

COURSE OUTLINE

Revision: Jihad Othman, March 2008

DEPARTMENT:	Academic Programs
CURRICULUM:	Individuals, Cultures and Societies
COURSE TITLE:	Introduction to Political Science
COURSE NUMBER:	POLS& 101
TYPE OF COURSE:	Academic Transfer
Special Requirement Met:	None
AREA(S) OF KNOWLEDGE:	Individuals and Society
COURSE LENGTH:	1 quarter
CREDIT HOURS:	5
LECTURE HOURS:	55
LAB HOURS:	0
CLASS SIZE:	35
PREREQUISITES:	None

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Introduction to theory, organization, politics and administration of government. Includes political theory, comparative systems, political socialization, public administration, political parties and elections, and international relations. Foundation course for political science studies.

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STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES ADDRESSED:

1. Communication - Read and listen actively to learn and communicate. Speak and write effectively for personal, academic and career purposes.
2. Human Relations - Use social interactive skills to work in groups effectively. Recognize the diversity of cultural influences and values.
3. Critical Thinking and Problem Solving - Think critically in evaluating information, solving problems and making decisions.
4. Technology - Select and use appropriate technological tools for personal, academic and career tasks.
5. Personal Responsibility - Be motivated and able to continue learning and adapt to change. Value one's own skills, abilities, ideas and art. Take pride in one's work. Be aware of civic and environmental issues.
6. Information Literacy - Access and evaluate information from a variety of sources and contexts, including technology. Use information to achieve personal, academic, and career goals, as well as to participate in a democratic society.

GENERAL COURSE OBJECTIVES:

At the end of the course the student will:

1. Understand the world environment in which government operates.
2. Relate western political democracy to other governmental alternatives.
3. Acquire a theoretical and analytical structure in which to approach questions about governments and politics.

TOPICAL OUTLINE:

APPROX. HOURS

- | | | |
|-----|-----------------------------------------------|---|
| I. | The approach to politics | 6 |
| | A. Political principles and the state | |
| | B. Politics as the exercise of power | |
| | C. Politics as the making of common decisions | |
| II. | General principles of the state | 6 |
| | A. The state and its sovereignty | |
| | B. The organization of political authority | |
| | C. The principles of political obedience | |

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TOPICAL OUTLINE: (cont.)	APPROX. HOURS
III. Foundation of Democracy	6
A. Democracy as a form of government	
B. The political parties in the democratic state	
C. The nature of public opinion	
IV. Functional principles of democratic government	6
A. The principles of political participation	
B. The political parties in the democratic state	
C. The principles of representation.	
V. Democracy and the international community	5
A. Nationalism and internationalism	
B. The state in an organized world	
VI. The evaluation of the democratic state	10
A. The crisis in liberalism	
B. Progress law and morals	
C. The functions of the states	
D. The challenge of political pluralism	
VII. The authoritarian state	5
A. The Communist system	
B. The Fascist experiment	
VIII. The modern state	5
A. The development of the modern state	
B. Political organization beyond the state	
IX. Modern ideologies and political philosophy	6
A. American ideologies	
B. The conservative reaction	
C. Political philosophy through the ages	
Total	<u>55</u>

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SLO #	Included in Course Objective Number	SSCC Student Learning Outcomes
SLO 1.1	1	Communication - Read and listen actively
SLO 1.2	1	Communication - Speak and write effectively
SLO 2.1		Computation - Use mathematical operations
SLO 2.2		Computation - Apply quantitative skills
SLO 2.3		Computation - Identify, interpret, and utilize higher level mathematical and cognitive skills
SLO 3.1	2	Human Relations - Use social interactive skills to work in groups effectively
SLO 3.2		Human Relations - Recognize the diversity of cultural influences and values
SLO 4.1	3, 2	Critical Thinking and Problem Solving -
SLO 5.1		Technology - Select and use appropriate technological tools
SLO 6.1		Personal Responsibility - Be motivated and able to continue learning and adapt to change
SLO 6.2		Personal Responsibility - Value one's own skills, abilities, ideas and art
SLO 6.3		Personal Responsibility - Take pride in one's work
SLO 6.4	1	Personal Responsibility - Manage personal health and safety
SLO 6.5	1	Personal Responsibility - Be aware of civic and environmental issues
SLO 7.1	2	Information Literacy - Access and evaluate information
SLO 7.2		Information Literacy - Use information to achieve personal, academic, and career goals, as well as to participate in a democratic society

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