

# General Education Course Objectives and Learning Outcomes

Course Name: American Government

Course Number: POLS 2003

Department: History and Political Science

Submitted by: David Blanks

**COMMON COURSE OBJECTIVES AND STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES THAT ARE OR WILL BE LISTED ON THE SYLLABUS OF EVERY SECTION OF THIS COURSE:**

<i>Course objectives:</i>	In this introductory political science course, students learn the basic concepts and techniques of political analysis by studying the variety of forces (historical, cultural, social, political, economical, and institutional) that shape the U.S. political system. The course begins with the founding era and its fundamental affect on the operation of the U.S. political system. After the analysis of the founding, the course focuses largely on more contemporary material as students learn how the American political system operates today.
---------------------------	---

<i>Student learning outcomes:</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Students develop their abilities to “communicate effectively” in public arenas when discussing political issues</li> <li>2) Students develop their abilities to “think critically.”</li> <li>3) Students are encouraged and challenged to “develop ethical perspectives” on key political issues within society.</li> <li>4) Students develop their abilities to “apply scientific and quantitative reasoning” to better understand the political system in which they live.</li> </ol> <p>B) This course provides students with a</p>
-----------------------------------	--

**ADHE ACTS INFORMATION FOR THIS COURSE (IF APPROPRIATE)**

<i>ACTS Course number:</i>	81 PLSC 2003
----------------------------	--------------

<i>Copy the ACTS course objectives and learning outcomes:</i>	<p>The introduction to the principles, structure, processes and functions of the United States federal government and other related political activities.</p> <p><b>Expected Student Learning Outcomes:</b>          The student will be able to explain, discuss, recognize, and/or apply knowledge of the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Three branches of the American government (Executive, Judicial, Legislative)</li> <li>• Constitution</li> <li>• Political Parties and interest groups</li> <li>• Campaigns and elections</li> <li>• Civil liberties and civil rights</li> <li>• Federalism</li> <li>• Public opinion</li> </ul>
---	--

**WHICH ATU GENERAL EDUCATION GOALS DOES THIS COURSE FULFILL? (NO MORE THAN TWO)**

- Communicate effectively
  - Written communication
  - Oral communication
- Think critically
- Develop ethical perspectives
  - Diversity
  - Empathy
  - Leadership
- Apply scientific and quantitative reasoning
  - Scientific reasoning
  - Quantitative reasoning
- Apply the value of the arts and humanities
- Practice civic engagement

**DESCRIPTION OF HOW THIS COURSE MEETS THE GENERAL EDUCATION GOALS CHOSEN ABOVE (TO BE INCLUDED ON THE SYLLABUS OF EVERY SECTION OF THIS COURSE)**

Critical engagement is taught and tested through a series of lectures, readings, papers, discussion, and exams.