

# POLITICAL SCIENCE 100

## INTRODUCTION TO AMERICAN GOVERNMENT

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### **TEXT:**

Magleby, Light, **Government By the People**, 2009 Brief Edition

### READINGS

#### *A. FOUNDATIONS OF AMERICAN DEMOCRACY*

##### **1. AMERICAN POLITICAL CULTURE**

Magleby , ch. 3. 4

\*Alexis de Tocqueville, selection from Democracy in America at <http://xroads.virginia.edu/~HYPER/DETOC/preface.htm> and [http://xroads.virginia.edu/~HYPER/DETOC/ch2\\_02.htm](http://xroads.virginia.edu/~HYPER/DETOC/ch2_02.htm)

##### **2. THE CONSTITUTION**

Magleby , ch. 1

the Federalist Papers, No. 10, 51 (back of text)

##### **3. FEDERALISM**

Magleby , ch. 2

##### **4. POLITICAL PARTICIPATION**

Magleby , ch. 6, pp. 169-183

##### **5. VOTING AND ELECTIONS**

Magleby , ch. 6, pp. 183-215

#### *B. THE LINKAGE INSTITUTIONS*

##### **6. POLITICAL PARTIES**

Magleby , ch. 5, pp. 129--144

##### **7. INTEREST GROUPS**

Magleby , ch. 5, pp. 144-167

##### **8. MASS MEDIA**

Magleby , ch. 7

*C. THE GOVERNING INSTITUTIONS*

**9. CONGRESS**

Magleby , ch. 8

**10. THE PRESIDENCY AND EXECUTIVE BRANCH**

Magleby , ch. 9,10

**11. THE COURTS**

Magleby , ch. 11

**COURSE OBJECTIVES**

Political Science 100 is a survey of our political culture, constitutional development and the structure and functions of our national government and informal institutions, such as parties. The uniqueness of the American system will be emphasized.

**CLASS ATTENDANCE**

Class attendance may not be taken everyday, although it will be taken at random. Class attendance and participation will be counted as 10% of your grade.

**COURSE GRADES**

class attendance and participation 10%

Test #1 covering sections 1-4 30%

Test #2 covering sections 5-8 30%

Final covering sections 9-11 30%

**(ANY WORK HANDED IN LATE WILL BE PENALIZED)**

Students are expected to familiarize themselves with the UNCG Academic Integrity Policy. This may be found at <http://studentconduct.uncg.edu/>. Violations will be punished harshly. Your grades will be posted on the Grade Center on Blackboard. You are expected to keep with this.