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Prejudices are rarely overcome by argument; not being found in reason they cannot be destroyed by logic – Tryon Edwards



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***TRUMP: FROM BUSINESS TO PRESIDENT
SYLLABUS – PLSC 496***

Term: Spring (2019-2) (August 26 – December 13)

Professor: Dr. Tina Ebenger

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Office Hours:

Monday and Wednesday– 11:00 – 12:00, 3:30 – 5:00

Thursday – 11:00 – 12:00; 3:30 – 4:00

Or by appointment

Course Time: Monday and Wednesday, 1:30 – 3:15

Learning Objectives:

1. To read about Donald J. Trump's life and career.
2. To summarize why Donald J. Trump has completely taken over the Republican party.
3. To understand how the process of impeachment works in the House of Representatives and the Senate.
4. To comprehend the origins of the impeachment process according to Alexander Hamilton.
5. To assess the Mueller Report and grasp why the public never signed on to it.
6. To evaluate Donald J. Trump's psychological condition.

Course Description: This course will study Donald J. Trump, primarily his tenure as the 45th President of the United States. Included will be all the highs (passage of the Tax Cut and Jobs Act of 2017, the revised NAFTA: USMCA and taking on China regarding trade) and the lows (the Mueller Report and impeachment). Along the way we will discuss how he has totally transformed the presidency and the Republican Party. We will end up with several psychiatrist's diagnoses of the unconventional president.

Textbooks: *The United States of Trump: How the President Really Sees America*, Bill O'Reilly, 2019.

Summary of the Mueller Report: for those too busy to read it all, Thomas E. Patterson, 2019.

Summary of the Dangerous Case of Donald Trump: 27 Psychiatrists and Mental Health Experts Assess a President, Bandy X. Lee, 2019.

Additional Readings Distributed in Class

Assessment:

Discussion Questions – <i>The United States of Trump</i> (6, 5 pts. Each)	30
Discussion Questions – <i>Summary of the Mueller Report</i> (4, 5 pts. Each)	20
Discussion Questions – <i>Summary of the Dangerous Case of Donald Trump</i>	10
Final Paper	<u>40</u>
	100

Class Assignments:

There are discussion questions that are assigned for each of the books. (Other readings will only require that you read them, not answer additional questions.) They are due on the date they are discussed in class. Each answer should be approximately two paragraphs long.

Final Paper:

Based on the evidence of all your readings and the impeachment hearings in the Senate, do you believe Donald J. Trump is guilty or not guilty of abuse of power and obstruction of Congress. State all the reasons why. This paper will be five (5) pages long and will be in place of a final exam.

Class Policy for Attendance:

You cannot succeed in this class if you do not attend. We believe that intellectual growth and success in higher education occur through interaction in the classroom and laboratories. However, we do not want to penalize students for participating in college-sponsored events. When you miss class because of a college event, you must give notice of your absence in advance, and you are responsible for all missed work. Being absent doesn't excuse you from doing class work; you have **more** responsibilities to keep up and meet the objectives of this course.

Each student starts out with 100 points for class attendance/participation. Five (5) points will be deducted for each absence, each late arrival to class, each time you're on your phone, and each time you are talking when you're not contributing to class discussion.

Class Policy on Electronic Devices:

All electronic devices will be kept out of sight during class. If, however, you are a parent and may get a call about your child, please keep your phone on vibrate.

CCSJ Student Honor Code:

I, as a student member of the Calumet College academic community, in accordance with the college's mission and in a spirit of mutual respect, pledge to:

- Continuously embrace **honesty and curiosity** in the pursuit of my educational goals;
- Avoid all behaviors that could impede or distract from the academic progress of myself or other members of my **community**;
- Do my own work with **integrity** at all times, in accordance with syllabi, and without giving or receiving inappropriate aid;

Do my utmost to act with commitment, inside and outside of class, to the goals and **mission** of Calumet College of St. Joseph.

Grading Scale:

Grade	Points	Grade	Points	Grade	Points	Grade	Points
A	100-92	B+	89-88	C+	79-78	D+	69-68
A-	91-90	B	87-82	C	77-72	D	67-62
F	59 and below	B-	81-80	C-	71-70	D-	61-60

Statement of Plagiarism:

If you turn in work that is not your own, you are subject to judicial review, and these procedures can be found in the College Catalog and the Student Planner. The maximum penalty for any form of academic dishonesty is dismissal from the College.

Using standard citation guidelines, such as MLA or APA format, to document sources avoids plagiarism. The Library has reference copies of each of these manuals, and there are brief checklists in your Student Handbook and Planner.

PLEASE NOTE: All papers may be electronically checked for plagiarism.

Tracking Your Progress:

Your midterm grade will be available on MyCCSJ between Weeks 6 and 8. Be sure to see how you're doing and follow up with your instructor.

Sharing Your Class Experience:

At the end of the term, you will have the opportunity to evaluate your classroom experience. These confidential surveys are **essential** to our ongoing efforts to ensure that you have a great experience that leaves you well prepared for your future. Take the time to complete your course evaluations – we value your feedback!

CCSJ Book Rental Program:

The CCSJ Book Program ensures that everyone has the right course materials on the first day of class to be successful. You pay a book rental fee each semester, and in return, receive all the materials for all your classes prior to the beginning of classes. At the end of the semester, simply return the books. For traditional students, the Book Rental Program is conveniently located in the library, where students can pick up and return their books. For students in accelerated programs and graduate programs, books will be delivered to their homes and they can return them by mail. For more information, see <http://www.ccsj.edu/bookstore>. **All books must be returned at the end of the semester or you will incur additional fees, which will be charged to your student account.**

Withdrawal from Classes:

After the last day established for class changes has passed (see the College calendar), you may withdraw from a course by following the policy outlined in the CCSJ Course Catalog.

Student Success Center:

The Student Success Center provides faculty tutors at all levels to help you master specific subjects and develop effective learning skills. It is open to all students at no charge. You can contact the Student Success Center at 219 473-4287 or stop by the Library.

Disability Services:

Disability Services strives to meet the needs of all students by providing academic services in accordance with Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) guidelines. If you believe that you need a "reasonable accommodation" because of a disability, contact the Disability Services Coordinator at 219-473-4349.

Student Assistance Program:

Through a partnership with **Crown Counseling**, Calumet College of St. Joseph provides a free Student Assistance Program (SAP) to current students. The SAP is a confidential counseling service provided to students for personal and school concerns which may be interfering with academic performance and/or quality of life. **The SAP counselor is available on campus Wednesday and Thursday, 9:00 to 3:00** and off-site at the Crown Counseling offices in Crown Point or Hammond. For more information, **contact Kerry Knowles SAP Counselor**, at 219-663-6353 (office), 219-413-3702 (cell), or kerryk@crowncounseling.org.

CCSJ Alert:

Calumet College of St. Joseph's emergency communications system will tell you about emergencies, weather-related closings, or other incidents via text, email, or voice messages.

Please sign up for this important service annually on the College's website at:

<http://www.ccsj.edu/alerts/index.html>

SCHEDULE OF READINGS:

Month/Week	Class Date	Topics and Reading Assignments
January		
1 st	Monday, January 13	Introduction, overview of class
	Wednesday, January 15	Whistleblower complaint Testimony Timeline
2 nd	Monday, January 20	NO CLASS – MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY
	Wednesday, January 22	Background of conspiracy theories <i>Federalist Paper #65</i> Majority Report
3 rd	Monday, January 27	Articles of Impeachment Minority Report
	Wednesday, January 29	Impeachment on CSPAN
February		
4 th	Monday, February 3	Impeachment on CSPAN
	Wednesday, February 5	Impeachment on CSPAN
5 th	Monday, February 10	Impeachment on CSPAN
	Wednesday, February 12	Impeachment on CSPAN
6 th	Monday, February 17	O'Reilly, <i>The United States of Trump</i> Forward – Chapter Seven, pgs. ix – 44 Discussion Questions due
	Wednesday, February 19	O'Reilly, <i>The United States of Trump</i> Chapter Eight – Chapter Fourteen, pgs. 45 - 93 Discussion Questions due
7 th	Monday, February 24	O'Reilly, <i>The United States of Trump</i> Chapter Fifteen – Chapter Twenty, pgs. 94 - 148 Discussion Questions due

Month/Week	Class Date	Topics and Reading Assignments
	Wednesday, February 26	O'Reilly, <i>The United States of Trump</i> Chapter Twenty – One - Chapter Twenty-Eight, pgs. 140 – 193 Discussion Questions Due
March		
8 th	Monday, March 2	NO CLASS – SPRING BREAK
	Wednesday, March 4	NO CLASS – SPRING BREAK
9 th	Monday, March 9	O'Reilly, <i>The United States of Trump</i> Chapter Twenty-Nine – Chapter Thirty- Nine, pgs., 194 – 244 Discussion Questions Due
	Wednesday, March 11	O'Reilly, <i>The United States of Trump</i> Chapter Forty – Afterword, pgs., 245 – 291 Discussion Questions Due
10 th	Monday, March 16	FRONTLINE VIDEO – TRUMP'S ROAD TO THE WHITE HOUSE
	Wednesday, March 18	FRONTLINE VIDEO – PRESIDENT TRUMP
11 th	Monday, March 23	DISCUSSION – FRONTLINE VIDEOS
	Wednesday, March 25	Patterson, <i>Summary of the Mueller Report</i> , Introduction, Executive Summary, pgs., 1- 30 Discussion Questions Due
12 th	Monday, March 30	Patterson, <i>Summary of the Mueller Report</i> , pgs., 30 - 61 Discussion Questions Due
April		
	Wednesday, April 1	Patterson, <i>Summary of the Mueller Report</i> , pgs., 61 - 87 Discussion Questions Due
13 th	Monday, April 6	Patterson, <i>Summary of the Mueller Report</i> , pgs., 87 - 123 Discussion Questions Due

Month/Week	Class Date	Topics and Reading Assignments
	Wednesday, April 8	FRONTLINE VIDEO – TRUMP’S TAKEOVER
14th	Monday, April 13	DISCUSSION OF TRUMP’S TAKEOVER OF THE REPUBLICAN PARTY
	Wednesday, April 15	Summary, <i>The Dangerous Case of Donald Trump</i> , pgs., Book Summary, Introduction, Chapter One – Chapter Eleven
15th	Monday, April 20	Summary, <i>The Dangerous Case of Donald Trump</i> , pgs., Chapter Twelve – Chapter 24
	Wednesday, April 22	Discussion Questions - Summary, <i>The Dangerous Case of Donald Trump</i>
16th	Monday, April 27	WRAP-UP, CATCH-UP
	Friday, May 1	FINAL PAPER DUE