

I hope that you had a good Summer and are looking forward to getting started on your Fall-semester courses. In order to get an overview of our course's objectives, structure, assignments, and schedule, please:

- print a copy of these instructions and
- complete the following two sets of initial assignments.
- Phone or email me if you have any questions or concerns.

**ASSIGNMENTS TO BE COMPLETED
PRIOR TO OUR 1ST CLASS, 19 AUGUST 2004**

- I. Go to the course web site at: <http://people.uncw.edu/lowery/pls303/index.htm>
A. Click the **SYLLABUS** link,

*[if you cannot open the **SYLLABUS** link,
then follow the 5 steps below to download free Adobe Acrobat Reader software to your computer.]*

1. Click the **BACK** button on your web browser to go back to the PLS 101 home page, and
 2. Click on the **ADOBE ACROBAT READER** link that is listed under the *Home Pages* heading, and
 3. At the Adobe website, move your cursor over the **DOWNLOADS** link and then click on the **FREE ACROBAT READER** link,
 4. A new page will open, click on the yellow **GET ACROBAT READER** button,
 5. A new page will open, fill in the required information in *Step 1*, *Step 2*, and then click the red **DOWNLOAD** button in *Step 3*.
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- B. And then print a copy of the course syllabus.
C. Go back to the course homepage and click the **SCHEDULE** link,
D. And then print a copy of the course schedule.
E. Read the syllabus and schedule carefully. If you have any questions, phone or email me.

- II. Purchase the course materials required for this course:

- A. Wayne, Stephen J. 2004. *The Road to the White House 2004: The Politics of Presidential Elections*. 1st Edition. New York: Thompson/Wadsworth Publishing.
B. Abramson, Paul R., John H. Aldrich, and David W. Rohde. 2003. *Change and Continuity in the 2000 and 2002 Elections*. 1st Edition. Washington, DC: CQ Press.
C. eInstruction, *Student Response Keypad*.

- III. Go to the e-Instruction website and activate your *Student Response Keypad* at: <http://einstruction.com/>

- A. Click the **STUDENTS** link at the top of the web page,
B. Choose **UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA – WILMINGTON** from the pull-down list of universities,
C. Click the **CHOOSE COURSE** button
D. Enter the following two items:
1. Class Key: **X4434S236**
2. Serial Number: *[use the number printed on the back side of your response keypad]*
E. Click the **IDO NOT HAVE A CODE** button,
F. Click the **JOIN THE CLASS** button,

- G. Use your credit/debit card to pay the \$15 enrollment fee.
 - H. Bring your activated **Student Response Keypad** to every class – starting with the first class meeting.
 - 1. You will use the keypad in every class meeting to anonymously respond to true/false or multiple-choice questions that arise during class discussion.
 - 2. The aggregated class responses are projected on an overhead screen as full-color bar- or pie-charts, so that the class and I can see and comment upon the distribution of class responses.
 - 3. I find that the anonymity and confidentiality of this feedback method encourages all students to enthusiastically participate in this interactive form of active learning. Students who rarely or never raise their hand in response to questions are comfortable in responding with their keypads and are more likely to join the resulting discussion of how and why the class divided in their collective responses.
 - 4. The keypad responses also give me immediate feedback regarding the extent to which students understand concepts being discussed. This allows me to make informed decisions about the pace and organization of class discussions.
- IV. Memorize the following definitions:
- A. **Society**: a collection of individuals that interact with each other
 - B. **Politics**: **the process of conflict resolution**
 - C. **Law**: the rules and principles used to resolve conflict
 - D. **Government**: law makers, enforcers, and adjudicators
 - 1. The basic *ends* of government:
 - a. Balancing individual liberty with collective security or order
 - b. Balancing individual liberty with collective equality
 - 2. The alternate *means* that can be used to achieve those ends:
 - a. Constitutional limits on governmental power
 - b. Unlimited (authoritarian or totalitarian) governmental power

**ASSIGNMENTS TO BE COMPLETED
PRIOR TO OUR 2ND CLASS, 24 AUGUST 2004**

- I. In order to prepare for the first quiz, go to the course web site at:
<http://people.uncw.edu/lowery/pls303/index.htm>
 - A. Click the link to **TEXTBOOK CHAPTER OUTLINES AND HANDOUTS**
 - B. Click the link to Wayne's Chapter 1 **PRESIDENTIAL SELECTION**
 - C. Print a copy of this outline.
- II. Read Chapter 1 in the Wayne textbook
 - A. Take notes on your chapter outline as you read the chapter,
 - B. Highlight material in the chapter that you judge is likely to be on the quiz,
 - C. Bring the Wayne textbook and Chapter 1 outline to class.