



Independence

COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Semester: Fall 2017

This syllabus is a plan, not a contract. Changes may occur during the term as the instructor deems necessary.

I. On-Ground Course Information:

- **Course Title:** American Government
- **Course Number:** POL1023
- **KRSN Number:** POL1020
- **Prerequisites:** none
- **Credit Hours:** 3
- **Required Textbook and Supplies:** textbook = *Keeping the Republic: Power and Citizenship in American Politics*. 7th edition. By Barbour and Wright
Supplies: typical class materials: pens, pencils, paper to take notes, access to a computer, internet and printer.
- **Recommended Texts and Supplies:** none
- **Course Description:** Fundamental study of organization and functions in American Government with emphasis on political processes and citizen participation in government

IV. Learning Outcomes: Upon completion of this course, students will be able to do the following:

- 1) **Constitution:** Explain the origins and the evolution of United States Constitutional Democracy.
- 2) **Institutions:** Identify, distinguish, and analyze the roles, powers, and relationships among the 3 branches of government (legislative/judicial/executive).
- 3) **Political Behavior:** Identify forms of political participation, differentiate among organizations engaged in elections, and analyze participation in US democracy.
- 4) **Public Policy:** Understand and analyze how policy decisions are made and the impact of policy on the public.

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.

Outcome 1 is covered in chapters 1 – 6 of the textbook.

Outcome 2 is covered in chapters 7 – 10 of the textbook.

Outcome 3 is covered in chapters 11– 15 of the textbook.

Outcome 4 is covered in chapters 17 – 19 of the textbook.

V. Grading Policy:

Grades will be calculated based upon the following scale unless licensing or accreditation boards have a higher standard:

100 – 90%	A
89 – 80%	B
79 – 70%	C
69 – 60%	D
Below 60%	F

VI. Credit Description:

A credit hour is defined as one hour of classroom instruction and a minimum of two hours of out-of-class student work each week for approximately fifteen weeks for one semester of credit. So for every course credit hour, the typical student should expect to spend at least three clock hours per week of concentrated attention on course-related work, including but not limited to time attending class, as well as out-of-class time spent reading, reviewing, organizing notes, preparing for upcoming quizzes/exams, problem solving, developing and completing projects, and other activities that enhance learning. Thus, for a three hour course, a typical student should expect to spend at least nine hours per week dedicated to the course.

VII. Common Learning Expectations: All sections of American Government use the activities listed below to measure whether you learned a required learning outcome for this course:

1. Chapter worksheets
2. Common Exam Essay Question
3. There must be at minimum two papers/projects of at least 750 words