

**POL 203Y1Y**

**U.S. Government and Politics**

**Fall 2013-Winter 2014**

**Professor Ryan Hurl**

**Meeting Code: L5101**

**Lecture Times: Thursdays, 6-8pm**

**Location: Alumni Hall 101**

**Professor: Ryan Hurl**

**Office:** 3064 Sidney Smith **E-mail:** rhurl@utsc.utoronto.ca **Office Hours:** Wednesday, 9-11am  
or by appointment

**Course Description**

**This course is an introduction to American government and politics which will emphasize the historical development of the American political system, focussing in particular on the operation of the American Congress. The goal of the course is to give you the ability to understand the how American political institutions operate, how those institutions have changed over time, and the political forces that shape American political life.**

**Teaching Assistants:**

Matthieu Mondou

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Tutorial Times and Locations:

You can enroll yourself in a tutorial through BLACKBOARD on Friday, September 13th at 1pm.

To enroll in a group, go to the POL 203 Blackboard page-- Select "Tools" under Course Menu-- select the UT Group Self Sign Up too-- Enroll in a tutorial

DAY	TIME	LOCATION	TA
Monday	1pm	UC 67	Rachael Kimmerling
Tuesday	2pm	UC D 301	Rachael Kimmerling
Thursday	3pm	UC 255	Matt Lesch
Thursday	3pm	AH 302	Milan Illnyckyj
Thursday	4pm	UC 67	Milan Illnyckyj
Thursday	4pm	BF 315	Matthew Lesch
Thursday	5pm	NF 008	Rachael Kimmerling
Thursday	5pm	NF 332	Milan Illnyckyj
Thursday	5pm	UC 65	Matt Lesch

**Course Requirements**

**End of Fall Term Exam: 20%**

*This exam will take place during the exam period in December.*

**End of Winter Term Exam: 35%**

*This exam will take place during the exam period in April.*

*The end of term exam and the final exam will be based upon short answer and essay questions.*

**Research Paper Proposal and Annotated Bibliography: 5% November 14th**

**Research Paper: 35%**

**FIRST DRAFT DUE DATE: February 27th**

**Final Draft: March 27th**

*The details regarding the research paper will be provided on Blackboard and discussed in class and tutorial.*

**ALL ASSIGNMENTS MUST BE SUBMITTED THROUGH BLACKBOARD**

*Late Penalties: All assignments will be penalized one-third of a letter grade for every day they are late, up to two full letter grades.*

**Class Participation: 10%**

*Students are expected to attend lecture and sections, complete all readings and assignments, and be able to discuss the material covered by the class in an intelligent and respectful manner. In addition, students should stay informed of current affairs in American politics-- the following website is a good one to follow: <http://www.realclearpolitics.com/>*

**Explore It: Careers for Political Science Enthusiasts**

*The Explore It program will give you an opportunity to explore some career possibilities related to the study of political science. Please consult the Explore It booklet posted on Blackboard for details about this program. Your participation is optional.*

### **TURNITIN!**

I am required by the university to include the following statement regarding turnitin.com:

“Normally, students will be required to submit their course essays to turnitin.com for a review of textual similarity and detection of possible plagiarism. In doing so, students will allow their essays to be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database, where they will be used solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism. The terms that apply to the University’s use of the Turnitin.com service are described on the Turnitin.com web site.”

You have the right to choose NOT to allow your paper to be submitted to turnitin.com. If you choose to exercise this right, you **must** provide an annotated bibliography, and you may be required to undergo an oral examination based upon your paper. Should you elect not to send your paper to turnitin.com, please inform your teaching assistant during the first tutorial.

If you are caught plagiarizing, you will receive an "F" for the paper, an "F" for the course, and numerous other punishments too hideous to recount. **You are responsible for making sure you understand what constitutes plagiarism.** In particular, this means that you must properly footnote your sources, in addition to avoiding the more obvious types of plagiarism. If you have any doubts about whether something constitutes plagiarism, don't do it. Your teaching assistants and I can answer your questions regarding proper footnoting/citation practices. Please consult us if you have any concerns.

For further information on plagiarism, please see <http://www.utoronto.ca/writing/plagsep/html>.

### Accessibility

Students with diverse learning styles and needs are welcome in this course. In particular, if you have a disability/health consideration that may require accommodations, please feel free to approach me and/or the AccessAbility Services Office as soon as possible. I will work with you and AccessAbility Services to ensure you can achieve your learning goals in this course. Enquiries are confidential. The UTSC AccessAbility Services staff (located in S302) are available by appointment to assess specific needs, provide referrals and arrange appropriate accommodations (416) 287-7560 or [ability@utsc.utoronto.ca](mailto:ability@utsc.utoronto.ca).

### Texts

Raymond A. Smith, *The American Anomaly: U.S. Government and Politics in Comparative Perspective*. New York: Routledge, 2013

Charles Stewart, *Analyzing Congress*. New York and London: W.W. Norton, 2012. Second Edition **ISBN-13:** 978-0393935066

Alexander Hamilton, John Jay, and James Madison (Publius.) *The Federalist Papers*. (can be accessed on-line at [http://oll.libertyfund.org/?option=com\\_staticxt&staticfile=show.php%3Ftitle=788&chapter=108558&layout=html&Itemid=27](http://oll.libertyfund.org/?option=com_staticxt&staticfile=show.php%3Ftitle=788&chapter=108558&layout=html&Itemid=27))

Other readings will be available on Blackboard in pdf form (under Course Materials.)

## Lectures and Readings

### 1. September 12th Introduction: American Government and Political Science

*Analyzing Congress*, Chapter One

*The American Anomaly*, Chapter One

*Federalist Papers*, 1 and 2 (1787)

Recommended Reading:

Seymour Martin Lipset, "Historical Traditions and National Characteristics: A Comparative Analysis of Canada and the United." *The Canadian Journal of Sociology*, Vol. 11, No. 2(Summer, 1986), pp. 113-155

### 2. September 19th The American Revolution and the Constitution

*Analyzing Congress*, Chapter 2

*The American Anomaly*, Chapter 2

David Brian Robertson, "Madison's Opponents and Constitutional Design." *The American Political Science Review*, Vol. 99, No. 2 (May, 2005), pp. 225-243

*Federalist Papers* #10, #51

### 3. September 26th The Separation of Powers

*The American Anomaly*, Chapter 4

*The Federalist Papers*, 47-51

James Q. Wilson, "Does the Separation of Powers still Work?" *The Public Interest*. Issue 86, Winter 1987. pp 36-52

#### **4. October 3rd Federalism and American Political Development: From the Founding to the New Deal**

*The American Anomaly*, Chapter Three

*Federalist Papers* #41-44 ("General View of the Powers Proposed to be Vested in the Union") and #45 ("A Further Discussion of the Supposed Dangers from the Powers of the Union to the State Governments.")

*Hammer v. Dagenhart* 247 U.S. 251 (1918) (excerpts)

*Wickard v. Fillburn* [317 U.S. 111](#) (1942) (excerpts)

#### **4. October 10th Federalism and American Political Development: From the New Deal until....now!**

*National Federation of Independent Business v. Sebelius* (excerpts)

#### **6. October 17th The Development of Congress**

*The American Anomaly*, Chapter 6

*Analyzing Congress*, Chapter 3

#### **7. October 24th The Presidency**

*The American Anomaly*, Chapter 5

*Federalist Papers* #70 and 72

Clement Fatovic "Constitutionalism and Presidential Prerogative: Jeffersonian and Hamiltonian Perspectives." *American Journal of Political Science* > Vol. 48, No. 3 (Jul., 2004), pp. 429-444

#### **8. October 31st The Modern Presidency?**

Keith Whittington and Daniel Carpenter, "Executive Power in American Institutional Development ." *Perspectives on Politics*, Vol. 1, No. 3 (Sep., 2003), pp. 495-513

Lawrence Jacobs and Desmond King, "Varieties of Obamaism: Structure, Agency, and the Obama Presidency." *Perspectives on Politics* Vol. 8, No. 3 (September 2010), pg. 793-802

*Federalist Papers*, #52-63, 68-72

### **9. November 7th Elections, Part One: Running for Office**

*Analyzing Congress*, Chapter 4

### **10. November 14th Voting and Elections**

*The American Anomaly*, Chapter 9

*Analyzing Congress*, Chapter 5

### **11. November 21st Regulating Elections**

*Analyzing Congress*, Chapter 6

### **12. November 28th Civil Liberties**

Howard Gillman, "Preferred Freedoms: The Progressive Expansion of State Power and the Rise of Modern Civil Liberties Jurisprudence." *Political Research Quarterly* , Vol. 47, No. 3 (Sep., 1994), pp. 623-653

*Lochner v. New York* 198 U.S. 45 (1905) (excerpts)

*Roe v. Wade* 410 U.S. 113 (1973) (excerpts)

