

CORE CURRICULUM COMPONENT APPLICATION
Texarkana College

Part I: Course Information

Course Type

- Existing/Restructured
 New Course

Course Prefix & Number: **GOVT 2306**

Texas Common Course Number (TCCN): **2306**

Course Title: **Texas Government**

Course Catalog Description

A study of the Texas Constitution and government emphasizing political institutions including: political parties, interest groups, the legislature, the governor, the bureaucracy, the judiciary, and local government.

Course Prerequisites: Successfully completed the reading portion of the TSI Test.

Available Online?

- Yes
 No

Part II: THECB Course Objectives [Sample Syllabus](#)

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Explain the origin and development of the Texas constitution.
2. Describe state and local political systems and their relationship with the federal government.
3. Describe separation of powers and checks and balances in both theory and practice in Texas.
4. Demonstrate knowledge of the legislative, executive, and judicial branches of Texas government.
5. Evaluate the role of public opinion, interest groups, and political parties in Texas.
6. Analyze the state and local election process.
7. Identify the rights and responsibilities of citizens.
8. Analyze issues, policies and political culture of Texas.

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Part III: THECB Skill Objectives

- 1. Critical Thinking Skills:** to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation, and synthesis of information
- 2. Communication Skills:** to include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral, and visual communication
- 3. Social Responsibility:** to include intercultural competency, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities.
- 4. Personal Responsibility:** to include the ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making.

Part IV: Course Student Learning Outcomes (SLO) [SLO Attachment](#) & [Post Test](#)

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. The student will understand the history and political culture of Texas and be familiar with current population data.
2. The student will understand the foundations, development, and features of the Texas Constitution of 1876 and how it compares to the United States Constitution.
3. The student will understand the types of elections, the voting process, and campaigns in Texas.
4. The student will be able to discuss how political parties and interest groups connect people to Texas government.
5. The student will be able to describe the structure and function of the three branches of government in Texas.
6. The student will understand the structure, functions, and operations of the institutions of local government in Texas.

Skill Objective:	Critical Thinking Skills: to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information
THECB Course Objective	3. Describe separation of powers and checks and balances in both theory and practice in Texas. 4. Demonstrate knowledge of the legislative, executive, and judicial branches of Texas government.
Course Student Learning Outcome	5. The student will be able to describe the structure and function of the three branches of government in Texas.
General Learning Activities	The objectives will be addressed through lectures, in class analyses of policies and current events, class discussions, and a review of documents and readings

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	relevant to the structure and function of the legislative, executive, and judicial branches of Texas.
Assessment <i>Must Include Assignment & Rubric</i>	The objective will be assessed through a post-test consisting of multiple choice questions. The faculty as a whole will develop and agree upon thirty multiple choice questions which test students' ability to demonstrate their knowledge of the legislative, executive, and judicial branches of Texas government. Examples of possible questions can be found in Appendix A: Sample Post-Test Questions Rubric: Attached

Skill Objective:	Communication Skills: to include effective written, oral, and visual communication
THECB Course Objective	5. Evaluate the role of public opinion, interest groups, and political parties in Texas.
Course Student Learning Outcome	4. The student will be able to discuss how political parties and interest groups connect people to Texas government.
General Learning Activities	The objective will be addressed through lectures, in class analyses of policies and current events, class discussions, and a review of documents and readings relevant to the role of public opinion, interest groups, and political parties in Texas. Students will individually complete a political ideology selector from the <i>Selectsmart</i> website, research the meaning of political ideologies, and prepare a report describing ideologies and selectors used to identify persons and evaluating the website.
Assessment <i>Must Include Assignment & Rubric</i>	The objective will be assessed through a post-test consisting of multiple choice questions. The faculty as a whole will develop and agree upon twenty-nine multiple choice questions which test students' ability to Examples of possible questions can be found in <i>Appendix A: Sample Post-Test Questions</i> Students will also be assessed a report grade based on completion of the Political Ideology Selector (Appendix B) assignment. Rubric: Attached

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Skill Objective:	Social Responsibility: to include intercultural competency, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities.
THECB Course Objective	7. Identify the rights and responsibilities of citizens. 8. Analyze issues, policies and political culture of Texas.
Course Student Learning Outcome	1. The student will understand the history and political culture of Texas and be familiar with current population data. 2. The student will understand the foundations, development, and features of the Texas Constitution of 1876 and how it compares to the United States Constitution.
General Learning Activities	The objectives will be addressed through lectures; in class analyses of issues, policies and current events relative to the political culture of Texas; class discussions, and a review of documents and readings relevant to the rights and responsibilities of Texas citizens.
Assessment <i>Must Include Assignment & Rubric</i>	The objective will be assessed through a post-test consisting of multiple choice questions. The faculty as a whole will develop and agree upon fifteen multiple choice questions which test students' ability to understand the history and political culture of Texas and to apply that knowledge in identifying the rights and responsibilities of its citizens. Examples of possible questions can be found in Appendix A: Sample Post-Test Questions Rubric: Attached

Skill Objective:	Personal Responsibility: to include the ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making.
THECB Course Objective	6. Analyze the state and local election process.
Course Student Learning Outcome	7. The student will understand the types of elections, the voting process, and campaigns in Texas.
General Learning Activities	The objectives will be addressed through lectures and in class analyses of the types of elections, the voting process, and campaigns in Texas.

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<p>Assessment <i>Must Include Assignment & Rubric</i></p>	<p>The objective will be assessed through a post-test consisting of multiple choice questions. The faculty as a whole will develop and agree upon seventeen multiple choice questions which test students' ability to analyze the state and local election process. Examples of possible questions can be found in Appendix A: Sample Post-Test Questions Rubric: Attached</p>
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