POLS M09: INTRODUCTION TO POLITICAL SCIENCE RESEARCH METHODS

Originator
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Co-Contributor(s)

Name(s)
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College
Moorpark College

Discipline (CB01A)
POLS - Political Science

Course Number (CB01B)
M09

Course Title (CB02)
Introduction to Political Science Research Methods

Banner/Short Title
Intro to Poli Sci Rsrch Mthds

Credit Type
Credit

Start Term
Fall 2023

Catalog Course Description
Surveys the research methods employed in political science. Introduces the topics of research design, experimental procedures, descriptive methods, and instrumentation. Examines the collection, interpretation, and reporting of research data, as well as the ethics of research.

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

Course Objectives

	Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:
1	explain the basic principles of the scientific method.
2	demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between theory and research.
3	demonstrate knowledge of general research designs, experimental and non-experimental methods, and standard research practices.
4	select and defend research designs and data collection procedures appropriate to test hypotheses.
5	evaluate reports of research findings, assess the generalizability of research results, and synthesize a body of research findings.
6	explain the ethical treatment of participants in research and the institutional requirements for conducting research.

Course Content

Lecture/Course Content
10.00% History and development of the empirical study of politics
10.00% The scientific method
20.00% Theories, hypotheses, variables, and units

20.00% Conceptualization, operationalization and measurement of political concepts
20.00% Elements of research design including the logic of sampling
15.00% Qualitative and quantitative research methods and means of analysis
5.00% Research ethics

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
Problem solving exercises

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
Objective exams
Oral presentations
Problem-solving exams
Problem-solving homework
Quizzes
Research papers
Written analyses
Other (specify)
Classroom Discussion
Projects
Participation
Reports/Papers/Journals

Other
Use of statistical program to analyze data

Instructional Methodology

Specify the methods of instruction that may be employed in this course
Class activities
Class discussions
Collaborative group work
Distance Education
Instructor-guided interpretation and analysis
Instructor-guided use of technology
Lecture
Problem-solving examples
Readings
Other (specify)

Specify other method of instruction
Analysis of data sets to determine patterns and identify correlations

Describe specific examples of the methods the instructor will use:
model how to use statistical package so students can run their own data.
use examples of current research to show students how data is used correctly.

Representative Course Assignments

Writing Assignments
analyze research articles found in refereed journals, specifically on its use of data.
essays on research designs and data collection procedures appropriate to test hypotheses.

Critical Thinking Assignments
operationalize a concept and create a research design to test that concept.

analyze a data set in order to assess its appropriateness for a given research project.
compare and contrast the use of qualitative versus quantitative for a given project.

Reading Assignments
read a qualitative article in the discipline and discuss its methodology.
read a quantitative article in the discipline and discuss its methodology.

Problem-Solving and Other Assignments (if applicable)
analyze a word problem and determine which statistical method is most appropriate given the information.
analyze data and explain what correlations exist.

Outside Assignments

Representative Outside Assignments
find examples of the use of data in everyday life.
research paper involving library/Internet sources. For example, a research paper that analyzes public opinion polls in order to explain voting behavior.

Articulation

C-ID Descriptor Number
POLS 160

Status
Approved

Equivalent Courses at 4 year institutions

University	Course ID	Course Title	Units
UC Berkley	POL SCI 3	Introduction to Empirical Analysis and Quantitative Methods	4
UC San Barbara	POL S 15	Introduction to Research in Political Science	5
CSU, Fresno	PLSI 90	Methods of Analysis of Quantitative Political Data	3
CSU, Los Angeles	POLS 2810	Quantitative Methods in Political Science	4

Equivalent Courses at other CCCs

College	Course ID	Course Title	Units
Los Angeles Harbor College	POL SCI 050	Introduction to Research in Political Science	3
Cuyamaca College	POSC 170	Introduction to Political Science Research Methods	3

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:
F2018

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

Effective term:
Spring 2023

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

Effective term:
Spring 2023

Area 5: Physical and Biological Sciences

Area 6: Languages Other than English (LOTE)

Textbooks and Lab Manuals

Resource Type
Textbook

Classic Textbook
No

Description
Franco, Josh, et al. *Introduction to Political Science Research Methods*. E-book, GeneratePress, 2022, https://ipsrm.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/SP22-IPSRM-02.pdf. Accessed 6 Oct 2022.

Resource Type
Textbook

Description
Babbie, Earl R. *The Practice of Social Research.* 15th ed., Cengage, 2020.

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. Research, using the Library's print and online resources, for a term paper on such topics as how public opinion polls explain and inform voting behavior.

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 examples of the use of data and discuss the methods used
Other DE (e.g., recorded lectures)	Record and post audio/visual lectures tha.t 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 examples of the use of data and discuss the methods used
Other DE (e.g., recorded lectures)	Record and post audio/visual lectures tha.t 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 examples of the use of data and discuss the methods used
Other DE (e.g., recorded lectures)	Record and post audio/visual lectures tha.t 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
09/29/2022

Dean
10/04/2022

Technical Review
10/06/2022

Curriculum Committee
10/18/2022

DTRW-I
MM/DD/YYYY

Curriculum Committee
MM/DD/YYYY

Board
MM/DD/YYYY

CCCCO
MM/DD/YYYY

Control Number
CCC000582869

DOE/accreditation approval date
MM/DD/YYYY