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  

E-mail  pasracic@ysu.edu  
Phone  330-941-1672  
Fax  330-941-3439  

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)

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<tr>
<th>American Government</th>
<th>Instructor: Dr. Paul A. Sracic</th>
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<tr>
<td>Political Science 1560</td>
<td>444 DeBartolo Hall,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cushwa 1111</td>
<td>(330) 941-1672</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues. &amp; Thurs. 9:30 - 10:45</td>
<td><a href="mailto:pasracic@ysu.edu">pasracic@ysu.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Spring 2006</td>
<td>Office Hours: Tuesday B 12:15 - 1:45 pm</td>
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**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](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 students 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

II. THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION
Jan. 24 - 31: Constitutional Theory
Assignment: The Declaration of Independence B http://www.yale.edu/lawweb/avalon/declare.htm

Feb. 2 - 7: The Constitutional Setting
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 - 11II; Amendments 12 and 25

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](http://www.yale.edu/lawweb/avalon/federal/fed.htm);  

April 6 - 13:  **The Bill of Rights and Civil Liberties**  
Assignments: Constitution (First Ten Amendments)  
[http://www.yale.edu/lawweb/avalon/usconst.htm](http://www.yale.edu/lawweb/avalon/usconst.htm)  

April 18:  **Civil Rights and Public Policy**  
Assignments: 14th Amendment to the Constitution  
[http://www.yale.edu/lawweb/avalon/usconst.htm](http://www.yale.edu/lawweb/avalon/usconst.htm)  
Ref: *Brown v. Board of Education*  
[http://www.nationalcenter.org/brown.html](http://www.nationalcenter.org/brown.html)  

III. AMERICAN POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS  

April 20:  **The Congress**: Leadership and Structure  
Assignments:  
House leadership:  
Senate leadership:  
[http://www.senate.gov/learning/learn_leaders.html](http://www.senate.gov/learning/learn_leaders.html)  

April 25:  **The Congress**: Legislative process  
Assignments:  
[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](http://thomas.loc.gov/home/enactment/enactlawtoc.html)  
Senate:  
[http://thomas.loc.gov/home/lawsmade.toc.html](http://thomas.loc.gov/home/lawsmade.toc.html)  

April 27:  **The Presidency**  
Assignments:  
Ref: Theodore J. Lowi, *The Personal President: Power Invested, Promise Unfulfilled* (Ithica: Cornell University Press, 1985);  

May 2:  **The Judiciary**  
Assignments:  
About the Supreme Court at  
Ref:  
[http://www.findlaw.com](http://www.findlaw.com)  
David M. O'Brien, *Storm Center* (New York: W.W. Norton, 1993);  
May 4: Review Session for Final

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