



Alabama Community College System

POL 211 American National Government

I. POL 211 American National Government—3 Semester Hours

II. CURRENT Course Description

This course surveys the background, constitutional principles, organization, competing ideologies, and operation of the American political system. Emphasis will be placed on the U.S. Constitution.

Prerequisite

As required by program

III. Textbook

NOTE: Please replace this statement with textbook information.

Due to the varied selection of quality college-level textbooks, each college will select the textbook needed to meet the requirements of this course.

IV. Course Learning Outcomes

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

1. Define political terms and concepts
2. Evaluate American political documents
3. Describe the political systems and institutions of the American government
4. Identify the methods used to study politics
5. Analyze contemporary policy issues and problems
6. Compare and contrast basic American civil liberties and civil rights.

V. Course Outline of Topics

1. Introduction to government and political concepts
2. Constitutional framework
3. Federalism
4. Civil Liberties and Civil Rights
5. Public opinion, interest groups and the media
6. Political parties
7. Political campaigns
8. Voting behavior and elections
9. The Presidency
10. Bureaucracy
11. Congress
12. Judicial System
13. Public Policy

VI. Evaluation and Assessment

Grades will be given based upon A = 90 – 100%, B = 80 – 89%, C = 70 – 79%, D = 60 – 69%, and F = below 60%.

VII. Attendance

Students are expected to attend all classes for which they are registered. Students who are unable to attend class regularly, regardless of the reason or circumstance, should withdraw from that class before poor attendance interferes with the student's ability to achieve the objectives required in the course. Withdrawal from class can affect eligibility for federal financial aid.

VIII. Statement on Discrimination/Harassment

It is the official policy of the Alabama Community College System and entities under its control, including all Colleges, that no person shall be discriminated against on the basis of any impermissible criterion or characteristic, including, without limitation, race, color, national origin, religion, marital status, disability, sex, age, or any other protected class as defined by federal and state law. (ACCS Policies 601.02 and 800.00)

IX. Americans with Disabilities

The Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Section 504) and the *Americans with Disabilities Act* of 1990 state that qualified students with disabilities who meet the essential functions and academic requirements are entitled to reasonable accommodations. It is the student's responsibility to provide appropriate disability documentation to the College.