



SYLLABUS TEMPLATE

Course Number	PSCI 200
Course Name	American Politics
Credit Value (Breakdown of theory and lab credits)	3 Theory
Catalog Course Description	AMERICAN POLITICS Survey of American politics, theory of democracy, political institutions, the electorate, American governmental branches and their bureaucracies. (3, 3T+0S) Meets New Mexico Lower Division General Education Core Curriculum Area V Social and Behavioral Sciences (NMCCN POLS 1123)
Student Learning Outcomes/Objectives /Competencies of the Course	<p><i>Clear learning objectives for the course, following HED common course SLO's.</i></p> <p>Student Learning Outcomes: Students should be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Explain the historical and political foundations of the government of the United States; 2. Explain the precursors to, and the development and adoption of the United States Constitution; 3. Explain the United States federal system, the basics of federalism, and the changing relationship of state and federal power; 4. Describe the power, structure and operation of the main institutions of government, namely the legislative, executive, judicial, and the federal bureaucracy; 5. Explain the development and role of political parties and interest groups; 6. Identify the constitutional basis of civil rights and civil liberties and their changing interpretation; and 7. Describe the role of demographics, public opinion and the media in American politics.
College-Wide Student Learning Outcomes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Communication: Chapter Blogs:</i> 2 points per chapter for a total of 32 points. Each student must submit one paragraph chapter assignment Blog on the BLACKBOARD home page describing what she/he found interesting or informative about the chapter. 2. <i>Cultural Competency: Final Exam:</i> 36 points. Each student will pick a topic from either the text book or one based on consultation with Instructor and write a Cultural Biography.