



OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Credit by Exam for POLS 2000: California State and Local Government

Why is POLS 2000 necessary? The California Education Code requires that California State University students take a course that includes study of the U.S. Constitution *and* California state government. ***Courses on U.S. government alone, or an Advanced Placement test that covers only U.S. government, do not fulfill the California section of the requirement.*** Successful completion of the POLS 2000 test allows students who have fulfilled the U.S. Constitution section of the requirement to also fulfill the California state government requirement!

To enroll in the course: Contact the Political Science Department office at Engineering and Technology (E&T), Room A524; by phone at (323) 343-2230; or email at polisci@calstatela.edu.

For POLS 2000, all the topics examined are covered in Larry N. Gerston and Terry Christensen, *California Politics and Government: A Practical Approach, 15th Edition* (Cengage, 2021), ISBN-10: 0-357-13930-5; ISBN-13: 978-0-357-13930-1. An earlier (or later) edition will suffice to prepare you adequately for the exam.

All topics in the book are examined, and the text should be read in its *entirety*. The book is on reserve in the University Library under POLS 2000, and may also be purchased online in both hard copy and electronic formats at <https://www.cengage.com> (or Amazon and other online sellers).

Exam Details: You will be contacted via e-mail by the instructor for POLS 2000 with information about the time of the exam, which will be administered online via Canvas. The exam will consist of approximately 50 multiple choice questions, and students will be allowed a maximum of 90 minutes to complete it.

NOTE: This exam is equivalent to taking a final exam on California state government, and students who do not read and study the text **thoroughly** are unlikely to pass. Students should be aware they only have one opportunity to take the exam, and the result of the exam will be the *only* basis for the course grade (60% correct or more constitutes a passing grade). There is no opportunity to write a paper or complete other assignments to improve the course grade.

What if I fail the exam? Students who fail the exam will be required to take and complete one of the following courses at Cal State LA: POLS 1000, POLS 3500, CLS 1300, or PAS 1100. It is also possible to take an equivalent course at a different university in California that satisfies the California state government requirement (please check on <http://www.assist.org/web-assist/welcome.html> to make sure that the course will transfer properly).

Revised: 3/17/2021, TED