

COURSE OUTLINE (Sample)

GOVT 10: Introduction to American Politics: The Founders' Design and Its Challengers

Note: This is a sample reading schedule. The actual schedule will be sent out with the syllabus prior to the first meeting for virtual classes, and physical copies will be handed out to students in in-person classes.

COURSE READINGS AND SCHEDULE (subject to change)

*Readings will be provided to students, either in printed or electronic form. (Texts which are optional or recommended should be requested by the student at least one week in advance.)

Week 1 Introduction, The Crisis of Modern Government

*Kesler, *Crisis of the Two Constitutions*, Introduction

*Arnn, *The Founders' Key*, Part I, sections 1 and 2

Recommended:

*Kesler, *Crisis of the Two Constitutions*, ch. 2

2 Natural Rights and the Revolutionary War

*Declaration of Independence

*Thomas Paine, *Common Sense* (selections)

*John Adams, *Thoughts on Government*

Arnn, *The Founders' Key*, Part I (remaining sections)

Recommended:

*Thomas West, *The Political Theory of the American Founding*, ch. 1

3 Between 1776 and 1787 (The "Critical Period of American History")

*Articles of Confederation

*Northwest Ordinance

*George Washington, Circular to the States, June 14, 1783

*James Madison, "Vices of the Political System of the United States"

Recommended:

Gordon Wood, *Power and Liberty*, ch. 3

4 Why Union?

Centinel I, in *The Essential Anti-Federalist*, pp. 7-22

Brutus I, in *The Essential Anti-Federalist*, pp. 103-117

*Cato I, Caesar I, Cato II in Bernard Bailyn, ed., *The Debate on the Constitution*, Part One, pp. 31-41

Address and Reasons of Dissent of the Minority of Pennsylvania, in *The Essential Anti-Federalist*, pp. 199-223
Federalist Papers, nos. 1, 10, 23, 47-49, 51

Recommended:

Kesler, *Crisis of the Two Constitutions*, ch. 3

5 Political Representation (Congress, Electoral College)

The Constitution of the United States of America, Article 1
Federal Farmer I-III, in Murray and Dry, pp.
Brutus I, V, in Murray and Dry, pp.
Agrippa IV, in Murray and Dry, pp.
Federalist Papers, nos. 52-53, 55-57, 62-63

Recommended:

*Besette, “Deliberative Democracy: The Majority Principle in Republican Government,” in *How Democratic is the Constitution?*

5 The Presidency

The Constitution of the United States of America, Article 2
Federal Farmer VII, in Murray and Dry, pp.
Brutus III-IV, in Murray and Dry, pp.
Centinel I, in Murray and Dry, pp.
Cato IV, in Murray and Dry, pp.
Federalist Papers 67, 69-70

Recommended:

Federalist Papers Nos. 58, 68, 71-76

6 The Executive Branch

Brutus, II, XI-XII, XV, in Murray and Dry, pp.
Federalist Papers Nos. 78-81, 84-85
Marbury v. Madison (majority opinion), in Heffner and Heffner, pp. 97-105

Recommended:

Federalist Papers Nos. 82-83

7 Popular Supports of Republican Government

Washington, Farewell Address, in Heffner and Heffner, 68-76
Jefferson, First Inaugural Address, in Heffner and Heffner, 89-93
Madison, “Property,” in Arnn, *The Founders’ Key*, pp. 195-197

- 8 Thanksgiving/Easter Break** (precise date to be determined in agreement between Mr. Heintz and the class)
- 9 Slavery and the Coming of the Civil War**
Calhoun on the Slavery Question, in Heffner and Heffner, pp. 152-165
Dred Scott v. Sanford (majority opinion), in Heffner and Heffner, pp. 180-191
Lincoln, Lyceum Address
Lincoln, Temperance Address
- 10 Lincoln and the Founding**
Lincoln-Douglass Debates, First Debate
Lincoln, Emancipation Proclamation
Lincoln, Gettysburg Address
- 11 Rumbblings of Reform**
Populist Party Platform (1892), in Heffner and Heffner, pp. 267
Turner, "The Significance of the Frontier in American History," in Heffner and Heffner, pp. 242
Bryan, "Cross of Gold" Speech, in Heffner and Heffner, pp. 273
- Recommended:
Pestritto, *America Transformed*, ch. 1
- 12 The Progressive Critique of Natural Rights**
*Wilson, *The New Freedom*, chs. 1 and 2
Dewey, *Liberalism and Social Action*, chs. 1 and 2
- Recommended:
*Beard, *The Economic Origins of Politics*, ch.1
- 13 The Progressive Critique of the Founders' Constitution**
*Wilson, *Congressional Government* (Chapter 2 and Conclusion)
Kesler, *Crisis of the Two Constitutions*, ch. 8
- Recommended:
*West and Jeffrey, *The Rise and Decline of Constitutional Government*, ch. 5
- 14 The New Deal and the Constitution**
Heffner and Heffner, "The Roosevelt Revolution," pp. 359-386
*Thurman Arnold, "The New Deal is Constitutional," *New Republic* (November 15, 1933)
*Hadley Arkes, "Was the New Deal Constitutional?"

Recommended:

*Kesler, "The Public Philosophy of the New Freedom and the New Deal"

15

The Administrative State

*Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (selections)

*Wilson, "The Science of Administration"

Hamburger, *The Administrative Threat*

Recommended:

Pestritto, *America Transformed*, chs. 8

*West and Jeffrey, *The Rise and Decline of Constitutional Government*, ch. 6

16

Final Exam or Paper (due by the end of Friday of this week)