

**Political Science 210:
The US and the Arizona Constitution
2008 Pre-Session
M-F: 9:00-11:50 am
Chem 126**

Instructor: Meghan Leonard
Office: Social Sciences 328A1
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COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will examine in detail the United States and Arizona Constitutions. The course meets state teacher certification requirements. The goal of this class is to understand the history and context of both the US and Arizona Constitutions. Further examination of the application and interpretation of these constitutions will be discussed to enhance students' understanding of the documents. The conflicts that ensue over the interpretation and amendment processes of both the US and Arizona Constitutions will also be examined.

REQUIRED TEXTS

Understanding the Arizona Constitution (2001)

Author: Toni McClory

Publisher: University of Arizona Press

ISBN# 0-8165-2096-8

The United States Constitution

The Arizona Constitution

Note: You may get a copy of the Arizona and US Constitution on the Internet. You also may get a free copy of the Arizona Constitution from the Secretary of State's office in Tucson.

All other readings will be available on the course d2L site (<http://www.d2l.arizona.edu>)

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

The assignments required for completion of this course are listed below. All assignments must be completed in order to receive a passing grade in the course.

1. Examination I (Tuesday May 27)	100 Points
2. Examination II (Monday June 2)	100 Points
3. Examination III (Saturday June 7)	100 Points
4. Quizzes	40 Points
5. Class Participation	10 Points

350 Total Points

Examinations (300 points total):

There are three examinations that make up the majority of the grade in this course. Each exam is worth 100 points and will cover approximately 1/3rd of the course material. The first examination will cover the United States Constitution including its content and history. The second examination will cover the interpretation and application of the US Constitution. The third and final exam will cover the Arizona Constitution, including its content and history as well as comparisons to the US Constitution. Students are responsible for all information covered in the assigned readings, the US and Arizona Constitutions as well as material from class lectures.

Students must be present for all exams. Missing an exam will result in a grade of zero. Students may not make up exams unless there is a legitimate reason (emergency) with validating evidence (to be determined by the instructor). Those with a valid excuse will make up the exam within 3 days of the original exam date and are to be completed during the instructor's office hours. Failure to do so will result in a zero on the exam. There will be no makeup exam for the final examination.

Quizzes (40 Points Total):

There will be random pop-quizzes given in this course. Five will be given, but the lowest score will be dropped. Each quiz is worth 10 points. There will be no make-up quizzes. Failure to take a quiz will result in a grade of zero.

Class Participation (10 Points Total):

Class participation is an essential part of learning. Though there is no formal attendance policy, all students should attend class everyday and be prepared to participate in discussion. Students will be expected to have read course materials before arriving at class to ensure the most useful and efficient discussion of the readings. The class participation grade will be determined by regular attendance as well as participation in discussion and the ability to answer questions regarding the reading assignments and course materials.

GRADING

Overall Distribution

A	350-315 points
B	314-280 points
C	279-245 points
D	244-210 points
E	209 points or below

PROFESSIONALISM AND ACADEMIC HONESTY

Standards of Conduct for Students:

Students are required to arrive to class on time each day. Before entering the class students are required to shut off all cell phones, pagers and other potentially disruptive devices. Most importantly, students will treat other students and the instructor with respect. Students should behave in a professional manner in order to ensure the classroom is a tolerant and comfortable environment for all students. Any student who fails to follow these guidelines will be asked to leave class immediately and will be referred to the appropriate authorities. These standards of conduct and respect also extend to emails sent regarding the class or class material. The

instructor reserves the right to refuse a response to any email sent deemed inappropriate or disrespectful.

Threatening Behavior:

Behavior determined to be threatening is prohibited and will not be tolerated. Should this occur the student will be asked to leave class immediately and will be referred to the appropriate authorities. From the University's policy: "*Threatening behavior*" means any statement, communication, conduct or gesture, including those in written form, directed toward any member of the University community that causes a reasonable apprehension of physical harm to a person or property. A student can be guilty of threatening behavior even if the person who is the object of the threat does not observe or receive it, so long as a reasonable person would interpret the maker's statement, communication, conduct or gesture as a serious expression of intent to physically harm.

Cheating and Plagiarism:

Academic dishonesty is a serious offense and any form found in this class will be considered as such. Academic dishonesty includes (but is not limited to) plagiarism (presenting another's work as your own) and cheating on exams. Any student found guilty of a charge of academic dishonesty will receive a grade of 'E' for the course and will be reported to the University for further disciplinary action. Each student should familiarize themselves with the University's policies on academic integrity, which can be found here: <http://dos.web.arizona.edu/uapolicies/>

Students with Disabilities:

If you anticipate issues related to the format or requirements of this course, please meet with me. I would like us to discuss ways to ensure your full participation in the course. If you determine that formal, disability-related accommodations are necessary, it is very important that you be registered with Disability Resources (621-3268; drc.arizona.edu) and notify me of your eligibility for reasonable accommodations. We can then plan how best to coordinate your accommodations.

COURSE OUTLINE

Week 1

Monday May 19: Introduction to Course

Tuesday May 20: Introduction to US Constitution

Reading: The United States Constitution (Available online)

Wednesday May 21: US Constitution Articles 1-4

Reading: Sidlow and Henschen Chapter 2 (Available on d2L)

Thursday May 22: US Constitution Articles 5-7

Reading: Fearling Chapter 9 (Available on d2L)

Friday May 23: Bill of Rights/ Review for Exam I

Reading: Dahl Chapter 2 (Available on d2L)

Week 2

Monday May 26: Memorial Day – No Class

Tuesday May 27: Exam I: The U.S. Constitution

Wednesday May 28: US Supreme Court and the Constitution

Reading: deTocqueville Part I, Chapter 6 (Available on d2L)

Thursday May 29: Freedom of Speech and the Interpretation of the 1st Amendment

Reading: Baum Chapter 9 (Available on d2L)

Friday May 30: The Right to Privacy and the Interpretation of the Constitution

Application of the Bill of Rights to the American States

Reading: Segal and Spaeth Chapter 1 (Available on d2L)

Week 3

Monday June 2: Exam II: The Interpretation of the U.S. Constitution

Tuesday June 3: Introduction to the Arizona Constitution

Origins of the Arizona Constitution

Reading: McClory Chapters 1-2

Tarr and Williams Chapter 1 (Available on d2L)

Wednesday June 4: Arizona Constitution and Legislative Powers

Arizona Constitution and the Executive Branch

Reading: McClory Chapters 3, 5

Thursday June 5: Arizona Supreme Court and the Arizona Constitution

Direct Democracy and Elections in the Arizona Constitution

Reading: McClory Chapter 4, 6

Friday June 6: Arizona Constitution Articles and Amendments/ Review for Exam III

Reading: McClory Chapter 7

Saturday June 7: Exam III: The Arizona Constitution

The instructor reserves the right to change any information contained in this course syllabus. All information, other than the grade and absence policies may be subject to change with reasonable advance notice, as deemed appropriate by the instructor.