



LAKELAND JOINT SCHOOL DISTRICT
Committed to Academic Excellence ... Dedicated to Student Success

Board Agenda Item Request

AGENDA ITEM: Action Item - THS Dual Credit Offering

PURPOSE: Board approval required

MEETING DATE: May 21, 2025

PREPARED BY: Lisa Arnold

SUMMARY

While the board can't make changes to the syllabus or textbooks as this is a college course, the board should approve the courses taught on our campuses. This course proposal is for NNU Political Science 1010. The syllabus is linked [here](#) to provide some context for the course.

Superintendent Recommendation

The superintendent recommends that we include the NNU Political Science 1010 course in the master schedule for students at THS for the 2025-26 school year.

POLS1010 American National Politics (3 credits)

Course Syllabus

Timberlake High School

POLS1010 American National Politics (3 credits)

An introduction to American politics from the 18th century to the present. Major themes and events include the writing of the U.S. Constitution, the development of American political principles and institutions, and contemporary political practices and issues in the U.S.

Mr. Rider

brider@lakeland272.org

Course Description:

This course is a study of the American political system and how it functions. American Government examines the fundamental political institutions of our nation and the governmental operations of the United States, both at home and abroad. Special emphasis is given to the role of citizens at the local, state, and national levels

A Note on the Standards

- The American Government curriculum includes both Lakeland School District and State of Idaho standards.
- State standards include content knowledge and skills in the following areas: critical thinking; the evolution of democracy; civic life, politics and government; foundations, organization, and formation of the American system of government; United States foreign affairs; and citizen responsibilities and rights.

Course Grading:

- Summative Assessments (Unit Exams and Semester final): 60% of overall grade:
 - These will be given after 3-5 Lessons have been taught and will be cumulative. These can be Exams or Summative Projects, and will be worth 25 points each.
 - The Semester 1 Final Exam will be the Lakeland Citizenship Exam, which is a graduation requirement.
- Formative Assessments (Tests and Projects): Worth 20% of overall grade.
 - This will consist of Lesson tests that will be given through the year, developed from the content from the TCI's Government ALIVE! textbook and lectures. These will be worth 50 points each.
- Classwork: Worth 20% of overall grade.
 - This grade will consist of entry tasks, notes, activities, discussions, simulations, and other assignments.

Materials and Preparation:

Please bring the following to class every day:

- Your charged Chromebook
- A notebook with loose leaf paper
- A writing utensil, pen or pencil

Absences and your grade:

- It is **your** responsibility to contact the teacher, upon returning to class, regarding missed assignments.
- If you miss an exam you must make arrangements for a make-up exam.

Missing/Late Work:

Late Classwork will be accepted at 50% credit up until the end of the Unit that it was assigned.

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Plagiarism:

Plagiarizing, e.g. presenting the words or ideas of another person as your own, including inadequate documentation of sources (electronic, internet, or print) and excessive dependence on the language of sources even when documented, by using a similar order of sentences while altering a few words or word order. Any student who is identified to be in violation of the academic integrity policies outlined above is subject to discipline and may be at risk to not receive credit for the course.

COURSE SCHEDULE			
SEMESTER 1			
WEEKS	UNIT	LESSONS	TOPIC
1, 2, 3, & 4 Unit Exam Week 4	1	1. The Nature of Power, Politics, and Government 2. Comparing Forms of Government	Power, Authority, and Government
5, 6, 7, 8, 9, & 10 Unit Exam Week 10	2	3. The Roots of American Democracy 4. The United States Constitution 5. The Bill of Rights and Civil Liberties 6. Federalism: National, State, and Local Powers	Foundations of American Government
12, 13, 14, & 15 Unit Exam Week 15	3	7. Citizen Participation in a Democracy 8. Parties, Interest Groups, and Public Policy 9. Public Opinion and the Media 10. Political Campaigns and Elections	Political Participation and Behavior
16, 17, & 18 Unit Exam Week 18	4	11. Lawmakers and Legislatures 12. Congressional Lawmaking	The Legislative Branch
SEMESTER 2			
WEEKS	UNIT	LESSONS	TOPIC
19, 20, 21, & 22 Unit Exam Week 22	5	13. Chief Executives and Bureaucracies 14. The Federal Budget	The Executive Branch
23, 24, 25, 26, & 27 Unit Exam Week 27	6	15. Courts, Judges, and the Law 16. The Criminal Justice System	The Judicial Branch
28, 29, 30, 31, & 32 Unit Exam Week 32	7	17. Creating American Foreign Policy 18. Confronting Global Issues	The United States and the World
33, 34, & 35 Final Exam Week 35	8	Local Government:	Participating in State and Local Government

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IDAHO STATE DEPARTMENT - ESSENTIAL STANDARDS

1	9-12.GOV.1 Examine the influences of leading European thinkers such as Locke and Montesquieu, as well as the influence of historical institutions such as Greek democracy, Roman republicanism, and the English legal tradition on the American Founding.
2	9-12.GOV.6 Describe the purposes and functions of government as outlined in the Preamble of the Constitution.
3	9-12.GOV.7 Describe limited government within the Constitution, including: Checks and balances, Popular sovereignty, Rule of law, Federalism, Separation of powers, Judicial review, Majority rule and protection of minority rights
4	9-12.GOV.8 Describe the structure of the Constitution and the process to amend it.
5	9-12.GOV.9 Analyze how the Bill of Rights limits the powers of the government and ensures individual rights.
6	9-12.GOV.10 Define the concepts of democracy and republic and examine the relationship between the two.
7	9-12.GOV.12 Evaluate the arguments within the Declaration of Independence and its definition of an ideal government.
8	9-12.GOV.13 Describe, at the national, state, and local level, what should be reasonably expected from any citizen or resident of the U.S. and explain why it is important for the well-being of the nation, including being informed on civic issues, serving in the military or alternative service, obeying the law, paying taxes, volunteering, and performing public service, respecting the rights of others, serving as a juror, and voting.
9	9-12.GOV.15 Evaluate the roles of the federal and state governments in the Civil Rights Movement.
10	9-12.GOV.16 Explain the role and evolution of political parties in governing and in the recruitment/election of political candidates and the importance of and difference between primaries, caucuses, and general elections.
11	9-12.GOV.17 Evaluate the role of the media/social media as a means of communicating information/misinformation and how it influences the importance of issues and public opinion.
12	9-12.GOV.19 Explain the requirements to be considered a natural-born U.S. citizen and describe the process of naturalization, including the knowledge required by the Naturalization Test.
13	9-12.GOV.21 Identify and be able to engage with key officials, both elected and appointed, in the legislative, executive, and judicial branches at the federal, state, and local levels.
14	9-12.GOV.22 Distinguish between civil rights and civil liberties and how they are put into practice in our daily lives.
15	9-12.GOV.28 Compare the types and purposes of taxation that are used by local, state, and federal governments to pay for services provided by the government.
16	9-12.GOV.30 Analyze Article I and the 17th Amendment of the Constitution as they relate to the legislative branch, including eligibility for office, roles, duties, casework, length of terms, and election to office for representatives and senators.
17	9-12.GOV.33 Describe the process of how a bill becomes law.
18	9-12.GOV.34 Describe the powers of the United States Congress, including appropriations, declaration of war, commerce, implied powers, confirmations, necessary and proper clauses, and powers of impeachment and oversight.
19	9-12.GOV.35 Analyze Article II of the Constitution as it relates to the executive branch, including appointments, oath of office, Commander-in-chief of the military, powers of the president, eligibility for office, succession (25th Amendment), executive orders, treaties, length of term (20th and 22nd Amendments).
20	9-12.GOV.37 Explain the Electoral College system, and how it has evolved over time, and compare arguments for and against it.
21	9-12.GOV.38 Analyze Article III of the Constitution as it relates to judicial power, including the length of terms and the jurisdiction of the U.S. Supreme Court.
22	9-12.GOV.41 Describe the Supreme Court's role, established by Marbury vs. Madison, in determining the constitutionality of laws and acts of the legislative and executive branches.
23	9-12.GOV.43 Explain the functions, powers, interactions, and dynamic relationships among federal, state, local, and tribal governments including the roles of the 10th Amendment, McCulloch vs Maryland, Gibbons vs. Ogden, and evolution from dual federalism to cooperative federalism.
24	9-12.GOV.44 Analyze and discuss sovereignty and the federal responsibility the United States has with federally recognized American Indian tribes with emphasis on Idaho, such as hunting and fishing rights, and land leasing.
25	9-12.GOV.45 Explain the organization and powers of state and local government as described in the Constitution of the State of Idaho by analyzing legislative, executive, and judicial branches.
26	9-12.GOV.49 Describe the evolution of voting (methods and process) and enfranchisement including key amendments (15th, 19th, 23rd, 24th, 26th) and laws (1965 Voting Rights Act) that have extended the right to vote to previously disenfranchised Americans.
27	9-12.GOV.51 Describe the nomination and election process in American national and state elections, including the Electoral College.
28	9-12.GOV.53 Explain the impact of reapportionment and redistricting on elections and governance.
29	9-12.GOV.58 Identify and evaluate the role of the United States in international organizations, agreements, treaties, and humanitarian relief efforts.

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Timberlake High School, Mr. Rider

Part I: Student Affirmation of Course Syllabus Review

I received a copy of the American National Politics course syllabus and reviewed its contents. Mr. Rider answered my questions and provided clarification.

I understand and accept the expectations, policies and requirements of this course.

Student's name

Date

Part II: Parents' / Guardians' Affirmation of the Course Syllabus Review

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s):

Your son or daughter and I have reviewed and discussed the course syllabus for American National Politics. Your review is also important. Please read and discuss the syllabus with your son or daughter. If you've any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me: brider@lakeland272.org or through the school's phone line.

Sincerely,
Bill Rider

Parent name

Date