

Bossier Parish Community College
Master Syllabus

Course Prefix and Number: POSC 201

Credit hours: 3

Course Title: National Government of the United States

Course Prerequisites: None

Textbook(s): Karen O'Connor, Larry J. Sabato. *American Government: Roots and Reform*. Pearson. (For the exact textbook requirement, please refer to your instructor's course information syllabus.)

Course Description: Principles, structure, and function of the national government of the United States.

Learning Outcomes:

At the end of the course, the student will:

- A. demonstrate knowledge of the major principles of national government in the United States by reviewing the essentials of politics, policy making, democracy and capitalism, the American Constitution, the federal system, public opinion, political participation, interest groups, political parties, elections, Congress, the Presidency, the Federal Bureaucracy and Federal Courts;
- B. analyze current political issues related to economic, regulatory, civil rights policymaking;
- C. examine and explain basic concepts of US Foreign and Defense Policymaking in a post September 11, 2001 world;
- D. comprehend ideas and supporting details of college level reading materials.

To achieve the learning outcomes, the student will:

1. describe Congress, the Presidency, the Bureaucracy, and the Courts; (A) (B) (C)
2. read and discuss the U.S. Constitution's structure and its primary provisions; (A) (D)
3. describe the development of American federalism and explain its current application; (A) (B) (C)
4. describe American political parties, their development and their significance; (A)
5. identify significant Supreme Court decisions interpreting the Bill of Rights; (B) (C)
6. read and explain the impact of interest groups on American political decision making; (B) (C) (D)

7. evaluate the impact of the events of September 11, 2001 and the War on Terror on American government policy; (C)
8. determine and understand meanings of new vocabulary words through context cues; (D)
9. use main idea and supporting details to guide reading approach to new reading situations. (D)

Course Requirements: The following are intended to help the learner meet the stated learning outcomes of the course: students will attend class; students will be evaluated on results of semester exams; students will be required to participate in class discussions and activities.

In addition to requirements stated herein, each instructor will communicate additional requirements unique to his/her section via the instructor's section syllabus.

Course Grading Scale:

- A 90-100%
- B 80-89%
- C 70-79%
- D 60-69%
- F 59% or below

Attendance Policy: The college attendance policy is available at <http://www.bpcc.edu/catalog/current/academicpolicies.html>

Course Fees: None

Nondiscrimination Statement: Bossier Parish Community College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, age, religion, qualified disability, marital status, veteran's status, or sexual orientation in admission to its programs, services, or activities, in access to them, in treatment of individuals, or in any aspect of its operations. Bossier Parish Community College does not discriminate in its hiring or employment practices.

Section 504 and ADA Coordinator
Angie Cao, Student and Disability Services Specialist
Disability Services, F-254
6220 East Texas Street
Bossier City, LA 71111
Phone: 318-678-6511
Email: acao@bpcc.edu
Hours: 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday - Friday, excluding holidays and weekends.

Title IX and Equity/Compliance Coordinator
Teri Bashara, Director of Human Resources
Human Resources Office, A-105
6220 East Texas Street
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Phone: 318-678-6056

Hours: 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday - Friday, excluding holidays and weekends.

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