



GOVT 2305 Federal Government

Departmental Course Syllabus: ~~Spring 24~~ Travel Study Course

"Northeast Texas Community College exists to provide personal, dynamic learning experiences empowering students to succeed."

Instructor: Office H

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Office Hours	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Online

Information relative to the delivery of the content contained in this syllabus is subject to change. Should that happen, the student will be notified.

Course Description: 3 credit hours.

Lecture/Lab/Clinical: Three hours of class each week.

Origin and development of the U.S. Constitution, structure and powers of the national government including the legislative, executive, and judicial branches, federalism, political participation, the national election process, public policy, civil liberties and civil rights. **Prerequisite(s):** none

Student Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Explain the origin and development of constitutional democracy in the United States.
2. Demonstrate knowledge of the federal system.
3. Describe separation of powers and checks and balances in both theory and practice.
4. Demonstrate knowledge of the legislative, executive, and judicial branches of the federal government.
5. Evaluate the role of public opinion, interest groups, and political parties in the political system.
6. Analyze the election process.
7. Describe the rights and responsibilities of citizens.
8. Analyze issues and policies in U.S. politics.

Required Instructional Materials: No Textbook Required

Lectures and Discussions:

Lectures and/or discussions will be based on the museum visits and historical sites.

Attendance:

Class meetings are mandatory, and you will receive an attendance/participation grade dependent on your presence in class, and your participation, behavior and cooperation on the road.

Course Structure and Overview:

Evaluation/Grading Policy:

Each item is worth 25 points:

1. Two book reports
2. Two museum reviews
3. Journal entries
4. Participation

Tests/ Exams: None

Assignments:

Assignments will include the following (25 points for each category)

1. Two book reports over monographs pertaining to a subject relating to our national government structure, history or political ideology. The book reports will be three to five pages, including a thesis and summary of the book, as well as an analysis of the book.
2. Two museum reviews of any museums that are visited on the trip THAT RELATE TO THE FOUNDATION OF OUR NATIONAL GOVERNMENT. Museum reviews will be three to five pages and should first give an overview of the museum itself, its history and purpose; and then should give a narrow focus of an exhibit at the museum. A critique of the museum should also follow.
3. A journal with entries from each day on the trip. The journal serves not only as a valuable souvenir of your trip, but will also act as a reminder of what you observed and visited each day on the map.
4. Participation Grade

Other Course Requirements

1. Cheating and plagiarizing will not be tolerated in any form (For example: cutting and pasting large segments of Internet articles into your essay is plagiarism.)

NTCC Academic Honesty/Ethics Statement:

NTCC upholds the highest standards of academic integrity. The college expects all students to engage in their academic pursuits in an honest manner that is beyond reproach using their intellect and resources designated as allowable by the course instructor. Students are responsible for addressing questions about allowable resources with the course instructor. Academic dishonesty such as cheating, plagiarism, and collusion is unacceptable and may result in disciplinary action. This course will follow the NTCC Academic Honesty and Academic Ethics policies stated in the Student Handbook. Refer to the student handbook for more information on these subjects.

ADA Statement:

It is the policy of NTCC to provide reasonable accommodations for qualified individuals who are students with disabilities. This College will adhere to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations as required to afford equal educational opportunity. It is the student's responsibility to request accommodations. An appointment can be made with the Academic Advisor/Coordinator of Special Populations located in Student Services and can be reached at 903-434-8264. For more information and to obtain a copy of the Request for Accommodations, please refer to the special population's page on the NTCC website.

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA):

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) is a federal law that protects the privacy of student education records. The law applies to all schools that receive funds under an applicable program of the U.S. Department of Education. FERPA gives parents certain rights with respect to their children's educational records. These rights transfer to the student when he or she attends a school beyond the high school level. Students to whom the rights have transferred are considered "eligible students." In essence, a parent has no legal right to obtain information concerning the child's college records without the written consent of the student. In compliance with FERPA, information classified as "directory information" may be released to the general public without the written consent of the student unless the student makes a request in writing. Directory information is defined as: the student's name, permanent address and/or local address, telephone listing, dates of attendance, most recent previous education institution attended, other information including major, field of study, degrees, awards received, and participation in officially recognized activities/sports.

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