

MIDLAND COLLEGE
SYLLABUS
GOVT 2306
Texas Government (Texas Constitution & Topics)

CORE CURRICULUM COURSE

Fall 2026 Schedule:	
Hernandez, Luce	GOVT 2306 A205 Texas Government
Malone, Benjamin	GOVT 2306 A210 Texas Government
Malone, Benjamin	GOVT 2306 A220 Texas Government
Schantz, Ginger	GOVT 2306 A610 Texas Government
Gilmour, Terry	GOVT 2306 A620 Texas Government
Blair, Matthew	GOVT 2306 A630 Texas Government
Hernandez, Luce	GOVT 2306 AU01 Texas Government (DUAL)
Gilmour, Terry	GOVT 2306 AU02 Texas Government (DUAL)
Hernandez, Luce	GOVT 2306 AW01 Texas Government (WEB)
Gilmour, Terry	GOVT 2306 AW02 Texas Government (WEB)
Geisler, William	GOVT 2306 AW03 Texas Government (WEB)
Unassigned Instructor	GOVT 2306 AWS1 Texas Government (DUAL WEB)
Hernandez, Luce	GOVT 2306 AWU1 Texas Government (DUAL WEB)
Unassigned Instructor	GOVT 2306 AWW1 Texas Government (DUAL WEB)
Gilmour, Terry	GOVT 2306 BW01 Texas Government (WEB)
Gilmour, Terry	GOVT 2306 BW02 Texas Government (WEB)
Unassigned Instructor	GOVT 2306 BWG1 Texas Government (DUAL WEB)
Unassigned Instructor	GOVT 2306 BWS1 Texas Government (DUAL WEB)
Gilmour, Terry	GOVT 2306 BWU1 Texas Government (DUAL WEB)
Guerrero, Jose	GOVT 2306 CW01 Texas Government (WEB)
Unassigned Instructor	GOVT 2306 CW02 Texas Government (WEB)
Baker, Lucinda	GOVT 2306 EWF1 Texas Government (DUAL WEB)
Geisler, William	GOVT 2306 EWW1 Texas Government (DUAL WEB)
Malone, Benjamin	GOVT 2306 JW01 Texas Government (WEB)
Hernandez, Luce	GOVT 2306 JW02 Texas Government (WEB)
Unassigned Instructor	GOVT 2306 JWK1 Texas Government (DUAL WEB)

Course 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.

Division Information:

Social & Behavioral Sciences Division

Division Dean: Michael Makowsky 153 MHAB – 432.685.6828

Department Chair: Ginger Schantz 161 MHAB – 432.685.5563

Division Secretary: Angelina Dolaptchieva 174 MHAB – 432.685.6830

Student Learning Outcomes and Core Competencies:

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will:

- Explain the origin and development of the Texas constitution.
- Describe state and local political systems and their relationship with the federal government.
- Describe separation of powers and checks and balances in both theory and practice in Texas.
- Demonstrate knowledge of the legislative, executive, and judicial branches of Texas government.
- Evaluate the role of public opinion, interest groups, and political parties in Texas.
- Analyze the state and local election process.

Inclusion of Core Curriculum Objectives: These Core Curriculum Courses fulfill three hours of the Social and Behavioral Science requirement in the Midland College Core Curriculum. The Core Curriculum is a set of courses that provide students with a foundation of knowledge, skills and educational experiences that are essential for all learning. Social and Behavioral Sciences courses involve the exploration of behavior and interactions among individuals, groups, institutions, and events, examining their impact on the individual, society, and culture. As part of the core, this course addresses the following four objectives:

Critical Thinking Skills: To include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information.

Communication Skills: To include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral, and visual communication.

Personal Responsibility: To include the ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making.

Social Responsibility: To include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities.

Student Contributions

Will be posted by the instructor in individual course syllabi. Students should contact their instructor if they have any questions.

Class Policies

Academic Integrity: We commit ourselves to act with academic integrity this term – to be

ethical in what we say and write, and to offer credit to others for thinking of ideas before us. I want to share with you how we define plagiarism and examples of what it looks like. Plagiarism is defined as the appropriation, buying, receiving as a gift, or obtaining by any means another's work and the unacknowledged submission or incorporation of it in one's own written work offered for credit. A student commits plagiarism if s/he:

1. **fails to acknowledge the sources of any information** in a paper which is not either common knowledge or personal knowledge. A student can acknowledge a source through in-text citations, attribution lines, footnotes, or other forms of documentation approved by the instructor. (Common knowledge is the basic information within a field or discipline, as well as most historical dates and facts, and many ordinary observations.)
2. **fails to acknowledge direct quotation either by using quotation marks or (for longer passages) indentation.** Without the quotation marks or indentation, passages copied directly from a source might be considered plagiarized even if it is followed by an in-text citation or a footnote. The citation or footnote acknowledges that there is a source, but it does not indicate that the writer has borrowed someone else's exact words. If a writer uses the language of a source, word-for word, he/she must use quotation marks or block indentation.
3. **merely paraphrases the original words of the source.** Some students think they can avoid a charge of plagiarism by changing a few words in each sentence they copy or by rearranging the shape of phrases or the order of sentences in a paragraph. This is not true. When taking notes students must be careful to put ideas in their own words or to use direct quotations when relying on phrases directly borrowed from a source.
4. **borrowes the ideas, examples, or structure of the source without acknowledging it.** A student can be guilty of plagiarism if s/he systematically borrows the ideas and organization of a source even if the language of the piece is on a major news event by using exactly the same ideas in the same order as they appear in an article in any popular news magazine.
5. **takes, buys, or receives a paper written by someone else and presents it as the student's own.**
6. **uses one paper for two different courses,** or re-uses a paper previously submitted for credit, without the prior approval of the instructor or instructors.

For more information, please read [Midland College's Scholastic Dishonesty and Academic Misconduct Policy](#)

Evaluation of Students

Will be posted by the instructor in individual course syllabi. Students should contact their instructor if they have any questions.

Academic Support Services and Important Student Rights Information

Honors Program

Students interested in taking a course for honors credit, should contact their instructor. Refer to the [Midland College Honors Program webpage](#) for more details.

Dropping the Course

Check the MC College Calendar for the last day to withdraw from the course and receive a “W.” Please talk to the instructor before withdrawing.

Student Rights, Responsibilities, and Grievances and Appeals

The goal of Midland College is to help students achieve their educational goals. Students have certain rights and responsibilities. For more information, please read the [Student Rights & Responsibilities section of the Midland College catalog](#).

Non-Discrimination Statement: Midland College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age in its programs and activities. For information and inquiries regarding Midland College’s non-discrimination policies, please go to the [Title IX section of the Midland College catalog](#).

For further information on notice of non-discrimination, visit the ED.gov Office of Civil Rights website, or call 1 (800) 421-3481.

Pregnancy & Parenting Statement: As required by Title IX, Midland College does not discriminate against any student on the basis of pregnancy or related conditions. Students who need changes to our policies, practices, or procedures due to their pregnancy or related condition(s) will be provided with reasonable modifications to protect their health or educational access. Absences will be excused for at least as long as deemed medically necessary by a student’s healthcare provider and students will be given the opportunity to make up missed work. For assistance with modifications, time off, lactation breaks/space, discrimination issues, or other related needs, contact the Title IX Coordinator at title9@midland.edu or 432-685-4781.

Disability Support Services: Any student who, because of a disabling condition, may require some special arrangements to meet course requirements should contact disabilities support services as soon as possible at [Accommodation Services](#).

Conditions may include documented physical or educational disabilities. Please be aware that services or accommodations are not automatic. Each student must request them and secure the proper authorizations/documentation. Accessibility Links can be found on the Pages tab in Canvas.

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