

POLS M06: INTRODUCTION TO POLITICAL THEORY

Originator

spfeffer

Co-Contributor(s)
Name(s)

Ballestero, Lee (lballestero)

College

Moorpark College

Discipline (CB01A)

POLS - Political Science

Course Number (CB01B)

M06

Course Title (CB02)

Introduction to Political Theory

Banner/Short Title

Intro to Political Theory

Credit Type

Credit

Start Term

Fall 2023

Catalog Course Description

Examines the various approaches to political theory across time, issues, and authors. Analyzes selected political theories and ideologies, relevance of theory to contemporary problems, and new approaches to political thought. Evaluates the contribution of theories towards a comprehensive understanding of political life and political institutions.

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 Political Theory.
- 2 evaluate arguments presented in a primary / secondary source and use those arguments to evaluate current events for a topic related to Political Theory.

Course Objectives

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

- 1 evaluate the importance of the study of political theory as a means for understanding political phenomena.
- 2 explain the ways in which political theory and theoretical texts are analyzed and applied.
- 3 discuss the historical and social framework surrounding various generations of political theories and ideologies.
- 4 compare and contrast the defining elements of each body of theory which is used to explain/predict political behavior.
- 5 analyze the different assumptions and values about "human nature" and "reality" embedded in each body of theory.
- 6 explain the political systems advocated by major political theorists and their attitudes toward the state, power, race/ gender, and religion.
- 7 evaluate the contribution of each body of theory towards a comprehensive understanding of political life and political institutions.
- 8 explain the philosophical concerns raised by feminist and critical race theorists
- 9 write essays that demonstrate an ability to think critically, argue logically, use examples, and apply research skills.

Course Content

Lecture/Course Content

25% Introduction to political theory

- Comparative analysis
- Theory across time, issues, and authors
- Power, authority, legitimacy, and the state

25% Application of political theory, including but not limited to

- How political theory is applicable to the 'real world'
- How political theory can be used to make better policies
- How political theory can affect the development of political institutions

20% Responsibility of citizens, including but not limited to

- Social Contract
- Individualism vs. Communitarianism
- Changing interpretations of the rights and responsibilities of citizens
- Changing role of government in public and private life

20% Central issues in political theory, including but not limited to

- The design and role of the state
- Race, gender, and equality
- Morality and religion
- Conceptions of Human nature

10% Contemporary Political Theory

- Assess the contributions of feminist and critical race theory to the study of philosophy

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
Reports/papers
Other (specify)
Classroom Discussion
Participation
Reports/Papers/Journals

Other

Reflection papers

Instructional Methodology

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

Audio-visual presentations
Class discussions
Distance Education
Group discussions
Lecture
Other (specify)

Specify other method of instruction

Instructional methods include lecture, discussion, 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 on topics concerning political theory, such as an examination of the historical and social framework surrounding various generations of political theories and ideologies.
- write weekly journal entries.
- write summaries and analyses of peer presentations.

Critical Thinking Assignments

- apply theoretical concepts to current policy issues.
- distinguish between different theoretical movements.
- compare and contrast Individualism and Communitarianism.

Reading Assignments

- textbook chapters
- primary sources which include pamphlets, speeches, and classic texts such as Plato’s dialogues and John Locke’s A Letter Concerning Toleration.

Outside Assignments

Representative Outside Assignments

- find current events that can be used to demonstrate theoretical concepts discussed in class.
- read assigned readings and other projects.
- create a research paper involving library/Internet sources. For example, a research paper that follows the development of a political concept such as liberty or equality.

Articulation

C-ID Descriptor Number

POLS 120

Status

Approved

Equivalent Courses at 4 year institutions

University	Course ID	Course Title	Units
Cal Poly Pomona	PLS 2040	Introduction to Political Thought	3
UC Riverside	POSC 7	Intro to Political Theory	5
UC Berkeley	POL SCI 4	Introduction to Political Theory	4
UC Irvine	POL SCI 31A	Introduction to Political Theory	4
UC Los Angeles	POL SCI 10	Intro to Political Theory	5
San Francisco State University	PLSI 275	Introduction to Political Theory	3

Comparable Courses within the VCCCD

- POLS R120 - Political Theory
- POLS V04 - Introduction to Political Theory

District General Education

A. Natural Sciences

B. Social and Behavioral Sciences

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:

F2012

CSU GE-Breadth

Area A: English Language Communication and Critical Thinking

Area B: Scientific Inquiry and Quantitative Reasoning

Area C: Arts and Humanities

C2 Humanities: Literature, Philosophy, Languages Other than English

Proposed

Effective term:

Spring 2023

Area D: Social Sciences

D Social Sciences

Approved

Effective term:

Spring 2023

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

Classic Textbook

Yes

Description

Plato. *Plato Five Dialogues*. 2nd ed., Hackett, 2002.

Resource Type

Textbook

Classic Textbook

Yes

Description

Aristotle. *The Politics*. Reissue ed., Oxford, 2009.

Resource Type

Textbook

Classic Textbook

Yes

Description

Hobbes. *Leviathan*. Hackett, 1994.

Resource Type

Textbook

Classic Textbook

Yes

Description

Machiavelli, Niccolo. *The Prince*. Reissue ed., Penguin Classics, 2003.

Resource Type

Textbook

Classic Textbook

Yes

Description

Locke, John. *Second Treatise of Government*. Cambridge, 1988.

Resource Type

Textbook

Classic Textbook

Yes

Description

Rousseau, Jean-Jacques. *The Social Contract and Other Later Political Writings*. Cambridge, 2018.

Resource Type

Textbook

Classic Textbook

Yes

Description

Kant, Immanuel. *Grounding for the Metaphysics of Morals*. 3rd ed., Hackett, 1993.

Resource Type

Textbook

Classic Textbook

Yes

Description

Mill, John Stuart. *Utilitarianism*. 2nd ed. Hackett, 2002.

Resource Type

Textbook

Classic Textbook

Yes

Description

Wollstonecraft, Mary. *A Vindication of the Rights of Women*. 3rd ed., Norton, 2009.

Resource Type

Textbook

Classic Textbook

Yes

Description

Pateman, Carol. *The Sexual Contract*. 30th Anniversary ed., Stanford, 2018.

Resource Type

Textbook

Classic Textbook

Yes

Description

Skocpol, Theda. *States and Social Revolutions*. Cambridge, 2015.

Resource Type

Textbook

Classic Textbook

Yes

Description

Morgan, Michael. *Classics of Moral and Political Theory*. 5th ed., Hackett, 2011.

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

Reading of journal articles and research using the Library's print and online resources on such topics as the development of the political concept of equality.

Distance Education Addendum

Definitions

Distance Education Modalities

- Hybrid (1%–50% online)
- Hybrid (51%–99% online)
- 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

CCC000530198

DOE/accreditation approval date

MM/DD/YYYY