

**NEOSHO COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
MASTER COURSE SYLLABUS**

**COURSE IDENTIFICATION**

Course Code/Number: SOSC 102

Course Title: State and Local Government

Division:  Applied Science (AS)  Liberal Arts (LA)  Workforce Development (WD)  
 Health Care (HC)  Lifetime Learning (LL)  Nursing  Developmental

Credit Hour(s): Three (3)

Effective Date: FA 2015

Assessment Goal Per Outcome: 70%

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course emphasizes the importance of states and communities as the setting of most of the public policies which affect the daily lives of their residents. State and local governments play a major role in the political life of the nation as much of the national policy would not function without state/community cooperation.

**MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS/PREREQUISITES AND/OR COREQUISITES**

None

**TEXTS**

The official list of textbooks and materials for this course is found on *myNeosho*.

<http://www.neosho.edu/ProspectiveStudents/Registration/CourseSyllabi.aspx>

**GENERAL EDUCATION OUTCOMES**

1. Practice Responsible Citizenship through:
  - identifying rights and responsibilities of citizenship,
  - identifying how human values and perceptions affect and are affected by social diversity,

- identifying and interpreting artistic expression.
2. Live a healthy lifestyle (physical, intellectual, social) through:
    - listing factors associated with a healthy lifestyle and lifetime fitness,
    - identifying the importance of lifetime learning,
    - demonstrating self-discipline, respect for others, and the ability to work collaboratively as a team.
  3. Communicate effectively through:
    - developing effective written communication skills,
    - developing effective oral communication and listening skills.
  4. Think analytically through:
    - utilizing quantitative information in problem solving,
    - utilizing the principles of systematic inquiry,
    - utilizing various information resources including technology for research and data collection.

### **COURSE OUTCOMES/COMPETENCIES** (as Required)

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Identify the basic concepts related to state and local governments, transfer of authority between various levels of government, basic problems and solutions facing state and local governments.
2. Analyze the importance and history of federalism in the United States and how various levels of government interact.
3. Interpret the various functions, powers, and limitations of state government through analysis of the student's state constitution.
4. Identify the various forms and the importance of political participation, particularly as it relates to the electoral process at the state and local levels.
5. Define the importance of political parties, political competition, and political input by interest groups in determining state governmental policy.
6. Compare and contrast the duties, rights, and responsibilities of the three branches of government at the state level.
7. Examine the importance of government bureaucracy in providing government services.
8. Define the composition, rights, and responsibilities of various forms of local government.
9. Analyze various local leadership systems as they relate to power at the local level.
10. Define the distribution of power between state and local governments as it pertains to the provision of local services.

## **MINIMUM COURSE CONTENT**

The following topics must be included in this course. Additional topics may also be included.

1. State and Local Government
2. Federalism and the States
3. State Constitutions
4. Citizen Participation
5. Political Parties
6. State Legislatures
7. Governors
8. Public Administration
9. Judiciary
10. Local Government
11. Local Leadership

## **STUDENT REQUIREMENTS AND METHOD OF EVALUATION**

### INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS

For specific instructional methods see the syllabus supplement on the syllabus page for this class on *myNeosho*.

### STUDENT REQUIREMENTS AND METHOD OF EVALUATION

A = 90–100% B = 80–89% C = 70–79% D = 60–69% F = 0–59%

For specific instructional methods see the syllabus supplement on the syllabus page for this class on *myNeosho*.

## **ASSESSMENT OF STUDENT GAIN**

The purpose of assessing student learning at Neosho County Community College is to ensure the educational purposes of the institution are met and appropriate changes are made in program development and classroom instruction to allow for student success. The instructor(s) of this course will determine the methods of assessment most appropriate and complete an assessment report at the end of the course.

### Attendance Policy

1. NCCC values interactive learning which promotes student engagement in the learning process. To be actively engaged, the student must be present in the learning environment.
2. Unless students are participating in a school activity or are excused by the instructor, they are expected to attend class. If a student's absences exceed one-eighth of the total course duration,

(which equates to one hundred (100) minutes per credit hour in a face-to-face class) the instructor has the right, but is not required, to withdraw a student from the course. Once the student has been dropped for excessive absences, the registrar's office will send a letter to the student, stating that he or she has been dropped. A student may petition the chief academic officer for reinstatement by submitting a letter stating valid reasons for the absences within one week of the registrar's notification. If the student is reinstated into the class, the instructor and the registrar will be notified. Please refer to the Student Handbook/Academic Policies for more information

3. Absences that occur due to students participating in official college activities are excused except in those cases where outside bodies, such as the State Board of Nursing, have requirements for minimum class minutes for each student. Students who are excused will be given reasonable opportunity to make up any missed work or receive substitute assignments from the instructor and should not be penalized for the absence. Proper procedure should be followed in notifying faculty in advance of the student's planned participation in the event. Ultimately it is the student's responsibility to notify the instructor in advance of the planned absence.

## **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**

NCCC expects every student to demonstrate ethical behavior with regard to academic pursuits. Academic integrity in coursework is a specific requirement. Definitions, examples, and possible consequences for violations of Academic Integrity, as well as the appeals process, can be found in the College Catalog, Student Handbook, and/or Code of Student Conduct and Discipline.

## **ELECTRONIC DEVICE POLICY**

Student cell phones and other personal electronic devices not being used for class activities must not be accessed during class times unless the instructor chooses to waive this policy.

## **NOTE**

Information and statements in this document are subject to change at the discretion of NCCC. Students will be notified of changes and where to find the most current approved documents.

## **ACCOMMODATIONS**

If you are a student with a disability who may need accommodation(s), in compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, please notify the Dean of Student Services in the Student Services Office, Sanders Hall, 620-432-0304, on the Chanute Campus, or the Dean for the Ottawa and Online Campuses, 785-248-2798, on the Ottawa Campus as soon as possible. You will need to bring your documentation for review in order to determine reasonable accommodations, and then we can assist you in arranging any necessary accommodations.

## **NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY**

The following link provides information related to the non-discrimination policy of NCCC, including persons with disabilities. Students are urged to review this policy.

<http://www.neosho.edu/Departments/NonDiscrimination.aspx>

## **SEXUAL MISCONDUCT POLICY (TITLE IX)**

At NCCC, it is the responsibility of an instructor to help create a safe learning environment in the classroom, including both physical and virtual classrooms. All instructors are considered mandatory reporters at NCCC, therefore any information regarding sexual misconduct that is shared by a student in one-on-one meetings with the instructor must be reported to appropriate personnel at the College. Instructors will keep the information private to the greatest extent possible, but it is not confidential. Generally, climate surveys, classroom writing assignments or discussions, human subjects research, or events such as Take Back the Night events do not provide notice that must be reported to the Coordinator by employees, unless the reporting party clearly indicates that they wish a report to be made.

The following link provides information related to the sexual misconduct policy of NCCC, including resources, reporting options, and student rights. Students are urged to review this policy.

<http://www.neosho.edu/TitleIX.aspx>

## **COURSE NOTES**