

## Alignment Between the University General Education Policy and Student Learning Outcomes Assessment Goals and Objectives

D.2. American Institutions	
Courses: Political Science 203 (4 units)	
GE Policy	Outcomes Assessment Learning Goals
<p>In so far as it is appropriate and practicable, courses meeting the American History and Civilization and the American Institutions requirement should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>h. Introduce students to the concept, theories, and modes of thought and analysis necessary for understanding the particular social science approaches used to present American History, institutions and civilization;</li> <li>i. Provide a balance between breadth and substance on a level appropriate for general education students—in other words NOT be so narrowly defined and discipline—oriented as to be designed primarily for those in the major;</li> <li>j. Include materials on the roles and contributions of men and women and relevant issues and problems that have been and/or are related to the factor of gender;</li> <li>k. Include materials on the diverse ethnic groups that have affected (and/or been affected by) the development of American society, culture, and institutions as well as relevant issues and problems that have been and/or are related to the factor of ethnicity;</li> </ul>	<p>Upon Completion of this requirement students will be able to:</p> <p>Goal 1. Understand the foundation and development of American political principles.</p> <p>Objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Identify the key elements of the Declaration of Independence and to evaluate the principles of the American Revolution.</li> <li>2. Identify the main parts of the U.S. Constitution and to evaluate the principles of the American Founding.</li> </ul> <p>Goal 2. Understand the elements of democratic-republican government and politics under the U.S. Constitution.</p> <p>Objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Assess American national government institutions (i.e., Congress, the president, and the federal courts and bureaucracies).</li> <li>2. Evaluate American national political institutions (i.e., political parties, interest groups, and the media).</li> <li>3. Identify the rights and obligations of citizens in the democratic-republican system established under the U.S. Constitution.</li> <li>4. Recognize the issues of race, religion, ethnicity, and sex and their place within the development of American political institutions and the understanding of American political principles.</li> </ul> <p>Goal 3. Understand the elements of California state and local</p>

government.  
Objectives

- l. Where the time frame of the course is appropriate, relate historical developments to contemporary conditions, issues and problems; and
- m. Depending upon the discipline perspective of the particular course offered under American Institutions, explore various social, political and economic institutions in American society and culture, including their origins, interrelationships, historical and contemporary roles, and impact on American development.
- n. In addition, where the courses in American history and Civilization include various materials that satisfactorily meet the American History and Constitution requirements as specified in Sec. 40404 of Title V, they shall be so designated; those American Institutions courses that include materials that satisfactorily meet the constitution, State and Local Government requirements of Title V will be so designated. (Some overlap is inevitable where one has history and political science courses that must all deal with the constitution and constitutional issues.)

- 1. Assess the law- and policy-making process under the California Constitution.
- 2. Evaluate the principal institutions of California government, including state, county, and city governments, and special districts.
- 3. Recognize the relationships between governments and the resolution of conflicts in the American federal system.