

ARIZONA WESTERN COLLEGE
SYLLABUS

POS 110 AMERICAN POLITICS/GE

Credit Hours: 3 Lec 3

 POS 110

General Education Course: WI (Writing Intensive)
H (Historical Awareness)

PREREQUISITE: ENG 101 or 107

THIS COURSE IS DESIGNATED AS WRITING INTENSIVE: Arizona Western College believes writing provides students a unique opportunity to learn disciplinary content while mastering writing skills. Writing-Intensive (WI) courses at Arizona Western College integrate writing assignments in ways that help students learn both the subject matter of the courses and discipline-specific ways of thinking and writing. Writing Intensive courses help develop students' identities as good writers by linking their writing proficiency with their desire to know more about the field of study, to engage in questions in the discipline, and to become a participant in academic discourse.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is intended to be a study of the American democratic system, from the founding fathers to the present, looking at how our government works and how it got that way. The presidency from Washington to present day, Congress from the writing of the Constitution to the present, and the judicial branch will be studied. Special emphasis will be placed on the elections process, how people vote and why they don't. This course fulfills the federal constitution requirement for teacher certification in Arizona.

1. COURSE GOALS

- 1.1 **Trace** the historic development of political institutions in the United States.
- 1.2 Examine the existing structure of government in the United States today and the socio-political environment in which it functions.

2. OUTCOMES

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

- 2.1 examine the history of American government from a number of divergent perspectives (conservative, liberal, pluralist, elitist).
- 2.2 assess the various perspectives involved in the development of the American government.
- 2.3 discuss the way in which American political institutions operate today.
- 2.4 examine the societal environment in which these institutions operate.
- 2.5 identify a number of critical domestic issues in American society and the ways in which government deals with these issues.
- 2.6 generate appropriate writing discourse according to the AWC Writing Intensive Courses: General Education guidelines.

3. AWC GENERAL EDUCATION (GE) OUTCOMES

- 3.1 **DIGITAL LITERACY**
 - Determine the extent of information needed
 - Access the needed information effectively and efficiently
 - Evaluate information and its sources critically
 - Evaluate information and its sources critically

- Use information effectively to accomplish a specific purpose
- Understand the economic, legal, and social issues surrounding the use of information, and access and use information ethically and legally
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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.)
- Utilize proper citations, evaluate critically, and use effectively relevant information for problem-solving and presentation of ideas, issues, and arguments
- Speak effectively to a purpose before an audience
- Demonstrate effective listening skills
- Demonstrate skill in using electronic media generally appropriate to contemporary academic and professional workplaces
- Provide writing that presents a clear, specific thesis and awareness of audience

3.3 QUANTITATIVE ANALYSIS

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

3.4 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

- 4.1 Lectures
- 4.2 Readings
- 4.3 Discussions
- 4.4 Instructional technology

5. LEARNING ACTIVITIES

- 5.1 Reading assignments
- 5.2 Group discussions
- 5.3 Classroom presentations
- 5.4 Writing and revising components of a final research paper, consisting of at least 3000 words, related to either domestic or foreign policy issues.

6. EVALUATION

- 6.1 Quizzes and exams
- 6.2 Essay assignments
- 6.3 Oral presentations
- 6.4 Participation
- 6.5 At least 33% of the student's grade in the course will be based on written discourse consisting of a minimum of 3000 words or about 12 pages of revised writing

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