

SYLLABUS PART II  
EDISON COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
PLS 121S AMERICAN NATIONAL GOVERNMENT  
3 CREDIT HOURS

Section/Term: PLS-121S-803FS

Class Meeting Time: Online

Location: Online

Required items: Bianco, William and David Canon, American Politics Today: 8<sup>th</sup> Essentials Election Edition. Pearson, 2025. **With Inquizitive.**

Faculty: Sarah Clements  
Masters of Education: Social Science Education, Delta State  
University, 2000

E-mail: [sclements@edisonohio.edu](mailto:sclements@edisonohio.edu)

Faculty Office Hours: Online, by appointment

Faculty Contact: If you have questions or concerns, please contact me via email with the course name and number in the subject line (PLS-121S-803FS) through your Edison State email.

Class Policies

It is generally accepted that academic writing and assignments consists of the author's thoughts which are supported by properly cited sources through paraphrasing, summary, and quotations. At the instructor's discretion, papers with excessive quotations, where quotations make up 10% or more of the paper, may not meet the assignment requirements, and be dealt with accordingly.

Netiquette:

We will be communicating a lot with each other. You will need to be respectful of the instructor and each other. Your classmates' ideas and beliefs may differ from your own, be polite! When in doubt, you can agree to disagree. You will be expected to communicate with your classmates and your instructor using appropriate language and style, which includes written/typed communication.

Remember: the way you communicate can reflect the level of respect you have the people with whom you communicate. You will want to practice good e-mail etiquette when typing questions/responses to the instructor and classmates, such as avoiding using all caps when typing or using an accusatory tone.

#### Communication Policy:

E-mails sent to me by 4:00 p.m. Monday-Friday with course name and section number (PLS 121-803FS) in the subject line from your Edison e-mail will be answered within 48 hours unless the school is closed (breaks/holidays).

**Assignments submitted through course messages or e-mail will not be accepted for a grade without prior written authorization from the instructor. If you are given permission to submit via e-mail, it must be submitted through your Edison e-mail.**

#### Late Work:

All work should be submitted on time. I reserve the right to make exceptions due to extreme circumstances at my discretion. \*Any extension given for extreme circumstances will require documentation submitted to the instructor.

#### Testing Your Faith Act Policy:

Edison State Community College is committed to providing an environment respectful of students' beliefs. Students are permitted to be absent for up to 3 days each semester based on their faith, religion, or spiritual belief system with no academic penalty. Students must complete the Testing Your Faith Act Accommodations Form, <https://www.edisonohio.edu/services-support/registrationrecords>, located in "Forms" and provide a copy to their individual faculty within 14 days from the start of the course. The entire policy can be found in the student handbook at <https://www.edisonohio.edu/services-support/student-resources>.

#### Academic Integrity:

Edison Community College expects students to submit original work for each assignment. The Student Handbook <https://www.edisonohio.edu/digipub/StudentHandbook/index.html>, pages 28-29 clearly defines academic dishonesty and how Edison handles cases of academic dishonesty. Using peer support and tutoring services is not considered academic dishonesty, as long as the work is original and in your own voice, meaning you didn't submit work you did previously or "borrow" words/ideas without crediting the source. The same policy goes for AI-generated text. For example, you may use

predictive text to fix spelling errors. You may not tell an AI software to write a critique of an essay for you and copy/paste the text. Any use of AI (outside of spell-checker) must be approved by the instructor and noted with the following at the bottom of the assignment:

“The author generated this text in part with <insert name/URL of AI platform>. Upon generating draft language, the author reviewed, edited, and revised the language to their own liking and takes ultimate responsibility for the content of this submission.”

Any assignment exhibiting the use of AI without permission and crediting the source will be counted as plagiarism. Any assignment that is plagiarized (whether intentional or unintentional) or lacks appropriate citations will automatically receive a failing grade. Intentional submission of someone else’s work as your own will result in automatic failure of the assignment and/or for the course. Whereas, assignments that simply fail to cite in MLA/APA format will have points deducted accordingly

### Technical Support

**For Blackboard Assignment issues, the Instructor should be the first point of contact**

***For Log-in or other technology issues:***

There are several steps you can follow if you have issues logging in to Blackboard or Office. During business hours:

Password reset: Log onto office.com with your Edison email and follow the “forgot password” prompts.

Reach out for help during regular business hours (9-5 Monday-Thursday, 9-4

Friday) email to [support@edisonohio.edu](mailto:support@edisonohio.edu) call 937-778-

8600 and ask for IT Help Desk After hours:

Password reset: Log onto office.com with your Edison email and follow the “forgot password” prompts

Go to [www.edisonohio.edu](http://www.edisonohio.edu) into the Resources tab and click "IT Help Desk" then click "Chat".

Call 937-778-7957 and talk to the off-campus Blackboard company to get help.

### Grading

|                                                     |              |
|-----------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| Syllabus Quiz                                       | 7 points     |
| Introduction Discussion Board                       | 10 points    |
| How To Inquizitives (2 x 9)                         | 10 points    |
| Inquizitives (15 x 17 points)                       | 255 points   |
| Chapter 1 Assignment                                | 15 points    |
| Chapter 2 & 3 Questions                             | 15 points    |
| Civil Rights and Civil Liberties Discussion Board   | 15 points    |
| Civil Rights & Civil Liberties Assignment           | 100 points   |
| Political Ad Project                                | 50 points    |
| Political Parties Presentation and Discussion Board | 100 points   |
| Bureaucracy Assignment                              | 100 points   |
| Bill Assignment                                     | 30 points    |
| President Discussion Board                          | 50 points    |
| Policy Analysis Discussion Board                    | 15 points    |
| Policy Analysis Assignment                          | 100 points   |
| Chapter Quizzes (9 x 20 points)                     | 180 points   |
| Total                                               | 1,060 points |

### Grading Scale

|                                         |
|-----------------------------------------|
| A = 954-1060 points, 90% – 100%         |
| B = 848-953 points, 80% – 89%           |
| C = 742-847 points, 70% – 79%           |
| D = 636-741 points, 60% – 69%           |
| F = 635 points and below, 59% and below |

### *Class Schedule*

\*Assignments are due at 11:59 p.m. on Thursday and Sundays

\*Except for Week 14 – Assignments Due on Wednesday and Week 16 - Assignments Due on Saturday

#### Week 1: 8/24-8/30

Assignments Due August 27 – How to Inquizitives, Introduction Discussion Board, Syllabus Quiz

Assignments Due August 30 - Chapter 1 Inquizitive, Chapter 1 Assignment, Readings: Chapters 1 & 2

#### Week 2: 8/31-9/6

Assignments Due September 6 - Chapter 2 Inquizitive, Chapter 1 & 2 Quiz  
Readings: Review Chapters 1 & 2

#### Week 3: 9/8-9/13

Assignments Due September 13 – Chapter 3 Inquizitive, Chapter 3 Quiz, Chapter 2 & 3 Questions  
Readings: Chapter 3

#### Week 4: 9/14-9/20

Assignments Due September 17 - Civil Rights & Civil Liberties Discussion Board Initial Post

Assignments Due September 20 - Chapter 4 Inquizitive, Chapter 5 Inquizitive, Civil Rights & Civil Liberties Discussion Board Responses  
Readings: Chapters 4 & 5

#### Week 5: 9/21-9/27

Assignments Due September 27 – Civil Rights and Civil Liberties Assignment, Chapter 4 & 5 Quiz  
Readings: Review Chapters 4 & 5

#### Week 6: 9/28- 10/4

Assignments Due October 4 - Chapter 6 Inquizitive, Chapter 6 Quiz, Political Ads Assignment,  
Readings: Chapter 6

Week 7: 10/5-10/11

Assignments Due October 8 – Political Parties Speech Initial Post

Assignments Due October 11 – Chapter 7 Inquizitive, Political Parties Speech  
Discussion Board Responses

Readings: Chapter 7

Week 8: 10/12 - 10/18

Assignments Due October 18 - Chapter 8 Inquizitive, Chapter 7 & 8 Quiz

Readings: Chapter 8

Week 9: 10/19 – 10/25:

Assignments Due October 25 – Chapter 9 Inquizitive, Chapter 9 Quiz

Readings: Chapter 9

Week 10: 10/26 – 11/1:

Assignments Due November 1– Chapter 10 Inquizitive, Bill Assignment,

Readings: Chapters 10

Week 11: 11/2 -11/8:

Assignments Due November 5 - President Discussion Board Initial Post

Assignments Due November 8 – Chapter 11 Inquizitive, President Discussion  
Board Responses, Chapter 10 & 11 Quiz

Readings: Chapter 11

Week 12: 11/9 – 11/15:

Assignments Due November 15 – Chapters 12 Inquizitive, Bureaucracy  
Assignment

Readings: Chapters 12

Week 13: 11/16 – 11/22:

Assignments Due November 22 - Chapter 13 Inquizitive, Chapter 12 & 13 Quiz

Readings: Chapter 13

Week 14: 11/23 – 11/29:

Assignments Due November 25– Chapter 14 Inquizitive, Policy Discussion Board  
Initial Post and Responses

Readings: Chapter 14

Assignments Due November 29- None (Thanksgiving Break)

Week 15: 11/30 – 12/6:

Assignments Due December 6 – Policy Analysis Assignment

Readings: Review Chapter 14

Week 16: 12/7 – 12/12:

Assignments Due December 12 – Chapter 15 Inquizitives, Chapters 14 &15 Quiz,  
Course Reflection

Readings: Chapters 14 & 15