

# MESABI RANGE COMMUNITY & TECHNICAL COLLEGE

## Course Outline

**Course Title:** American Government  
**Semester Course Prefix and Number:** POLS 1556  
**Old Quarter Course Prefix and Number:** POLS 110

**Submitted By:** P. Del Caro  
**Approval Date:**  
**Revision Date:** Feb. 2002

**Number of Credits:** 3  
**Semester(s) Offered:**  
**Class Size:**

**Number of Lecture Credits:** 3  
**Number of Lab Credits:**      **Number of Lab Hours:**  
**Number of Studio/Demonstration/Internship Credits:**

Negotiated by AASC on:  
(date)

### Course Purpose Code:

- 0 – Developmental Courses
- 1 – Non-transferable
- 2 – Technical course related to career programs
- 3 – College course which has the primary goal of applying certain concepts (e.g. vocal ensemble)
- 4 – Other college course not considered a part of MNTC (e.g. computer science, health, physical education)
- 5 – Course which is intended to fulfill the Minnesota Transfer Curriculum (MNTC) requirements or intended for transfer.
- 9 – Continuing Education/Customized Training specialized credit course (not occurring in 0-5)

### Catalog Description:

This course is a study of the structure and function of the national government of the United States including political theory, political parties, elections, civil rights, and the three branches of government.

### Prerequisites and/or recommended entry skills/knowledge:

Course Prerequisite(s): none  
Reading Prerequisite: College level reading  
Composition Prerequisite: none  
Mathematics Prerequisite: none

### Career Programs and Transfer Majors Accessing this Course:

Political Science  
History  
Secondary Social Studies Education  
Pre-Law  
Can be used as an elective for other transfer majors

### Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Goal(s) partially met by this course if applicable:

(Notes: No more than two goals may be met by any one course. Curriculum Committee review and the Chief Academic Officer's approval are required.)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 0. <input type="checkbox"/> None  | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> The Humanities and Fine Arts                |
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Communications  | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Human Diversity                             |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Critical Thinking   | 8. <input type="checkbox"/> Global Perspectives                         |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Natural Sciences  | 9. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ethical and Civic Responsibility |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Mathematical/Logical Reasoning                            | 10. <input type="checkbox"/> People and the Environment                 |
| 5. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> History and the Social and Behavioral Sciences |   |

**Learning Outcomes:** (including any relevant competencies listed in the Minnesota Transfer Curriculum)

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

1. To understand the legislative process as a bill works through Congress.
2. To understand the relationship between federal and state government.
3. To understand the workings of the three branches of government on the federal level.
4. To understand election dynamics, political parties, and special interest groups.
5. To understand political theory behind our constitutional republic.
6. To understand some of the competing theories in economic and social policy.

**Student Assessment Methods:**

Quizzes, examinations

**Use of Instructional Technology:** (includes software, interactive video and other instructional technologies):

**Additional Special Information:** (special fees, directives on hazardous materials, etc.)

**Transfer Information:** (Please list colleges/majors that accept this course in transfer.)

**Course Outline Revision History:**

American government studies the three branches of government, election dynamics, political parties, and special interest groups. Also, the course examines what the frames of the constitution intended for our federal government and examines some theories of economic and social policy.

**Approvals:**

Body	Representative Signatures	Date
Curriculum Committee		
Faculty Association		
Academic Affairs Standards Committee		
Chief Academic Officer		

**Distribution:** Original – Instructional Services  
**Copies:** Transfer Specialist, Originating Faculty Member, Records  
**Revised:** March 2010