

Supervised Individual Project on California Government

Political Science 490CA

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Course Description

This course is an individual, supervised studies course on California state and local government. As such, it does not meet every week. Instead, you will study on your own using the assigned textbook and take the exam on a scheduled date during the semester. Please note that this course only satisfies the California State and Local Government portion of the Title V requirement (requirement 3). It does NOT satisfy the U.S. Constitution requirement (requirement 2). Both the California State and Local Government and the U.S. Constitution Title V requirements can be fulfilled by POLS 155.

Enrolling in the Course

Before you can enroll in the class through SOLAR, you will need to follow the steps listed below.

- Confirm with your academic advisor that you do not need to fulfill the U.S. Constitution requirement of Title V in addition to the California State and Local Government requirement. If you need to satisfy both requirements, you can enroll in POLS 155. If you only need to satisfy the California State and Local Government requirement, follow the steps below to enroll in POLS 490CA.
- Send an email to BOTH Cynthia Harris AND Evelyn Osorio (charris@csun.edu, evelyn.osorio@csun.edu) that includes your name, your student ID number, and your email address. The subject of the email should be PolS 490CA Semester Year (fill in as appropriate). The body should express your interest in enrolling in the course and explain that Professor Michaud has given you permission to enroll.
- Within 2 business days, your name will be entered into the SOLAR system and you may enroll in the class through SOLAR in the same way you would for any other class.

Required Materials

- Korey, John. 2009. *California Government*. Fifth Edition. Wadsworth Cengage. (see purchase options below)
- One test form (Advantage Form 2851) and a number 2 pencil (available in the CSUN bookstore)

You have three options for purchasing the text. The most affordable option is to buy an electronic version from the publisher's website for **\$24.99** (see the link below). If you prefer a print copy, you can purchase one directly from the publisher (**\$44.50**) or from the CSUN Bookstore (**\$50**). Using earlier editions of the text is not recommended.

The Exam

- The format: The exam will include approximately 50 multiple-choice questions drawn from all of the chapters of the assigned textbook. The questions will be similar to the ones you will see on the online ACE Practice Tests that are included with the purchase of the text (see the link to the online textbook resources below).
- Selecting an exam time: The exam will be held on a single day during the semester. I will send all students enrolled in the class an email with the date and the two times on that day that the exam will be offered. You will need to choose one time and plan to take the exam that day and time.
- Preparing for the exam: Read the textbook thoroughly and complete the online ACE Practice Tests for each chapter. The ACE Practice Tests include sample exam questions that you can use as guides for the kinds of questions that will be on the exam.
- Makeup Exam Policy: No makeup exams will be scheduled—you must take the exam on the day that it is offered. If an unforeseen emergency prevents you from attending the exam date, I will consider allowing you to take the exam if (and only if) you provide a valid and documented excuse. Documentation must be in writing and it must include contact information that allows me to verify your excuse. Note that what qualifies as a valid excuse is at my discretion. There are no exceptions to this policy.
- Grading: Exam grades will be posted on Moodle within one week of the exam date. The letter grade that you earn on the exam is the grade you will receive for the course.

Course Websites

- http://academic.cengage.com/cengage/student.do?product_isbn=9780547041933&discipline_number=20#
 - Publisher's website where you can purchase the required textbook in electronic or print version.
- http://college.cengage.com/polisci/korey/cal_gov/5e/student_home.html
 - Online textbook resources and sample exam questions.
- <http://moodle.csun.edu/>
 - Exam grade will be posted on this website within one week of the exam date. To log in, you will need your CSUN username and password.

Student Conduct and Ethics

Academic dishonesty of any kind will not be tolerated. Any student guilty of cheating will receive an "F" for the course and will be referred to the Office of Student Affairs for further disciplinary action.