

Oxford College of Emory University
Pol. Sc. 303 American Political Thought to 1912
William B. Cody, J.D., Ph.D.

201 Language
M, W 2:00-3:15
Spring 2002
Prerequisites: Pols 101 and consent of instructor

202 Language
Phone: 784-8444
Office Hours: M, W 9:30-10:30
M, Tu, Th 1-2

COURSE OBJECTIVES

This course provides an introduction to the ideas concerning human nature and government which have shaped the American polity. A principal goal of this writing intensive course is to develop each student's ability to communicate American political ideas through written and oral English. The principles of the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution, as originally conceived and as developed during the course of our history, will be the primary focal points of our study. These are the principles which have formed the basis of the American polity and which have been at the center of political debate throughout American history. Students will study the political thought of the American Founders in considerable detail. In addition, we will study the political thought of Abraham Lincoln, Frederick Douglass, Margaret Fuller, Sarah and Angelina Grimke, Sojourner Truth, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Susan B. Anthony, and W. E. B. DuBois

TEXTS:

Solberg: *THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION AND THE FORMATION OF THE UNION*
Hamilton, Madison & Jay: *THE FEDERALIST PAPERS* (Mentor)
Douglass: *AUTOBIOGRAPHIES* (Library of America)
Fuller: *WOMAN IN THE NINETEENTH CENTURY* (Dover)
Lincoln: *GREAT SPEECHES* (Dover)
DuBois: *THE SOULS OF BLACK FOLK* (Dover)
Scott & Garrison: *THE POLITICAL SCIENCE STUDENT WRITER'S MANUAL* (Prentice-Hall)

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Two short papers (5-7 pages) on specific assigned readings will be required during the course of the semester. Each student will present publish his or her paper on the course *Learnlink* conference at least 24 hours before the scheduled class to serve as a starting point for class discussion. These papers (along with optional rewrites) will count for a total of 20% of the student's final grade. Special sessions (each student is expected to attend only one such session) will be held between January 28 and February 7 to provide instruction on writing of these papers. The first of these papers will be due on the day the particular reading assignment is scheduled (February 11 through March 25). The second of these papers will be due on the day the particular reading assignment is scheduled (March 23 through April 24). Students will also be required to write a research paper of not fewer than ten pages nor more than twenty pages on some aspect of American political thought approved by the instructor. Special sessions (students are expected to attend only one such session) will be held between February 18 and February 28 to provide instruction on the preparation of the research papers. The research papers are due in class on **April 24** and will count for 40% of the student's final grade [A portion of this grade will be based on the proposal (4%) , the initial annotated bibliography (4%), the first draft (8%), and the final paper (24%)]. In addition, there will be extensive opportunities for students to discuss their writing assignments with the professor outside of class. A comprehensive final examination will be given from **2:00-5:00 P.M. on Thursday, May 2**. The final exam will count for 25% of the student's final grade. Students are expected to be active participants in each class session. Accordingly, the remaining 15% of the student's final grade will be based upon the quality of that student's participation in class discussion (including critiques of the short papers of other students). The requirements listed above are comprehensive and inclusive--no "extra credit" will be allowed.

MAKE-UP WORK:

Assignments are due at the announced date and time. The acceptance of any late papers is solely in the discretion of the professor.

ATTENDANCE:

Students are expected to attend class on a regular basis. Students are also expected to arrive for class on time. Students who are not in class are unable to participate in discussion and could lose points on the participation grade. In addition, students who miss more than three classes will lose the benefit of the doubt in the calculation of his or her final grade.

HONOR CODE:

It is assumed that all students are aware of the Honor Code. The Honor Code is always in force! Read it and be familiar with it! When in doubt, ask first! (See pages 94-97 of the Catalog of Oxford College)

ASSIGNMENTS:

A tentative outline of the class schedule for the entire semester is attached. Unless otherwise notified in class (or noted on the outline), students should complete the reading assignments for each chapter by the first day scheduled for discussion of the topic on the outline. The reading assignments listed below may be supplemented from time to time with additional photocopied material supplied in class and reserve readings in the library. In addition to the reading assignments listed below, students are responsible for reading the short papers posted on the Learnlink conference for a particular class prior to coming to that class.

GRADES:

Oxford College's Optional Plus-Minus Grading Scale (as described on page 83 of the Catalog of Oxford College) will be used in determining grades for this class.

**THE COURSE SYLLABUS PROVIDES A GENERAL PLAN FOR THE COURSE;
DEVIATIONS MAY BE NECESSARY.**

OUTLINE OF THE CLASS SCHEDULE

Jan. 16:	Introduction. Background of the American Founding
Jan. 23:	"The Declaration of Independence." "Articles of Confederation." Solberg, pp. 5-64 (esp. 34-53)
Jan. 28, 30:	Convention Debates I. Solberg, pp. 67-130
Feb. 4, 6:	Convention Debates II. Solberg, pp. 130-251
Feb. 11*, 13*:	Convention Debates III. Solberg, pp. 251-344 + 347-379
Feb. 18*:	<i>THE FEDERALIST</i> , Nos. 1, 2, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 14
Feb. 20*:	<i>THE FEDERALIST</i> , Nos. 15, 16, 23, 37, 39, 47, 49, 51
Feb. 25*:	<i>THE FEDERALIST</i> , Nos. 58, 62, 63, 70, 72, 78, 84, 85
March 1:	PAPER PROPOSALS DUE (1-2 pp.)
Feb. 27*:	The Anti-Federalists. Handouts: "John DeWitt," Nos. 1, 2; Patrick Henry, speeches on June 5 & 7, 1788; "Brutus," Nos. 1, 6, 10-12, 14
Mar. 4*, 6*:	Thomas Jefferson. Specific readings to be announced and distributed.
Mar. 11, 15:	Spring Break. NO CLASS.
March 25:	ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY FOR RESEARCH PAPER DUE (to include at least six outside sources)
Mar. 18*, 20*, 25*:	Abraham Lincoln. Lincoln, All.
April 9:	FIRST DRAFT OF RESEARCH PAPER DUE IN CLASS!
Mar. 27*; Apr. 1*, 3*:	Frederick Douglass. Specific readings to be announced and distributed + Douglass, pp. 475-659, 715-788, 874-886, 925-937, 966-980
Apr. 8*, 10*:	Fuller, <i>Woman in the Nineteenth Century</i> + other abolitionist and suffragist materials by early nineteenth century American women (including specific readings from Abigail Adams, Sarah and Angelina Grimke, and Sojourner Truth) to be announced and distributed.
Apr. 15*, 17*:	Specific readings from later nineteenth century American women (including Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Susan B. Anthony, and perhaps others) to be announced and distributed.
Apr. 22*, 24*, 29:	W. E. B. DuBois. Specific readings to be announced and distributed + DuBois, <i>The Souls of Black Folk</i>
April 24:	ALL FINAL RESEARCH PAPERS DUE IN CLASS!
April 29:	Finish DuBois + Summary and Conclusions
May 2:	FINAL EXAMINATION (2:00-5:00)

* Student paper may be prepared for class.