

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

Seney 310
M, W, F 10:40-11:30
Spring 2012
Prerequisite: Pols 101

William B. Cody, J.D., Ph.D.
Seney 115-A
Phone: 784-8444
Hours: M,W 1:00-2:30
Tu,Th 2:30-4:30
& by appointment

COURSE OBJECTIVES

This course provides an introduction to the ideas concerning human nature and government which have shaped the American polity. A primary 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 (including Thomas Jefferson, the debates in the constitutional convention, the "federalists" and the "anti-federalists." 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* (Library of America Paperback Classics)
Scott & Garrison: *THE POLITICAL SCIENCE STUDENT WRITER'S MANUAL* (Prentice-Hall)

ASSESSMENT NOTICE

"Student work submitted as part of this course may be reviewed by Oxford College and Emory College faculty and staff for the purposes of improving instruction and enhancing Emory education."

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

There will be a short test **on or about February 17** (depending on the scheduling of our make-up class for the January 27 missed class). This short test and the participation on the Constitutional Convention assignments will count for 15% of the student's final grade. There will also be a short comprehensive final examination that will also count for 15% of the student's final grade. In addition, two short seminar paper (3-6 pages) on specific assigned readings will be required during the course of the semester. Each student will present and 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 30 and February 10 to provide instruction on writing of these seminar papers (see below).

COURSE REQUIREMENTS (continued):

These papers will be due on the day the particular reading assignment is scheduled between February 26 and April 22).

Students will also be required to write a research paper of not fewer than ten pages or 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 27** and will count for 40% of the student's final grade [A portion of this grade will be based on the proposal (5%), the initial annotated bibliography (5%), the first draft (10%), and the final paper (20%)]. In addition, there will be several opportunities for students to discuss their writing assignments with the professor outside of class.

The remaining 10% of the student's final grade will be based upon the quality of that student's participation in class discussion. The requirements listed above are comprehensive and inclusive--no "extra credit" will be allowed.

PERSONAL COMMUNICATION DEVICES AND OTHER SOURCES OF CLASS DISTURBANCE

Cell phones, pagers, computers, and beepers are not permitted in my classroom unless they are completely turned off! In the event that any personal communication device or other device causes a disturbance by making its presence known (audibly or otherwise), the possessor of the device may be asked to leave the room immediately and will be counted absent from the class for that day..

MAKE-UP WORK:

The requirements listed above are comprehensive and inclusive--no "extra credit" will be allowed. An unexcused absence from any quiz, test or examination will result in the grade of zero for that quiz, test or examination.

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. Students who accumulate an excessive number of absences may be dropped from the course with a grade of WF (where appropriate).

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 96-100 of the 2011-2012 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 topic by the first day scheduled for discussion of the topic on the outline. For the purposes of quizzes, students are expected to have completed all readings by the first day they are due.

GRADES:

Oxford College's Optional Plus-Minus Grading Scale (as described on pages 81-82 of the 2011-2012 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. 18:	Introduction. Background of the American Founding
Jan. 20, 23, 25:	"The Declaration of Independence" "Articles of Confederation" Solberg, 5-64 (34-53)
[Jan. 27:	AAC&U ANNUAL MEETING. NO CLASS. Read ahead; make-up to be scheduled.]
Jan. 30; Feb. 1, 3:	Convention Debates I. Solberg, pp. 67-130
Feb. 6, 8, 10:	Convention Debates II. Solberg, pp. 130-251
Feb. 13, 15, 17:	Convention Debates III. Solberg, pp. 251-344 + 347-379
Feb. 20*:	<i>The Federalist</i> , Nos. 1, 6, 9
Feb. 22*:	<i>The Federalist</i> , Nos. 10, 14
Feb. 24*:	<i>The Federalist</i> , Nos. 15, 16, 23
Feb. 27*:	<i>The Federalist</i> , Nos. 39, 49, 51
Feb. 29*:	<i>The Federalist</i> , Nos. 70, 78, 84
Mar. 2:	<i>The Federalist</i> : Conclusions
Mar. 5:	PAPER PROPOSALS DUE (1-2 pp.)
Mar. 5*, 7*, 9*:	The Anti-Federalists. Handouts: Including "John DeWitt," Nos. 1, 2 ¹ ; Patrick Henry, speeches on June 5 & 7, 1788 ² ; "Brutus," Nos. 1, 6, 10-12, 14 ³
[Mar. 12-16:	Spring Break. NO CLASS.]
Mar. 19*, 21*, 23:	Thomas Jefferson. Specific readings to be distributed (dist.)
March 23:	ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY FOR RESEARCH PAPER DUE (must include at least six outside sources, not including internet sources)
Mar. 26*, 28*, 30:	Abraham Lincoln. Lincoln, All.
Apr. 2*, 4*, 6:	Frederick Douglass. Specific readings to be dist. + Douglass, pp. 475-659, 715-788, 874-886, 925-937, 966-980
April 6:	FIRST DRAFT OF RESEARCH PAPER DUE!
Apr. 9*, 11*, 13:	Margaret Fuller, <i>Woman in the Nineteenth Century</i> + other abolitionist and suffragist materials by early nineteenth century American women to be distributed.
Apr. 16*, 18*, 20:	Specific readings from later nineteenth century American women (including Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Susan B. Anthony, and perhaps others) to be distributed.
Apr., 23*, 25*, 27:	W.E.B. DuBois. Specific readings to be distributed + DuBois, <i>The Souls of Black Folk</i>
April 27:	FINAL RESEARCH PAPER DUE BY 4:00 p.m.!
April 30:	Summary and Conclusions
May 8:	Final Examination (9:00-12:00)

* Student seminar paper may be prepared for this class session.