

# WASHINGTON SEMESTER SUMMER INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

*at* AMERICAN UNIVERSITY



## Colloquium in U.S. Government

Course Code:	WSEM-400-002
Credit Hours:	3 Credits
In-Class Contact Hours:	3.5 contact hours per week/24.5 contact hours for the summer term
Internship Hours:	32+ per week/224+ for the summer term
Portfolio:	Students will create a comprehensive portfolio of their internship and seminar experiences at the end of the term.

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### Course Description

This colloquium provides students with in-depth knowledge of United States political institutions. In addition to studying topics in a traditional seminar setting, students will gain valuable insights by meeting with political experts and traveling to various locations throughout the city. These experiences will create the context to understand more fully how Washington, DC “really works.” Course topics may include Congress, the Presidency, the Courts, lobbying, elections, and more.

### At the conclusion of this course, students will be able to:

- Recognize the key participants in - and the forces that influence - the American political environment, with a particular emphasis on the roles played by the experts and the institutions engaged with during the summer session.
- Recognize “textbook” theories of American politics and apply them to “real world” situations.
- Compare and contrast diverse positions on political topics from both the readings and the news.
- More fully explain and defend personal political views with evidence explored during the course.