

ARIZONA WESTERN COLLEGE  
SYLLABUS

POS 100 INTRODUCTION TO POLITICS/GE

Credit Hours: 3 Lec 3

General Education Course: G (Global Awareness)

PREREQUISITE: None

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is a survey of what government and politics are all about and how they are studied. It discusses political thinkers from the ancient Greeks to Karl Marx, and how they affected today's political ideologies such as liberalism, capitalism, socialism, communism and fascism. The course covers international relations, organization and law, and compares the way modern governments in the U.S., Europe, Asia, and Africa operate.

1. COURSE GOALS

- 1.1 Learn about politics at the individual, local, national, and international levels.
- 1.2 Be exposed to the political philosophies and ideologies on which modern politics rests.

2. OUTCOMES

Upon satisfactory completion of this course, students will be able to:

- 2.1 gain a comprehensive view of the academic field of political science and of its importance to the individual.
- 2.2 understand some of the more important political philosophies and ideologies, both historic and modern.
- 2.3 see how philosophies and ideologies translate into reality in several of the modern day nation-states.
- 2.4 consider the relationships, both political and economic, between the various nation-states.
- 2.5 understand the means and direction of change within and between the various nation-states of the world.

3. AWC GENERAL EDUCATION (GE) OUTCOMES

3.1 DIGITAL LITERACY

- Evaluate information and its sources critically
- Incorporate selected information into one's knowledge base
- Use information effectively to accomplish a specific purpose
- Create content in a digital environment

3.2 COMMUNICATION

- Write effectively and intelligently for a range of purposes and audiences in the English language (e.g., informing, persuading, advancing an argument, expressing, creating, etc.)
- Read a wide range of texts across the curriculum, demonstrating comprehension through written and oral summary and analysis
- Demonstrate effective listening skills
- Demonstrate skill in using electronic media generally appropriate to contemporary academic and professional workplaces

3.3 QUANTITATIVE ANALYSIS

- Identify and extract relevant data from given mathematical or contextual situations

3.4 SCIENTIFIC LITERACY

- Describe the scientific method as a process

3.5 CIVIC DISCOURSE

- Describe historical, cultural, and political issues relevant in contemporary local, national, and global communities
- Analyze how such issues affect various local, national, and global regions, communities, and individuals
- Identify and explicate successful models of civic discourse at the local, national, and global levels

#### 4. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION

Instructional objectives will be met through the use of lectures, reading, discussion, and audio-visuals.

#### 5. LEARNING ACTIVITIES

- 5.1 Read the assigned material prior to the class session for which it is intended
- 5.2 Participate in open discussion on the assigned readings and lecture material
- 5.3 Perform adequately on four periodic quizzes. There will be no make-ups for missed quizzes
- 5.4 Perform adequately on a final examination. There will be no make-ups for a missed final, and the final exam will not be given early
- 5.5 Complete a critical book review of 6-8 typed pages (1,800 words minimum). A set of instructions for preparing the book review will be provided by the instructor. The book review is worth up to 100 points

#### 6. EVALUATION

- 6.1 Grade will be earned by an assortment of learning activities, exams, assignments, and participation
- 6.2 Please see the class schedule and assignment sheet for more information

#### 7. STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

- 7.1 Under AWC Policy, students are expected to attend every session of class in which they are enrolled.
- 7.2 If a student is unable to attend the course or must drop the course for any reason, it will be the responsibility of the student to withdraw from the course. Students who are not attending as of the 45th day of the course may be withdrawn by the instructor. If the student does not withdraw from the course and fails to complete the requirements of the course, the student will receive a failing grade.
- 7.3 Americans with Disabilities Act Accommodations: Arizona Western College provides academic accommodations to students with disabilities through AccessABILITY Resource Services (ARS). ARS provides reasonable and appropriate accommodations to students who have documented disabilities. It is the responsibility of the student to make the ARS Coordinator aware of the need for accommodations in the classroom prior to the beginning of the semester. Students should follow up with their instructors once the semester begins. To make an appointment call the ARS front desk at (928) 344-7674 or ARS Coordinator at (928) 344-7629, in the College Community Center (3C) building, next to Advising.
- 7.4 Academic Integrity: Any student participating in acts of academic dishonesty—including, but not limited to, copying the work of other students, using unauthorized “crib notes”, plagiarism, stealing tests, or forging an instructor’s signature—will be subject to the procedures and consequences outlined in AWC’s Student Code of Conduct.
- 7.5 Texts and Notebooks: Students are required to obtain the class materials for the course.
- 7.6 Arizona Western College students are expected to attend every class session in which they are enrolled. To comply with Federal Financial Aid regulations (34 CFR 668.21), Arizona Western College (AWC) has established an Attendance Verification process for “No Show” reporting during the first 10 days of each semester.  
Students who have enrolled but have never attended class may be issued a “No Show” (NS) grade by the professor or instructor and receive a final grade of “NS” on their official academic record. An NS grade may result in a student losing their federal financial aid.  
For online classes, *student attendance in an online class is defined as the following* (FSA Handbook, 2012, 5-90):
  - Submitting an academic assignment
  - Taking an exam, an interactive tutorial or computer-assisted instruction
  - Attending a study group that is assigned by the school

- Participating in an online discussion about academic matters
- Initiating contact with a faculty member to ask a question about the academic subject studied in the course