



Wayne County Community College District

COURSE SYLLABUS

PS 101 American Government

CREDIT HOURS: 3.00

CONTACT HOURS: 45.00

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is an examination of America's democracy, its principles, processes and political institutions. Emphasis is placed on the functioning of the national government and the making of public policy.

PREREQUISITES: *NONE*

EXPECTED COMPETENCIES:

Upon successful completion of the course the student will:

1. Analyze the major theories of government
2. Analyze the major theories of democracy
3. Examine the historical roots of the U. S. Constitution
4. Explain the basic structure and operation of the U.S. government
5. Analyze the role of interest groups in the American political system
6. Analyze the role of public opinion in the U.S. government
7. Explain the process of political socialization in the U.S
8. Examine the role of political parties in the American political system
9. Evaluate the role of the president in the American political system
10. Evaluate the role of the congress in the American political system
11. Evaluate the role of the judiciary in the American political system
12. Analyze the development and current applications of Civil Rights and Civil Liberties in the U.S.

ASSESSMENT METHODS:

Student performance may be assessed by examination, quizzes, case studies, oral conversation, group discussion, oral presentations. The instructor reserves the option to employ one or more of these assessment methods during the course.

GRADING SCALE:

90%-100% = A
80%-89.9%= B
70%-79.9%= C
60%-69.9%= D
<60% = E