

Sample Syllabus
U.S. Government Course Using Statecraft

Office Hours: MW 2:00-3:30 pm, and by appointment

Office Location: Smith Hall, Room 1111

Email: ProfessorX@college.edu

Phone: (100) 555-1234

Course Description: Description of your U.S. Government course.

Required Readings: Any textbook will work with Statecraft: U.S. Government.

Grading Criteria

Midterm Exam:	30%
Final Exam:	30%
Paper:	15%
Quizzes (6):	12%
Sim Participation:	8%
<u>Sim Performance:</u>	5% (plus possible extra credit)
Total	100%

Exams (60%): There are two exams in this course, a midterm and a final. The final exam will not be cumulative; it will only cover material introduced after the midterm. Each exam is worth 30% of your course grade and will include a combination of multiple choice and essay questions.

Paper or Debriefing Presentation (15%): The paper or debriefing presentation requires you to integrate your simulation experience with a variety of course concepts. For example, part of the paper may ask you to describe conflicts between the President and Congress in the *U.S. Gov* simulation and relate these to the Constitutional powers given to each branch of government. More details of this paper assignment will be provided on Canvas (or another LMS).

****For online only classes or classes that may need to switch online, we recommend utilizing the debriefing presentation group assignments and allow students to form groups and submit their presentation videos to be shown during zoom sessions. This was a very successful method during the Spring 2020 semester.*

Quizzes (12%): There will be six quizzes, each worth 2% of your course grade. Each quiz covers lecture and reading material from the previous week. Quizzes will be administered on Canvas. Once you begin a quiz, you will have 10 minutes to complete it.

Simulation Performance (5% plus possible extra credit): Your simulation performance score is out of 100 points possible, and is based on your achievement of in-game goals. For example, members of Congress will earn points for reelection and achievement of policy goals. Details of your goals and an updated performance score throughout the simulation will be available in your Statecraft: U.S. Government account. If you achieve a score of 71-75 (out of 100) this implies satisfactory (though mediocre) performance and you will receive full credit (5%). Higher scores will earn you up to 2.5% extra credit toward your course grade.

Attendance: Describe your attendance policy here. NOTE: requiring attendance for in-class or zoom simulation sessions is recommended. This could be made part of students' simulation participation grade.

Honor Code, Disability Accommodations, and Other Key Syllabus Components:

SAMPLE COURSE SCHEDULE

****Make sure to give students their sim codes and instruct them to signup before period 0 begins of your simulation. The more students that signup before period 0 the better the roll fits and the smoother the simulation runs.*

WEEK 1: INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW

WEEK 2: AMERICAN POLITICAL CULTURE

- Quiz #1 this week

WEEK 3: THE CONSTITUTION

WEEK 4: FEDERALISM

- Quiz #2 this week

WEEK 5: CIVIL RIGHTS AND LIBERTIES

- Read Simulation Manual
- Simulation Manual Quiz this week (part of simulation participation grade)

WEEK 6: CONGRESS

- *U.S. Government Simulation*, Period 0 (Students briefed on their positions and play through a low stakes situation to learn game mechanics and how it works)

WEEK 7: THE PRESIDENCY

- *U.S. Government Simulation*, Period 1
- Quiz #3 this week

WEEK 8: THE BUREAUCRACY

- *U.S. Government Simulation*, Period 2 (Gov Lite Simulation would end here with the mid term elections)
- Midterm Exam this week

WEEK 9: THE JUDICIARY

- *U.S. Government Simulation*, Period 3 (Simulation pivots focus to Social Justice, Federalism, Budget Politics, the General Election and Judicial Process)

WEEK 10: ELECTIONS AND VOTING BEHAVIOR

- *U.S. Government Simulation*, Period 4
- Quiz #4 this week

WEEK 11: POLITICAL PARTIES

WEEK 12: INTEREST GROUPS

- Quiz #5 this week

WEEK 13: THE MEDIA

WEEK 14: DOMESTIC AND ECONOMIC POLICY

- Quiz #6 this week

WEEK 15: FOREIGN AND DEFENSE POLICY, CONCLUSION

- Paper due this week

WEEK 16: FINAL EXAMS

- Final Exam this week