

Northwest Arkansas Community College
(Social & Behavioral Sciences Division)

Discipline Code

PLSC

Course Number

2003

Course Title

American National Government

Catalog Description

The organization, functions, institutions, and problems of the federal government will be studied including the United States Constitution, Congress, the Presidency and federal bureaucracy, and the judicial system. Additional study will be given to political parties, public opinion, interest groups, voting and elections, Supreme Court decisions, and other political aspects and activities of government.

Prerequisites

N/A

Credit Hours

3 credit hours

Contact hours

45 contact hours

Load hours

3 load hours

Semesters Offered

Fall, Spring, & Summer

ACTS Equivalent

PLSC 2003

Grade Mode

A-F

Learning Outcomes

Students will:

- Analyze the formation, concepts, and components of the United States Constitution.
- Explain the role of states and the national government in American federalism.
- Explore America's political culture and examine the traits and beliefs of the American voter.
- Identify America's major political parties and their ideology.
- Analyze the role of interest groups in American politics.
- Understand the electoral process in the United States.
- Analyze the organization and purpose of the legislative, executive, and judicial branches of government.
- Understand the role and structure of the federal bureaucracy.
- Examine the concepts of civil rights and civil liberties and their impact on American society.

General Education Outcomes Supported

- Students gain greater awareness of cultural perspectives

Standard Practices Topics list

- The Founding of the American state
- The US Constitution
- American Federalism
- Civil Liberties
- Civil Rights
- Public Opinion
- Interest Groups
- Elections
- Media
- Political Parties
- Congress
- Presidency
- Courts
- Federal Bureaucracy
- Domestic Policy
- Foreign Policy

Learning activities

- N/A

Assessments

- Reflexive Essay that measures greater awareness of cultural

Grading guidelines

- N/A