

POLS M01: INTRODUCTION TO POLITICS

Originator

spfeffer

Co-Contributor(s)
Name(s)

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College

Moorpark College

Discipline (CB01A)

POLS - Political Science

Course Number (CB01B)

M01

Course Title (CB02)

Introduction to Politics

Banner/Short Title

Introduction to Politics

Credit Type

Credit

Start Term

Fall 2023

Catalog Course Description

Surveys the nature and scope of political science including basic concepts, terms, contending theories, institutions, and subfields in the discipline. Describes the methodology and research techniques employed by political scientists. Covers subfields such as Political Theory, American Government, Comparative Politics, and International Relations.

Taxonomy of Programs (TOP) Code (CB03)

2207.00 - Political Science

Course Credit Status (CB04)

D (Credit - Degree Applicable)

Course Transfer Status (CB05) (select one only)

A (Transferable to both UC and CSU)

Course Basic Skills Status (CB08)

N - The Course is Not a Basic Skills Course

SAM Priority Code (CB09)

E - Non-Occupational

Course Cooperative Work Experience Education Status (CB10)

N - Is Not Part of a Cooperative Work Experience Education Program

Course Classification Status (CB11)

Y - Credit Course

Educational Assistance Class Instruction (Approved Special Class) (CB13)

N - The Course is Not an Approved Special Class

Course Prior to Transfer Level (CB21)

Y - Not Applicable

Course Noncredit Category (CB22)

Y - Credit Course

Funding Agency Category (CB23)

Y - Not Applicable (Funding Not Used)

Course Program Status (CB24)

1 - Program Applicable

General Education Status (CB25)

Y - Not Applicable

Support Course Status (CB26)

N - Course is not a support course

Field trips

Will not be required

Grading method

(L) Letter Graded

Alternate grading methods

(O) Student Option- Letter/Pass

(P) Pass/No Pass Grading

Does this course require an instructional materials fee?

No

Repeatable for Credit

No

Is this course part of a family?

No

Units and Hours

Carnegie Unit Override

No

In-Class

Lecture

Minimum Contact/In-Class Lecture Hours

52.5

Maximum Contact/In-Class Lecture Hours

52.5

Activity

Laboratory

Total in-Class

Total in-Class

Total Minimum Contact/In-Class Hours

52.5

Total Maximum Contact/In-Class Hours

52.5

Outside-of-Class

Internship/Cooperative Work Experience

Paid

Unpaid

Total Outside-of-Class

Total Outside-of-Class

Minimum Outside-of-Class Hours

105

Maximum Outside-of-Class Hours

105

Total Student Learning

Total Student Learning

Total Minimum Student Learning Hours

157.5

Total Maximum Student Learning Hours

157.5

Minimum Units (CB07)

3

Maximum Units (CB06)

3

Student Learning Outcomes (CSLOs)

Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:

- 1 use evidence (qualitative or quantitative) to defend a position within the context of Introduction to Politics.
- 2 evaluate arguments presented in a primary / secondary source and use those arguments to evaluate current events for a topic related to Introduction to Politics.

Course Objectives

Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:

- 1 describe the different types of states and their sources of political legitimacy.
- 2 distinguish between democratic, authoritarian, and totalitarian governments.
- 3 evaluate differences between the American political system and other political systems.
- 4 explain the difference between anti-government ideologies, right-wing ideologies, and left-wing ideologies.
- 5 analyze different forms of political participation (such as individual political participation, political parties, and interest groups) within democratic, authoritarian, and totalitarian governments.
- 6 describe roles and forms of political leadership within democratic, authoritarian, and totalitarian governments.
- 7 evaluate political violence, such as revolution, terrorism, and war.
- 8 identify the difficulties (moral as well as political) involved in creating domestic and foreign policy.
- 9 write essays that demonstrate an ability to think critically, argue logically, use examples, and apply research skills.

Course Content

Lecture/Course Content

10% The Discipline of Political Science

1) Introduces Political Science as a field of study and its place in the broader Social Sciences

2) Professional and career opportunities for political science majors

30% Comparing Political Systems

1) Definition of a nation, state, power, authority, and legitimacy

2) Compare democratic, authoritarian, and totalitarian governments

3) The role of ideology

4) Developed and developing nation-states

20% Political Participation

1) Voting, Elections, and Political Parties

2) Participation in democratic, authoritarian, and totalitarian governments.

3) Role of interest groups and the media in democratic, authoritarian, and totalitarian governments.

4) Political Leadership (such as roles and functions) in Democratic, Authoritarian, and totalitarian Governments

20% International Relations

1) The major theories used in International Relations - Realist, Idealist, and Constructivist

2) U.S. foreign policy objectives and national interests

3) Role of international organizations and trade

20% Political Violence

1) Revolution

2) Terrorism

3) War

Laboratory or Activity Content

N/A

Methods of Evaluation

Which of these methods will students use to demonstrate proficiency in the subject matter of this course? (Check all that apply):

Written expression

Methods of Evaluation may include, but are not limited to, the following typical classroom assessment techniques/required assignments (check as many as are deemed appropriate):

Essay exams

Group projects

Objective exams

Quizzes

Other (specify)

Classroom Discussion

Projects

Participation

Reports/Papers/Journals

Other

Instructor will engage students in discussion of current event topics and may include debates and group discussions as part of the evaluation method.

Instructional Methodology

Specify the methods of instruction that may be employed in this course

Audio-visual presentations

Case studies

Class discussions

Collaborative group work

Distance Education

Group discussions

Lecture

Other (specify)

Specify other method of instruction

Instructional methods include pair and group activities.

Describe specific examples of the methods the instructor will use:

Provide an overview of a topic through lecture and then engage in classroom or group discussion of the issue. Include films and other sources of online media to provide additional perspective on the material being covered.

Representative Course Assignments

Writing Assignments

- write essays.
- write summaries and analyses of guest lectures.
- express in writing individual opinion or thought on a given topic related to government.
- write a short research paper on a specific topic appropriate to the course, such as an analysis of the different forms of political participation within democracies and within authoritarian governments.

Critical Thinking Assignments

- identify political leadership and policy issues.
- distinguish between political and nonpolitical topics through media assignments.
- compare and contrast the different ways of structuring the legislative branch and discuss the consequences of those choices to issues such as equality, stability, and gridlock.

Reading Assignments

- read a journal article that compares and contrasts the structures of governing institutions in various countries.
- read textbook chapters.
- read primary sources such as constitutions, speeches, and treaties.

Outside Assignments

Representative Outside Assignments

- keep a journal on media coverage of political topics.
- research and write a paper utilizing library/Internet sources; for example, a research paper that compares and contrasts the evolution of a bill and its path through the law-making process in various countries.
- read newspapers to stay current on events.

Articulation

C-ID Descriptor Number

POLS 150

Status

Approved

Equivalent Courses at 4 year institutions

University	Course ID	Course Title	Units
CSU Fullerton	POSC 200	Intro Study of Politics	3
CSU Stanislaus	PSCI 2000	Introduction to Political Science	3
CSU East Bay	POSC 1000	Introduction to Political Science	4

Comparable Courses within the VCCCD

- POLS V03 - Introduction to Political Science
- POLS R100 - Introduction to Politics

District General Education

A. Natural Sciences

B. Social and Behavioral Sciences

B1. American History/Institutions

Approved

B2. Social and Behavioral Sciences

Approved

C. Humanities

D. Language and Rationality

E. Health and Physical Education/Kinesiology

F. Ethnic Studies/Gender Studies

Course is CSU transferable

Yes

CSU Baccalaureate List effective term:

F1995

CSU GE-Breadth

Area A: English Language Communication and Critical Thinking

Area B: Scientific Inquiry and Quantitative Reasoning

Area C: Arts and Humanities

Area D: Social Sciences

D Social Sciences

Approved

Area E: Lifelong Learning and Self-Development

Area F: Ethnic Studies

CSU Graduation Requirement in U.S. History, Constitution and American Ideals:

UC TCA

UC TCA

Approved

IGETC

Area 1: English Communication

Area 2A: Mathematical Concepts & Quantitative Reasoning

Area 3: Arts and Humanities

Area 4: Social and Behavioral Sciences

Area 4: Social and Behavioral Sciences

Approved

Area 5: Physical and Biological Sciences

Area 6: Languages Other than English (LOTE)

Textbooks and Lab Manuals

Resource Type

Textbook

Description

Magstadt, Thomas. *Understanding Politics: Ideas, Institutions, and Issues*. 13th ed., Cengage, 2021.

Resource Type

Textbook

Description

Roskin, Michael G., et al. *Political Science: An Introduction*. 14th ed., Pearson, 2017.

Resource Type

Textbook

Description

Shively, W. Phillips. *Power and Choice: An Introduction to Political Science*. 16th ed., Rowman & Littlefield, 2022.

Resource Type

Textbook

Classic Textbook

No

Description

Simon, Douglas. *The Challenge of Politics: An Introduction to Political Science*. 7th ed., CQ Press, 2022.

Library Resources

Assignments requiring library resources

Research, using the Library's print and online resources.

Sufficient Library Resources exist

Yes

Example of Assignments Requiring Library Resources

Research and write a paper utilizing library/Internet sources; for example, a research paper that compares and contrasts the evolution of a bill and its path through the law-making process in various countries.

Distance Education Addendum

Definitions

Distance Education Modalities

Hybrid (1%–50% online)

Hybrid (51%–99% online) is a temporary emergency approval ONLY

100% online

Faculty Certifications

Faculty assigned to teach Hybrid or Fully Online sections of this course will receive training in how to satisfy the Federal and state regulations governing regular effective/substantive contact for distance education. The training will include common elements in the district-supported learning management system (LMS), online teaching methods, regular effective/substantive contact, and best practices.

Yes

Faculty assigned to teach Hybrid or Fully Online sections of this course will meet with the EAC Alternate Media Specialist to ensure that the course content meets the required Federal and state accessibility standards for access by students with disabilities. Common areas for discussion include accessibility of PDF files, images, captioning of videos, Power Point presentations, math and scientific notation, and ensuring the use of style mark-up in Word documents.

Yes

Regular Effective/Substantive Contact

Hybrid (1%–50% online) Modality:

Method of Instruction	Document typical activities or assignments for each method of instruction
Asynchronous Dialog (e.g., discussion board)	Find current event articles and relate them directly to lecture content.
Other DE (e.g., recorded lectures)	Record and post audio/visual lectures that students can access at any time.

Hybrid (51%–99% online) Modality:

Method of Instruction	Document typical activities or assignments for each method of instruction
Asynchronous Dialog (e.g., discussion board)	Find current event articles and relate them directly to lecture content.
Other DE (e.g., recorded lectures)	Record and post audio/visual lectures that students can access at any time.

100% online Modality:

Method of Instruction	Document typical activities or assignments for each method of instruction
Asynchronous Dialog (e.g., discussion board)	Find current event articles and relate them directly to lecture content.
Other DE (e.g., recorded lectures)	Record and post audio/visual lectures that students can access at any time.

Examinations

Hybrid (1%–50% online) Modality

Online

Hybrid (51%–99% online) Modality

Online

Primary Minimum Qualification

POLITICAL SCIENCE

Review and Approval Dates**Department Chair**

10/07/2022

Dean

10/17/2022

Technical Review

11/03/2022

Curriculum Committee

11/15/2022

DTRW-I

MM/DD/YYYY

Curriculum Committee

MM/DD/YYYY

Board

MM/DD/YYYY

CCCCO

MM/DD/YYYY

Control Number

CCC000431729

DOE/accreditation approval date

MM/DD/YYYY