/224/>

Ref: J. W. Peltason, *Understanding the Constitution* (Orlando, FL: Harcourt Brace, 1997); James Bradley Thayer, "The Origin and Scope of the American Doctrine of Constitutional Law" 7 *Harvard Law Review* (1893).

### **Review Session**

### **Midterm Examination**

---- **Spring Break** ----

### **Articles IV-VII**

Assignment: *The Constitution* B

<http://www.yale.edu/lawweb/avalon/usconst.htm>

**March 30 - April 4: Explaining the Constitution**

Assignments: Federalist #'s 10 and 51

<http://www.yale.edu/lawweb/avalon/federal/fed.htm>;

Ref: Jack N. Rakove, *Original Meanings* (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1996)

**April 6 - 13: The Bill of Rights and Civil Liberties**

Assignment: Constitution (First Ten Amendments) B

<http://www.yale.edu/lawweb/avalon/usconst.htm>

Ref : Robert Allen Rutland, *The Birth of the Bill of Rights* (Boston: Northeastern University, 1983)

**April 18: Civil Rights and Public Policy**

Assignment: 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the Constitution B

<http://www.yale.edu/lawweb/avalon/usconst.htm>

Rec: *Brown v. Board of Education B* <http://www.nationalcenter.org/brown.html>

**III. AMERICAN POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS**

**April 20: The Congress: Leadership and Structure**

Assignment: House leadership:

<http://clerkweb.house.gov/mbrcmtee/members/congnews.htm>

Senate leadership: [http://www.senate.gov/learning/learn\\_leaders.html](http://www.senate.gov/learning/learn_leaders.html)

**April 25: The Congress: Legislative process**

Assignment: [http://congress.indiana.edu/learn\\_about/legislative.htm](http://congress.indiana.edu/learn_about/legislative.htm)

Ref: Parliamentarian:

House: <http://thomas.loc.gov/home/enactment/enactlawtoc.html>

Senate: <http://thomas.loc.gov/home/lawsmade.toc.html>

**April 27: The Presidency**

Assignment: <http://www.loc.gov/global/executive/fed.html>

Ref: Theodore J. Lowi, *The Personal President: Power Invested, Promise Unfulfilled* (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1985); Richard E. Neustadt, *Presidential Power and the Modern Presidents* (New York: The Free Press, 1990)

**May 2: The Judiciary**

Assignment: AAbout the Supreme Court≡ at <http://www.supremecourtus.gov/>

Rec: <http://www.findlaw.com>

Ref: David M. O'Brien, *Storm Center* (New York: W.W. Norton, 1993); Robert G. McCloskey, *The American Supreme Court* (Chicago:University of Chicago, 1994)

**May 4: Review Session for Final**

Additional Documentation

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OBR Use

Action

Approved	
Additional Information Requested	
Rejected	
Date	