A. Description
A basic course that examines the U.S. Constitution and the U.S. system of government at the national and state levels; the course covers both U.S. and California political processes and institutions.

B. Recommended Preparation
High School Government Course

C. Prerequisites
None Specified

D. Minimum Unit Requirement
3 semester units

E. Course Topics
(Representing at least 80% of course coverage)
1. The political philosophies of the framers of the Constitution and critics of the Constitution.
2. The evolution of the Constitution through amendment, interpretation, and practice.
3. Contemporary operations of United States political institutions and processes.
4. The rights and obligations of citizens in the United States.
5. The Constitution of the State of California within the framework of Federal-State relations (federalism).
6. Contemporary operations of California state and local political institutions.
7. Political behavior of Americans and Californians within the frameworks established by the United States and California Constitutions.