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# Composition I and Federal Government

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# COLLIN COLLEGE

## COURSE SYLLABUS – FALL 2018

### LEARNING COMMUNITY – ENGL 1301/GOVT 2305

Course Information
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**Course Number:** ENGL 1301

**Course Title:** Composition I

**Course Description:** Intensive study of and practice in writing processes, from invention and researching to drafting, revising, and editing, both individually and collaboratively. Emphasis on effective rhetorical choices, including audience, purpose, arrangement, and style. Focus on writing the academic essay as a vehicle for learning, communicating, and critical analysis. Lab required.

**Course Credit Hours:** 3  
Lecture Hours: 3  
Lab Hour: 1

**Prerequisite:** Meet TSI college-readiness standard for Reading and Writing; or equivalent

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

- **State-mandated Outcomes:** Upon successful completion of this course, students will:
  1. Demonstrate knowledge of individual and collaborative writing processes. (Teamwork, Communication Skills)
  2. Develop ideas with appropriate support and attribution. (Communication Skills)
  3. Write in a style appropriate to audience and purpose. (Communication Skills)
  4. Read, reflect, and respond critically to a variety of texts. (Critical Thinking)
  5. Use Edited American English in academic essays.
- **Additional Collin Outcome:** Upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to do the following:
  1. Demonstrate personal responsibility through the ethical use of intellectual property. (Personal Responsibility)

**Withdrawal Policy:** See the current *Collin Registration Guide* for the last day to withdraw and information regarding state-mandated limits on withdrawals

**Repeated Courses Policy:** See the current *Collin Registration Guide*

**Collin College Academic Policies:** See the current *Collin Student Handbook*

**Americans with Disabilities Act Statement:** Collin College will adhere to all applicable federal, state and local laws, regulations and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations as required to afford equal educational opportunity. It is the student's responsibility to contact the ACCESS office, SCC-D140 or 972.881.5898 (V/TTD: 972.881.5950) to arrange for appropriate accommodations. See the current *Collin Student Handbook* for additional information.

**COLLIN COLLEGE**  
**COURSE SYLLABUS**

Course Information
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**Course Number:** GOVT 2305

**Course Title:** Federal Government (Federal constitution and topics)

**Course Description:** Origin and development of the U.S. Constitution, structure and powers of the national government including the legislative, executive, and judicial branches, federalism, political participation, the national election process, public policy, civil liberties and civil rights.

**Course Credit Hours:** 3  
Lecture Hours: 3

**Prerequisite:** Meet TSI college-readiness standard for Reading and Writing; or equivalent

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

- **State-mandated Outcomes:** Upon successful completion of this course, students will:
  1. Explain the origin and development of constitutional democracy in the United States. (Communication Skills)
  2. Demonstrate knowledge of the federal system. (Communication Skills)
  3. Describe separation of powers and checks and balances in both theory and practice. (Social Responsibility)
  4. Demonstrate knowledge of the legislative, executive, and judicial branches of the federal government. (Communication Skills; Personal Responsibility)
  5. Evaluate the role of public opinion, interest groups, and political parties in the political system. (Critical Thinking; Personal Responsibility)
  6. Analyze the election process. (Critical Thinking)
  7. Describe the rights and responsibilities of citizens. (Personal Responsibility; Social Responsibility)
  8. Analyze issues and policies in the U.S. politics. (Critical Thinking; Social Responsibility)

**Withdrawal Policy:** See the current *Collin Registration Guide* for the last day to withdraw and information regarding state-mandated limits on withdrawals

**Repeated Courses Policy:** See the current *Collin Registration Guide*

**Collin College Academic Policies:** See the current *Collin Student Handbook*

**Americans with Disabilities Act Statement:** Collin College will adhere to all applicable federal, state and local laws, regulations and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations as required to afford equal educational opportunity. It is the student's responsibility to contact the ACCESS office, SCC-D140 or 972.881.5898 (V/TTD: 972.881.5950) to arrange for appropriate accommodations. See the current *Collin Student Handbook* for additional information.

## INDIVIDUAL INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

### **English Instructor: Lari Ranta**

Office Number: D-227

Office Hours: Tues 7:25-8:25am; 2:30-3:30pm and Thurs. 7:25-8:25am and 1:00-4:00pm; and by appointment

Phone Number: Office: (972) 881-5789

Email: lranta@collin.edu

### **Government Instructor: Zack Shipley**

Office Number: B-235

Office Hours: M/W 10:00am-12:30pm; T/R 9:15-9:45am; and by appointment

Phone Number: Office: (972) 881-5784

Email: Please use the Canvas messaging system if available, otherwise zshipley@collin.edu

**Contacting the Professors:** Please include both of us in email communications regarding aspects of the course assignments, evaluation, or schedule. If you are asking a question substantively pertaining to either the English or government discipline, feel free to get in touch with the relevant person (Ranta for English, Shipley for government). Replies to email will be made within 48 hours.

## CLASS INFORMATION

**Section Number:** ENGL 1301 (S92 – CRN 12410) and GOVT 2305 (S25 – CRN 11971)

**Meeting Times and Location:** Tues/Thurs 10:00am – 12:45pm in G-219

### **Course Resources:**

#### **Required Textbooks:**

*A World of Ideas: Essential Readings for College Writers, 9<sup>th</sup> Edition* by Lee Jacobus. ISBN: 9781457604362

*Escape from Camp 14* by Blaine Harden. ISBN: 9780143122913 (Collin College Book-in-Common, 2014)

**Supplies:** 3 folders with pockets and brads, paper, writing utensil, you (in mind and body)

### **Attendance Policy:**

Attendance is included in the terms of the grading contract.

Students who have fallen behind and are failing are responsible for officially withdrawing themselves from the course; failure to do so will result in a performance grade of "F". Last day to withdraw is **OCTOBER 19**.

### **Method of Evaluation:**

Grades for this course will be assigned in accordance with the terms of the grading contract distributed on the first day of class. All students will receive the same grade for both course components at the end of the semester. All outside of class writing assignments must be submitted both in class and electronically through TurnItIn.com

### **Assignments:**

**Major essays:** Four major essays will be required. For each essay, we will engage in a drafting process, taking class time to workshop early drafts before you submit your final copies. Failure to bring a complete draft on a workshop day is considered a violation of the B contract. All final drafts of major essays need to be turned in as a

hard copy in one of your folders – final draft in the brads, and rough drafts/workshop comments/etc. included in the pockets. You must also submit an electronic copy to TurnItIn via the link provided in Canvas.

**Daily Work:** Reading, researching, discussing, and writing assignments that support the goals for the course. Each essay will have specific requirements for completion and will be outlined in the instructions handout given in class and posted in Canvas. All essays will include research and summary activities i.e precis or annotated bibliography as a part of the total essay grade.

**Labs:** These are assignments that will be done outside of class. They are designed to support concepts in class. All lab assignment directions will be in the lab file on Canvas.

### **Classroom Conduct:**

Please keep disruptions to a minimum. Success in this course requires your attention and participation. Note that if you are actively participating in the class session (as stipulated in the grading contract) you likely won't need to be using your computer much. We therefore assume that what is so engaging on your screen is probably not class related. If, however, you feel you must use a laptop for "note taking", please sit towards the back of the room – those sitting behind you get distracted by your games and Facebook, and you don't want them watching you browse the web. The use of audio recording devices to supplement your notes is acceptable, so long as they are for your personal, private use and not disruptive to your classmates. The use of cameras (still or video) is not allowed.

Because this is a participation and discussion-oriented course, we expect and encourage you to make your ideas and opinions known. It is likely that we will address some controversial topics, and that you will find points of disagreement with classmates. Please extend to all of us the courtesy of civil discussion. Personal attacks, threats, yelling, etc. will not be tolerated and may result in your being asked to leave class, or referral to the dean of students depending of the severity of the offense.

**Get On Board!** Your college experience is up to you. You chose to sign up for class, so why not get the most out of it? Class discussion is a fundamental component to learning argumentation, so please become involved. In college courses, teachers and students are privileged to experience academic freedom. This freedom exists in a realm of responsibility by thoughtful, courteous, responses as we approach controversial issues. In addition, attitude towards coursework is vital to academic advancement. We give all out students our attention and respect, and we expect the same in return. Show interest and dedication, and we will go above and beyond to help you reach your goals. Show apathy and we will grudgingly reciprocate. As a college student and adult, the onus is on you to find the motivation and desire to be successful. We are not your parents, and we cannot do for you what you are not willing to do for yourself. The choice to succeed is yours.

### **Academic Ethics:**

Every member of the Collin College community is expected to maintain the highest standards of academic integrity. Collin College may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of scholastic dishonesty. Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, statements, acts, or omissions related to applications for enrollment or the award of a degree, and/or the submission as one's own work material that is not one's own. Scholastic dishonesty may involve, but is not limited to, one or more of the following acts: cheating, plagiarism, collusion, use of annotated texts or teacher's editions, use of information about exams posted on the Internet or electronic medium, and/or falsifying academic records. While specific examples are listed below, this is not an exhaustive list and scholastic dishonesty may encompass other conduct, including any conduct through electronic or computerized means:

Plagiarism is the use of an author's words or ideas as if they were one's own without giving credit to the source,

including, but not limited to, failure to acknowledge a direct quotation.

Cheating is the willful giving or receiving of information in an unauthorized manner during an examination; collaborating with another student during an examination without authority; using, buying, selling, soliciting, stealing, or otherwise obtaining course assignments and/or examination questions in advance; copying computer or Internet files; using someone else's work for assignments as if it were one's own; or any other dishonest means of attempting to fulfill the requirements of a course.

Collusion is intentionally or unintentionally aiding or attempting to aid another in an act of scholastic dishonesty, including but not limited to, failing to secure academic work; providing a paper or project to another student; providing an inappropriate level of assistance; communicating answers to a classmate about an examination or any other course assignment; removing tests or answer sheets from a test site; and allowing a classmate to copy answers.

In cases where an incident report has been filed for alleged violation of scholastic dishonesty, faculty are requested to delay posting a grade, for the academic work in question, until the Dean of Student's Office renders an administrative decision of the case. Students found responsible for scholastic dishonesty offenses will receive an authorized disciplinary penalty from the Dean of Students Office. The student may also receive an academic penalty in the course where the scholastic dishonesty took place. The professor will determine the appropriate academic penalty.

**NOTE:** Additional daily grades, homework, and readings will be assigned in class – if you are not present, you miss out. It is your responsibility to be in contact with classmates or instructors to get those assignments for the following class. Schedule subject to change and additions/subtractions to readings with advanced notice in class. Readings marked with \*\* are available on Canvas, all others should be in your required textbooks.

Dates	Topic		Notes, Readings, and Due Dates
Wk 1	Syllabus Intro		Friere – Banking Education City on the Hill in Presidential Mythology
Wk 2	How humans work: Human nature, the need for power and control, and the origins of government	Theories of Writing	<b>Last day to Drop without record: Sept. 11</b> *Locke – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Treatise* *Hobbes – Leviathan*
Wk 3		Audience Purpose	Nietzsche Gazzaniga
Wk 4		Context Rhetorical Situation	Plato – Allegory of the Cave *Piaget – Development* <b>ASSIGN PAPER 1</b>
Wk 5		Revision	Jung – Collective Unconscious Chomsky – Language *Keller – Most Important Day*
Wk 6		Analysis	Baldwin *Gregory – Shame* <b>THURSDAY IS PAPER 1 WORKSHOP DAY</b>
Wk 7		Summary	<b>PAPER 1 IS DUE TUESDAY</b> *Gaventa – 3Faces of Power*
Wk 8	Leadership: Empowerment and Oppression	Argument	*Friere – Leaders* *Plato – Philosopher King*
Wk 9		Developing	Machiavelli – Prince Tocqueville – Democracy in America <b>ASSIGN PAPER 2</b> <b>ASSIGN GROUP PROJECT – CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION</b>
Wk 10		Comparing	Madison – Federalist 51 US Constitution <b>CONVENTION DAY ON THURSDAY</b>
Wk 11	Designing Government: Utopias, Dystopias and everything in between.	Organizing	Becker – Democracy Begin reading <i>Escape from Camp 14</i> <b>THURSDAY IS PAPER 2 WORKSHOP DAY</b>
Wk 12		Figurative Language	<b>PAPER 2 IS DUE ON TUESDAY</b> *More – Utopia* Arendt – Totalitarianism Escape from Camp 14 – 1 <sup>st</sup> half of book completed (when he escapes – not a spoiler, see title) <b>ASSIGN PAPER 3</b>
Wk 13		Argument	<b>THANKSGIVING WEEK, NO CLASS THURSDAY</b>
Wk 14		Evidence	*Winthrop – City on the Hill* *MLK – Dream Speech* <b>ASSIGN FINAL PROJECT</b>
Wk 15	Resistance and Citizen Duties	Quotations	Thoreau – Civil Disobedience *Le Guin – Omelas*
Wk 16	Finals Week		Final Project due on date of final. Time and project details TBA.

# Learning Community ENGL 1301/GOVT 2305

## Grading Contract and Requirements to Earn a B

### EFFORT:

Your behavior as a student and a scholar matters just as much the work you produce for a class. Your presence in the classroom helps to create a critical learning environment for you and your peers. It is critical that you attend, don't disrupt the class, and come prepared.

(1) **Attendance: Don't miss more than 4 classes for any reason** (i.e. don't schedule elective medical procedures or a vacation in the midst of a semester).

In-class writing assignments (daily response to readings or "teach-me" writes) may be used to keep attendance. No make-ups are offered. As with any course, class material is your responsibility. If you are late or miss a class, you are still responsible for finding out what assignments were given by getting in touch with your classmates. Habitual tardiness, which is considered disruptive, will be treated similarly to an absence, and may land in you in the Dean of Students office. See the syllabus for the official policy.

(2) **Class Behavior: Show up prepared for class** (i.e. do the reading ahead of time and bring the book or print-out to class) and behave professionally at all times. This means that you should never disrupt the class by doing things like using your cell phone in any way, you should not disrupt class by leaving in the middle of it, and you should never do work for other classes during this class.

(3) **Work Ethic: Complete all assignments on time:** includes daily work, research quests, and essay writing. **No late assignments.** Turning assignments in late or missing them altogether means you have broken the contract and jeopardizes your eligibility to receive a grade of B or higher. This includes reading assignments and other assigned work. Complete the assignment as given and demonstrate that you've made an effort.

***\*\*Graded Essays: Must meet the length requirement for each assignment. If the directions say five pages, we mean five full pages, not 4 and 1/3 of a page. 5 pages does not include the Works Cited page***

(4) **Participation: Engage in the discussion and share your ideas.** Learning is a collaborative process. Without your positive contribution, the learning environment is not as engaging as it could be for you or for others.

**\*\*A Special Note about Workshop:** You must complete all drafts as assigned, and you must participate in workshops when scheduled. Failure to submit a major writing assignment will result in negation of the B contract. Give and Use feedback in the workshop process. Use the community to strengthen your writing as well as your peer's.

**Instructors' Advice:** Revise thoroughly and thoughtfully after every workshop. Revision means substantially clarifying your ideas, reorganizing your argument, rethinking your claims, deepening your research, and strengthening your evidence.

(5) **Complete all lab units posted in Canvas via Turnitin.** These consist of short writing assignments or attendance at campus events or workshops. Details will be posted in Canvas.



## WRITING:

These are the criteria that you need to be working toward all semester. It's ok if you don't get there with the first draft of your essays, but you do need to show that you have met these criteria by the time you submit. In each of your first drafts, we want you to work with these criteria in mind but do not fixate on them to the point that you can't finish your essays in time to submit them. However, don't wait until the end of the semester to work hard because you will run out of time to get everything done.

(1) **Meet the requirements of the assignment:** Address the prompt exactly and follow any instructions given.

(2) **Complexity:** For every major essay, you must go beyond stating the obvious. Truthfully, given the theme of the course: social and political change, this requirement won't be hard. Our essays will create arguments that focus on problem solving and answer the "so what?" question. We will use the concepts in classical rhetoric to encourage our reader to care about your topic and the governmental laws, policies, and agencies to create the desired change. To argue effectively, you need to provide quality evidence and reasoning that supports your argument. Evidence means research. You must spend ample time looking for quality evidence. A good set of guidelines for accomplishing your goals in this area are outlined in the English Department Grading Standards.

(3) **Have a working argument:** Every essay needs to have an argument in the form of a thesis statement/thesis idea that shows that you are doing your own thinking and that you are going somewhere with that line of thought. Don't just repeat or summarize.

(4) **Reference the texts:** You can't just write about a text without providing quotes as evidence. Use quotes properly throughout your essays and paraphrase as needed to support your claims. Cite your sources properly. Block quotes will also not be accepted. Keep your analysis to citing no more than 3 lines of your source at a time.

(5) **Organize:** Your writing is intended for an audience. Your paper needs to be reasonably organized in a coherent and logical fashion. This doesn't have to be perfect by the end of the semester, but if your essays seem to have little or no thoughtful structure, then that's a problem.

(6) **Control grammar and language:** It's ok to sometimes have a confusing sentence or two; quite often, it means you're trying to express a complex thought. However, if much of your essay is confusing or incoherent due to a lack of control over the sentences, then the reader will not be able to understand you.

(7) **Copy editing:** When the assignment is for the final draft, your paper must be copy edited--that is, free from virtually all mistakes in spelling and grammar. It's fine to get help in copyediting. (Copyediting doesn't count on early drafts.) It's also fine to have a few typos, but don't have so many that it detracts from the quality of your writing. Use Spell Check and Grammar Check!

## TRACKING YOUR WORK:

We will score your daily work on a complete/incomplete or pass/fail basis. You will receive points for all work based on the following rubric:

**0 pt:** The assignment is unsuitable for the B grade contract. Assignments that are missing, turned in late without prior approval, poorly done and/or show no signs of effort will score a 0.

**1 pt:** The assignment is suitable for the B grade contract. Assignments that are turned in on time, follow the assignment and show real effort will be scored a 1.

We make use of the attendance tracking tool in Canvas to assess daily participation and most daily grades. This means that Canvas will show you the percentage of “1” grades out of all the possible grades. You can consult the attendance calendar or with us to clarify these. This daily work tracking scheme is simply the most efficient use of Canvas to maintain up-to-date records.

Major paper and project grades will be recorded on a letter-grade scheme and have individual columns within the Canvas gradebook.

All course participants will receive a B-Contract worksheet and will be responsible for tracking you own extra credit, A-projects, conference appointments, etc. through the semester. You will submit your completed worksheet to us at the end of the semester accounting for any additional participation done in accordance with the requirements for and A or as extra credit.

### ***Reminders about the System:***

The important part to remember about the scoring system is that it is designed to track your work in the class. This system is better than regular grading for giving you a clear idea of what your final grade looks like at any moment. Whenever we give you feedback on any major assignment, we will tell you clearly if you have somehow failed to satisfy the contract for a B. Please keep in mind that effort alone will not result in a B grade for the course; you must be writing at that B level in order to earn a B. If you are not on track for the B contract, we will be very clear why about why that is the case. It will then be up to you to contact us about getting back on track. The best way to know how you are doing is to conference during office hours. We can discuss your work and any questions you’re having.

### ***Getting an A:***

As you see, the B grade depends on both effort in both thinking and researching along with the mechanical parts of your writing; concepts like organization, thesis statement, and control over grammar and language are skills that all students should master. The A grade, however, depends on all of that and then some. To get an A, you have to make your time and effort pay off into superior writing and scholarship (and also meet the conditions for a B). Your thinking and actions must go above and beyond basic connections, and your writing must show that you are crafting your essays in a way that enhances your arguments.

We believe that A students are those who engage the ideas of this course beyond the confines of our weekly meeting times and basic course requirements. This level of work and effort can take many forms, but to demonstrate your efforts to us we require that the following criteria be met.

## **REQUIREMENTS FOR AN A:**

\* Meet **all the requirements for the B grade as listed above.**

\* You must be meeting with us regularly to understand the difference between B and A level writing. As mentioned, getting an A depends on our judgment of your work. The best way to know what the difference is between these two grades is to talk to us consistently about your writing. In order to get an A in this class, you need to **schedule at least 3 writing conferences** during the semester. When you come to a conference, bring the draft you’re working on. In other words, the writing conference should be a work session where we discuss and focus on how to move your writing to the next level.

\* **Revise your essays.** A grades require that your papers be at an A level. Rarely is this the case on an early draft. In addition to the workshop process in class, seek out additional reviewers throughout your process and incorporate their feedback in your work. Once you have your graded paper back, work to revise based on our comments and suggestions – this is also a good time to schedule a writing conference with us as mentioned above. Remember, a “final” draft is not necessarily a “finished” draft.

\* The most important part to the A is **demonstrating advanced critical thinking, argumentation, and use of evidence in your writing**; showing that you have gone above and beyond expected interpretation and argument (i.e. you’re not just repeating what was said in class) so that your work is innovative. If you want to get an A in the class, then you need to plan and prepare. This means adjusting your schedule to meet the requirements

\* **Fulfill 2 of the following options:**

Since this is a class of social change, we know that action is required. Change does not happen by sitting idly by. This section we call "Bring the Outside In," hoping that your research and writing moves to the public arena and gets brought back in to the classroom where we can all benefit.

**(A) Attend 2 College-sponsored political symposia.** The college will host guest speakers for Constitution Day, hold Presidential Debate watches, and other events throughout the semester. We’ll be sure to announce them as they come up. Attend, sign/swipe in, and submit a brief summary of your thoughts regarding the program.

**(B) Participate in the LEAD program.** Attend at least 3 LEAD events over the course of the semester. Consult with Prof. Ranta about how to get involved and any written components.

**(A or B) Participate in the Poverty Simulation.** The college will be hosting a Poverty Simulation on campus one evening, details will be forthcoming. We’ll let this count as an event for either the A or B option, depending on what else you choose to participate in.

**(C) Volunteer in Service Learning.** Canvas contains additional information on Service Learning at Collin. Look on the CSCE link in Cougar Web for events currently scheduled or come up with one on your own. 20 hours suggested.

**(D) Develop a Leader Profile, Present to the Class.** This option requires you to research a leader (modern or historical) in light of some aspect of the course. Depending on the leader you choose and where we are in the class, the subject matter of your presentation may change. Please consult with us if you are interested in this option. Your presentation must be completed before the Thanksgiving holiday.

## **Grades lower than B:**

We hope no one will aim for lower grades. The quickest way to slide to a C, D, or F is to miss too many classes, forget to do the assignments, or fail to meet the requirements of the assignment. ***This much is nonnegotiable:*** you are not eligible for a passing grade of D unless you have attended at least 11 of the 15 weeks’ worth of classes, and completed all of the major assignments. In addition, you can’t turn all of your work in late or at the end of the semester. If you are missing classes and behind in work, please stay in touch with us about your chances of passing the course.

***What if I miss something in the contract?***

Relax, we are not out to get you and want you to enjoy the class. We've all been there before. You'll have a couple of opportunities to recover.\*\* Missing major essays, however, negates the B contract. As always, communication is the key. Let us know of major problems and emergencies in a timely fashion.

\*\*Extra credit opportunities will be assigned during the term. The contract is for ease not punishment. Extra credit is often "one-shot" – attending a guest speaker or school event, for example – and cannot be made-up later. Please plan ahead, it may be worth your time to build up a buffer of one or two extra credits in case events conspire against you later in the semester. There are no guarantees that future extra credit opportunities will arise.

***What if I miss draft workshop or peer review?***

If you miss a draft workshop, you will need to show proof that you've met with a class member for help with your draft. After essays are due, We will ask for drafts of these make up documents and you must turn them in at that time or you have broken the contract.

***In-class writing may not be made up.***

If you miss a class, or if you come to class and don't write because you have not done the reading, there is no makeup opportunity. It is your job to come to class with your work done.

**Not Meeting the Terms of the B Contract:**

If you fail to meet the terms of the B contract in any way, your work will be evaluated qualitatively to determine your final grade (C, D, or F). Attendance, tardiness, participation, and general classroom behavior will be factored into this decision. Emphasis is placed on quality of papers and percentage of daily grades completed.

**Incompatibility with the B Contract:**

We understand that the grading scheme outlined above is likely a new experience for many students. We encourage you to give serious thought to what it requires at its core: to qualify for a B, students are expected to come to class prepared and diligently complete their work, as should be expected of you in any course. If you have hesitations about this system, please consult with us. Acceptance of these terms is, however, a requirement for your enrollment in this course.

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# **Learning Community ENGL 1301/GOVT 2305**

## **Course Policies and Grading Contract**

### **Fall 2018**

By signing below, I indicate that I have read and understood the syllabus, course policies, and grading contract requirements. I agree to abide by these policies and requirements. I realize that my performance in this course will be reflected in the final grades for both English and Government, and that the grade will be the same for both courses.

Misunderstanding or ignorance of these policies will not constitute a valid excuse for violations or poor performance later in the semester. Please consult with Professors Ranta and Shipley about any uncertainties or clarifications prior to signing.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Print your name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_