



5055 Santa Teresa Blvd
Gilroy, CA 95023

Course Outline

COURSE: POLS C1000

DIVISION: 10

ALSO LISTED AS: POLS 1

TERM EFFECTIVE: Fall 2025

CURRICULUM APPROVAL DATE: 11/12/2024

SHORT TITLE: AMERICAN GOVERNMENT & POLITICS

LONG TITLE: American Government & Politics

<u>Units</u>	<u>Number of Weeks</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Contact Hours/Week</u>	<u>Total Contact Hours</u>
3	18	Lecture:	3	54
		Lab:	0	0
		Other:	0	0
		Total:	3	54

Out of Class Hrs: 108.00

Total Learning Hrs: 162.00

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is an introduction to government and politics in the United States and California. Students examine the constitutions, structure, and operation of governing institutions, civil liberties and civil rights, political behaviors, political issues, and public policy using political science theory and methodology. (Also known as POLS 1 or C-ID POLS 110).

CREDIT STATUS: D - Credit - Degree Applicable

GRADING MODES

L - Standard Letter Grade

REPEATABILITY: N - Course may not be repeated

SCHEDULE TYPES:

02 - Lecture and/or discussion

05 - Hybrid

71 - Dist. Ed Internet Simultaneous

72 - Dist. Ed Internet Delayed

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES/OBJECTIVES:

1. Explain the founding and development of the U.S. and California Constitution.
2. Critique governing institutions and political processes within the United States and California.
3. Employ introductory political science research methods to contextualize contemporary political issues and operations in the United States and California
4. Assess civil liberties and civil rights of individuals and groups as articulated in the U.S. and California Constitutions and subsequent court decisions.
5. Investigate the role of identity and political ideology in shaping public opinion and public policy in the United States and California.
6. Analyze how to effectively participate in politics at the national, state, county, and/or city levels.

COURSE CONTENT:

1. The purpose of government and nature of democratic governance
 - a. Political philosophies that underlie democratic government
 - b. Comparison of representative and direct democracy
 - c. The value of, influences on, and consequences of participation and nonparticipation in democratic government
2. The U.S. and California Constitutions as frameworks for government
 - a. Political philosophies of the framers and critics of the U.S. Constitution
 - b. Processes for amending and interpreting the U.S. and California Constitutions
3. The theory and practice of federalism in the United States, focusing on California
 - a. The framework and operation of federal, state, and local relations
 - b. Interaction between the federal government and Native American tribes and entities
4. The structure and contemporary operations of federal, state, and local governing institutions in the United States and California including the
 - a. Executive branch
 - b. Legislative branch
 - c. Judicial branch
5. Civil liberties and civil rights of individuals and groups
 - a. Civil liberties and rights as articulated in the U.S. and California Constitutions and federal and state court decisions
 - b. Contemporary and historical interactions between government and marginalized populations within the United States based on factors such as race, ethnicity, sex, gender and gender expression, sexual orientation, class, ability status, age, citizenship status, language, religion, and/or other forms of identity
6. Individual and group behaviors within the context of the U.S. and California constitutions, including
 - a. Elections, campaigns, and voting
 - b. Political parties
 - c. Interest groups
 - d. Social movements
7. Factors that shape politics and policy making including
 - a. Political culture
 - b. Political socialization
 - c. Political ideologies
 - d. Public opinion
 - e. Media
8. Political issues and public policies
 - a. Domestic
 - b. Economic
 - c. Foreign
9. Introductory research methods used in political science including
 - a. qualitative tools and techniques
 - b. quantitative tools and techniques

PART 2:

Curriculum Approval Date: 11/12/2024

METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

1. Lecture-Discussion. 2. Video presentations, when appropriate. 3. Guest speakers.

OUT OF CLASS ASSIGNMENTS:

Required Outside Hours 108

Assignment Description

Assigned readings, debate, research paper, critical thinking assignments

METHODS OF EVALUATIONS:

Other methods of evaluation

Evaluation Percent

100

Evaluation Description

Examples of potential methods of evaluation used to observe or measure students?

achievement of course outcomes and objectives could include but are not limited to quizzes, exams, essays, field journals, projects, critical analysis papers, service learning, simulations, research demonstrations, etc.

Methods of evaluation and appropriate representative assignments will be determined at the discretion of local faculty

REPRESENTATIVE TEXTBOOKS:

We the People, Thomas Patterson, McGraw Hill, 2024 or a comparable textbook/material.

ISBN: ISBN13: 9781265026684

Rationale: Its published for first year college students. It is on the approved list for CCN.

13 Grade Verified by: Marc Turetzky

ARTICULATION and CERTIFICATE INFORMATION

Associate Degree:

GAV D1

GAV D2

GAV F

GAV Area 3 = Arts & Humanities

GAV Area 4 = Social & Behavior

CSU TRANSFER:

Transferable to CSU

UC TRANSFER:

Transferable to UC

SUPPLEMENTAL DATA:

Basic Skills: N

Classification: Y

Noncredit Category: Y

Cooperative Education: N

Program Status: 1 Program Applicable

Special Class Status: N

C-ID: (POLS 110)

Prior to College Level: Y

Non Credit Enhanced Funding: N

Funding Agency Code: Y

In-Service: N

Occupational Course: E

Course Control Number: CCC000139095

Sports/Physical Education Course: N

Taxonomy of Program: 220700