

## Syllabus

### Course Description

This course focuses on the nature of Texas politics and government. As any Texan will proudly tell you, Texas has a history and culture unlike any other state in the country. That unique beginning, combined with its economic and sociological culture makes the state interesting and exciting politically.

In this course, we will strive to understand the policies, politics and processes of Texas in light of the background unique to the state. We will also discuss how elections (in Texas and across the nation) might affect political life, and your life, in the future.

Students should know that this course satisfies The University of Texas at Arlington's core curriculum requirement for State and Local Government.

**Department:** Department of Political Science  
**Course Number:** POLS 2312 (3-0 Credit Hours)  
**Course Title:** State and Local Government  
**Professor:** Thomas H. Little, Ph.D.  
Associate Professor, Political Science  
[little@uta.edu](mailto:little@uta.edu)

### Course Prerequisites

While there are no formal prerequisites for this course, this is an undergraduate level course and students should expect to be challenged accordingly. You should check with your academic advisor before proceeding to ensure you are eligible to take and receive credit for the course.

### Required Textbook Course Goals

Newell, C., & Prindle, D.F., and Riddlesberg, J.W., Jr. . *Texas Politics*, 12<sup>th</sup> (2013) Edition. Cengage Learning.

*Note: The textbook is available at all major bookstores. You may also purchase the e-book version at: <http://www.cengagebrain.com/shop/isbn/9781111833060> (23th Edition).*

### Course Goals Course Objectives

The primary goals of this course are:

1. To know, comprehend, apply, analyze, synthesize and/or evaluate certain environmental, citizen participation, and institutional factors that affect state politics and policy choices; (CRITICAL THINKING and COMMUNICATION)
2. To identify, apply, and/or analyze certain analytical concepts that are useful for understanding politics and policy making; (CRITICAL THINKING AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY)
3. To identify, apply, and/or analyze certain generalizations about the behavior of sub national governments generally, and Texas specifically, that are useful for understanding politics and policy making (CRITICAL THINKING AND PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY)

**To achieve these course goals, the students will engage in activities that will allow them to demonstrate:**

1. a thorough understanding of the characteristics and qualities that define the context of Texas government, including it's economics, geography, history, local government orientation and structure and demographic qualities.
2. a thorough knowledge of methods and groups by which the public can influence Texas politics and government.
3. an in-depth grasp of the institutions that comprise government in Texas (legislature, executive, judiciary, and bureaucracy) and the public policy (both outcomes and processes) that they establish and implement.
4. an understanding of how Texas compares to other states in terms of political structure, processes and policies.
5. the ability to apply the abstract political concepts to particular real world situations and explain how they work.

**Course Outcomes and Performance Measurement:**

*Complete the following table provided and required by UTA's Center for Distance Education (CDE). The course objectives are the objectives pre-determined by the University and College. Unit outcomes and assessments (how do students show they have learned what they needed to learn?) are determined by the faculty. Add or delete rows as needed.*

*Assessments are not limited to multiple choice exams. They may include performance based assessments using rubrics. One assessment could cover multiple objectives.*

Course Objective(s)	Unit Number and Objective(s)	Assignment (Practice)	Assessment Item (Showing Mastery)
<i>Copy and paste course outcomes, one per row, in this column.</i>	<i>Copy and paste Unit outcomes that align with the course outcome to the left, one per row, in this column.</i>	<i>Put the name of the assignment students are completing to achieve an understanding of this Unit and course outcome.</i>	<i>Put the name of the assessment item or activity students are completing to demonstrate their understanding of this Unit and course outcome.</i>
To know, comprehend, apply, analyze, synthesize and/or evaluate certain environmental, citizen participation, and institutional	Unit 1: Identify the key Contexts of State Government.  Distinguish between parties and	Unit 1 written lectures; Unit 1 audio lectures and Chapter 1 text readings.	Unit 1 Exam; Unit 2 Application Papers 1 and 2; Discussion 1

<b>Course Objective(s)</b>	<b>Unit Number and Objective(s)</b>	<b>Assignment (Practice)</b>	<b>Assessment Item (Showing Mastery)</b>
factors that affect state politics and policy choices; (CRITICAL THINKING and COMMUNICATION)	ideologies.  Recognize key historical events and people.  Identify the regions of the state.		
To know, comprehend, apply, analyze, synthesize and/or evaluate certain environmental, citizen participation, and institutional factors that affect state politics and policy choices; (CRITICAL THINKING and COMMUNICATION)	Differences Between the House and Senate; Explain lawmaking and representation functions and various factors that influence legislative decisions on public policy.	Unit 4 written lectures; Unit 4 audio lectures; Chapter 6 of text.	Unit 4 exam; Application Paper 2
To know, comprehend, apply, analyze, synthesize and/or evaluate certain environmental, citizen participation, and institutional factors that affect state politics and policy choices; (CRITICAL THINKING and COMMUNICATION)	Know the Four Methods of Individual Participation.	Unit 2 written lectures; Unit 2 audio lectures; Chapter 5 of text.	Unit 2 exam; Application Paper 1
To know, comprehend, apply, analyze, synthesize and/or evaluate certain environmental, citizen participation, and institutional factors that affect state politics and policy choices; (CRITICAL THINKING and COMMUNICATION)	Understand how constitutions reflect their culture;	Unit 5 written lectures; Unit 5 audio lectures; Chapter 2 of text.	Unit 5 Exam.
To identify, apply, and/or analyze certain analytical concepts that are useful for	Distinguish between the roles of the branches of government;	Unit 4 written lectures; Unit 4 audio lectures; Chapter 6 of text.	Application Paper, Option 1, 2 and 3. Unit 4 Exam.

<b>Course Objective(s)</b>	<b>Unit Number and Objective(s)</b>	<b>Assignment (Practice)</b>	<b>Assessment Item (Showing Mastery)</b>
understanding politics and policy making; (CRITICAL THINKING AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY)	Recognize Differences Between the House and Senate; Explain lawmaking and representation functions and various factors that influence legislative decisions on public policy		
To identify, apply, and/or analyze certain analytical concepts that are useful for understanding politics and policy making; (CRITICAL THINKING AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY)	Rank the functions of the Executive Branch by importance; Explain why and how the Governor Texas is so limited in power; Explain variations in effectiveness of Texas Governors and how they can and cannot influence public policy;	Unit 6 written lectures; Unit 6 audio lectures; Chapter 7 of text.	Application Papers 1, 2 and 3; Unit 6 Exam.
To identify, apply, and/or analyze certain analytical concepts that are useful for understanding politics and policy making; (CRITICAL THINKING AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY)	Recognize components of the Public Policy Process; Recognize key sources of Budget Revenue; Identify most prominent Budget Expenditures; Recognize key issues in areas of public policy (Education, Environment, Energy; Welfare, Transportation)	Unit 8 written lectures; Modern 8 audio lectures; Chapters 12, 13 14 of texts.	Unit 8 Exam.
To identify, apply, and/or analyze certain generalizations about the behavior of sub national governments generally, and Texas specifically, that are useful for understanding politics	Explain variations in balance of power and decision making in Vertical Federalism; Explain Horizontal Federalism; Understand differences between cities counties and	Unit 7 written lectures; Unit 7 audio lectures; Chapter 2 and Chapter 11.	Unit 7 Exam; Discussion 4.

<b>Course Objective(s)</b>	<b>Unit Number and Objective(s)</b>	<b>Assignment (Practice)</b>	<b>Assessment Item (Showing Mastery)</b>
and policy making (CRITICAL THINKING AND PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY)	school districts in local federalism		
To know, comprehend, apply, analyze, synthesize and/or evaluate certain environmental, citizen participation, and institutional factors that affect state politics and policy choices; (CRITICAL THINKING and COMMUNICATION	Types of Aggregate Participation; Interest Groups in Texas; Methods of Influence: Direct, Indirect, Public Relations, Campaign Assistance; Types of Lobbyists; Definition of a political party.; 3 Components of Political Parties: Characteristics of Political Parties. Functions of Political Parties.	Unit 3 written lectures; Unit 3 audio lectures; Chapters 3 & 4 of text.	

### **Learning Outcomes Written Lectures**

Upon completion of this course, students are expected to be able to:

1. Define fundamental concepts associated with American politics.
2. Describe the structure and function of the differing branches of state and local government.
3. Explain the theoretical and historical underpinnings of the state constitution.
4. explain how individuals participate in the American political system.
5. Identify the influence that mass media, socio-political movements, interest groups, corporations, political parties, campaigns, and elections have on state politics.

### **Written Lectures**

Please read the written lectures throughout this course carefully and take thorough notes. Along with each of the written lectures, you will hear audio lectures (see next section below) that will illustrate the particular made in the written lectures. Be sure to listen to these audio lectures and take notes on them as well.

In each of the written lectures, you will find numerous links to websites relevant to that particular lecture. You will NOT be tested on the information in these websites, but they will make the course material more interesting and relevant to you.

### **Audio of Professor Comments Grading Criteria**

There will be audio clips located at various points throughout the written lectures to enhance your learning experience. Please click on the audio icon to listen to the audio clips below the corresponding paragraph.

### **Assignments and Grade Calculation:**

<b>Title</b>	<b>of Grade by Assignment</b>
<b>Exams:</b> The course is divided into eight units. You will take one exam at the end of each unit. Each exam consists of 25 questions and the time for completion of each exam is 45 minutes. You must complete each exam by the date indicated.	<b>80% of Grade</b> (8 exams at 10% each)
<b>Discussions:</b> You will have five discussion questions. Each Discussion Question is worth 3% of toward your final grade. To earn full credit, you must post at least three lengthy and thoughtful responses. For example, one response to the question and then two responses to the posts of classmates.	<b>10%</b> (4 discussions at 3% each)
<b>Application Paper:</b> You will complete one (1) of three papers that require you to apply key general concepts from the course to specific political situations.	<b>10%</b>
<b>Review Questions:</b> There are a series of review questions available for you to take to determine if you are adequately prepared to take the section exams. They are graded only so you can see how you did. You may take them as often as you wish. THEY DO NOT COUNT TOWARD YOUR FINAL GRADE.	<b>0.0%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

### **Grading Scale**

Your final grade will be determined according to the following scale:

A	90 - 100%
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B	80 - 89%
C	70 - 79%
D	60 - 69%
F	0 - 59%

## Unit Exams

The course is divided into eight sections. During the semester you will take eight exams (one for each section). Each set of exam questions is selected from a large database of questions prepared by me. Every time you take an exam, the questions will be randomly generated from the database. **You will have one hour (45 minutes) to complete each exam.** There is no timer on Blackboard, so you are responsible for keeping up with the time. Exams that go over 45 minutes will not be accepted except under extraordinary circumstances. The exams are each worth 10% of your final grade. You must complete each exam by the date indicated, but you may always work ahead of the schedule.

The five course exams will be based on the following materials:

- 1) Written Lectures** - On the website, you will find written lecture notes by Dr. Little designed to introduce you to Texas politics and prepared you for the exams. Read, take notes on and study them closely.
- 2) Audio Lectures** - Within the written lecture notes, you will find headphones that signify audio lecture sections to enhance the written notes. Be sure to listen to each of these sections, take notes on them and study them with the written notes.
- 3) Textbook Material** - Be sure to read, take notes on and study the materials assigned in the textbook for each exam. You will also be tested on that material.

### **Exams (Each is 10 % of your final grade)**

**Exam 1** will cover the **Contexts of Texas Politics**. This exam will include all online course materials under this section. It will also include the introductory chapter and chapter 1 from your text. This test will have 25 questions which you will have 45 minutes to complete. It will count for 10% of your final grade. This exam is due by Sunday, September 2, at 11:59 pm.

**Exam 2** will cover **Individual Participation: Campaigns and Elections**. This exam will include all online course materials under this section. It will also include chapter 5 from your text. This test will have 25 questions which you will have 45 minutes to complete. It will count for 10% of your final grade. This exam is due by Sunday, September 16, at 11:59 pm.

**Exam 3** will cover **Aggregate Participation: Interest Groups and Political Parties**. This exam will include all online course materials under this section. It will also include chapters 3 & 4 from your text. This test will have 25 questions which you will have 45 minutes to complete. It will count for 10% of your final grade. This exam is due by Sunday, September 30, at 11:59

pm.

**Exam 4** will cover **Institutions: The Legislative Branch**. This exam will include all online course materials under this section. It will also include chapter 6 from your text. This test will have 25 questions which you will have 45 minutes to complete. It will count for 10% of your final grade. This exam is due by Sunday, October 14, at 11:59 pm.

**Exam 5** will cover **Institutions: The Judicial Branch and the Texas Constitution**. This exam will include all online course materials under this section. It will also include chapters 2, 9 & 10 from your text. This test will have 25 questions which you will have 45 minutes to complete. It will count for 10% of your final grade. This exam is due by Sunday, October 28, at 11:59 pm.

**Exam 6** will cover **Institutions: The Executive Branch and the Bureaucracy**. This exam will include all online course materials under this section. It will also include chapters 7 & 8 from your text. This test will have 25 questions which you will have 45 minutes to complete. It will count for 10% of your final grade. This exam is due by Sunday, November 11, at 11:59 pm.

**Exam 7** will cover **Federalism and Local Government**. This exam will include all online course materials under this section. It will also include chapters 2 (pages 36-38) & 11 from your text. This test will have 25 questions which you will have 45 minutes to complete. It will count for 10% of your final grade. This exam is due by Sunday, November 25, at 11:59 pm.

**Exam 8** will cover **Public Policy**. This exam will include all online course materials under this section. It will also include chapters 12, 13 & 14 from your text. This test will have 25 questions which you will have 45 minutes to complete. It will count for 10% of your final grade. This exam is due by Sunday, December 9, at 11:59 pm.

### Summary of Testing Information

Unit	Covers Online Materials and Chapters	Number of Questions	Time to Complete	age of grade	Date Due
<b>Context of Texas Politics</b>	Intro, Chap 1	25	45 minutes	10 %	Sunday, September 2; 11:59 pm
<b>Campaigns and Elections</b>	Chap 5	25	45 minutes	10 %	Sunday, September 16; 11:59 pm
<b>Interest Groups and Parties</b>	Chap 3 & 4	25	45 minutes	10 %	Sunday, September 30; 11:59 pm
<b>Legislative Branch</b>	Chap 6	25	45 minutes	10 %	Sunday, October 14; 11:59 pm
<b>The Judiciary and the Texas Constitution</b>	Chap 2, 9 & 10	25	45 minutes	10 %	Sunday, October 28; 11:59 pm



<b>Executive Branch and the Bureaucracy</b>	Chap 7 & 8	25	45 minutes	10 %	Sunday, November 11; 11:59 pm
<b>Federalism and Local Government</b>	Chap 2 (pp. 36-38) & 11	25	45 minutes	10 %	Sunday, November 25, 11:59 pm
<b>Public Policy</b>	Chap 12, 13 & 14	25	45 minutes	10 %	Sunday, December 9, 11:59 pm

***Give yourself ample time to listen to the lectures and read the text before taking the exam. Do not wait until the last minute before a completion date to take your test. You may always work ahead of the posted testing deadlines. My advice is to start early in the semester and work at a steady pace. You will find this course much more enjoyable if you make it part of your regular schedule. Contrary to popular belief, no one works better under pressure!***

**Application Paper (10% of final grade)**

Please complete a written assignment responding to **one** of the three questions below and complete a 1-2 page response by the date noted. Papers should be double-spaced with no larger than 12 pt. font, typed and submitted to me via Blackboard. You do not need to use foot notes or end notes or do any research outside the textbook and notes. The purpose of this assignment is to see if you can apply the concepts of the class to a real-world situation. **In order to receive full credit, your answers must reflect an application of the key concepts indicated at the end of the question.**

**Complete only ONE (1) Application Paper and turn it in by the appointed date. DO NOT do more than ONE (1) Application Paper.**

**Option 1:** Congratulations! You have won the Republican Primary to run as the 2018 Republican candidate to be the Governor of Texas! Based on what you have learned in Unites 1 and 2 about Texas and Texas elections, explain how you will win the campaign for Governor. For the purpose of this paper, Governor Abbott is NOT running for re-election, so you will be running for an open seat. Tell me how you will win this campaign: What qualities do you have as a candidate that will help you win (you can make up some qualities to assure you are a qualified candidate)? What will be your campaign message? What three groups will you target to create a winning coalition (campaign strategy)? What Campaign resources will you need to win? **Key Concepts: Components of a Modern Campaign (except Campaign Organization. (Due by Wednesday, September 12, 11:59 pm)**

**Option 2:** You have been elected to serve in the Texas House of Representatives. You are in your first term, just elected from a district that is evenly split between the two political parties. You are in a tough spot - the first major bill you have to vote on relates to voter identification (voter ID). The bill would require all Texas voters to show a valid Texas ID (Drivers License, etc.) . You are personally (and philosophically) opposed to the legislation, but a majority of the voters in your district are in favor of it. Further, while the party leaders support the legislation, the governor, like you, opposes it. How will you vote? Will you adopt a delegate or trustee role? Why? **Key Concepts: The various people that will influence the vote of a legislator and the roles of representation. (Due by**

Wednesday, October 10, 11:59 pm).

**Option 3:** Congratulations! You have just been elected governor of Texas. Your successful campaign was built around the promise to address illegal immigration, improve education, increase access to health care, and make sure the death penalty is applied fairly. Given what you know about the powers of the governor (formal and informal), explain how you will do these things and the obstacles you may face. **Key Concepts: Formal (Constitutional) and informal (personal) powers of the governor of Texas. (Due by Wednesday, November 7, 11:59 pm)**

**The purpose of the application paper is for you to apply the key theoretical concepts of the class (for example, the representational roles of a legislator) to concrete situations (for example, which role would you adopt when voting on an immigration bill). Grading criteria is as follows:**

Grade	Percent	Content
A	100	At least 1 ½ pages; discusses theoretical concepts from book/ notes and practical application very effectively.
A-	90	At least 1 ½ pages; discusses theoretical concepts from book/ notes and practical application, but limited insight.
B-	80	At least 1 ½ pages; discusses either theoretical concepts from book/ notes or practical application very effectively
C-	70	At least 1page; discusses either theoretical concepts from book/ notes or practical applications, but limited insight.
D-	60	Less than a page with limited discussion of text or book.

**Discussion Questions**  
**(10% of final grade – 2% each)**

You will be responsible for posting at least two responses to each discussion question - there are no right or wrong answers. I want your response to the question and your response(s) to the posts of your colleagues in the class (Due dates are listed below).

**NOTE: A single post is considered one response, no matter how many you make or issues you address in the post. Multiple responses means more than one post- for example, posting an initial response to the question and then responding individually to posts from two classmates would be considered 3 responses no matter how long or detailed each response.**

**LATE RESPONSES TO THE DISCUSSION QUESTIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED EXCEPT IN EXTREME CASES OF MAJOR ILLNESS (DOCTORS NOTE) OR DEATH IN THE FAMILY.**

**Question 1 (Unit 1):** According to your notes, there are three political subcultures: Individualistic, Traditionalistic and Moralistic- which do you prefer and why? **(Due by 11:59 pm, Wednesday, August 29)**

**Question 2 (Unit 2): Question:** Based on what you read in the lectures and the textbook, do you think interest

groups are a positive or a negative influence on politics in Texas? **(Due by 11:59 pm, Wednesday, September 26)**

**Question 3 (Unit 5):** In the notes, it is suggested that the judicial branch (courts) is just as political as the executive (governor) and legislative (legislature) branches of Texas government. Do you agree or disagree? **(Due by 11: 59 pm, Wednesday, October 25)**

**Question 4 (Unit 7):** Like every state, Texas is made up of cities, towns and communities. However, it is also a state and must balance local independence (letting local folks make decisions) with state law. Where do you think that balance should be- with local governments (Mayors and City Councils) or with state government (Governor and the Legislature)? Do you think it should vary by policy area? **(Due by 11:59 pm, Wednesday, November 21)**

**Question 5 (Unit 8):** Like most states, Texas has a balanced budget requirement. If you were writing the state budget and had to make cuts, where would you make them- education, transportation, public safety or social programs (welfare)? **(Due by 11:59 pm, Wednesday, December 5)**

**Grading Rubric:**

Level of Participation	
No Response	0 (F)
One or two sentence single response.	50% (F)
Single, relatively brief response	60% (D)
Single, thoughtful but brief response or two brief responses that show little effort	70% (C)
At least one very lengthy and thoughtful response or two limited posts.	80% (B)
At least two thoughtful and relatively lengthy (paragraph or more) responses or three more limited posts.	90% (A)
More than two thoughtful and relatively lengthy (paragraph or more) responses	100% (A)

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### **Course Policies**

Schedule of lessons and activities: You must complete all assignments and quizzes by the due dates. All due dates for the assignments and quizzes are listed in the course schedule, which is located at the end of this syllabus.

### **Academic Integrity**

It is the philosophy of the University of Texas at Arlington that academic dishonesty is a completely unacceptable mode of conduct and will not be tolerated in any form. All persons involved in academic dishonesty will be disciplined in accordance with University regulations and procedures. Discipline may include suspension or expulsion from the University.

"Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts."

(Regents' Rules and Regulations, Series 50101, Section 2.2)

### **Americans with Disabilities Act**

The University of Texas at Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of federal equal opportunity legislation; reference Public Law 92-112 - The Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended. With the passage of federal legislation entitled Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), pursuant to section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, there is renewed focus on providing this population with the same opportunities enjoyed by all citizens.

As a faculty member, I am required by law to provide "reasonable accommodations" to students with disabilities so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. Student responsibility primarily rests with informing faculty of their need for accommodation and in providing authorized documentation through designated administrative channels. Information regarding specific diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining academic accommodations can be found at [www.uta.edu/disability](http://www.uta.edu/disability). Also, you may visit the Office for Students with Disabilities in Room 102 of University Hall, or call them at (817) 272-3364.

### **Student Support Services Available**

The University of Texas at Arlington supports a variety of student success programs to help you connect with the University and achieve academic success. These programs include learning assistance, developmental education, advising and mentoring, admission and transition, and federally funded programs. Students requiring assistance academically, personally, or socially should contact the Office of Student Success Programs at (817) 272-6107 for more information and appropriate referrals.

### **Drop Policy**

If you choose to withdraw from the course for any reason, you must follow University procedures. It is your responsibility to execute these procedures correctly and within the deadlines. I cannot and will not drop anyone for any reason from this course. However, I may strongly recommend that you drop if you are significantly behind on completing the required assignments.

### **Course Schedule**

Below is the course schedule for you to follow throughout the course.

<b>Unit 1: The Context of Texas Government</b>	<b>Due Dates</b>
Readings: Texas Politics – Introduction, Chapters 1	
Lecture: Part 1: Course Introduction Part 2: Political Context Part 3: The Political Culture Part 4: Historical Context Part 5: Demographic and Economic Context Part 6: Geographic Context	
<b>Discussion 1</b>	<b>11:59 P.M. Wednesday, August 29</b>

<b>Assessment: Exam 1</b>	<b>11:59 P.M. Sunday, September 2</b>
<b>Unit 2: Individual Participation: Voting, Campaigns and Elections</b>	
Readings: Texas Politics - Chapters 5	
Lecture: Part 1 : Individual Participation Part 2 : Campaigns and Elections	
<b>Application Paper, Option 1</b>	<b>11:59 P.M. Wednesday, September 12</b>
<b>Assessment: Exam 2</b>	<b>11:59 P.M. Sunday, September 16</b>
<b>Unit 3: Aggregate Participation: Interest Groups and Political Parties</b>	
Readings: Texas Politics - Chapters 3 & 4	
Lecture: Part 1: Interest Groups Part 2: Political Parties	
<b>Discussion 2</b>	<b>11:59 P.M. Wednesday, September 26</b>
<b>Assessment: Exam 3</b>	<b>11:59 P.M. Sunday, September 30</b>
<b>Unit 4: The Legislative Branch</b>	
Readings: Texas Politics – Chapter 6	
Lecture: The Legislative Branch	
<b>Application Paper, Option 2</b>	<b>11:59 P.M. Wednesday, October 10</b>
<b>Assessment: Exam 4</b>	<b>11:59 P.M. Sunday, October 14</b>
<b>Unit 5: The Judiciary and the Texas Constitution</b>	
Readings: Texas Politics - Chapters 2, 9 & 10	
Lecture:	

Part 1: The Judicial Branch Part 2: Civil Rights and Civil Liberties Part 2: The Texas Constitution	
<b>Discussion 3</b>	<b>11:59 P.M. Wednesday, October 24</b>
<b>Assessment: Exam 5</b>	<b>11:59 p.m., Sunday, October 28</b>
<b>Unit 6: Governors and the Bureaucracy</b>	
Readings: Texas Politics - Chapters 7 & 8	
Lecture: Part 1: Governors Part 2: The Administrative State	
<b>Application Paper, Option 3</b>	<b>11:59 P.M. Wednesday, November 7</b>
<b>Assessment: Exam 6</b>	<b>11:59 P.M. Sunday, November 11</b>
<b>Unit 7: Federalism and Local Government</b>	
<b>Week 7</b>	
Readings: Texas Politics - Chapters 2 (pp 36-38) & 11	
Lecture: Part 1: Federalism Part 2: Local Government	
<b>Assignment: Discussion 4</b>	<b>11:59 P.M. Wednesday, November 21</b>
<b>Assessment: Exam 7</b>	<b>11:59 P.M. Sunday, November 25</b>
<b>Unit 8: Public Policy</b>	
<b>Week 8</b>	
Readings: Texas Politics - Chapters 12, 13 & 14	
Lecture: Part 1 Policy Process Part 2: The Economy & Budget Process Part 3: Education Policy Part 4: Environmental Policy Part 5: Welfare Policy	

Part 6: Energy Policy Part 7: Transportation Policy	
<b>Assignment: Discussion 5</b>	<b>11:59 P.M. Wednesday, December 5</b>
<b>Assessment: Exam 8</b>	<b>11:59 P.M. Sunday, December 9</b>