Course Information

Division: Social Sciences  
Course Number: POS 221  
Title: Arizona Constitution and Government  
Credits: 1  
Developed by: Dr. Patrick D. Lukens  
Lecture/Lab Ratio: 1 Lecture/0 Lab  
Transfer Status: ASU NAU UA  
POS Dept Elective POS Departmental Elective POL 214

Activity Course: No  
CIP Code: 45.1001  
Assessment Mode: Final Exam (25 Questions/25 Points)  
Semester Taught: Fall and Spring  
GE Category: None  
Separate Lab: No  
Awareness Course: No  
Intensive Writing Course: No

Prerequisites
None

Educational Value
Transfer Students, particularly those intending to teach in Arizona: Fulfills requirements for teacher certification. Political Science or Social Science major or any student wishing to broaden his or her knowledge of Political Science.

Description
Examines constitutional features and structure of Arizona government. Surveys political history and contemporary problems of Arizona. Meets Arizona Constitution requirement for teacher certification. This course meets the first five weeks of each semester.

Supplies
None
Competencies and Performance Standards

1. Describe Arizona's territorial period, the development of the state constitution, and the steps to Arizona statehood.

   Learning objectives
   What you will learn as you master the competency:
   a. Describe the hierarchy of laws and where the state constitution fits in that model.
   b. Discuss how to amend the state constitution.
   c. Describe colonial and territorial governments that have had jurisdiction over modern Arizona (Spanish, Mexican and US).
   d. Summarize the events that led to Arizona statehood.

   Performance Standards
   Competence will be demonstrated:
   o by objective exams
   o by written assignments
   Performance will be satisfactory when:
   o learner can describe the hierarchy of laws
   o learner can describe how to amend the state constitution
   o learner can describe colonial and territorial governments
   o learner summarize the events that led to Arizona statehood

2. Analyze the functions of the Arizona state legislature and law making through direct democracy.

   Learning objectives
   What you will learn as you master the competency:
   a. Describe the organization and structure of the Arizona State Legislature.
   b. Summarize the functions of the state legislature.
   c. Describe the legislative process.
   d. Describe how laws are made through the process of "Direct Democracy."

   Performance Standards
   Competence will be demonstrated:
   o by objective exams
   o by written assignments
   Performance will be satisfactory when:
   o learner can describe the organization and structure of the state legislature
   o learner can summarize the functions of the state legislature
   o learner can describe the legislative process
   o learner can describe direct democracy

3. Describe the structure and function of Arizona's Executive and Administrative branch.

   Learning objectives
   What you will learn as you master the competency:
   a. Describe the "plural" nature of the organization and structure of Arizona's executive and
a. Summarize the functions of the executive and administrative branch.
b. Summarize the functions of the executive and administrative branch.
c. Describe the powers of the Governor.
d. Describe the powers of Arizona's other elected state officials.

**Performance Standards**

*Competence will be demonstrated:*

- by objective exams
- by written assignments

*Performance will be satisfactory when:*

- learner can describe the plural nature of the executive branch
- learner can summarize the functions of the executive branch
- learner can describe the powers of the governor
- learner can describe the powers of other elected executives

4. **Describe the structure and function of Arizona's judiciary.**

**Learning objectives**

*What you will learn as you master the competency:*

a. Describe the organization of the judicial branch.
b. Summarize the functions of the judicial branch.
c. Describe how judges are selected, retained, and removed.
d. Describe the legal process for both criminal and civil cases in Arizona.

**Performance Standards**

*Competence will be demonstrated:*

- by objective exams
- by written assignments

*Performance will be satisfactory when:*

- learner can describe the organization of the judicial branch
- learner can summarize the functions of the judicial branch
- learner can describe how judges are selected, retained and removed
- learner can describe the legal process

5. **Describe the various forms of local government that exist in Arizona.**

**Learning objectives**

*What you will learn as you master the competency:*

a. Describe the structure and functions of county governments.
b. Describe the structure and functions of city and town governments.
c. Describe the structures and functions of districts (school, community college, etc.).

**Performance Standards**

*Competence will be demonstrated:*

- by objective exams
- by written assignments
Performance will be satisfactory when:
- learner can describe the structure and functions of county governments
- learner can describe the structure and functions of city and town governments
- learner can describe the structure and functions of districts

Types of Instruction
- Classroom Lecture
- Discussion
- Video Presentations

Grading Information
Grading Rationale
Each instructor has the flexibility to develop evaluative procedures and assignments within the following guidelines:

A final exam will be administered the final week of class, which will have ten to twenty percent weight toward the students' final grade. The following is a suggested model for evaluating students in this course:

Section Quizzes = 30% weight
Written Assignment = 30% weight
Attendance = 20% weight
Final Exam = 20% weight

Grading Scale
A  90-100%
B  80-89%
C  70-79%
D  60-69%
F  0-59%