



GOVT 2305 - Federal Government

Course Syllabus: May Intersession 2017 Travel Study Course

"Northeast Texas Community College exists to provide responsible, exemplary learning opportunities."

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Office Hours	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Online

The information contained in this syllabus is subject to change without notice. Students are expected to be aware of any additional course policies presented by the instructor during the course.

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.

Required Textbook(s): No textbook required

Publisher:

ISBN Number:

Recommended Reading(s):

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.

Lectures & 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.

Evaluation/Grading Policy:

Each item is worth 25 points

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

Tests/Exams:

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 trip.
4. Participation Grade

Other Course Requirements:

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

Student Responsibilities/Expectations:

Class Behavior: Since this is a trip where we will be representing Northeast Texas Community College off-campus, it is your job to act with respect and dignity. Patience and tolerance are also very much encouraged toward each other and those we encounter on the road. Remember, you are an ambassador of the college. Also, non-acceptable behavior listed in the college catalog will be enforced at all times. You are expected to be prompt at all meeting on and off the campus and you are expected to follow rules and regulations of each state that we visit. Do not assume that everything acceptable in East Texas is acceptable everywhere else! **The instructors reserve the right to send students home during the trip, at their own expense, for intolerable behavior (constant misbehavior, drug/alcohol violations, non-compliance with National Park rules and regulations, etc.)**

NTCC Academic Honesty Statement:

"Students are expected to complete course work in an honest manner, using their intellects and resources designated as allowable by the course instructor. Students are responsible for addressing questions about allowable resources with the course instructor. NTCC upholds the highest standards of academic integrity. This course will follow the NTCC Academic Honesty policy stated in the Student Handbook."

Academic Ethics

The college expects all students to engage in academic pursuits in a manner that is beyond reproach. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their academic pursuit. Academic dishonesty such as cheating, plagiarism, and collusion is unacceptable and may result in disciplinary action. Refer to the student handbook for more information on this subject.

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 arrange an appointment with a College counselor to obtain a Request for Accommodations form. For more information, please refer to the NTCC Catalog or Student Handbook.

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.