

PS 001: INTRODUCTION TO GOVERNMENT

Originator

mkone

Co-Contributor(s)**Name(s)**

Walker, Elizabeth

Justification / Rationale

Updated SLO's

Effective Term

Fall 2023

Credit Status

Credit - Degree Applicable

Subject

PS - Political Science

Course Number

001

Full Course Title

Introduction to Government

Short Title

INTRO TO GOVERNMENT

Discipline**Disciplines List**

Political Science

Modality

Face-to-Face

100% Online

Hybrid

Catalog Description

This course is an introduction to the principles, organization and politics of the National Government of the United States, including the study of State and local government. In considering government at the State level, specific emphasis is given to the government of the State of California. Throughout the course, current issues in American and State politics are stressed.

Schedule Description

This course is an introduction to the principles, organization and politics of the National Government of the United States, including the study of State and local government. Advisory: ENG 001A IGETC: 4H

Lecture Units

3

Lecture Semester Hours

54

Lab Units

0

In-class Hours

54

Out-of-class Hours

108

Total Course Units

3

Total Semester Hours

162

Prerequisite Course(s)

Advisory: ENG 001A

Required Text and Other Instructional Materials**Resource Type**

Book

Open Educational Resource

Yes

Formatting Style

APA

Author

Krutz, Glen and Sylvie Waskiewicz

Title

American Government

Publisher

OpenStax

Year

2017

College Level

Yes

Flesch-Kincaid Level

12

ISBN #

9781938168178

Resource Type

Book

Open Educational Resource

Yes

Author

Steven Reti

Title

Introduction to California Politics and Government

Edition

1

Publisher

College of the Canyons

Year

2019

College Level

Yes

ISBN #

NA

Resource Type

Book (Recommended)

Open Educational Resource

No

Author

Elizabeth Walker, Ph.D.

Title

We Are Politics

Edition

2nd

Publisher

Trinity Publishing/Self Publishing

Year

2020

Class Size Maximum

40

Entrance Skills

Read, analyze, evaluate, interpret and synthesize varied texts

Requisite Course Objectives

ENG 001A-Find, read, analyze, evaluate, interpret, and synthesize outside sources, including online information.

Entrance Skills

Develop coherent written ideas

Requisite Course Objectives

ENG 001A-Develop ideas coherently in writing through the drafting process.

Entrance Skills

Write thesis statements, topic sentences, and ideas in an organized manner

Requisite Course Objectives

ENG 001A-Write thesis statements, topic sentences, and ideas in an organized way in multi-page essays.

Entrance Skills

Conduct research using credible sources

Requisite Course Objectives

ENG 001A-Find, read, analyze, evaluate, interpret, and synthesize outside sources, including online information.

Entrance Skills

Develop a thesis that is supported by factual evidence

Requisite Course Objectives

ENG 001A-Write essays with varied strategies, including persuasive essays, with a arguable theses and evidence from a variety types of sources.

Course Content

1. The political thought espoused by the framers of the U.S. Constitution and the critics of the Constitution
2. The process of amending and interpreting the U.S. and California Constitutions
3. The theory and practice of federalism
4. Contemporary operations of political institutions (executive, legislative, judicial) at both the federal and state (California) levels
5. The rights and liberties of individuals as found in the U.S. Constitution and federal court decisions
6. Contemporary operations of California state and local political institutions within the federal-state structure
7. Individual and group political behavior of Americans and Californians within the frameworks established by the U.S. and California Constitutions, such as elections, interest groups, political parties, and the media
8. Factors that shape politics and policymaking, such as diversity, political culture, political socialization, political ideologies, and public opinion
9. Domestic, economic, and foreign issues and policies

Course Objectives

Objectives	
Objective 1	Identify the various levels and types of government and briefly describe the theory undergirding each.
Objective 2	Trace, analyze and critically evaluate American political thought from its origins to the present.
Objective 3	Name the most significant events in the development of constitutions of the United States and the State of California.
Objective 4	Identify the most important intergovernmental relations within the Federal and California State systems of government and explain why these relations are accorded this importance.
Objective 5	Define the concept of civil liberties and identify which derive from the Federal system and which from that of the State of California.
Objective 6	Trace the struggle for equal rights as it has occurred at both the Federal and California State levels; relevant legislation and judicial decisions should be cited and the importance of these critically assessed.
Objective 7	Articulate and explain the rights and obligations of citizenship.
Objective 8	Identify and critically evaluate the role of political parties and interest groups in the process of government at both the California State and Federal levels.
Objective 9	Identify both the ways in which public opinion affects the governmental process and explain how it may develop to the point that it is an influential factor in these processes.
Objective 10	Exhibit knowledge of the interrelationship between political campaigns, voting behavior and elections.
Objective 11	State how the legislative, judicial and executive branches of both the government of the State of California and the Federal system are organized, including the powers which reside in each.
Objective 12	Describe in a general way with selected specific examples, the administrative systems of both the Federal and California State system of government; this shall include a definition and assessment of the role of bureaucratic organization in both systems.
Objective 13	Critically evaluate the role of government in promoting general welfare.
Objective 14	Explain the relationship between foreign policy and national security, identifying the relevant legislative, executive and judicial provisions.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon satisfactory completion of this course, students will be able to:	
Outcome 1	Investigate federalism and the three branches of government within the United States of America and the State of California.

Outcome 2 Analyze the key ideological differences that separate the two major American political parties, and how they influence public discourse, policy formation, and policy implementation.

Outcome 3 Examine how the role of the media shapes domestic and international politics and policy.

Methods of Instruction

Method	Please provide a description or examples of how each instructional method will be used in this course.
Activity	Group and individual activities like filling in an Electoral College map, designing survey questions, etc.
Discussion	Class discussions that ensure students can articulate their thoughts.
Technology-based instruction	May use LMS to deliver materials to students.
Participation	May assign in-class written assignments for participation points.
Lecture	Required to give context for the readings.
Other (Specify)	Videos either to be watched in or out of class to help students understand the readings.

Methods of Evaluation

Method	Please provide a description or examples of how each evaluation method will be used in this course.	Type of Assignment
Written homework	Can be given every class or every few classes to ensure students complete the required reading.	Out of Class Only
College level or pre-collegiate essays	In addition to a major research paper, usually assign 2-3 shorter essays (3-4 pages).	Out of Class Only
Mid-term and final evaluations	Typically, exams with either or both multiple choice and short essays.	In Class Only
Tests/Quizzes/Examinations	Typically given, along with midterm and final cumulative exams, 2-3 exams throughout the semester.	In Class Only
Group activity participation/observation	Typically, students will be given assignments to complete in class, as a group. They can be shorter assignments (1-2 paragraphs) or longer assignments/group projects (videos, presentations, etc.).	In Class Only
Term or research papers	At least 1 major research assignment. Minimum 5-7 pages.	Out of Class Only
Guided/unguided journals	Reflective assignments. A few paragraphs asking students to connect their personal experiences to the readings. Can be given every week or every few weeks.	In and Out of Class

Assignments

Other In-class Assignments

May include as appropriate:

- Participate in class discussion and take detailed notes on the lecture
- Graded individual, written reflections or summaries on the out-of-class assigned material
- Small group discussions
- Class debate in which students are assigned roles (team member, moderator, active audience members) and graded on their individual performance
- Examinations of various types, such as essay and multiple choice

Other Out-of-class Assignments

May include as appropriate:

- Readings in the textbook and in recommended supplementary literature
- Viewing of films and providing answers to questions and/or summaries
- Examinations of various types, such as essay and multiple choice

d. Completing written assignments or quizzes

Must include:

a. Research project involving the collection, compilation and interpretation of data, including the composition of a written report

Grade Methods

Letter Grade Only

Distance Education Checklist

Include the percentage of online and on-campus instruction you anticipate.

Online %

50

On-campus %

50

Instructional Materials and Resources

If you use any other technologies in addition to the college LMS, what other technologies will you use and how are you ensuring student data security?

N/A

If used, explain how specific materials and resources outside the LMS will be used to enhance student learning.

N/A

Effective Student/Faculty Contact

Which of the following methods of regular, timely, and effective student/faculty contact will be used in this course?

Within Course Management System:

Chat room/instant messaging

Discussion forums with substantive instructor participation

Online quizzes and examinations

Private messages

Regular virtual office hours

Timely feedback and return of student work as specified in the syllabus

Weekly announcements

External to Course Management System:

Direct e-mail

Posted audio/video (including YouTube, 3cm mediasolutions, etc.)

Teleconferencing

For hybrid courses:

Orientation, study, and/or review sessions

Scheduled Face-to-Face group or individual meetings

Briefly discuss how the selected strategies above will be used to maintain Regular Effective Contact in the course.

The above selected strategies are the best ways to ensure regular effective contact in an online setting. Announcements, email, regular virtual office hours, chat rooms/instant messaging, etc. ensure the class receives the same information and opportunities to interact with the instructor as students in a face-to-face setting.

Discussions and audio/video files (posted in discussions) allow students to interact with one another, as they would in a face-to-face classroom.

For hybrid sections, review/study sessions and regularly scheduled face-to-face meetings will help students successfully complete both the in-person and online parts of the course. They can seek help in class during regularly scheduled times throughout the semester, just like students in a face-to-face setting.

If interacting with students outside the LMS, explain how additional interactions with students outside the LMS will enhance student learning.

N/A

Other Information

Comparable Transfer Course Information

University System

CSU

Campus

CSU San Bernardino

Course Number

PSCI 2030

Course Title

American Government

Catalog Year

2020-21

Rationale

This course is an introductory-level course. It fulfills GE requirements for many students and it is suggested that political science majors take it in their freshman year (see: http://polisci.csusb.edu/majorsprograms/ba_political_science.htm)

University System

UC

Campus

UC Los Angeles

Course Number

POL SCI 40

Course Title

Introduction to American Politics

Catalog Year

2020-21

Rationale

This is a comparable transfer course. It is a lower-division course taken not only by political science majors but a wider range of students who can use it to fulfill GE requirements.

COD GE

C2 - Social and Behavioral Science

CSU GE

D8 - Political Science, Government, and Legal Institutions

IGETC GE

4H - Political Science, Government & Legal Institutions

MIS Course Data

CIP Code

45.1001 - Political Science and Government, General.

TOP Code

220700 - Political Science

SAM Code

E - Non-Occupational

Basic Skills Status

Not Basic Skills

Prior College Level

Not applicable

Cooperative Work Experience

Not a Coop Course

Course Classification Status

Credit Course

Approved Special Class

Not special class

Noncredit Category

Not Applicable, Credit Course

Funding Agency Category

Not Applicable

Program Status

Program Applicable

Transfer Status

Transferable to both UC and CSU

General Education Status

Y = Not applicable

Support Course Status

N = Course is not a support course

C-ID

POLS 110

Allow Audit

Yes

Repeatability

No

Materials Fee

No

Additional Fees?

No

Files Uploaded**Attach relevant documents (example: Advisory Committee or Department Minutes)**

We Are Politics_2020.pdf

Approvals**Curriculum Committee Approval Date**

11/17/2022

Academic Senate Approval Date

12/08/2022

Board of Trustees Approval Date

01/20/2023

Chancellor's Office Approval Date

09/07/2010

Course Control Number

CCC000074333

Programs referencing this course

Elementary Teacher Assistant Special Education, Bilingual Certificate of Achievement (<http://catalog.collegeofthedesert.eduundefined/?key=132>)

Elementary Teacher Assistant Special Education Certificate of Achievement (<http://catalog.collegeofthedesert.eduundefined/?key=133>)

Political Science AA-T Degree (<http://catalog.collegeofthedesert.eduundefined/?key=18>)

Liberal Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences AA Degree (<http://catalog.collegeofthedesert.eduundefined/?key=30>)

Social Science AA Degree (<http://catalog.collegeofthedesert.eduundefined/?key=32>)

Elementary Teacher Education AA-T Degree (<http://catalog.collegeofthedesert.eduundefined/?key=5>)

Journalism AA-T Degree (<http://catalog.collegeofthedesert.eduundefined/?key=9>)