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| **Title** | **Introduction to American Politics** |
| **Lecturer:** **Contact email address:** | **William G. Mayer**Professor of Political Science at Norteastern University (Boston, USA)<https://cssh.northeastern.edu/faculty/william-mayer/>wgmayer@erols.com |
| **Brief description** | This class is designed to provide an introduction to the study of American government. My hope is give students a better understanding of current issues and controversies in American politics, as well as to provide a foundation for any future course work they may wish to undertake. |
| **Schedule** | **1,**  Introduction: The Constitution**2.** Federalism**3.** Public opinion**4.** Interest groups**5.** Political parties**6.** Voting**7.** Political participation**8.** The mass media**9.** Congress**10.** The presidency**11.** The judiciary**12.** The bureaucracy |
| **Materials/Recommended readings** | I would recommend that students purchase two books: James Q. Wilson and John DiIulio, *American Government: Institutions and Policies, Brief Version* (make sure you get the brief version as it’s a lot cheaper than the full version); Richard J. Ellis and Michael Nelson, *Debating Reform*, 4th ed. |
| **Assessment/Exam** | Grades will be based on a midterm exam and a final exam. Students may also write an optional paper, though the topic must be approved in advance. |