Syllabus for UWXPL104 Introduction to American Government and Politics

NOTE: This syllabus document contains the basic information of this course. The most current syllabus is available in the full course.

Course Description

This course examines how the American political system works, with emphasis on the U.S. Constitution, civil and political rights, the media and public opinion, elections, and the structure, powers, and processes of Congress, the presidency, and the courts. This is a three-credit course that satisfies the SS general education requirement.

Prerequisite(s)

None

Course Outcomes

Upon completing this course, you will be able to do the following:
- Explain the foundations and significance of the US Constitution
- Example the structure and function of each branch of government
- Analyze conflicts and challenges in the civil liberties and civil rights debate
- Evaluate the influence of mass media in public opinion and elections as well as its consequences on the policy-making process
- Identify the components of the US electoral process

Course Requirements/Components

1. 12 Module Activities (10 points each)
2. 12 Peer Reviews (10 points each)
3. Three Exams (60 points each)
4. Film Analysis Paper (30 points)

Grading

The following grading scale for each assignment is as follows

Points Range	Letter Grade
423-450	A

405-422	A-
392-404	B+
373-391	B
360-372	B-
346-359	C+
328-345	C
315-327	C-
301-314	D+
283-300	D
282 and under	F