

# POLITICAL SCIENCE (POLS)

---

## POLS-C1000

### American Government and Politics

3 UNITS

3.0 hours lecture

This course is an introduction to government and politics in the United States and California. Students examine the constitutions, structure, and operation of governing institutions, civil liberties and civil rights, political behaviors, political issues, and public policy using political science theory and methodology. This course emphasizes the continuity and uniqueness of the American political experience and how that experience has derived from other political cultures. This will be examined in the context of the larger cultural, economic, and sociological forces shaping the U.S. political system. Attention will also be given to significant events affecting the evolution of the U.S. political system since its founding. The development and evolution of the U.S. Constitution and policy making role of traditional political institutions such as the presidency, the Congress, and the judiciary will be explored. The impact of other political forces such as mass movements, the media, the bureaucracy, interest groups, ethnic and social groups, and international affairs will also be examined. All topics covered in the course will be illustrated through reference to actual political events occurring as the course progresses. "Formerly POSC 121. Not open to students with credit in POSC 121."

## Common Course Numbering

POLS-C1000 American Government and Politics is part of Common Course Numbering. For more information, please visit the Grossmont-Cuyamaca Common Course Numbering Webpage (<https://www.gcccd.edu/ccn/>).