

## POLS201: AMERICAN GOVERNMENT

**Course Overview:** This course studies the basic foundations and underlying principles of American, national, state and local government. | 3 credits

This course will challenge students to analyze both historic and contemporary issues with these two main goals:

*f* Help you grow in your understanding of the structure and function of the system of government in the United States.

*f* Give you the opportunity to explore the function of government from a Christian worldview perspective.

### Grading:

Discussions & Journals	20%
Quizzes	20%
Written response papers	30%
Exams	30%

### Assignments:

**Journals and discussions:** Students will make a weekly journal entry or post and reply to a discussion board topic.

**Quizzes:** Weekly multiple-choice quizzes are used to check understanding of the weekly reading assignments.

**Written response papers:** Each week students will submit a written response and analysis to specific

# COURSE SCHEDULE

## **Unit 1: Students and the System**

Week 1: American Government and Christian Civic Engagement

Quiz on Reading, Journal assignment, Written Assignment: Church and State

Week 2: The Constitution and its Origin

Quiz on Reading, Discussion assignment, Written Assignment: E Pluribus Unum

Week 3: Federalism and American Exceptionalism

Quiz on Reading, Journal assignment, Written Assignment: Who Should Decide?

## **Unit 2: Individual and Agency Action**

Week 4: Civil Liberties & the First Amendment

Quiz on Reading, Unit 1 Essay Exam

Week 5: Civil Rights - Creating and Equal Playing Field

Quiz on Reading, Discussion assignment, Written Assignment: Documenting Hate

