Dear Students:

Welcome to Political Science 150, a completely online class. There will be no on ground meetings and all lectures, notes, discussions, class work, and exams will be online. That means, students in this class are required to show strong interest in learning and enjoy reading and writing as much as they enjoy listening and talking. So, you need a reliable computer, a word processing program, and an internet connection.

Before you access this class you might want to complete an online tutorial and get acquainted with Canvas. Get this tutorial at:

http://www.canyons.edu/Offices/DistanceLearning/Pages/CanvasAccess.aspx

After completing this tutorial log on to the Canvas class website and ensure your enrollment. You will be able to access the website of this class on Canvas on the first day of the semester, or a day earlier. Students who add this class after it has been activated should expect to be entered into the system in about a day or two.

In order to access Canvas you must have a username and a password. Your User Name is your student ID number and your password is ‘student.’ You can access our course directly at http://canvas.canyons.edu. Please log on to the course on the first day of the class to get started. Also, update your email so that I can contact you.

In this class we will examine the structure and the functions of American government. The course is designed around weekly readings and analyzing what you have read by answering questions and submitting them on the Discussion Board. During the semester you will be answering discussion questions on selected chapters and you will get ideas from one another. You will have to engage yourself in an active learning by raising questions and answering others in order to expand your understanding of the subject matter. Read the postings carefully and respond to them with your thoughts and opinion. Be courteous and respectful in your conversation with your classmates.

Required Text
- Articles and handouts.

The textbook is available for purchase in the College bookstore. Articles will be assigned
and handouts will be posted as our discussions move on.

The syllabus for this class is found under “Syllabus” icon. Review the syllabus for the requirements. The assignments are listed in the syllabus and will be posted under “Assignments.” You will receive regular instructions on your assignments for this course. Lecture notes will be under “Modules.” All these links are found on the menu of the Canvas web site.

The course requires you to write two short essays on topics listed in the syllabus. The essays must be an analysis of the subject you choose with a clear format explained in the syllabus. Take two short and timed quizzes, and a final test. The due dates are also mentioned in the syllabus. Throughout the course we will have discussions on topics that I will post on “Discussion Board.” Please respond to each discussion question before the deadline and post two replies to your classmates.

Good Luck
Razmig Shirinian