American Politics: RPOS 101  
Spring 2015 – SUNY Albany

Time: MW 5:45 PM to 7:05 PM;  
Location: Room ES 241  
E-mail: wn8492@albany.edu  
Office: Humanities B16 (See me in class!)  
Office Hours: MW 7:10 PM to 8:10 PM and by appointment

The Project at Hand
Politics (or political power) concerns who or what determines whom gets what, when, how, and how much. In an ideal American liberal democracy, the people determine the whom, the what, and the how much, all without violating individual rights. In this course we will explore who governs and for whose benefit.

Required Book
The Democratic Debate: American Politics in an age of Change by Bruce Miroff, Raymond Seidelman, Todd Swanstrom and Tom De Luca

Other Reading Material
I will provide other readings through Blackboard or in class.

Course Requirements and Grade Breakdown:

- First Midterm  25%
- Second Midterm  25%
- Five Quizzes – Each 5%  25%
- Final Exam  25%
- Total  100%

Exams and Quizzes
Make-up exams and quizzes can be taken only with a note from the dean.

Problems
Please inform me of any difficulties you might have that might impede on your performance in this course. These problems include, but are not limited to: physical disabilities, learning disabilities, medical problems, legal misfortunes, jury duty, military obligations etc.

Plagiarism
Don’t do it!!! Plagiarism means to pass off someone else’s work as your own or to pass off the work from one course for another (even if the work is your own). Any student who plagiarizes will be failed from the course and be reported to the Office of the Dean of Undergraduate where further action may be taken.

Important Note
First, I will discuss in lecture some ideas that are not found in the text and readings; you will be responsible for these ideas. If you miss class be sure to copy notes from a classmate. Second, I will not cover in lecture all the information in the text and readings; however, you are responsible for this information and they may appear on exams and quizzes.

Now sit back and enjoy the course!!!