

POLS 112FR1 American National Government and Politics: *Leadership and Civic Activism*

"In periods where there is no leadership, society stands still. Progress occurs when courageous, skillful leaders seize the opportunity to change things for the better." –Harry S. Truman

Our society is made up of multiple layers. We are citizens in a classroom, citizens in a university, and citizens of a city, state, and nation. Whether we hold an official leadership title or not, each of these layers need engaged citizens to thrive. In this course we will explore how leadership and civic activism can make a positive difference in each of these contexts.

As a section of POLS 112, this course provides a broad survey of American political processes, institutions, and behavior. As a freshman seminar, we will also explore parallels at the university level. Knowing how these processes and institutions work and *why* they work this way is crucial for effective political leadership and civic activism.

We will also work to develop our own leadership identities, styles, and skills through studying both leadership and leaders.

Through completing this course, you should:

- gain a greater understanding of the structures and processes of American politics as well as SIUE
- develop your leadership skills and identity
- gain skills necessary to thrive and to lead at SIUE
- learn how to work effectively within the American political system to bring about change

Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2:00-3:15pm

Note: While this course is open to all freshmen, first priority in enrollment in this course is given to students living in the Future Leaders Focused Interest Community (FIC) located in Prairie Hall. If you are interested in this program, please indicate your interest on the University Housing application. Contact Vicky Dean, Assistant Director of Residential Education at vdean @ siue.edu for more information about the Future Leaders FIC.

CRN for enrollment: 33554

For more information on the course contact:
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