



GOVT 2306 225HY

Texas Government

Summer 2021

**Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 05:30PM - 06:30PM,
Com League City, Room 116**

Instructor Information: Jason Perry, Ph.D.

JPerry6@com.edu

Leave a message at 409-933-8212

Student hours and location: Office Hours are approximately 30 minutes before and after class at the classroom or per appointment.

Required Textbook: Lone Star Politics 6th Ed. Sage CQ Press 2016 Collier. ISBN 978-1-5443162-6-0 (Required)

Textbook Purchasing Statement: A student attending College of the Mainland is not under any obligation to purchase a textbook from the college-affiliated bookstore. The same textbook may also be available from an independent retailer, including an online retailer.

Course Description: This course is designed to provide you with a fundamental understanding of government and politics in Texas, but especially the following topics: Origin and development of the Texas Constitution, structure and powers and state and local government, federalism and inter-governmental relations, political participation, the election process, public policy, and the political culture of Texas

Determination of Course Grade/Detailed Grading Formula:

Attendance :10%

Quizzes : 30%

Final :10%

Special Interest Paper: 10%

Role of Government Paper 20%

Co-Creation Paper 20%

Grading Scale:

90 - 100 = A

80 - 89 = B

70 - 79 = C

60 - 69 = D Below

60 = F

Late Work, Make-Up, and Extra-Credit Policy: Work will be distributed in class and is expected to be completed and returned in the manner and time frame announced in class.

Attendance Policy: Attendance Policy: Attendance is graded via automatic attendance software. Missing classes will result in lower grade. Attendance will affect financial aid. Attendance is turned into a system that eventually incorporates attendance data into financial aid matters. Failure to attend this class will result in negative effects on students' finances and paying for college. Attendance will also affect the overall classroom participation grade of students. Dual Credit Student's attendance is reported to their high school. Failure to attend could cause them consequences with their high school, and could qualify criminally or legally as truancy. Attendance will also effect attendance/participation grade.

Communicating with your instructor: ALL electronic communication with the instructor must be through your COM email. Due to FERPA restrictions, faculty cannot share any information about performance in the class through other electronic means. (Faculty may add additional statement requiring monitoring and communication expectations via Blackboard or other LMS)

Student Learner Outcome (SLO)	Connects to Core Objective	Assessed via this Assignment
1. Explain the origin and development of the Texas constitution.	Critical Thinking	paper

<p>2. Demonstrate an understanding of state and local political systems and their relationship with the federal government.</p>		<p>paper</p>
<p>3. Describe separation of powers and checks and balances in both theory and practice in Texas.</p>		<p>Paper</p>
<p>4. Demonstrate knowledge of the legislative, executive, and judicial branches of Texas government.</p>		<p>Paper</p>
<p>5. Evaluate the role of public opinion, interest groups, and political parties.</p>	<p>Social Responsibility</p>	<p>Paper</p>

6. Analyze the state and local election process.		paper
7. Describe the rights and responsibilities of citizens.		paper
8. Analyze issues, policies, and political culture of		paper
Texas.		
9. Complete a required paper on a selected writing pertaining to issues in Texas government and politics.	Communication	Paper
10. Evaluate choices and actions of others or one's own, and relate consequences to decision-making.	Personal Responsibility	Paper

Academic Dishonesty: Any incident of academic policy will be dealt with in accordance with college policy and the Student Handbook. Academic dishonesty – such as cheating on an assignment is an extremely serious offense and will result in a grade of zero on that assignment and the student will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct for the appropriate discipline action. COM is committed to a high standard of academic integrity among its students and faculty. In becoming part of the COM academic community, students are responsible for honesty and independent effort. As stated in the COM Student handbook, failure to uphold these standards, includes, but it is not limited to, the following: plagiarizing written work, cheating, on exams or assignments and collusion among students on an exam or project without specific permission from the instructor.

Student Concerns: If you have any questions or concerns about any aspect of this course, please contact me using the contact information previously provided. If, after discussing your concern with me, you continue to have questions, please contact Stacey Henderson at College of the Mainland 1200 Amburn Rd. Texas City, TX 77591 Phone: 409-938-1211 or 888-258-8859

Course outline:

Weeks:

1. Review of Syllabus & Other Course Documents
2. Introduction to Government,
3. Introduction to Texas Government,
4. Texas Constitution
5. Federalism,
6. Local Government,
7. Texas Legislature
8. Texas Executive
9. Texas Judiciary,
10. Political Participation & Voting
11. Political Parties
12. Interest Groups,
13. Social Policy
14. Course Review
15. Prepare final project
16. Final project

Institutional Policies and Guidelines

Grade Appeal Process: Concerns about the accuracy of grades should first be discussed with the instructor. A request for a change of grade is a formal request and must be made within six months

of the grade assignment. Directions for filing an appeal can be found in the student handbook. <https://build.com.edu/uploads/sitecontent/files/student-services/Student_Handbook_2019-2020v5.pdf. *An appeal will not be considered because of general dissatisfaction with a grade, penalty, or outcome of a course. Disagreement with the instructor's professional judgment of the quality of the student's work and performance is also not an admissible basis for a grade appeal.* https://build.com.edu/uploads/sitecontent/files/student-services/Student_Handbook_2019-2020v5.pdf

Academic Success & Support Services: College of the Mainland is committed to providing students the necessary support and tools for success in their college careers. Support is offered through our Tutoring Services, Library, Counseling, and through Student Services. Please discuss any concerns with your faculty or an advisor.

ADA Statement: Any student with a documented disability needing academic accommodations is requested to contact Holly Bankston at 409-933-8520 or hbankston@com.edu. The Office of Services for Students with Disabilities is located in the Student Success Center.

Counseling Statement: Any student needing counseling services is requested to please contact Holly Bankston in the student success center at 409-933-8520 or hbankston@com.edu. Counseling services are available on campus in the student center for free and students can also email counseling@com.edu to set up their appointment. Appointments are strongly encouraged; however, some concerns may be addressed on a walk-in basis.

Textbook Purchasing Statement: A student attending College of the Mainland is not under any obligation to purchase a textbook from the college-affiliated bookstore. The same textbook may also be available from an independent retailer, including an online retailer.

Withdrawal Policy: Students may withdraw from this course for any reason prior to the last eligible day for a "W" grade. Before withdrawing students should speak with the instructor and consult an advisor. Students are permitted to withdraw only six times during their college career by state law. The last date to withdraw is March 3rd for the 1st 8-week session, April 26 for the 16-week session, and May 5th.

F_N Grading: The F_N grade is issued in cases of *failure due to a lack of attendance*, as determined by the instructor. The F_N grade may be issued for cases in which the student ceases or fails to attend class, submit assignments, or participate in required capacities, and for which the student has failed to withdraw. The issuing of the F_N grade is at the discretion of the instructor. The last date of attendance should be documented for submission of an F_N grade.

Early Alert Program: The Student Success Center at College of the Mainland has implemented an Early Alert Program because student success and retention are very important to us. I have been asked to refer students to the program throughout the semester if they are having difficulty completing assignments or have poor attendance. If you are referred to the Early Alert Program you will be contacted by someone in the Student Success Center who will schedule a meeting with you to see what assistance they can offer in order for you to meet your academic goals.

COVID-19 Statement: All students, faculty, and staff are expected to familiarize themselves with materials and information contained on the College of the Mainland's Coronavirus Information site at www.com.edu/coronavirus. Students are required to watch a training [video](#), complete the [self-screening](#), and acknowledge the safety guidance at: www.com.edu/selfscreen. In addition, students, faculty, and staff must perform a [self-screening](#) prior to each campus visit. Finally, students, faculty, or staff who have had symptoms of COVID-19, received a positive test for COVID-19, or have had close contact with an individual infected with COVID-19 must complete the [self-report tool](#).