

Tohono O'odham Community College

POS 210 National and State Constitutions



Course Information

Course Prefix/Number: POS 210	Credit Hours: 3 transferable to all universities
Semester SPRING 2017 Class Days/Times: Tuesday-Thursday 3:30 – 4:45	Course Title: National and State Constitutions
	Room: Main Campus Main Building Room 23

Instructor Information: Laurie Morris-Harvey lmorris@tocc.edu cell 831.227.7036	Office location: Main Campus Library or Student Success Center. Meet by appointment
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Course Description:

An examination and critical analysis of the origins and current political reality of constitutional law specifically for people as living as citizens under the US Constitution, the Arizona Constitution and the Tohono O'odham Constitution. Citizens of Tohono O'odham nation live under the rule of law from their ancestors, the United States Government on Federal land, and in the state of Arizona. The complexities of each relationship reveal our historical relationships and ways to participate in government and work together for the good of all: the purpose of government. Course fulfills the Arizona State Constitution requirement for credential to teach in public schools eliminating state test.

Tohono O'odham Community College

Course Objectives:

During this course students will read and participate in class discussions as we connect the three constitutions currently representing rule of law for people living here today and in the past.

Pass timely quizzes and other written examinations: midterm and final consisting of short answer, essay and objective questions. Apply weekly the Cornell method of note taking, lecture notes.

Complete writing exercises analyzing primary and secondary sources. Demonstrate in writing competency in actively describing and analyzing the U.S., Arizona and Tohono O'odham Constitutions.

Write essays, critical reviews and notes from selected readings and write an accurate, fact based point of view **research paper based on an issue of personal importance.**

Students will...

Define the term constitution and trace origins and purpose of constitutional governments.

Discover how the three constitutions interrelate.

Trace back the origins of separation of government power into three branches.

Describe how the ratification of the US Constitution lead to the two-party system.

Explain the role of agriculture, particularly citrus and cotton, in the history of Arizona.

Describe the historical origins of the development and ratifications of the three constitutions.

Describe the Constitutional Convention of 11787 developing the US Constitution,

Explain he roles of Democrats, Progressives, and Republicans at the Arizona Constitutional Convention.

Evaluate the role of mining in establishing government constitutions and policies between the three governments and the impact on the land and people of Arizona and Tohono O'odham Nation.

Describe the process of people making laws through initiative, referendum and initial controversy over recall process in Arizona.

Describe and give examples of the specific roles of the legislature, executive and judicial branches.

Trace back the first practices of checking and balancing government power and cite current practices.

Define federalism and give examples of how governments work together for common purposes.

Discover commonalities and contrasts between the functions of three governments.

Compare the process of actively gaining civil rights on State, Federal or Tribal land.

Himdag Cultural Component:

Students will describe their own personal political ideology which will include the Tohono O'odham historical and political experience creating through law a society focused on maintaining the state of wellbeing of all people. The interrelated stories of the indigenous people, specifically the O'odham, and the Spanish, the Mexicans and lastly the Americans emphasizes the *T-Pi:k Elida*. The respect Americans experience when all people matter and all see our people working together reflects the *I-We:mta*.

Tohono O'odham Community College

Texts and Materials: Personal copies of the United States Constitution, Arizona State Constitution, Tohono O'odham Constitution and 1936 Papago Constitution. Available free online. Others readings distributed in class may supplement the course or may be sent to all students via email.

Grading: A= Achieving 90% of available points B=80% C=70% 60%=D

Active attendance 30%: Quizzes. Documented weekly written reading responses to course readings and content and written lecture notes count as class participation and spoken participation in class discussions. **5 absences limit participation grade to C**

Tests 35%: Midterm March 2 and Final May 16: Objective and essay Absent=F

Writing 35%. Two Essays: Critical reviews. Notes from readings, factual and persuasive essay. Research Paper 10 pages 10 sources. Due April 20.

First Draft with Complete Bibliography. All late writings may only earn a C

Essay #1 200 Words - Factual "How does government impact my life?" **Due March 23**

Essay #2. 200 words – Persuasive "One thing where government must act." **Due April 7**

Topics for first two essays may tie into research project upon approval

Research Paper Outline 2/18 and bibliography 4/6 due, dates precede final due date for paper 4/20.

Any form of plagiarism in writing will receive no credit F for course. **Early submission encouraged for re-write directions.** Submit to turnitin.com to assure use of proper citations of source.

Goal at least 7 to 10 pages not including bibliography as separate page - 2,000 words limit.

Research PAPER Due April 20 for possible A. All late paper may only earn a possible C. No submissions after final exam.

Incomplete grade (no paper leads to INC) must be requested and approved well before semester ends.

POS 210 Course Outline:

Week One: January 17 and 19 Origins of constitutional governments and rule of law

Week Two January 24 and 26 Historical development of the US and Arizona Governments and Tohono O'odham Nation Tribal Government

Three branches at work: Separation of Power, Check and Balance System

Tohono O'odham Community College

Week Three January 31 and February 2 18: Legislative Branches -
US Congress Article One and Arizona State Legislature

Week Four February 7 and 9 Tohono O'odham – Legislative - Tribal Council

Week Five February 14 and 16 Executive Branch: US, Arizona. US Executive
Fourteen Departments, Arizona special role of Secretary of State. Executive Branch
Tohono O'odham Nation. Tohono District Chairmen's relationship to Tribal Chairman

February 16 Research paper topic choice due: Basic outline, and three sources

Week Six February 21 and 23 Judicial Branch: U.S., Arizona and Tohono O'odham
Nation. Civil Rights Guaranteed by all three governments

Week Seven February 28 and March 2 Review history and origins of three current
constitutions and role of three branches in all three governments.

Midterm March 2
Spring Break March 6-10

Week Nine March 14 and 16 Federalism: U.S., Tohono O'odham and Arizona
Governmental Relationship in Practice

Week Ten March 21 and 23 Current Relationship of Tohono O'odham Tribe and
US Government

#1 Factual Essay: What weaknesses exist in the relationships between the federal,
state and tribal governments to this day? Or “How Government Impacts My Life”
Due March 23

Week Eleven March 28 and 30 Library instruction, reference gathering for research

Week Twelve April 4 and *6 21st Century Politics in Arizona and Tohono
O'odham Nation – Gaming in Glendale situation. Role of U.S. Government
Discuss sovereignty of Tohono O'odham Nation historically to the present.

Tohono O'odham Community College

***Persuasive Essay2 #. Due April 6 "Government Must Take Action Now!"**

Week Thirteen April 11 and 13 Current Practice: Civil Rights and Victim Rights Guaranteed by Rule of Law in the Three Constitutions

Week Fourteen April 18 and *20 Current Constitutional Issues in the U.S. Government - Check and Balance in Action Today

***Research Paper Examine an issue of personal importance impacted by government policy examined through multiple points of view with cited references and last page works cited bibliography.**

Due April 20. Turn in by deadline to turnitin.com and in person with hard copy required and by email for full grade. If turned in on time rewrites may still be submitted to gain A grade.

Week Fifteen April 26 and 28 Review for Final. Chart Power distribution in all three governments. Chart similarities and differences.

Week Sixteen Present Research Paper to the Class May 2 or 4 Review for FINAL

Week Seventeen May 9 and 11 Present Research Paper. Review for Final.

Final cumulative objective test Tuesday, May 16. Attendance required

Policies and expectations:

Attendance every Tuesday and Thursday 3:30 – 4:45 at TOCC site, Classroom MB23. TOCC policy determines loss of credit for excessive unexcused absences. C highest grade possible if absent more than 5 times. Attending every class helps assure achieving a passing grade if actively participating.

Expectations include reading constitutions and supplementary readings, participation in class discussion connecting the past to our present realities for indigenous and immigrant Americans, timely written examinations: short answer and objective tests, writing exercises demonstrating competency of actively analyzing and describing social, political, and intellectual political phenomena found in American life, in writing. Writings include essays, critical reviews of the text and selected readings, from historically accurate point of view and a required research paper. **Research Paper** 2,000-word maximum (cover page, seven page 12'font and bibliography) must examine a political issue of personal importance

Tohono O'odham Community College

following development of policy to deal effectively with that issue. Our TOCC library focuses on Native American issues so check for sources before deciding on topic. Include MLA style citations, bibliography, and topic approved by instructor. In writing incorporate race, gender and class as transforming politically in law possibly as experienced personally or/and by ancestors of you.

**Due April 20 Submit to turnitin.com and to teacher electronically and hard copy in class.
(late papers may only earn C)**

DISCLAIMER: This syllabus is designed to evolve and change throughout the semester based on class progress and interests. You will be notified of any changes as they occur. Please ask if any accommodations may be necessary, adhering to American with Disabilities Act