



# STARK STATE COLLEGE

## GENERAL SYLLABUS

### Course Information

**Course Name:** U.S. Government and Politics  
**Course Number:** PSC121

### Required Materials

**Textbook(s):** Thomas E. Patterson, We The People: An Introduction to American Government (2025 Release) McGraw Hill 2025

**Required Readings:** See weekly calendar below

**Additional Materials:** Optional materials are posted on the LMS

### Course Outline/Calendar

The date of coverage and order of coverage may be modified based on the faculty member and events beyond the control of faculty members that interfere with class times and teaching.

Week	Chapter/Topic/Lab
1	Reading assignments and topics: Ch. 1, Critical Thinking and Political Culture: Becoming a Responsible Citizen; Ch. 2, Constitutional Democracy: Promoting Liberty and Self-Government
2	Reading assignments and topics: Ch. 3, Federalism: Forging a Nation; Ch. 4, Civil Liberties: Protecting Individual rights
3	Reading assignments and topics: Ch. 5, Equal Rights: Struggling Toward Fairness; Ch. 6, Public Opinion and Political Socialization: Shaping the People's Voice
4	Reading assignmenst and topics: Ch. 7, Political Participation: Activating the Popular Will; Ch. 8, Political Parties, Candidates, and Campaigns: Defining the Voters' Choice
5	Reading assignments and topics: Ch. 9, Interest Groups: Organizing for Influence; Ch. 10, The News Media and the Internet: Communicating Politics
6	Reading assignments and topics: Ch. 11, Congress: Balancing National Goals and Local Interests; Ch. 12, The Presidency: Leading the Nation
7	Reading assignments and topics: Ch. 13, The Federal Bureaucracy: Administering Government; Ch. 14, The Federal Judicial System: Interpreting the Law
8	Reading assignmentss and topics: Ch. 15, Economic and Environmental Policy: Contributing to Prosperity; Ch. 16, Income, Welfare, and Education Policy: Providing for Personal Security