

NVCC COLLEGE-WIDE COURSE CONTENT SUMMARY

PLS 212 U. S. GOVERNMENT II (3 CR.)

COURSE INFORMATION

This course teaches an in depth understanding of the American political system. It includes topics of the presidency, Congress, Supreme Court, bureaucracy, domestic and foreign policy. Lecture 3 hours per week.

GENERAL COURSE OBJECTIVE

The general course objective is to introduce the student to the American political system. It is intended for liberal arts transfer students who need three semester hours of political science.

ENTRY LEVEL COMPETENCY

The student should have the ability to use the English language correctly and effectively as demonstrated on appropriate English proficiency examination.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of the course, the student will be able to:

- A. define the concept of the presidency, how its sets the agenda and shapes behavior
- B. describe the Congress, how it makes law and represents constituencies of interest within the political system
- C. understand the how the Supreme Court interprets law, and the impact of its interpretation on our changing society
- D. understand the operation of the federal bureaucracy and how it applies law in our political system
- E. understand the inputs to economic policy and its impact on our economy
- F. understand the analytic tools to apply to health, education and welfare policy
- G. understand the historical context of U. S. military and foreign policy and its impact on America's role in a changing world

MAJOR TOPICS TO BE COVERED

- A. The presidency
- B. The Congress
- C. The Supreme Court
- D. The Bureaucracy
- E. Economic Policy
- F. Health Policy
- G. Welfare Policy
- H. Education Policy
- I. Military Policy
- J. Foreign Policy