

ARIZONA WESTERN COLLEGE  
SYLLABUS

POS 130 STATE AND LOCAL POLITICS/GE

Credit Hours: 3 Lec 3General 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

General survey of city, county, and state governments; structures, services, and problems. This class meets state constitution requirements for teacher certification in Arizona.

1. COURSE GOALS

- 1.1 Review the history and present day realities of state, county, and municipal government in the United States
- 1.2 Explore constitutional and statutory law at the state level, particularly in Arizona
- 1.3 Explain how government actually functions in relation to the individual at the state and local levels

2. OUTCOMES

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

- 2.1 review the history of Arizona from prehistoric times to the present.
- 2.2 examine the structure of state and local government with particular attention to the executive, legislative, and judicial branches, as well as the autonomous agencies and commissions.
- 2.3 discuss the legislative, legal, and budgetary processes of state and local government.
- 2.4 discuss the functions of state and local government.
- 2.5 examine the political and social environment in which state and local governments operate, with attention to the role of political parties and interest groups.
- 2.6 generate appropriate writing discourse according to the AWC Writing Intensive Courses: General Education guidelines.

3. AWC GENERAL EDUCATION (GE) OUTCOMES3.1 DIGITAL LITERACY

- Determine the extent of information needed
- Access the needed information effectively and efficiently
- 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
- Utilize proper citations, evaluate critically, and use effectively relevant information for problem-solving and presentation of ideas, issues, and arguments
- 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 discussion
- 5.3 Classroom presentations
- 5.4 Writing and revising components of a final research paper, consisting of 3000 words.

## 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