

Midland College
Master Syllabus

GOVERNMENT

GOVT 2305 - Federal Government*

GOVT 2306 - Texas Government*

GOVT 2304 - Introduction to Political Science

GOVT 2311 - Mexican-American Politics

GOVT 2389 - Academic Cooperative

GOVT 2107 - Federal and Texas Constitutions

**Core Curriculum Course*

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS AND LEARNING OUTCOMES

GOVT 2107 Federal and Texas Constitutions

A study of the United States and state constitutions, with special emphasis on Texas.

Pre-requisite: By permission only. Enrollment limited to students who have already completed a minimum of 6 SCH of GOVT courses but have not satisfied the statutory requirement for study of the federal and state constitutions. Ensures compliance with TEC 51.301.

Learning Outcomes - Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

Explain the origin and development of constitutional democracy in the United States.

Explain the origin and development of the Texas constitution.

Analyze the similarities and differences between the current U.S. and Texas constitutions.

GOVT 2304 Introduction to Political Science

Introductory survey of the discipline of political science focusing on the scope, and methods of the field, and the substantive topics in the discipline including the theoretical foundations of politics, political interaction, political institutions and how political systems function.

Learning Outcomes - Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

Define and apply political terms and concepts.

Define political science and identify the subfields.

Compare and contrast different political systems and institutions.

Apply the methods used to study politics.

Critically interpret and analyze contemporary political issues and problems.

GOVT 2305 Federal Government (Federal constitution & topics)

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.

Learning Outcomes - Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

Explain the origin and development of constitutional democracy in the United States.

Demonstrate knowledge of the federal system.

Describe separation of powers and checks and balances in both theory and practice.

Demonstrate knowledge of the legislative, executive, and judicial branches of the federal government.

Evaluate the role of public opinion, interest groups, and political parties in the political system.

Analyze the election process.

Describe the rights and responsibilities of citizens

Analyze issues and policies in U.S. politics.

GOVT 2306 Texas Government (Texas constitution & topics)

Origin and development of the Texas constitution, structure and powers of state and local government, federalism and inter-governmental relations, political participation, the election process, public policy, and the political culture of Texas.

Learning Outcomes - Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

Explain the origin and development of the Texas constitution.

Describe state and local political systems and their relationship with the federal government.

Describe separation of powers and checks and balances in both theory and practice in Texas.

Demonstrate knowledge of the legislative, executive, and judicial branches of Texas government.

Evaluate the role of public opinion, interest groups, and political parties in Texas.

Analyze the state and local election process.

Identify the rights and responsibilities of citizens.

Analyze issues, policies and political culture of Texas.

GOVT 2311 Mexican American and Latinx Politics

The study of Mexican American and Latinx politics within the American political experience. Topics include historical, cultural, socioeconomic, and constitutional issues that pertain to the study of Mexican Americans and other Latinx populations in the United States. Other topics such as political participation, governmental institutions, electoral politics, political representation, demographic trends, and other contemporary public policy debates will also be addressed.

Learning Outcomes - Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Explain the construction of identity among Mexican Americans and other Latinx populations and how identity is expressed as part of the political process.
2. Analyze empirical data to explain the political behavior, including public opinion, of Mexican Americans and other Latinx populations in the political system.
3. Identify, formulate, and answer questions related to the institutions, structures, and processes that impact the lives and social status of Mexican Americans and other Latinx populations.
4. Evaluate the current events and conditions related to policy challenges facing Mexican Americans and other Latinx populations.
5. Compare and contrast various representational roles as they pertain to Mexican Americans and other Latinx populations.
6. Identify examples of situations where consideration of Mexican American and other Latinx cultures results in more effective public policy and administration.
7. Discuss the struggle of Mexican Americans and other Latinx populations for political and social equality and the role of the American judicial system in promoting their civil rights and civil liberties.

GOVT 2389 Academic Cooperative (3 SCH version)

An instructional program designed to integrate on-campus study with practical hands-on experience in government. In conjunction with class seminars, the individual student will set specific goals and objectives in the study of human social behavior and/or social institutions.

PARTICIPATION STATEMENT: Students must actively participate by completing an academic assignment by the official census date. Students who do not do so, may be dropped from the course.

REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS: Will be current. Students should contact their instructor prior to purchasing the text and supplies to confirm required course materials.

INCLUSION OF CORE CURRICULUM OBJECTIVES: *These Core Curriculum Courses* fulfill three hours of the Government/Social and Behavioral Science requirement in the Midland College **Core Curriculum**. The Core Curriculum is a set of courses that provide students with a foundation of knowledge, skills and educational experiences that are essential for all learning. Social and Behavioral Sciences courses involve the exploration of behavior and interactions among individuals, groups, institutions, and events, examining their impact on the individual, society, and culture. As part of the core, this course addresses the following four objectives:

- **Critical thinking:** students will analyze and evaluate primary and secondary source documents related to the content of American history and demonstrate a knowledge of the content through examination and essay assignments.
- **Communication skills:** students will demonstrate communication skills through discussion and written work.
- **Social Responsibility:** through the study of American history students will gain knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities.
- **Personal Responsibility:** the ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making. Students will be responsible for completing assignments and exams on time. The instructor will also vigorously enforce standards of academic integrity.

STUDENT CONTRIBUTIONS, RESPONSIBILITIES AND CLASS POLICIES: Will be posted by the instructor in individual course syllabus. Students should contact their instructor if they have any questions.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY: Refer to Midland College's Scholastic Dishonesty and Academic Misconduct policy: <https://www.midland.edu/about/public-info/scholastic-dishonesty.php>

HONORS PROGRAM: Students interested in taking a course for honors credit, should contact their instructor. Refer to the Midland College Honors Program webpage for more details: <https://www.midland.edu/academics/honors.php>

DROPPING THE COURSE: Check the MC College Calendar for the last day to withdraw from the course and receive a "W." Please talk to the instructor before withdrawing.

EVALUATION OF STUDENTS: Will be posted by the instructor in individual course syllabus. Students should contact their instructor if they have any questions.

NON-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT: Midland College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age in its programs and activities. For information and inquiries regarding Midland College's non-discrimination policies, go to: <https://www.midland.edu/about/tix/index.php>

For further information on notice of non-discrimination, visit the ED.gov Office of Civil Rights website, or call 1 (800) 421-3481.

DISABILITY SUPPORT SERVICES: Any student who, because of a disabling condition, may require some special arrangements to meet course requirements should contact disabilities support services as soon as possible at: <https://www.midland.edu/services-resources/accommodation-services.php>

Conditions may include documented physical or educational disabilities. Please be aware that services or accommodations are not automatic. Each student must request them and secure the proper authorizations/documentation. Accessibility Links can be found on the Pages tab in Canvas.

DIVISION OFFICE CONTACT INFORMATION