

Effective Implementation date: Summer 2018, 201910

Required Syllabus Information – all must be included in the course syllabus

POS 111

Course Title: American Government: SS1

Course Credits: 3

Course Description: Includes the background of the U.S. Constitution, the philosophy of American government, general principles of the Constitution, federalism, and civil liberties. Examines public opinion and citizen participation, political parties, interest groups, electoral process, and the structure and functions of the national government.

GT Pathways Requirements:

Guaranteed Transfer (GT) Pathways Course Statement:

The Colorado Commission on Higher Education has approved POS 111 for inclusion in the Guaranteed Transfer (GT) Pathways program in the GT- SS1 category. For transferring students, successful completion with a minimum C– grade guarantees transfer and application of credit in this GT Pathways category. For more information on the GT Pathways program, go to <http://higher.ed.colorado.gov/academics/transfers/gtpathways/curriculum.html>.

SOCIAL & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES CONTENT CRITERIA - GT-SS1

- a. Demonstrate knowledge of economic **or** political systems.
- b. Use the social science to analyze and interpret issues.
- c. Explain diverse perspectives and groups.

COMPETENCIES AND STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES FOR GT-SS1

Critical Thinking:

1. **Explain an Issue (required for GT-SS1)**
 - a. Use information to describe a problem or issue and/or articulate a question related to the topic.
2. **Utilize Context (required for GT-SS1)**
 - a. Evaluate the relevance of context when presenting a position.
 - b. Identify assumptions.
 - c. Analyze one’s own and others’ assumptions.
5. **Understand Implications and Make Conclusions (required for GT-SS1)**
 - a. Establish a conclusion that is tied to the range of information presented.
 - b. Reflect on implications and consequences of stated conclusion.

Civic Engagement:

1. Civic Knowledge (required for GT-SS1)

- a. Connect disciplinary knowledge to civic engagement through one's own participation in civic life, politics, and/or government.

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS:

REQUIRED COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. Demonstrate knowledge of historical developments of early republic, democratic theory, federalism, and institutionalism.
2. Examine key elements of the United States Constitution and changes related to judicial interpretations as well as socio-economic developments.
3. Evaluate political parties, the electoral process, and interest groups.
4. Analyze public opinion and the Media.
5. Demonstrate an understanding of civil liberties and civil rights.
6. Examine the three branches of government.
7. Interpret public policy themes and issues.

REQUIRED TOPICAL OUTLINE

The required topical outline information **MUST** be included in the syllabi. It may be incorporated using one of the following variations: copying the topical outline as written below, integrating the topics within the assignment schedule, or listing the topics to be covered.

- I. History
 - a. Development of early republic
 - b. Ideas, ideologies, and events
- II. Constitution and federalism
 - a. History
 - b. Development
 - c. Purpose
- III. Civil liberties and civil rights
 - a. Theories and historical events
 - b. Constitutional amendments
 - c. Court decisions and laws
- IV. Public opinion, elections, the media
 - a. Theory and practice
- V. Political parties and interest groups
 - a. Development and impact
- VI. Branches of government
 - a. Powers
 - b. Theoretical approaches
 - c. Separation of powers and checks and balances
- VII. Policy
 - a. Issues and outcomes

Syllabi requirements, including legal compliance information must be included. Individual College syllabi guidelines may include additional information. Please contact your VPI/CAO for specific College requirements.