**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

**Course Title:** American Government College Preparatory

**Course Number:** 10156

**Course Prerequisites:** None

**Course Description:** See Attached

**Suggested Grade Level**: Grade 12

**Length of Course:** One Semester

**Units of Credit:** .5

**PDE Certification and Staffing Policies and Guidelines (CSPG) Required Teacher Certifications:**

CSPG 59 Social Studies 7-12

To find the CSPG information, go to [CSGP](https://www.education.pa.gov/Educators/Certification/Staffing%20Guidelines/Pages/default.aspx)

**Certification verified by the WCSD Human Resources Department:** [x] Yes [ ] No

**WCSD STUDENT DATA SYSTEM INFORMATION**

**Course Level:** Academic

**Mark Types:** Check all that apply.

[x] F – Final Average [x] MP – Marking Period [x] EXM – Final Exam

**GPA Type**: [ ]  GPAEL-GPA Elementary [ ]  GPAML-GPA for Middle Level [x]  NHS-National Honor Society

[x]  UGPA-Non-Weighted Grade Point Average [x]  GPA-Weighted Grade Point Average

**State Course Code**: 04151

To find the State Course Code, go to [State Course Code](https://nces.ed.gov/forum/sced.asp), download the Excel file for *SCED*, click on SCED 6.0 tab, and chose the correct code that corresponds with the course.

**TEXTBOOKS AND SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS**

**Board Approved Textbooks, Software, and Materials:**

**Title:**

**Publisher:**

**ISBN #:**

**Copyright Date:**

**WCSD Board Approval Date:**

**Supplemental Materials:**

**Virtual Vendor:** Accelerate Education

**Curriculum Document**

**WCSD Board Approval:**

**Date Finalized:** 6/10/2019

**Date Approved:** 6/10/2019

**Date(s) Revised:** 3/8/2021

**Implementation Year** 2019-2020

**SPECIAL EDUCATION, 504, and GIFTED REQUIREMENTS**

The teacher shall make appropriate modifications to instruction and assessment based on a student’s Individual Education Plan (IEP), Chapter 15 Section 504 Plan (504), and/or Gifted Individual Education Plan (GIEP).

**Course Description**

This course will guide students through an in-depth study of the history, structure, and guiding principles of American government. The first unit will review the origins of government in general and American government in particular—from the earliest models for democracy to the founding documents that created a federalist system of government in the U.S. Several units will help students explore the roles and responsibilities of each branch of government as well as the impact that the Constitution has had and continues to have on the way government works and on the lives of individual Americans. The course’s final unit will guide students through a series of projects that require them to apply what they have learned about American government to an issue that interests them.

**Major Concepts**

* the forces and philosophies that led to the creation of the first governments
* the role of the United States Constitution in creating the structure of American government
* the people, principles, and theories that informed and inspired the framers of the United States Constitution
* the purpose and function of branches, departments, and agencies of the federal government
* the impact of the Bill of Rights in protecting individual freedoms and informing civil rights movements
* the electoral process and the forces that influence national campaigns
* the role of mass media in the work of government and in citizens’ perceptions of government
* the impact of political parties, interest groups, and movements on the political process
* strategies and processes for participating in American government as a citizen
* analysis of foreign and domestic policy

**ASSESSMENTS**

**PSSA Academic Standards, Assessment Anchors, and Eligible Content:** The teacher must be knowledgeable of the PDE Academic Standards, Assessment Anchors, and Eligible Content and incorporate them regularly into planned instruction.

**Formative Assessments:** The teacher will utilize a variety of assessment methods to conduct in-process evaluations of student learning.

**Effective formative assessments for this course include:** quizzes and discussions

**Summative Assessments:** The teacher will utilize a variety of assessment methods to evaluate student learning at the end of an instructional task, lesson, and/or unit.

**Effective summative assessments for this course include:** projects, essays, tests, and exams