

SPRINGFIELD TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Course Number: PSCI 100 Department: Political Science

Course Title: American Gov't & Politics Semester: Spring Year: 1997

Objectives/Competencies

Course Objective	Competencies
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. To provide an overview of the American political system and to show how government affects all of our lives, whether we understand issues or participate in political decision-making.2. To persuade student to think about whether, and how, we as individuals can change and improve our nation's life.3. To provide an overview of the history and dynamics of the American political system which will help equipment students to understand, analyze and criticize the changing course of government-related national and world events.4. To provide a heightened awareness of the significance of current events and of the citizen's obligation to be aware of them.	<p>Understanding and caring about political issues.</p> <p>Awareness of where to go to learn the facts bearing on these issues.</p> <p>Awareness of political choices offered by our systems.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Familiarity with the U. S. Constitution: Its flexibility, its changing principles and goals.2. Understanding of the institutions which form the Congress: its responsibilities, strengths, limitations.3. The Presidency: theories of presidential scope and power, growth of presidential roles and responsibilities, success and failure in the presidency.4. The Justice System: State and federal courts. The evolution of the Supreme Court's powers and scope.

Course Objective	Competencies
5. To emphasize our understanding of every citizen's obligation to participate in government as a voter and critic.	