



## MASTER COURSE OUTLINE

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## COURSE TITLE

American Government

## GENERAL COURSE INFORMATION

Dept.: POLS&

Course Num: 202

(Formerly: POL 103)

CIP Code: 45.1001

Intent Code: 11

Program Code:

Credits: 5

Total Contact Hrs Per Qtr.: 55

Lecture Hrs: 55

Lab Hrs: 0

Other Hrs: 0

Distribution Designation: Social Science SS

## COURSE DESCRIPTION (as it will appear in the catalog)

This course focuses upon the institutions which form the governmental structures of the United States. Students participate in activities and discussions intended to broaden their understanding of what it means to serve in government and the importance of the role government plays in the functioning of the country.

## PREREQUISITES

None

## TEXTBOOK GUIDELINES

A text (or series of texts) deemed appropriate by instructor in consultation with the department.

## COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

*Upon successful completion of the course, students should be able to demonstrate the following knowledge or skills:*

1. Illustrate the role of law upon society and the need for government.
2. Examine state and federal Constitutions as a blueprint for governing.
3. Explain the evolution of federalism and its impact upon the American states and people.
4. Identify the key features of tribal, local, state and federal government.
5. Discuss the role of the different branches of the federal government.
6. Evaluate the historical growth of power within the executive branch.
7. Debate the role of the Supreme Court in relation to civil rights and liberties.
8. Discuss current issues addressed at each level of government including electoral, societal, and fiscal issues.
9. Characterize the social contract inherent in civil society.

## INSTITUTIONAL OUTCOMES

None

## COURSE CONTENT OUTLINE

1. The Role of Law and Government

2. U.S. Constitution as a blueprint for governing
3. American Federalism
4. Other Governing Structures in the United States
5. The Federal Branches of Government
6. Political Power and the Growth of Government
7. Civil Rights and Liberties and Governing
8. Current Issues Facing Government (Elections, Law, Budget, &c.)
9. The Social Contract

**DEPARTMENTAL GUIDELINES** *(optional)*

Role-play opportunities shall be afforded to students through the quarter. Politics is best learned through participation—not lecture.

PO5 should be assessed: Students will be able to solve problems by gathering, interpreting, combining and/or applying information from multiple sources.

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**DIVISION CHAIR APPROVAL**

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**DATE**