



AMERICAN GOVERNMENT

SOC203 — 0.5 Credit

Course Description

American Government is the study of the historical backgrounds, governing principles, and institutions of the government of the United States. The focus is on the principles and beliefs upon which the United States was founded and on the structure, functions, and powers of government at the national, state, and local levels. The principles of popular sovereignty, separation of powers, checks and balances, republicanism, federalism, and individual rights will be examined, as will the roles of individuals and groups in the American political system. Students will compare the American system of government with other modern systems and assess the strengths and problems associated with the American system.

Prerequisites

None

Course Length

One semester

Required Text

None

Course Outline

Introduction to Government & Politics

Roots of the American Constitution

Principles of American Government

The Federal System

Civil Rights and Liberties

Participation in a Democracy

- Elections & Voting
- Political Parties

Institutions of Government

- Congress
- Presidency & Executive Branch
- Judiciary