

PSC 100 Nevada Constitution

Description: For students who have met the U.S. Constitution requirement with a course that includes no information about Nevada. Includes a brief history of Nevada prior to statehood, commentary on the Nevada Constitution, and analysis of the political, economic, and social characteristics of the state today. 1 credit.

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Office hours: Monday 12:45-2:00
Wednesday 1:00-1:45
Friday 12:45-2:00

Text book: Bowers, The Sage Brush State 2nd edition.
University of Nevada Press.



This course meets weekly for five sessions.

- Session 1: Introduction to Nevada.
Bowers: Chapters 1 and 2.
- Session 2: Political History of Nevada
Bowers: Chapters 3-5
Quiz 1
- Session 3: State governmental institutions
Bowers: Chapters 6-7
Quiz 2
- Session 4: Judiciary and Local government
Bowers: Chapter 8-9
Quiz 3
Issues paper is due
- Session 5: Current challenges
Growth, finances, land use
Final exam (comprehensive)

Your grade will be based on the following:

Participation in class	25
Quiz scores	30
Final exam	25
Nevada issues paper	20

Issues paper: Select a significant issue facing Nevada. In an essay of 750-1200 words, state why it is important and provide relevant background material, a clear statement of the

challenges, who the stake holders are, and who should take what actions in order to improve the situation. As a conclusion indicate the benefits that would occur if this action were taken, the costs, and who will gain.

Format: professional in appearance, citations as appropriate, and written in your own words. Use the APA style format. A brochure summarizing this can be found in the Lied Library. Plagiarized material is graded negatively. That is, papers that are copied or have extensive copied materials in them without proper citations earn a score of -20 points, effectively lowering the final course grade by two letter grades. Do your own work.

WebCT: This course will use WebCT as a way to communicate with students outside of class. Class lectures and supplementary materials will be posted there.

Policies:

Attendance is important. Each class absence results in the loss of 5 participation points. There will be a quiz in Sessions 2-4 and a final exam in session 5. Make ups are not scheduled and you must be present in order to take a quiz or examination. A missed exam or quiz earns 0 points.

Your right to learn. The classroom is a safe space for the discussion of issues pertaining to the course. Behaviors that interfere with the rights of others, including, but not limited to ringing cell phones, beepers, and distracting conversations are not allowed.

Cheating: There will be none. Any attempt at gaining outside assistance on exams, in any form, will result in failure of the entire course.

Religious Holidays: Any student missing quizzes, examinations, or any other class or lab work because of observance of a religious holiday shall be given an opportunity to make up missed work. The make-up will apply to the religious holiday absence only. It shall be the responsibility of the student to notify the instructor no later than the end of session 1 of her or his intention to participate in religious holidays which do not fall on state holidays or periods of class recess. This policy shall not apply in the event that administering a test or examination at an alternative time would impose an undue hardship on the instructor or the university which could not reasonably have been avoided

Disabilities: If you have a documented disability that may require assistance, you will need to contact the Disability Resource Center for coordination in your academic accommodations. The DRC is located in the Reynolds Student Services Complex in Room 137. The DRC phone number is 895-0866 (TDD: 895-0652).