

Instructor Information			
Instructor	Shannon Tanner		
Email	tannerst@lamarpa.edu		
Phone	(409) 984-6331		
Office	Educational I - Room: 113		
Office Hours	I will meet you as needed online by appointment. Please reach out to me if you need to talk/meet and I will send you a link to a one on one teams meeting at an agreed upon time.		
Additional Contact Information			
Course Information			
Description	Origin and development of the Texas constitution, structure and powers of state and local government, federalism and inter-governmental relations, political participation, the election process, public policy, and the political culture of Texas.		
Required Textbooks	<i>Textbook Purchasing Statement: A student attending Lamar State College Port Arthur 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.</i> Texas Government 2.0 OER Commons https://oercommons.org/courseware/8453		
Additional Materials/Resources	None.		
Corequisites/Prerequisites	None		
Learning Outcomes	Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to 1. Explain the origin and development of the Texas constitution. 2. Describe state and local political systems and their relationship with the federal government 3. Describe separation of powers and checks and balances in both theory and practice in Texas 4. Demonstrate knowledge of the legislative, executive, and judicial branches of Texas government 5. Evaluate the role of public opinion, interest groups, and political parties in Texas. 6. Analyze the state and local election process. 7. Identify the rights and responsibilities of citizens. 8. Analyze issues, policies and political culture of Texas.		
Core Objectives	Communication skills: Students will demonstrate effective written, oral and/or visual communication. * Critical Thinking Skills: Students will engage in creative and/or innovative thinking, and/or inquiry, analysis, evaluation, synthesis of information, organizing concepts and constructing solutions. * Social Responsibility: Students will demonstrate intercultural competency and civic knowledge by engaging effectively in local, regional, national and/or global communities. * Personal Responsibility: Students will demonstrate the ability to connect choices, actions and consequences to ethical decision-making.		
Lecture Topics Outline	<table><tr><td>Introduction-Course Syllabus The Social and Economic Environment of Texas Politics Texas Government and Politics in the Federalist System; The Texas Constitution</td></tr><tr><td>Local Government in Texas; The Texas Legislature; The Texas Executive; The Texas Judiciary</td></tr></table>	Introduction-Course Syllabus The Social and Economic Environment of Texas Politics Texas Government and Politics in the Federalist System; The Texas Constitution	Local Government in Texas; The Texas Legislature; The Texas Executive; The Texas Judiciary
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Voting and Political Participation in Texas; Elections and Campaigns in Texas; Texas and the Electoral College; The Party System in Texas; Interest Groups in Texas
Mass Media in Texas Politics; Policy Issues in Texas; Financing State Government; Criminal Justice in Texas

Major Assignments Schedule

DATE	TOPIC	READINGS (Due on this Date)	ASSIGNMENTS (Due on this Date)
May 15-18	Introduction-Course Syllabus The Social and Economic Environment of Texas Politics Texas Government and Politics in the Federalist System; The Texas Constitution	Unit #1-2 in Textbook	Module #1 Assignment Module #1 Discussion Post
May 19-21	Local Government in Texas; The Texas Legislature; The Texas Executive; The Texas Judiciary	Unit #6, 3-5 in Textbook	Module #2 Assignment Module #2 Discussion Post Midterm Exam
May 22-25	Voting and Political Participation in Texas; Elections and Campaigns in Texas; Texas and the Electoral College; The Party System in Texas; Interest Groups in Texas	Unit #7-8 & 10-11 in your Textbook	Module #3 Assignment Module #3 Discussion Post
May 26-29	Mass Media in Texas Politics; Policy Issues in Texas; Financing State Government; Criminal Justice in Texas	Units #12-14 in Textbook	Module #4 Assignment Module #4 Discussion Post Final Exam

Final Exam Date

May 29, 2025 - 8:00 AM Through May 29, 2025 - 11:59 PM

Grading Scale

Determination of Final Grade

Final grades will be calculated according to the following criteria:

Exams.....40%
Unit Assignments.....30%
Discussion/Quizzes.....30%

Course Policies

Instructor Policies

All coursework in this class is due on the last day of class. As such, there will not be any make up or late work accepted.

Using AI to complete any assignments is strictly prohibited. Any student caught plagiarizing or cheating will automatically receive a 0 on the assignment. Any student caught cheating more than once will receive a 0 in the course.

In this course we will frequently discuss current events, and at times, some students may find these topics controversial. It is important to keep in mind that different students may come from a different background and therefore may have different experiences and points of view. Students may disagree on these points of view. Disagreements lead to critical thinking, scholarly debates and learning but only when students disagree respectfully. Disrespect towards any person or group of people, whether inside this classroom or out, will not be tolerated. Students may not denigrate or attack any person or single out any person based on race, gender, religion, age, ethnicity, nationality, abilities, appearance, or sexual orientation. Any student turning in any assignments or posting any discussion posts that fail to meet the above standards will not receive credit for that work.

The instructor will grade and return all submitted work ASAP, but never longer than 7 days after the

assignment is submitted, without notice.

Attendance Policy	As this is an online course, there is no attendance policy, but discussion posts will be counted as class participation. Each student must create their own post for the grade and then answer two of their classmates' questions each week to receive attendance and participation points.
Additional Information	
Institutional Policies	
MyLSCPA	Be sure to check your campus email and Course Homepage using MyLSCPA campus web portal. You can also access your grades, transcripts, academic advisors, degree progress, and other services through MyLSCPA .
Academic Honesty	Academic honesty is expected from all students, and dishonesty in any form will not be tolerated. Please consult the LSCPA policies (Academic Dishonesty section in the Student Handbook) for consequences of academic dishonesty.
ADA Considerations	The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Disability Services Coordinator , Room 117, in the Student Success Center. The phone number is (409) 984-6241.
COVID 19 Information	The Lamar State College Port Arthur (LSCPA) Student Code of Conduct COVID 19 Policy requires students who have been diagnosed with COVID 19 to report their condition directly to their local health department. Students should also contact their course faculty to report their quarantine status. In addition, this policy requires all students to wear face coverings when directly exposed to COVID 19 in compliance with the criteria included in the policy. For more information please refer to the COVID 19 link on the LSCPA website.
Facility Policies	No food or tobacco products are allowed in the classroom. Only students enrolled in the course are allowed in the classroom, except by special instructor permission. Use of electronic devices is prohibited.
HB 2504	This syllabus is part of LSCPA's efforts to comply with Texas House Bill 2504.
Mandatory Reporting of Child Abuse and Neglect	As per Texas law and LSCPA policy, all LSCPA employees, including faculty, are required to report allegations or disclosures of child abuse or neglect to the designated authorities, which may include a local or state law enforcement agency or the Texas Department of Family Protective Services. For more information about mandatory reporting requirements, see LSCPA's Policy and Procedure Manual .
Title IX and Sexual Misconduct	LSCPA is committed to establishing and maintaining an environment that is free from all forms of sex discrimination, including sexual harassment, sexual violence, and other forms of sexual misconduct. All LSCPA employees, including faculty, have the responsibility to report disclosures of sexual misconduct, including sexual harassment, sexual assault (including rape and acquaintance rape), domestic violence, dating violence, relationship violence, or stalking, to LSCPA's Title IX Coordinator, whose role is to coordinate the college's response to sexual misconduct. For more information about Title IX protections, faculty reporting responsibilities, options for confidential reporting, and the resources available for support visit LSCPA's Title IX website .
Clery Act Crime Reporting	For more information about the Clery Act and crime reporting, see the Annual Security & Fire Safety Report and the Campus Security website .
Grievance / Complaint / Concern	If you have a grievance, complaint, or concern about this course that has not been resolved through discussion with the Instructor, please consult the Department Chair.
Department Information	General Education and Developmental Studies Chair: Dr. Steven Zani Email: zanisj@lamarpa.edu Phone: (409) 984-6431