



## GVT 111: U.S. Government

This course is a study of the constitutional, ideological, and cultural factors that influence the political and governmental institutions of the United States. It examines the origin, principles, and provisions of the U.S. and Massachusetts Constitutions; the role of the mass media and public opinion; voting and elections; the institutions of national government; and the Constitutional liberties and rights of citizens. Students develop the ability to think, read, and write critically and analytically and to understand the various forms of human interaction through an analysis of the U.S. government from its inception to the present. This course aids students in their efforts to understand how power is wielded in society and the responsibilities and rights of the individual in human society. Students also develop an understanding of differing points of view on the same issue and the importance of considering the ramifications of decisions. Prerequisite(s): A passing score on the college's reading and writing placement tests or, C or better or concurrent enrollment in ENG 091 or ENG 092. Three lecture hours per week Gen. Ed. Competencies Met: Critical Thinking, Ethical Dimensions, Global and Historic Awareness and Multicultural and Social Perspectives.

### Course Student Learning Outcomes

Students who successfully complete this course will be able to: 1. Identify the intellectual and political origins of modern nations. 2. Assess the impact of the past on modern government structures. 3. Analyze the concept of political culture as a way of understanding each nation. 4. Appraise the role of political parties and elections in selected western and non-western nations. 5. Explain the contributions of various political thinkers on modern nations.

**Credits:** 3

**Program:** Government