

## **SAMPOL217 American Government and Politics**

### **Course offered (semester)**

Fall

### **Exam offered (semester)**

Fall

### **Language of Instruction**

English

### **Access to the Course Unit**

The course is open for students at the University of Bergen who fulfill the general admission requirements.

### **Aim and Content**

The course offers a theoretical and empirical introduction to the US political system with topics emphasizing the constitution, separation of powers, federalism, cleavages, party system, political participation, and economic policy. Students will acquire basic knowledge on and understanding of the organization and operations of the political system of the United States.

### **Learning Outcomes**

The course will provide the students with basic concepts and knowledge in order to understand American government and politics and to discuss important aspects of the constitution, federalism, political institutions, party systems, political behavior and public policy. Students will acquire basic knowledge of the constitution and how it facilitates and constrains political behavior, how the constitution governs the interaction between the states and the federal government, and between the legislature, the executive, and the judiciary. Students will also acquire basic knowledge of political behavior, political parties, elections, electoral campaigning, as well as the media and interest groups. Students will also have developed knowledge of economic, domestic, and foreign policy issues.

### **Pre-requirements**

Fulfillment of general admission requirements.

### **Recommended previous knowledge**

MET102, SAMPOL110

### **Subject Overlap**

Total credit reduction with SAMPOL112

**Teaching Methods**

Hours per week: approximately 4

Number of weeks: minimum 10

**Compulsory Requirements**

Approved term paper (1500-2500 words). Mandatory paper is valid in the current and the following exam semester.

**Assessment methods**

Written exam (8 hours)

**Grading Scale**

Grading A-F

**Course Unit Evaluation**

The course is evaluated regularly

*Please note: this course is no longer offered.*