

POSC 2201-101  
Marquette University  
American Politics  
Spring Semester 2016  
MWF 11:00 – 11:50

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Office Hours: MW 1 – 3:30. Tu 9-12. F 12-1

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The purpose of this class is to develop both an understanding of the problem of politics – how to create and maintain a just political community – and the fundamental concepts relevant to American politics and government. We begin the course by examining the principles and documents at the foundation of American governance. We extend our focus

Exams

The following questions are taken from the exam papers of the past few years. They are intended to help you understand the format of the exam and the types of questions that you will be asked to answer. The questions are arranged in the same order as they appear in the exam papers.

1. A particle of mass  $m$  moves in a straight line with constant acceleration  $a$ . It starts from rest and travels a distance  $s$  in time  $t$ . Show that  $s = \frac{1}{2}at^2$ .

2. A particle of mass  $m$  moves in a straight line with constant acceleration  $a$ . It starts from rest and travels a distance  $s$  in time  $t$ . Show that  $v^2 = 2as$ .

3. A particle of mass  $m$  moves in a straight line with constant acceleration  $a$ . It starts from rest and travels a distance  $s$  in time  $t$ . Show that  $v = at$ .

4. A particle of mass  $m$  moves in a straight line with constant acceleration  $a$ . It starts from rest and travels a distance  $s$  in time  $t$ . Show that  $s = vt - \frac{1}{2}at^2$ .

5. A particle of mass  $m$  moves in a straight line with constant acceleration  $a$ . It starts from rest and travels a distance  $s$  in time  $t$ . Show that  $v = u + at$ .

6. A particle of mass  $m$  moves in a straight line with constant acceleration  $a$ . It starts from rest and travels a distance  $s$  in time  $t$ . Show that  $s = \frac{1}{2}at^2$ .

7. A particle of mass  $m$  moves in a straight line with constant acceleration  $a$ . It starts from rest and travels a distance  $s$  in time  $t$ . Show that  $v^2 = 2as$ .

8. A particle of mass  $m$  moves in a straight line with constant acceleration  $a$ . It starts from rest and travels a distance  $s$  in time  $t$ . Show that  $v = at$ .

9. A particle of mass  $m$  moves in a straight line with constant acceleration  $a$ . It starts from rest and travels a distance  $s$  in time  $t$ . Show that  $s = vt - \frac{1}{2}at^2$ .

10. A particle of mass  $m$  moves in a straight line with constant acceleration  $a$ . It starts from rest and travels a distance  $s$  in time  $t$ . Show that  $v = u + at$ .

Multiple choice, short answer and essay questions. The following questions are taken from the exam papers of the past few years. They are intended to help you understand the format of the exam and the types of questions that you will be asked to answer. The questions are arranged in the same order as they appear in the exam papers.

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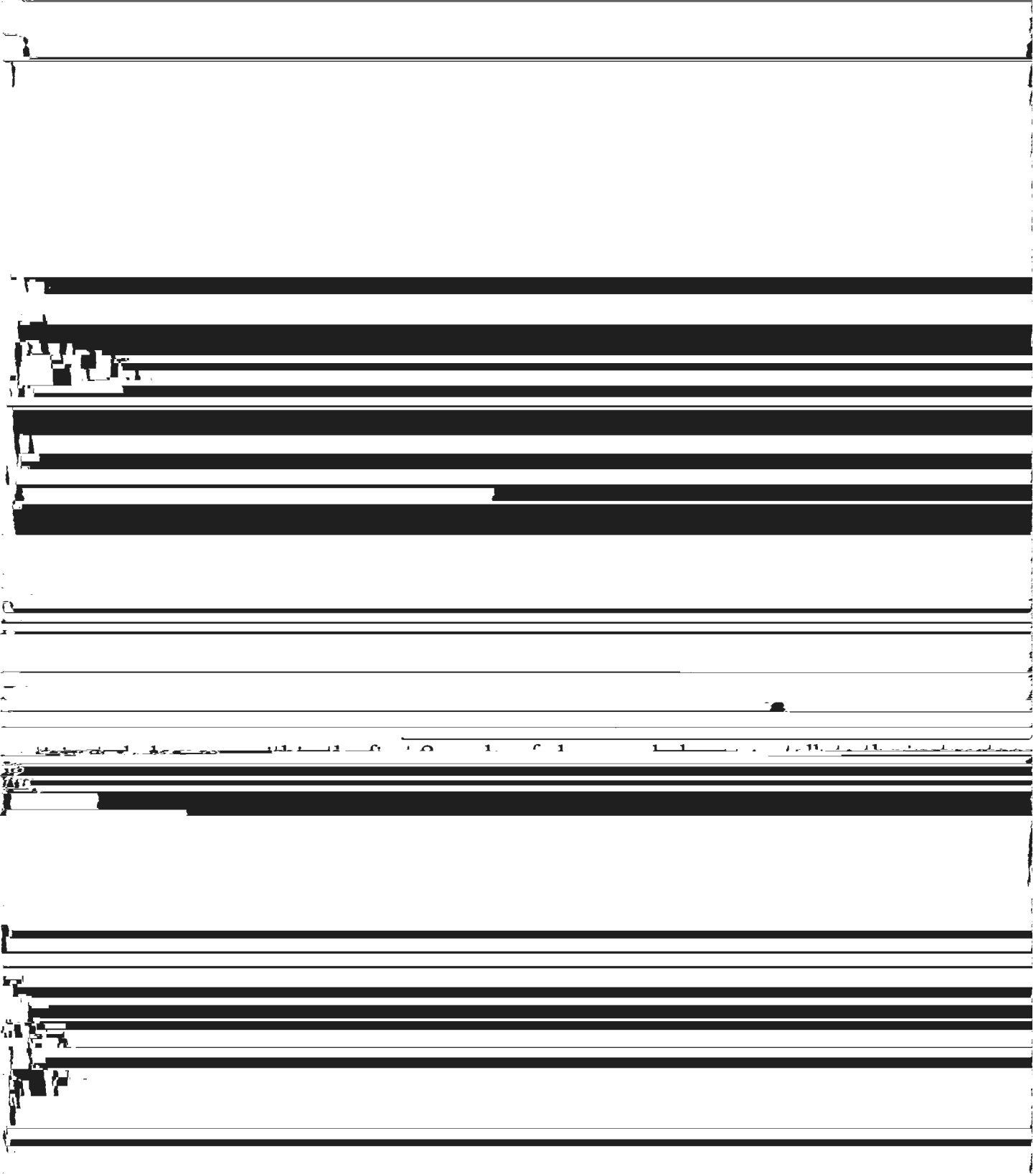
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course that meets 50 minutes, 3 times per week, will be considered to have excessive absences and may be assigned a WA.”

The committee may forward to the board of trustees a schedule of



Fri, Jan 29 - Creation of the Constitution



<http://www.pewresearch.org/...>  
Morone/Kersh, Ch. 2 "The Constitution"

Mon., Feb. 1 - Ideas and Ideology

"Fundamental Attitudes: Ideology and Partisanship," (D2L)

"Beyond Red and Blue: The Political Typology," *Pew Research Center*, 6/26/2014

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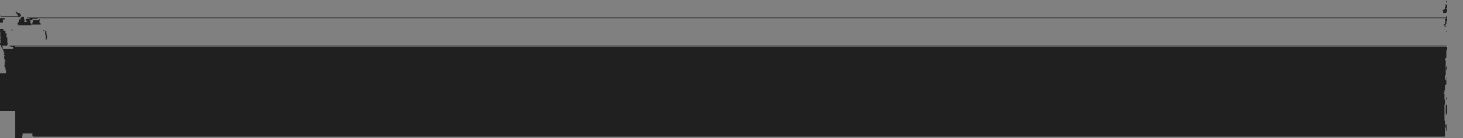
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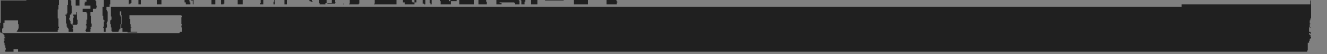
Wed., Feb. 3 - American Lives

"Country Boys" PBS documentary in class

Fri, Feb 5, Jan 29 - Creation of the Constitution



"Theorien of Constitutions: How were they..."



"Cruz's Law Professor on Birth Control II" <http://www.foxnews.com>



## Topic 2 – Institutional Actors

Mon., Feb. 29 – Congress

Article I of the Constitution (in Morone/Kersh Appendix )  
Morone/Kersh, Ch. 10 “Congress”

Wed., Mar. 2 – Representative Behavior

“Speech to the Electors of Bristol,” Edmund Burke, 1774 (D2L)

Fri., Mar. 4 – Decision making in Congress

Mon., Mar. 7 – The Presidency

Article II of the Constitution (in Morone/Kersh Appendix)  
Morone/Kersh, Ch. 11 “The Presidency”

Wed., Mar. 9 – Presidential Power

From *Presidential Power and the Modern Presidents*, Richard Neustadt, 1991 (D2L)

“Why Obama can’t close Guantanamo,” Carl Rosenberg, *Foreign Affairs*, 2011 (D2L)

Fri., Mar. 11 - Unilateral Powers

Signing Statement to H.R. 2863 (D2L)

**Topic 3 – Political Behavior**

Mon., Apr. 11 - Money in Elections

Trevor Potter on *The Colbert Report* – video clip in class

“Donald Trump is Right about one Thing,” *RollCall*, 1/11/16 (D2L)

Wed., Apr. 13 – The Media

Morone/Kersh, Ch. 7 “The Media

“What you know depends on what you watch: Current events knowledge across popular news sources,” Fairleigh Dickinson University, 2012

<http://publicmind.fdu.edu/2012/04/13/>

**Issue Response Essay #2 Due**