



WACO, TEXAS

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**NATIONAL GOVERNMENT**  
**GOVT 2305**  
**COURSE SYLLABUS**

REVISED: 09-10

## NATIONAL GOVERNMENT

### GOVT 2305

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#### **Course Description:**

Surveys the national government, the rise of constitutionalism, the national constitution, the federal system, the position of the individual political parties and elections, civil liberties, administration, defense and foreign policy. Sophomore standing or completion of HIST 1301 and 1302 recommended. May be taken before or after GOVT 2306. Prerequisites: THEA or approved alternative reading test passed or credit for READ 0302. Semester Hours 3 (3 lecture)

#### **Required Text & Material:**

To access updated information on textbooks, please visit <http://www.bkstr.com>.

#### **Course Objectives:**

Government 2305 is designed to enhance further the student's political conceptualization framework. Special attention will be placed upon the structural and functional decision-making process of the national government and emphasis will be placed upon a functional understanding of the resultant outputs of policy formation. This course, in conjunction with Government 2306, will illuminate the political processes of the American and Texas governmental systems: thus increasing the political sophistication of the student-citizen.

#### General Objectives:

- To instill in the student the desire to be a participating citizen in American political life.
- To enable the student to understand the political currents of American life.
- To stimulate interest in public affairs.
- To provide a better understanding of the rights and responsibilities of the individual in the American democratic system.
- To enable the student to understand the machinery of national government.
- To provide the student with a degree of erudition concerning the functional and structural arrangements of the national decision-making processes.
- To examine major domestic policy outputs of the national government.
- To enable the student to better understand the evolutionary process of our constitutional and federal system.
- To analyze the inputs, and outputs of the U.S. defense establishment and of U.S. foreign policy.

- To glean the significance of extra-constitutional groups to the American political process, i.e., parties, press, and pressure groups.

### **MCC Attendance Policy:**

Regular and punctual attendance is expected of all students, and each instructor will maintain a complete record of attendance for the entire length of each course, including online and hybrid courses. Students will be counted absent from class meetings missed, beginning with the first official day of classes. Students, whether present or absent, are responsible for all material presented or assigned for a course and will be held accountable for such materials in the determination of course grades. In the case of online and hybrid courses, attendance will be determined in terms of participation, as described in the course syllabus.

Absence from 25 percent of scheduled lecture and/or laboratory meetings will be taken as evidence that a student does not intend to complete the course, and the student will be withdrawn from the course with a grade of W. The instructor may reinstate the student if satisfied that the student will resume regular attendance and will complete the course. If the student's 25 percent absences are reached after the official drop date, the instructor may assign a W, if the student is passing and requests to be withdrawn. However, if a student who is not passing reaches the 25 percent point after the official drop date, the student will receive an F. In extenuating circumstances, the instructor may assign a W to a student who is not passing.

Each absence will count toward attendance requirements in each course.

Students will be permitted to make up class work and assignments missed due to absences caused by (1) authorized participation in official College functions, (2) personal illness, (3) an illness or a death in the immediate family, or (4) the observance of a religious holy day. Also, the instructor has the prerogative of determining whether a student may make up work missed due to absences for other reasons. It is the student's responsibility to inform the instructor of the reason for an absence and to do so in a timely fashion.

### **Student Absences on Religious Holy Days**

McLennan Community College shall excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities including examinations for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. Students are required to file a written request with each instructor for an excused absence. A student whose absence is excused for this observance may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence. Religious holy day means a holy

day observed by a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property taxation under the Texas Tax Code. McLennan Community College may not excuse absences for religious holy days which may interfere with patient care.

**ADA Statement:**

In accordance with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and the regulations published by the United States Department of Justice 28 C.F.R. 35.107(a), MCC's designated ADA co-coordinators, Mr. Gene Gooch - Vice President, Finance and Administration and Dr. Santos Martinez – Vice President, Student Services shall be responsible for coordinating the College's efforts to comply with and carry out its responsibilities under ADA. Students with disabilities requiring physical, classroom, or testing accommodations should contact Mr. Marcus Sweatt, Disabilities Specialist, at 299-8122 or [msweatt@mclennan.edu](mailto:msweatt@mclennan.edu).