

**SEWARD COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
COURSE SYLLABUS**

**I. TITLE OF COURSE: SS1403 - American National Government**

**II. COURSE DESCRIPTION: 3 credit hours  
3 credit hours of lecture and 0 credit hours of lab per week.**

American National Government will cover the origin and adoption of the American Constitution, structure of the national government, the processes of popular control and the basic principles of the American Constitutional System.

EduKan course number: PO176

Pre-requisite:  
None

**III. PROGRAM AND/OR DEPARTMENT MISSION STATEMENT:**

Division Statement: The mission of the Humanities and Social Sciences is to foster an appreciation of the role that the humanities and social sciences has played in the evolution of civilized society and to explore the ways that an understanding of theory and practice in philosophy, the social and behavioral sciences, the fine arts, and written and oral expression will enable students to participate thoughtfully in a global society.

Department Statement: The mission of political science is to study the structures and processes in politics to understand the roles of institutions and citizens in the society, the nation and the world.

**IV. TEXTBOOK AND MATERIALS:**

Krutz, Glen, American Government, 2nd edition. Houston: OpenStax Digital, 2019.

Download for free at <https://openstax.org/details/books/american-government-2e>

**V. SCCC OUTCOMES:**

I: Read with comprehension, be critical of what they read, and apply knowledge gained to real life

II: Communicate ideas clearly and proficiently in writing, appropriately adjusting content and arrangement for varying audiences, purposes, and situations.

V: Demonstrate the ability to think critically by gathering facts, generating insights, analyzing data, and evaluating information

**VI. COURSE OUTCOMES:**

Outcomes are in accordance with 2017 Kansas Core Outcomes Project. Upon completion of

SS1403 American National Government, students will be able to do the following:

1. Institutions: Identify, distinguish, and analyze the roles, powers, and relationships among the 3 branches of government (legislative/judicial/executive).
2. Political Behavior: Identify forms of political participation, differentiate among organizations engaged in the political process, and analyze participation in US democracy.
3. Public Policy: Understand and analyze how policy decisions are made and the impact of policy on the public.
4. Constitution: Explain the origins and the evolution of United States Constitutional Democracy.
5. By the end of the semester, students will have had an opportunity to sharpen their written expression by submitting in class and out of class writing assignments.
6. Expected learning outcomes of this course are in alignment with the learning objectives established by the Kansas Core Outcomes Project.

## **VII. COURSE OUTLINE:**

1. Basic concepts of political systems.
2. Basic concepts in studying American politics.
3. The development in the American Constitution.
4. The legislature
5. The executive and electoral process.
6. The judiciary.
7. The lobbyists and pressure groups.
8. Public opinion and public participation.
9. Political parties.
10. The bureaucracy.
11. Civil rights.
12. Changing attitudes towards government's role in society.

## **VIII. INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS:**

1. Lecture and discussion.
2. Video tapes.
3. Computer time.

## **IX. INSTRUCTIONAL AND RESOURCE MATERIALS:**

1. Textbook.

2. Library.
3. Audio-visual materials.
4. Handouts.

**X. METHODS OF ASSESSMENT:**

The final grade for the course reflects evaluation of the student's work on the following assignments that are assessed as follows:

1. Outcome I, II and V Will be achieved by primary and secondary source written assessments and discussions designed to foster critical thinking, improve writing skills, address variegated audiences, and use analytical skills to construct arguments based on evidence.

**XI. ADA STATEMENT:**

Under the Americans with Disabilities Act, Seward County Community College will make reasonable accommodations for students with documented disabilities. If you need support or assistance because of a disability, you may be eligible for academic accommodations. Students should identify themselves to the Dean of Students at 620-417-1106 or going to the Student Success Center in the Hobble Academic building, room 149 A.

**XII. CORE OUTCOMES PROJECT:**

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  
KRSN: POL1020

Syllabus Reviewed: 1/26/2022