

# POLS R100: INTRODUCTION TO POLITICS

**Originator**

gguevara

**College**

Oxnard College

**Discipline (CB01A)**

POLS - Political Science

**Course Number (CB01B)**

R100

**Course Title (CB02)**

Introduction to Politics

**Banner/Short Title**

Introduction to Politics

**Credit Type**

Credit

**Start Term**

Spring 2020

**Catalog Course Description**

This course introduces students to the discipline and subfields within Political Science. Basic political concepts, political ideologies, political institutions and political systems are examined. The concepts of power, law, justice, democracy, social welfare and liberty will be discussed in relation to contemporary institutions of government. The impact of international and transnational influences on domestic politics will be analyzed. This course includes the study of California Government.

**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**

May be required

**Grading method**

Letter Graded

**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 | Differentiate between the core assumptions, values and political concepts reflected in contemporary political ideologies.  |
| 2 | Explain the various concepts in Political Science such as power, politics and participation and apply the concepts to real world experiences.  |
| 3 | Identify global processes (past and present) that influence the political and economic development of less developed countries.  |
| 4 | Identify contemporary issues, political institutions, and problems in the community and their historical contexts. Students should demonstrate an understanding of the importance of community involvement and leadership. |
| 5 | Demonstrate a working knowledge of research in political science and identify research questions, hypotheses and analyze, critique and integrate source materials.   |
| 6 | Explain theories relevant to global politics and policies. This includes knowledge of Western and non-Western political systems, processes, values and models of politics and patterns of interaction among them.          |
| 7 | Identify the economic, socio-cultural, political and environmental interaction of global life.   |
| 8 | Demonstrate a working knowledge of research in political science and identify research questions, hypotheses and analyze, critique and integrate source materials.   |
| 9 | Identify the impact of various types of media on politics.   |

**Course Objectives**

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

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 | Explain the development of political science and its subfields.   |
| 2 | Identify key theoretical concepts central to the understanding of politics such as justice, power, social welfare, law, authority, and liberty, etc.                    |
| 3 | Identify and describe the forms of major institutions of government that exist both in the United States and in other countries at the federal, state and local levels. |
| 4 | Identify the characteristics of ideology and explain the use of ideology in politics.   |
| 5 | Evaluate and analyze normative and empirical approaches.  |
| 6 | Identify and analyze basic political systems and their differences.   |

7	Identify the major international institutions and organizations that shape the global economy and influence national public policy.
8	Analyze political behavior in international affairs.
9	Distinguish the ways that a citizen can participate in the political process that influences the policies and procedures of government.
10	Demonstrate the ability for reasoned analytical writing.
11	Research several data sources and demonstrate ability to use relevant current and scholarly information in their writing assignments.
12	Verbalize political questions/issues and defend their views as citizens and thereby experience civic participation.

## Course Content

### Lecture/Course Content

1. Introduction: The Study of Politics.
  - a. Conception of Politics
  - b. Conception of the Public Good.
  - c. Justice.
  - d. Nation.
  - e. State.
  - f. Legitimacy.
  - g. Authority
  - h. Political Behavior.
2. Historical Development of Political Science as a Discipline.
  - a. Methods in Political Science.
    - i. Normative Theory.
    - ii. Behavioral (Empirical) Approaches.
    - iii. Post-Behavioral Approaches.
3. Political Ideologies and Isms.
  - a. Ideology defined.
  - b. Liberalism
  - c. Conservatism.
  - d. Fascism.
  - e. Nationalism.
  - f. Nihilism.
  - g. Globalism.
4. Economic Ideologies.
  - a. Capitalism
  - b. Socialism.
  - c. Communism.
5. Comparative Political Systems: Models and Theories.
  - a. Unitary, Federal and Confederal Systems.
  - b. Utopias: Model States.
  - c. Constitutional Democracy, Social Contract Theory and Models of Representation: The US Constitution, California Constitution
  - d. The Authoritarian Model: Myth and Reality.
  - e. The Totalitarian Model: False Utopias.
6. Established Democracies.
  - a. Parliamentary Democracy: case study Great Britain.
  - b. Presidential Systems: case study the United States.
7. States and Economies in Transition: Between Democracy and Authoritarianism.
  - a. Russia.
  - b. China.
  - c. Mexico.
8. The Developing World: Development Myths and Realities.
9. Failed States and Lost Citizenship: Migrants and Refugees.
10. Politics by Civil Means: Citizens, Leaders, and Policies.
  - a. Political Socialization: The Making of a Citizen.
  - b. Political Participation: The Price of Influence.

- c. Political Leadership: The Many Faces of Power.
  - d. Issues in Public Policy: Principles, Priorities, and Practices.
11. Politics by Violent Means: Revolution, War and Terrorism
    - a. Revolution: In the Name of Justice.
    - b. Terrorism: Weapon of the Weak.
    - c. War: Politics by Other Means.
  12. International Relations: The Struggle for Power.
    - a. International Anarchy or Order?
    - b. International Organizations.
    - c. United Nations.
    - d. Multinational Corporations.
    - e. Transnational Organizations and Social Movements.
    - f. International Political Economy: Globalization and the Quest for Order.

### Laboratory or Activity Content

None

### 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  
 Essays  
 Group projects  
 Individual projects  
 Journals  
 Oral analysis/critiques  
 Objective exams  
 Oral presentations  
 Quizzes  
 Reports/papers  
 Research papers

### Instructional Methodology

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

Audio-visual presentations  
 Computer-aided presentations  
 Class activities  
 Class discussions  
 Case studies  
 Distance Education  
 Group discussions  
 Instructor-guided interpretation and analysis  
 Instructor-guided use of technology  
 Internet research  
 Lecture  
 Small group activities

Describe specific examples of the methods the instructor will use:

1. The instructor will lead discussions on such topics as political culture, political ideology, types of political systems, political economy, law and politics, revolution, neocolonialism and women's rights.
2. The instructor will use lectures, films, and websites to explore and critically analyze topics relevant to the understanding the nature of political power, political participation, political protests, regime change, revolutions, war, etc.
3. Students will learn about human development using the UN's Human Development Index (HDI) and use data to explore the nature of development in other countries compared to that within the US.

## Representative Course Assignments

### Writing Assignments

1. Critical Essays comparing the difference between liberal ideology, socialism and fascism or comparing the difference between authoritarianism, totalitarianism and democracy or identifying the different roles played by presidents and prime ministers.
2. Research Papers: such topics include the development of U.S. Foreign Policy in Latin America or the Middle East; identifying the role of the UN in peacekeeping missions in furthering Human Rights; the nature of socialism as applied to North Korea or Cuba; identifying the methods of increasing citizen participation in elections and communication or public policy development.
3. In-class policy analysis/issue analysis related to films shown in class. For example: Environmental Policy and the California's attempt to implement such policies.

### Critical Thinking Assignments

1. Writing Assignment: Critically evaluate the progression of Supreme Court decision-making in the context of the 1st Amendment (Establishment Clause, Free Speech Clause, etc.) and identify the changing interpretation of such clauses by the US Supreme Court.
2. Writing Assignment: evaluate the current regime change in a specific country (e.g. Turkey, Honduras, Venezuela, etc.) and explain how this change has contributed to democratic breakdown.
3. In class essay: Critically evaluate televised political debates, news sources, State of the Union addresses, etc. and identify differing ideologies reflected in these sources.
4. Group assignment: Identify the factors that explain the rise of political protest (social justice movements) explore the different state responses to such movements.

### Reading Assignments

1. Selections from assigned texts, for example excerpts from Locke's *Second Treatise on Government*, which reflects the notion of individual rights, state of nature and natural rights, majority rule as well as reflecting the type of liberalism that influenced the construction of the U.S. government. Readings related to the Bill of Rights and how it reflects the notion of constitutional liberalism in the U.S. and its similar conception in Great Britain or chapters addressing the difference between Presidential and Parliamentary forms of government will be assigned.
2. Current Events—required to read a daily online newspaper such as *The Financial Times*, *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *The Wall Street Journal*, etc.
3. Research material from library and different internet data sources, for example, exploring different government internet sites such as: The United Nations, The White House, U.S. Census Bureau, the U.S. Congress, U.S. Supreme Court Reports, etc.

### Other assignments (if applicable)

1. Critically evaluate televised political debates, news sources, etc.
2. Attend guest speaker events/lectures.
3. Research current Supreme Court nominees.
4. Visit the offices of local government and state and national legislatures to discuss the services provided to their constituents.

## Outside Assignments

### Representative Outside Assignments

1. Quizzes on assigned readings in LMS system.
2. Discussion posts (brief paragraphs) in LMS related to assigned readings and films. Students required to respond to at least 2 classmates.
3. Watch political debates, State of the Union Addresses or other significant events related to the field of American Government. Participation documented by 1-2 page write ups or discussion posts.
4. Research California propositions on current election ballot. Participation documented by 1-2 page write ups.
5. Research the outcome of current elections in developed/developing countries. Participation documented by 1-2 page write up

## Articulation

### C-ID Descriptor Number

POLS 150

### Status

Approved

### Comparable Courses within the VCCCD

POLS V03 - Introduction to Political Science

POLS M01 - Introduction to Politics

**Equivalent Courses at other CCCs**

College	Course ID	Course Title	Units
College of the Canyons	POLISC 200	Introduction to Political Science	
Cuesta College	POLS 201	Introduction to Political Science	

**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:**

Fall 1999

**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:**

**US - 2: U.S. Constitution and Government**

Approved

**US - 3: California State and Local Government**

Approved

## 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**

Roskin, M., Cord, R., Medeiros, J., Jones, W (2016). *Political Science: An Introduction* (14th). Prentice Hall. 0134404793

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**Resource Type**

Textbook

**Description**

Reimer, N., Simon, D., Romance, J. (2019). *The Challenge of Politics: Introduction to Political Science* (6th). CQ Press. 544305966.

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**Resource Type**

Textbook

**Description**

Magstadt, T (2020). *Understanding Politics* (13th). Cengage. 978-0357137352.

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**Resource Type**

Other Resource Type

**Description**

Videos.

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**Resource Type**

Other Resource Type

**Description**

Websites/Downloads..

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**Resource Type**

Other Resource Type



**Description**

Power Point presentations.

**Library Resources**

**Assignments requiring library resources**

Research papers, news sources, films (in video library databases), quizzes/discussions through the use of library resources (computers).

**Sufficient Library Resources exist**

Yes

**Example of Assignments Requiring Library Resources**

Critical Essays comparing the difference between liberal ideology, socialism and fascism or comparing the difference between authoritarianism, totalitarianism and democracy or identifying the different roles played by presidents and prime ministers.

Research Papers: such topics include the development of U.S. Foreign Policy in Latin America or the Middle East; identifying the role of the UN in peacekeeping missions in furthering Human Rights; the nature of socialism as applied to North Korea or Cuba; identifying the methods of increasing citizen participation in elections and communication or public policy development.

Writing Assignments (using Library Resources) explaining the current regime change in a specific country and its implication for democratic stability.

Discussion posts (required viewing of films in video library databases).

**Distance Education Addendum**

**Definitions**

**Distance Education Modalities**

- Hybrid (51%–99% online)
- Hybrid (1%–50% 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)	Student to student discussion posts in LMS (posted by instructor) related to films such as genocide in Darfur or Neocolonialism in the Congo or The Partisan divide in Congress/White House.
E-mail	Faculty will use emails to notify students of upcoming exams and current assignments posted in LMS or to respond to student questions or concerns.
Video Conferencing	Faculty may use live video conferencing in LMS for review sessions, lead discussions, answer students' questions related to course.

Other DE (e.g., recorded lectures)	Faculty may provide recorded lectures and use other DE for film assignments.
<b>Hybrid (51%–99% online) Modality:</b>	
<b>Method of Instruction</b>	<b>Document typical activities or assignments for each method of instruction</b>
Asynchronous Dialog (e.g., discussion board)	Student to student discussion posts in LMS (posted by instructor) related to films such as genocide in Darfur or Neocolonialism in the Congo or The Partisan divide in Congress/White House.
E-mail	Faculty will use emails to notify students of upcoming exams and current assignments posted in LMS or to respond to student questions or concerns.
Video Conferencing	Faculty may use live video conferencing in LMS for review sessions, lead discussions, answer students' questions related to course.
Other DE (e.g., recorded lectures)	Faculty may provide recorded lectures and use other DE for film assignments.
<b>100% online Modality:</b>	
<b>Method of Instruction</b>	<b>Document typical activities or assignments for each method of instruction</b>
Asynchronous Dialog (e.g., discussion board)	Student to student discussion posts in LMS (posted by instructor) related to films such as genocide in Darfur or Neocolonialism in the Congo or The Partisan divide in Congress/White House.
E-mail	Faculty will use emails to notify students of upcoming exams and current assignments posted in LMS or to respond to student questions or concerns.
Other DE (e.g., recorded lectures)	Faculty may provide recorded lectures and use other DE for film assignments.
<b>Examinations</b>	
<b>Hybrid (1%–50% online) Modality</b>	
Online	
<b>Hybrid (51%–99% online) Modality</b>	
Online	

**Primary Minimum Qualification**  
POLITICAL SCIENCE

<b>Review and Approval Dates</b>	
<b>Department Chair</b>	09/13/2020
<b>Dean</b>	09/14/2020
<b>Technical Review</b>	10/28/2020
<b>Curriculum Committee</b>	10/28/2020
<b>DTRW-I</b>	MM/DD/YYYY
<b>Curriculum Committee</b>	12/09/2020

**Board**

MM/DD/YYYY

**CCCCO**

12/18/2020

**Control Number**

CCC000195141

**DOE/accreditation approval date**

MM/DD/YYYY