

1. Course number and name: POS 2041, U.S. Government

2. Credit hour and contact hours: 3 credits, 3 contact hours

3. Instructor: Jennifer Lee

4. Required Texts:

- a) OpenStax. *American Government 3e. OER, First Edition*. XanEdu Publishing, Inc, 2021
 - a. <https://openstax.org/details/books/american-government-3e>
- b) Additional articles accessed through university databases.

5. Specific Course information:

- a) An introduction to United States government and politics, including their constitutions, political institutions and processes, and political actors. Examination of political behavior, political issues, and public policy.
- b) No prerequisites.
- c) This course fulfills a social science requirement.

6. Student Outcomes

- a) Outcomes
 - a. Explain the founding and development of the U.S. Constitution.
 - b. Identify and evaluate institutions and political processes within the United States.
 - c. Discuss and analyze contemporary political issues and operations in the United States.
 - d. Explain the civil liberties and civil rights of individuals as articulated in the U.S. Constitution and federal court decisions.
 - e. Analyze the role of culture, diversity and ideology in shaping public opinion and public policy in the United States.
 - f. Analyze how to effectively participate in politics at the national, state, county and/or city levels.
- b) Supports the following program learning outcomes/competencies:
 - a. General Education competencies: critical thinking; social science methods
 - b. ABET-CAC (f); EAC (g); “communication.”
 - c. Florida State Civics Requirements:
 - i. Understanding of the basic principles and practices of American democracy and how they are applied in our republican form of government.
 - ii. An understanding of the United States Constitution and its application.
 - iii. Knowledge of the founding documents and how they have shaped the nature and functions of our institutions of self-government.
 - iv. An understanding of landmark Supreme Court cases, landmark legislation and landmark executive actions and their impact on law and society.

7. Topics covered:

- a) American Government and Civic Engagement
- b) The Constitution and Its Origins
- c) American Federalism
- d) Civil Liberties
- e) Civil Rights

- f) The Politics of Public Opinion
- g) Voting and Elections
- h) Interest Groups and Lobbying
- i) Congress
- j) The Presidency
- k) The Courts
- l) State and Local Government
- m) Domestic Policy
- n) Foreign Policy

8. Grading Scale

Grade	Percent- age	Grade Points
A	93	4.0
A-	90	3.67
B+	87	3.33
B	83	3.0
B-	80	2.67
C+	77	2.33
C	73	2.0
C-	70	1.67
D+	67	1.33
D	63	1.0
D-	60	0.67
F	59	0.0

9. Work

- a. Short papers
- b. Exams
- c. Discussion/participation