



**COWLEY COLLEGE
& Area Vocational Technical School**

COURSE PROCEDURE FOR

**AMERICAN NATIONAL GOVERNMENT
POL6611 3 Credit Hours**

Student Level:

This course is open to students on the college level in either Freshman or Sophomore year.

Catalog Description:

POL6611 AMERICAN NATIONAL GOVERNMENT (S) (3 hrs)

[KRSN POL1020]

A general study of the development, structure and functions of the American National Government. Topics to be studied include an introduction to government, principles of constitutionalism and federalism, political parties and political behavior, the Presidency, congress, the judiciary and the federal bureaucracy, Of specific emphasis is an analysis of decision-making in government, public participation and influence in government as well as a study of specific problems concerning the operation of the federal government.

Prerequisites:

None

Controlling Purpose:

This introductory course in American National Government is designed to provide a framework for the political science major and non-major regarding the politics of America. The main theme for the course will be the debate between popular democracy and elite democracy. The overall goal is to assess the prospects and possibilities for the extension of democracy in the United States. It is hoped that the student will become personally engaged in the material and examine his/her own beliefs about democracy.

The historical aspects of democracy will be explored: followed by the processes of participation in American polities. In addition the study will cover the basic institutions of government such as Congress, presidency, courts, bureaucracy, and the media. The last area of concern will focus on the four policy areas; civil rights and civil liberties, economic policy, social policy, and foreign policy.

Core Outcomes:

The learning outcomes and competencies detailed in this course outline or syllabus meet or exceed the learning outcomes and competencies specified by the Kansas Core Outcomes Groups project for this course as approved by the Kansas Board of Regents.

Units Outcomes and Criterion Based Evaluation Key for Core Content:

Rev. 6/13/2016

DISCLAIMER: THIS INFORMATION IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE. FOR THE OFFICIAL COURSE PROCEDURE CONTACT ACADEMIC AFFAIRS.

The following outline defines the minimum core content not including the final examination period. Instructors may add other material as time allows.

Evaluation Key:

- A = All major and minor goals have been achieved and the achievement level is considerably above the minimum required for doing more advanced work in the same field.
- B = All major goals have been achieved, but the student has failed to achieve some of the less important goals. However, the student has progressed to the point where the goals of work at the next level can be easily achieved.
- C = All major goals have been achieved, but many of the minor goals have not been achieved. In this grade range, the minimum level of proficiency represents a person who has achieved the major goals to the minimum amount of preparation necessary for taking more advanced work in the same field, but without any major handicap of inadequacy in his background.
- D = A few of the major goals have been achieved, but the student’s achievement is so limited that he is not well prepared to work at a more advanced level in the same field.
- F = Failing, will be computed in GPA and hours attempted.
- N = No instruction or training in this area.

UNIT 1: PERSONAL MANAGEMENT SKILLS						
Outcomes: Upon Completion of this unit, students will be able to successfully...						
A	B	C	D	F	N	Specific Competencies
						Demonstrate the ability to:
						Regular and timely class attendance.
						Completion of assignments on or before due date.
						Written assignments reflect ideas discussed in class in a well-structured format with few grammatical errors.
						Oral participation in class reflects clear, concise, thought out views.
						Critical thinking skills are demonstrated by recognition of problems faced by democracies and possible solutions.
						Ability to work in a small and large group projects.
						The impact of government decisions on quality of life and future career decisions is recognized.

UNIT 2: KNOWLEDGE OF THE FOUNDATIONS OF AMERICAN NATIONAL GOVERNMENT

Outcomes: Upon Completion of this unit, students will be able to successfully...

A	B	C	D	F	N	Specific Competencies
						Demonstrate the ability to:
						Summarize the difference between elite democracy and popular democracy.
						Comprehend the reasons for the 1776 Revolution and the development of a Constitution and Bill of Rights.
						Apply the principles of Federalism from 1776 to the present.
						Evaluate the American Political Economy in terms of economic growth, social mobility, distribution of income and wealth, and private and public power.

UNIT 3: THE BRANCHES OF GOVERNMENT

Outcomes: Upon Completion of this unit, students will be able to successfully...

A	B	C	D	F	N	Specific Competencies
						Demonstrate the ability to:
						Analyze the different function that congress performs.
						Examine how a bill becomes a law.
						Identify the role of majority and minority leaders of Congress and the role of political parties in government.
						Analyze the committee functions of Congress.
						Investigate role of the Presidency and executive office of the White House
						Inquire into the growth of the National Bureaucracy and its role in government.
						Identify the roles of Supreme Court and lower federal courts and their impact on American Life.

UNIT 4: POLITICAL PARTICIPATION

Outcomes: Upon Completion of this unit, students will be able to successfully...

A	B	C	D	F	N	Specific Competencies
						Demonstrate the ability to:
						Understand why many Americans do not participate in the political process.
						Analyze how Americans develop opinions regarding politics and government.
						Evaluate the media and how newspapers, television, and radio, influence and set political agendas.
						Comprehend the differences between the two main political parties and understand how each influences democracy.
						Judge the value of the methods used to place people in elected offices.
						Research and analyze the influence of interest groups on the democratic system in America.

UNIT 5: THREE BRANCHES OF GOVERNMENT

Outcomes: Upon Completion of this unit, students will be able to successfully...

A	B	C	D	F	N	Specific Competencies
						Demonstrate the ability to:
						Analyze the different functions that Congress performs.
						Examine how a bill becomes a law.
						Identify the role of majority and minority leaders of Congress and the role of political parties in government.
						Analyze the committee functions of Congress.
						Investigate the role of Presidency and executive offices of the White House.
						Inquire into the growth of the national bureaucracy and its role in government.
						Identify the roles of Supreme Court and lower federal courts and their impact on American life.

Projects Required:

Textbook:

Contact Bookstore for current textbook.

Materials/Equipment Required:

None

Attendance Policy:

Students should adhere to the attendance policy outlined by the instructor in the course syllabus.

Grading Policy:

The grading policy will be outlined by the instructor in the course syllabus.

Maximum class size:

Based on classroom occupancy

Course Time Frame:

The U.S. Department of Education, Higher Learning Commission, and the Kansas Board of Regents define credit hour and have specific regulations that the college must follow when developing, teaching, and assessing the educational aspects of the college. A credit hour is an amount of work represented in intended learning outcomes and verified by evidence of student achievement that is an institutionally-established equivalency that reasonably approximates not less than one hour of classroom or direct faculty instruction and a minimum of two hours of out-of-class student work for approximately fifteen weeks for one semester hour of credit or an equivalent amount of work over a different amount of time. The number of semester hours of credit allowed for each distance education or blended hybrid courses shall be assigned by the college based on the amount of time needed to achieve the same course outcomes in a purely face-to-face format.

Refer to the following policies:

[402.00 Academic Code of Conduct](#)

[263.00 Student Appeal of Course Grades](#)

[403.00 Student Code of Conduct](#)

Disability Services Program:

Cowley College, in recognition of state and federal laws, will accommodate a student with a documented disability. If a student has a disability which may impact work in this class which requires accommodations, contact the Disability Services Coordinator.