

Centennial Honors College
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ABSTRACT

Major: Political Science

Podium

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The United States Congress

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The United States Congress is a vital institution that plays a crucial role in shaping our nation's laws and policies. It is responsible for making and passing laws affecting every aspect of our lives, from healthcare to education, taxes to national security. Congress is made up of two parts: the House of Representatives and the Senate, which work together to create and pass legislation. One of the most critical functions of Congress is to pass laws that benefit American citizens. But how does that process work? When a bill is introduced, it goes through a complex series of steps before becoming law. This includes committee hearings, debates, and votes in both the House and the Senate. If the bill passes both chambers of Congress, it goes to the President for approval or veto. However, Congress faces numerous challenges in carrying out its functions. Disagreements and difficulty in making decisions are common issues, and some people criticize Congress for being slow to act or for being too influenced by special interests. Despite these challenges, Congress remains a vital institution that represents the interests of American citizens. The powers and functions of Congress are critical to the success and vitality of our democracy. It is responsible for ensuring that our government remains accountable and responsive to the needs of the people. Congress has the power to investigate and oversee the actions of the executive branch, ensuring that they are acting in the best interest of the people.