

## POU33041 — POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS OF THE UNITED STATES

| Module Information |                                                    |
|--------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| Module Code        | <i>POU33041</i>                                    |
| Module Title       | <i>Political Institutions of the United States</i> |
| Department         | <i>Political Science</i>                           |
| Year Group         | <i>Junior</i>                                      |
| Module Personnel   | <i>Emanuel Coman</i>                               |
| Academic Year      | <i>2026–27</i>                                     |
| Credit Weighting   | <i>5 credits</i>                                   |
| Semester           | <i>Semester 1</i>                                  |
| Contact Hours      | <i>2 lectures per week</i>                         |

| Module Content       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|----------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Module Description   | The module will introduce the students to the main institutions of the American political system: Presidency, Congress, Judiciary. In the process we will learn about the way in which the members of these institutions are selected, the functions played by each of these institutions, and the way in which they interact under the checks and balances system of the United States. Special attention will be given to the historical development of these relationships. |
| Module Learning Aims |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Learning Outcomes    | <p>On successful completion of this module students should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Show strong knowledge of the American political institutions and the way in which they interact in the process of policy making</li> <li>• Familiarise themselves with the history of the US political system</li> <li>• Demonstrate strong understanding of the US electoral system</li> </ul>                                                            |

## Module Content

|                                       |                                                                                                                                                                  |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Show a good understanding of the organisation and ideological underpinnings of the two main American parties</li> </ul> |
| <b>Indicative Reading / Resources</b> |                                                                                                                                                                  |

## Assessment

|                              |                            |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>Assessment Components</b> | <i>Essay 25%, Exam 75%</i> |
| <b>Assessment Details</b>    |                            |

## Additional Information

|                              |             |
|------------------------------|-------------|
| <b>Prerequisites</b>         | <i>None</i> |
| <b>Co-requisites</b>         | <i>None</i> |
| <b>Any other information</b> |             |