

SYLLABUS
PART I
EDISON STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
PLS 122S STATE & LOCAL GOVERNMENT
3 CREDIT HOURS

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Survey of the basic principles relating to the structure, operation, and policy-making processes at the state and local levels of government. Impact of the political environment, culture, tradition, levels of economic development, and the effects of political forces on state and local government are also examined.

Prerequisite: Qualifying assessment scores in reading and writing or satisfactory completion of ENG 091D and ENG 093D.

COURSE GOALS

The student will:

Bloom's Level		Gen Ed Outcomes
2	1. Explain the complexity and ambiguity of state and local politics.	1, 6
2	2. Differentiate the political processes at the state and local levels of government.	1, 6
2	3. Discuss the democratic myths in state and local politics.	1, 2, 6
3	4. Relate political socialization, political participation and the nature of political elites at the state and local levels of government.	4, 6
2	5. Describe the interdependence among state/local politics and national politics.	1
4	6. Compare the range and scope of state and local governments to the allocation of scarce resources.	1, 3, 5
2	7. Explain who governs in state and local politics.	5, 6
2	8. Predict the future of democracy at the local and state levels given the apathy of voters toward politics.	6

CORE VALUES

The Core Values are a set of principles that guide in creating educational programs and environments at Edison. They include communication, ethics, critical thinking, human diversity, inquiry/respect for learning, and interpersonal skills/teamwork. The goals, objectives, and activities in this course will introduce/reinforce these Core Values whenever appropriate.

TOPIC LIST

1. State Constitutions
2. Federalism
3. Elections
4. Political Parties and Pressure Groups
5. Governor
6. Legislature
7. Courts and Law
8. Counties, Towns, Townships, Special Districts
9. Cities and Metropolitan Areas
10. Fiscal Systems
11. Civil Servants
12. Policy Issues, Agencies and Functions