

PSC-201-11_Syllabus-2022SP

Your College, Your Future



Established 1969

PSC 201 AMERICAN GOVERNMENT

Course Number	PSC 201
Course Title	American Government
Credit Hours	3
Prerequisites	None
Course Description	This course is a study of national governmental institutions with emphasis on the Constitution, the functions of executive, legislative and judicial branches, civil liberties and the role of the electorate.
Course Objectives	<p>Be able to have a broad understanding of the development and history of American Democracy.</p> <p>Be able to identify specific institutions that are fundamental components of the American Government.</p> <p>Be able to understand the three branches of government, and how the interact with one another.</p> <p>Be able to articulate to a visitor from another country the different roles of our governmental institutions.</p> <p>Be inspired to become more involved in civic activities and the political process</p>
Course Developer	Louisa Kennedy
Means of Instruction	Traditional lecture with an online component
Required Textbook/Written Materials/Supplies	<i>See Booklist online for current book.</i>

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General Education Core Competencies

General Education Core Competencies	Course Methodology, Content and/or Assessment
<p>Communication: Students will be able to communicate effectively through reading, writing, speaking and listening.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prepare written documents in a professional manner.• Develop oral communication skills to present information in a professional and appropriate manner.• Demonstrate appropriate listening skills in one-on-one and small and large group settings.	<p>AP U.S. Government and Politics provides a college-level, nonpartisan introduction to key political concepts, ideas, institutions, policies, interactions, roles, and behaviors that characterize the constitutional system and political culture of the United States. Students will study U.S. foundational documents, Supreme Court decisions, and other texts and visuals to gain an understanding of the relationships and interactions among political institutions, processes, and behaviors. They will also engage in disciplinary practices that require them to read and interpret data, make comparisons and applications, and develop evidence-based arguments. In addition, they will complete a political science research or applied civics project.</p>

General Education Core Competencies	Course Methodology, Content and/or Assessment
<p>Mathematical Reasoning: Students will apply those mathematical skills appropriate to their program of study.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Analyze and solve mathematical problems needed in the workplace, daily life and educational environment.• Interpret data using analytical methods.	
<p>Critical Thinking: Students will employ effective processes for resolving problems and making decisions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identify problems and potential causes.• Solve problems using basic research, analysis and interpretation.• Evaluate results of solutions and revise strategies as indicated by findings.	

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<p>Technology Utilization: Students will apply knowledge of computers on a level compatible with job and/or educational demands.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate a basic knowledge of computer applications including word processing, spreadsheets, databases, and presentation software. • Use basic operating system functions competently (e.g. store and retrieve data, load software). • Demonstrate communication and research skills through use of the internet. 	
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General Education Core Competencies	Course Methodology, Content and/or Assessment
<p>Interpersonal Skills: Students will deal effectively and appropriately with others.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interact well with individuals and groups from diverse backgrounds and cultures. • Work with others in situational analysis, problem solving, and task accomplishment. • Demonstrate respect for the rights, work, and views of others. 	
<p>Professionalism: Students will exhibit professionalism through observances of a code of ethics, a sense of responsibility, good habits, and a positive attitude.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate personal and business integrity and ethics. • Recognize, manage, and cope with the transitions of change. • Utilize informational resources for lifelong learning. 	<p>Be eager for a lifelong learning career.</p>

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College Policies

Policy Type	Policy Description
Attendance Policy	<p>Williamsburg Technical College does not require specific attendance in a course. Acknowledging that participation supports student success in coursework, however, individual instructors may set attendance guidelines for the course. Those specific guidelines must be included in the course syllabus. (<i>See Syllabus Addendum provided by the instructor.</i>)</p> <p>In addition, students must attend during the first two weeks of class or inform the instructor of their intent to attend to remain on the class roster. If no prior arrangements have been made and the student does not attend during the first two weeks following the semester start date, the student will be dropped as a “no show” from that course following the second week of class.</p> <p>Class rosters will be final as of the end of the second week of classes.</p> <p>Students may withdraw from a class at any time by completing a withdrawal form in the Student Services Office. A student can only receive a “WP” grade if withdrawal is completed in the Student Services Office prior to the last date to receive a “WP” grade published in the academic calendar. Students who fail to withdraw by the specified time will receive a letter grade for the course. For specific procedures related to this policy, refer to WTC Procedure D-23.1.</p>
Policy Type	Policy Description
Policy for Students with Disabilities	<p>The Student Affairs Division provides counseling and support services which help students with disabilities to pursue academic programs of their choice and participate fully in campus life.</p> <p>The AVP for Student Affairs can arrange counseling, special parking, priority registration, and other reasonable services needed by students with disabilities. Students with disabilities are encouraged to contact the AVP for Student Affairs to discuss needs and concerns as they arise.</p>
Policy for Academic Misconduct	<p>All forms of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating on tests, plagiarism, collusion, and falsification of information will call for discipline. See the Student Code & Grievance Procedure in the Williamsburg Technical College Catalog for details.</p>

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Grading Policy	<p>The College operates on the semester hour system, and the following symbols are used in grading:</p> <p>A-- Excellent B -- Above Average C -- Average D -- Passing F -- Failure I -- Incomplete WF -- Withdrawal while failing WP -- Withdrawal while passing</p>
Policy for Class Safety and Emergencies	<p>Injuries must be reported to the AVP for Student Affairs immediately. Insurance claim forms are available in the Student Affairs division. Please refer to the college catalogue for more information on how Williamsburg Technical College addresses safety and emergency issues. For additional information, contact Student Affairs at 843.355.4162.</p> <p>Students taking coursework at off-site locations are responsible for reading and adhering to all safety instructions and guidance at the off-site location.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Health Services and First Aid</p> <p>Williamsburg Technical College is a commuter institution; therefore, infirmary facilities are not provided. Basic first aid for minor injuries is available, and first aid kits are located in various departments of the College. Major illness or injury will be treated by health professionals. The campus is located adjacent to Williamsburg Regional Hospital.</p> <p>Each student is covered by accident insurance at no additional cost. This group insurance covers the student while on campus and during college-sponsored group travel.</p>

WILLIAMSBURG TECHNICAL COLLEGE



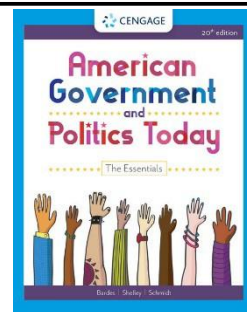
PSC 201-11: American Government
Online Course
Syllabus Addendum

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Semester: Spring 2022
Title: American Government
Credits: Three Credit Hours

Textbook: Bardes, B. A., Shelley, M. C., & Schmidt, S. W. (2021). American government and politics today (20th ed.). Belmont: Cengage. ISBN: 9780357458426

Access to Moodle



Instructor: Cynthia Coker
Office: TBA
Phone Number: 843-287-3737
E-Mail Address: cokerc@wiltech.edu
Office Hours: TBA

Course Description: (WTC college catalog) *This course is a study of national governmental institutions with emphasis on the Constitution, the functions of executive, legislative and judicial branches, civil liberties and the role of the electorate.*

Additional Resources: The REACH Act, passed by the South Carolina General Assembly in 2021, requires that students completing a baccalaureate degree from a South Carolina public college complete at least three semester credit hours that include discussion of and reading in their entirety the following documents: the Constitution, the Declaration of Independence, the Emancipation Proclamation, five Federalist Papers, and at least one document that is foundational to the African American Freedom struggle. PSC 201 meets the requirements of the REACH Act and are recommended course options for students who intend to transfer to a South Carolina public college.

Revised 01.2022

Therefore, beginning in Fall 2021, this course will incorporate the below documents that must be read in their entirety within the course:

1. The Constitution
2. The Declaration of Independence
3. The Emancipation Proclamation
4. Federalist Paper 10 - The Same Subject Continued: The Union as a Safeguard Against Domestic Faction and Insurrection
5. Federalist Paper 51 - The Structure of the Government Must Furnish the Proper Checks and Balances Between the Different Departments
6. Federalist Paper 69 - The Real Character of the Executive
7. Federalist Paper 78 - The Judiciary Department
8. Federalist Paper 79 - The Judiciary Continued
9. Frederick Douglass' Self Made Man

Due Dates for Weekly Modules and Late Policy All work submitted to your instructor is due no later than **Sundays** at 11:59pm of the designated week, unless otherwise posted. Late assignments will lose 20% of the grade if submitted within one week of the deadline. No work is accepted after that week, as it is essential that students keep up with the course material. See attendance policy for more details.

CLASSROOM/COURSE POLICIES

I.D. Badges (WTC Catalog page 24): Identification (ID) cards are made when a student is first enrolled, and the cards are validated every semester. Students must display ID cards at all times while on campus. A fee of \$5 will be charged to replace a lost or stolen ID card. Payment must be made to Business Affairs and receipt must be presented at the Library to get replacement ID card.

Disabilities (WTC Catalog page 20): Williamsburg Technical College is committed to the achievement of maximum human potential. In keeping with this, the College fully supports and complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The College endeavors to provide students, employees, and the community any opportunity for success with as few deterrents as possible. The College also strives to create a welcoming environment and will work in good faith to meet the needs of all populations. The following procedures are in place at the College to assist anyone with needs for accommodations and/or with general concerns covered by the ADA.

Academic Discipline and Honesty (WTC Catalog page 29): All forms of academic misconduct including, but not limited to, cheating on tests, plagiarism, collusion and falsification of information will call for discipline. Alleged violations will be handled according to the procedures presented in Section IV.
Section C. Academic Misconduct

1. Cheating on tests is defined to include the following:
 - a. Copying from another student's test or answer sheet.
 - b. Using materials or equipment during a test not authorized by the person giving the test.
 - c. Collaborating with any other person during a test without permission.
 - d. Knowingly obtaining, using, buying, selling, transporting, or soliciting in whole or in part the contents of a test prior to its administration.
 - e. Bribing or coercing any other person to obtain tests or information about tests.
 - f. Substituting for another student, or permitting any other person to substitute for oneself.
 - g. Cooperating or aiding in any of the above.
2. "Plagiarism" is defined as the appropriation of any other person's work and the unacknowledged incorporation of that work in one's own work.
3. "Collusion" means knowingly assisting another person in an act of academic dishonesty.
4. "Fabrication" is defined as falsifying or inventing information in such academic exercises as reports, laboratory results, and citations to the sources of information.

Section D. Falsification of information, and other unlawful acts, with intent to deceive is defined as:

1. Forgery, alteration, or misuse of college documents, records, or identification cards.
2. Destruction of evidence with the intent to deny its presentation to the appropriate hearing or appeals panel when properly notified to appear.

Section E. Infringement of rights of others is defined to include, but not limited to, the following:

1. Physical or verbal abuse inflicted on another person.
2. Severe emotional distress inflicted upon another person.
3. Theft, destruction, damage, or misuse of the private property of members of the college community or non-members of the college community occurring on campus or off campus during any college approved activity.
4. Sexual harassment inflicted on another person. This is defined as sexual discrimination where the harassing conduct created a hostile environment. Therefore, unwelcome sexual advances, request for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature constitutes sexual harassment when the conduct is sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive to limit an individual's ability to participate in or benefit from the education program, or to create a hostile or abusive educational environment.
5. Stalking, defined as engaging in a course of conduct that would place a reasonable person in fear for their safety, and that has, in fact, placed an individual in such fear.

Attendance Policy (WTC Catalog page 54): There are no excused absences; therefore, students are urged to avoid absences except in the case of an emergency. When illness or other emergencies cause a student to be absent, it is the student's responsibility to make up the work that has been missed.

Attendance Policy

For enrollment verification purposes, students must attend during the second week of class (defined as the week following drop/add period) or inform the instructor of their intent to attend the class to remain on the class roster. If no prior arrangements have been made and the student does not attend in the second week, the students will be dropped by the instructor as a “no show” from that course. Class rosters will be final as of the end of the second week of classes.

Veteran Attendance Policy (page 44)

Veterans enrolled in non-degree programs will be interrupted for unsatisfactory attendance when accumulated absences, tardies, and class cuts exceed 20 percent of class contact hours. The interruption will be reported to the Veterans Administration within 30 days of the last date of attendance in a traditional course section and/or the last date of course involvement in a hybrid or distance learning course. If a veteran student returns to class or commences contact in a course after an absence of more than two weeks, it is the student’s responsibility to notify the WTC VA office to request reinstatement of VA benefits for the class. A veteran may be reenrolled for benefits at the beginning of the term following interruption because of unsatisfactory attendance only when the cause of unsatisfactory attendance has been removed. Students interrupted a second time for unsatisfactory attendance will not be allowed to reenroll for benefits in the absence of mitigating circumstances.

Voluntary Withdrawal from Course (WTC Catalog page 54): Students may withdraw from a class at any time prior to the “last day to withdraw” date published in the academic calendar by submitting an Add/Drop/Withdrawal form to the Student Affairs Office. A student who fails to withdraw by the “last day to withdraw” date will receive a letter grade for the course. For specific procedures related to this policy, refer to WTC Procedure D-23-1. The deadline to withdraw is March 31, 2022.

COURSE INFORMATION AND POLICIES/PROCEDURES

Instructional Methods to Complete Objectives/Learning Outcomes: Classroom lectures will be supplemented by videos, work sheets, assessments, readings, computer research, and other materials at the discretion of the Instructor. We will use the textbook for content, terminology and information and web sites will be used to supplement classroom and textbook material and content. The textbook web site is accessed through Moodle.

Evaluation Methods to Appraise Objectives/Learning Outcomes: There will be weekly quizzes and assignments. Grade distribution is as follows:

Activity	Weight
Quizzes (9 x 40 points)	360 points
Assignments (9 x 40 points)	360 points
Discussions (9 x 30 points)	270 points
Quiz Syllabus	5 points
Total	1000 points

The grading scale is as follows:

Percentage	Grade
900-1000 points	A
800-899 points	B
700-799 points	C
600-699 points	D
<599.99	F

As a general rule, there will be no make-up tests. If you know that you will be unable to take a test on the WEEK it is assigned because of a previously made appointment, work obligations, family health problems, etc., then you may take the test early by prior arrangements with the Instructor. Since tests are taken online in a given window, it is expected that you can take the exam in the given time.

Please avoid making doctor and dentist appointments during class times.

If an emergency arises or you are too sick to take a scheduled exam, please call or E-mail the Instructor ASAP, within 24 hours of the test. Make-up tests will be at the discretion of the Instructor. Please notify me as soon as possible after you have missed a test either through email or through a phone call.

Class Work

Class Participation: You must attend class and participate.

Course readings and assignments are the equivalent to class time within on ground classrooms. Therefore, students should expect to log on at least twice per week, spending at least 2.5 hours per week in the classroom, in a 16-week course, and four (4) hours per week in a 10-week course. While online classes are convenient, they are not a substitute for work a student would see at a "brick and mortar" classroom. Online courses offer flexibility; however, students must adhere to due dates. How the students break time down is their prerogative, as this is a guideline as to how much time should be spent in the online classroom.

Threaded Discussion Netiquette

Williamsburg Technical College encourages all opinions, perceptions, and freedom of thought and writing. WTC also does not tolerate disrespectful, spiteful, or derogatory writing. Please use Netiquette when posting, your grade partially depends on it.

See Netiquette Guidelines for more information. If link is unavailable, go to <http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html>

Quizzes

There are weekly quizzes (minus week 1). They consist of multiple choice and true/false. All quizzes are open note, open book. Quizzes are to be taken online during the week specified, unless otherwise discussed. No paper quizzes will be given.

Assignments

There are weekly assignments in the class. A superior assignment demonstrates breadth and depth of knowledge, and critical thinking appropriate for the level of scholarship (in this case 200 level). The assignments should be free of typographical, spelling, and grammatical errors. Each response should contain at least 150 words. The assignment Rubric is based on the following criteria: Organization, Length, Grammar, and Spelling.

Organization

Nothing Submitted	Assignment reveals formatting errors and a lack of organization. Student presents an incomplete attempt to provide linkages or explanation of assignment question.	Student applies some points and concepts incorrectly. Student uses a variety of ideas, with some inconsistencies throughout the assignment.	Student explains the majority of points and concepts in the assignment.	Student thoroughly understands and excels in explaining the major points of the question. Assignment was well-written and easy to follow.
0points	5 points	6 points	7 points	8 points

Grammar and Spelling

Nothing Submitted	Assignment was carelessly done.	Assignment had many grammatical and spelling errors	Assignment had some grammatical and spelling errors	Assignment was free of grammatical and spelling errors
0points	5 points	6 points	7 points	8 points

Length

Nothing Submitted	Assignment was attempted in only a few sentences. Assignment was not well thought.	Student did not meet the minimum requirements, however did attempt the assignment	Student responded to assignment, however, met the minimum requirements	Student responded to assignment thoroughly, and completely exceeding the minimum word requirement
0points	1 point	2 points	3 points	4 points

Discussions: Each week students will find several different postings as part of students' learning process. Students must make an initial posting (by Thursday) and at least two responses to other students by Sunday (hence, at least three total posts a week). Students can provide multiple responses to the same question after students' initial response, but it is usually better to engage in discussion of more than one question, where possible. The length of students' initial posting and students' responses should aim to be 150 words and 75 words respectively; however, each instructor reserves the right to increase or decrease this number with notice. In general, students should not exceed five (5) or six (6) postings per discussion session, although it is never wrong if students take the extra initiative.

Grading Rubric: Discussions will be graded on the following rubric in Moodle (for a total of 100 points):

Depth of Responses

No posts or item is not present.	Posts simply "agree"	Postings – to each discussion question - give adequate, explanation but limited analysis of topic	Contributions – to each discussion question and responses - are thoughtful, original, and have some synthesis, analysis and evaluation of topic.	Contributions – to each discussion question and to classmates - are thoughtful, include original evaluation, synthesis or analysis of the topic on the discussion board
	Postings offer inadequate explanation or are confusing, or irrelevant	Responses add no meaning to discussion, repetitive of reading or other students	Responses are original and thoughtful, but limited in analysis of topic.	Responses are relevant, meaningful, tactful, and original.
		Brief and limited contribution		Responses advance the discussion on the discussion board
0points	20points	25points	30points	35points

Knowledge and Originality

No posts or item is not present.	Posting(s) add little new knowledge/content, show no originality.	Posting(s) add some new content/ knowledge, show some originality	Posting(s) Add significant new knowledge/content showing synthesis and originality..	Posting(s) bring unique new knowledge/content with insightful synthesis that adds value and originality.
0points	15points	18points	22points	25points

Grammar and Spelling

No posts or item is not present.	Difficulty understanding posts due to significant and pervasive grammatical, mechanical writing errors in postings	Understandable but with some difficulty due to frequent errors	Clear and understandable but may contain minor (insignificant) errors (e.g., capitalization, punctuation)	Contributions are clear and concise
				Contributions are mechanically and grammatically correct
0points	15points	18points	22points	25points

Responses to others

No responses or item is not present.	Student did not meet expectations	Student attempted to meet expectations, but answered in short answers, not adding to discussion. (i.e. simply Good post, I agree, etc.)	Student met expectations, but did not exceed requirements in adding to the conversation.	Student exceeded expectations of responses and added to conversation.
0points	8points	10points	13points	15points

Course Schedule: PSC 201-11 Spring 2022

Class Dates	Chapter(s) Covered	Assignment(s) Due
Week 1 beginning 1/10		Introduction Week
Week 2 beginning 1/17	Chapter 1. The Democratic Republic	Quiz Assignment
Week 3 beginning 1/24	Chapter 2. The Constitution	Quiz Assignment
Week 4 beginning 1/31	Chapter 3. Federalism	Quiz Assignment
Week 5 beginning 2/7	Chapter 4. Civil Liberties Chapter 5. Civil Rights	Quiz Assignment
Week 6 beginning 2/14	Chapter 6. Public Opinion and Political Socialization	Quiz Assignment
Week 7 beginning 2/21	Chapter 8. Political Parties	Quiz Assignment
Week 8 beginning 2/28	Chapter 9. Campaigns and Elections	Quiz Assignment
Week 9 beginning 3/7	Chapter 10. The Media	Quiz Assignment
Week 10 beginning 3/14	Chapter 11. The Congress	Quiz Assignment
Week 11 beginning 3/21	Chapter 12. The President	Quiz Assignment
Week 12 beginning 3/28	Chapter 13. The Executive Branch	Quiz Assignment
Week 13 beginning 4/4	Chapter 14. The Courts	Quiz Assignment
Week 14 beginning 4/11	Chapter 15. Domestic and Economic Policy	Quiz Assignment
Week 15 beginning 4/28	Chapter 16. Foreign Policy	Quiz Assignment
Final Exam Week	Final Exam	