

POLS R120: POLITICAL THEORY

Originator

ptrujillo

Co-Contributor(s)
Name(s)

Guevara, Gloria (gguevara)

College

Oxnard College

Discipline (CB01A)

POLS - Political Science

Course Number (CB01B)

R120

Course Title (CB02)

Political Theory

Banner/Short Title

Political Theory

Credit Type

Credit

Start Term

Fall 2021

Catalog Course Description

This course is an introduction to political theory in which students explore the most significant concepts in political science including: power, justice, equality, punishment, and freedom. Students will engage in the analysis of selected political theories, political ideologies, and the application of political theory to contemporary problems.

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 | At the conclusion of the course students should be able to evaluate the study of political theory, based on original texts and other sources, as a means for understanding important political phenomena. |
| 2 | At the conclusion of the course students should be able to analyze political theory and secondary theoretical texts and explain how they are relevant to contemporary issues. |
| 3 | At the conclusion of the course students (using political theory) will be able to contrast and identify competing political systems. |
| 4 | At the conclusion of the course students should be able to define, evaluate, and critique the basic principles (e.g., liberty, equality, rights) inherent within our political/ philosophical framework of democracy. |
| 5 | At the conclusion of the course students should be able to explain the distinction between normative and empirical theories and identify how each contributes to the understanding of political theory. |

Course Objectives

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

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 | Evaluate the study of political theory, based on original texts and other sources, as a means for understanding important political phenomena. |
| 2 | Identify the relationship between political theory and contemporary issues. |
| 3 | Assess the historical and social context surrounding the generation of political theories. |
| 4 | Compare and contrast the defining elements of each political theory. |
| 5 | Analyze the different assumptions and values about "human nature" and "reality" embedded in each political theory and examine the way these starting premises shape the questions asked and conclusions reached. |
| 6 | Evaluate the contribution of each political theory towards a comprehensive understanding of political life and political institutions. |

Course Content

Lecture/Course Content

1. The nature and tradition of political inquiry. The following questions will be addressed in the first section of the course: What is theory? What are the distinctions between normative and empirical theory? What are the central concepts in political theory? How does theory differ from ideology?
2. Examination of Classical theorists, Modern theorists and Contemporary theorists.
3. Basic classical theoretical debates and concepts relevant to political theory.
 - a. Power, Authority, Legitimacy
 - b. Conceptions of the State
 - c. Freedom
 - d. Justice
 - e. Punishment
 - f. Democracy
 - g. Citizenship
4. Classical ideologies. Where does Nationalism fit into this discussion? Examples of Ideologies examined Include:
 - a. Liberalism
 - b. Conservatism/Neoconservatism
 - c. Marxism
 - d. Socialism after Marx
 - i. Leninism
 - ii. Pragmatic Socialism
 - e. Fascism
 - f. Anarchism
5. Contemporary Ideologies
 - a. Feminism
 - b. Multiculturalism
 - c. Fundamentalism
 - d. Globalism
 - e. Ecologism
6. What do we mean by New Ideas? Application of theoretical debates to the contemporary world and contemporary problems/issues.
 - a. Human Rights
 - b. Civil Disobedience
 - c. Political Violence
 - d. Difference
 - e. Global Justice

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

Oral analysis/critiques

Objective exams

Oral presentations

Recitals

Reports/papers

Research papers

Instructional Methodology

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

Audio-visual 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. Instructor guided use of technology to demonstrate how to access or use various tools in LMS.
2. Lectures related to various important themes including the development of liberal ideology (from classical liberalism, to conservatism to current ideological developments) and its significance to understanding the current American political system or for examining the US Constitution.
3. Class Activities/Group discussions: Instructor will assign students to review a historical document (Federalist Papers, Constitution, US Bill of Rights or Universal Declaration of the Rights of Man, etc.) and will ask students to identify important concepts related to political theory such as Liberalism, Justice, Order, popular sovereignty, civil liberties civil rights, social contract, etc.
4. Internet research/group activity: Students will be asked to visit institutional webpages of the various transnational actors, groups, organizations and identify the ideological orientation of such actors, groups or organizations.

Representative Course Assignments

Writing Assignments

Research Papers-

1. Background research paper on Greek theorists and their influence on Enlightenment thinkers.
2. Background research on anti-Enlightenment thinkers such as Edmund Burke and his influence of contemporary conservatism.
3. Contemporary theorists and ideological development such as Sayyid Qutb (founder of Muslim Brotherhood) and his impact on contemporary Islamic Fundamentalism.
4. Contemporary theorist and ideological development such as Leo Strauss and his impact on neoconservatism.
5. Brief write-ups on the rise of Neo-Nazism or the Alt Right based on current events/developments.
6. Write ups on the ideological orientations of such groups as Anti-fa how such groups conceptualize "justice".
7. Brief write ups on the rise of social justice movements in light of the BLM movement based on current events/developments.

Critical Thinking Assignments

1. Critical essays examining the rise of the Alt Right, American Militia or the Social Justice movements identifying causal variables that explain the rise of these ideological movements.
2. Critical essays examining the influence of Islamic Fundamentalist movements and the differences between the ideologies of these transnational groups.

Reading Assignments

1. Assigned textbook chapters.
2. Online newspaper articles that provide examples of concepts discussed.

Other assignments (if applicable)

1. Discussion posts based on films or documentaries depicting theorists and/or relevant ideological development.
2. Chapter quizzes on Assigned readings.
3. Political debates/speeches demonstrating the various types of liberalism in the U.S.

Outside Assignments

Representative Outside Assignments

1. Discussion posts based on films or documentaries depicting theorists and/or relevant ideological development.
2. Chapter quizzes on Assigned readings.
3. Political debates/speeches demonstrating the various types of liberalism in the U.S.

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	
CSU Long Beach	POSC 225	Issues in Political Theory	

Comparable Courses within the VCCCD

POLS M06 - Intro to 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

Effective term:

Fall 2019

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 2019

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

Effective term:

Fall 2019

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

Description

Hoffman, Paul Graham, P. (2015). *Introduction to Political Theory* (3rd). New York: Routledge. 1408285924

Resource Type

Textbook

Description

Ball, T., Dagger, R., Oneill, D. (2019). *Political Ideology and the Democratic Ideal* (11th). New York: Routledge. 0367235110.

Resource Type

Other Instructional Materials

Description

Films (Historical and Contemporary).

Resource Type

Other Instructional Materials

Description

Maps.

Resource Type

Other Instructional Materials

Description

Power Point Lectures.

Library Resources

Assignments requiring library resources

1. Critical essay write-ups based on readings, films and contemporary interpretations of important concepts accessible through library databases.
2. Research papers on significant thinkers or groups reflecting specific ideological orientations.

Sufficient Library Resources exist

Yes

Example of Assignments Requiring Library Resources

1. Critical essay write-ups based on readings, films and contemporary interpretations of important concepts (from academic journals or other library resources) such as "social justice", "feminism", "Green Theory", etc. accessible through library databases.
2. Research papers on significant theoretical thinkers such as John Locke, Rousseau, Tocqueville, Marx, Rawls, etc. based on academic articles accessible through 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 or current events/issues such as the ideological orientation of Supreme Court decisions, the ideological divide in Congress/White House or the rise of social justice movements or transnational fundamentalism.
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.
Video Conferencing	Faculty may use live video conferencing in LMS for review sessions, lead discussions, answer students' questions related to course.

Hybrid (51%–99% 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 or current events/issues such as the ideological orientation of Supreme Court decisions, the ideological divide in Congress/White House or the rise of social justice movements or transnational fundamentalism.
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.
Video Conferencing	Faculty may use live video conferencing in LMS for review sessions, lead discussions, answer students' questions related to course.

100% 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 or current events/issues such as the ideological orientation of Supreme Court decisions, the ideological divide in Congress/White House or the rise of social justice movements or transnational fundamentalism.
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.
Video Conferencing	Faculty may use live video conferencing in LMS for review sessions, lead discussions, answer students' questions related to course.

Examinations

Hybrid (1%–50% online) Modality

Online

Hybrid (51%–99% online) Modality

Online

Primary Minimum Qualification

POLITICAL SCIENCE

Review and Approval Dates

Department Chair

09/21/2020

Dean

09/21/2020

Technical Review

10/28/2020

Curriculum Committee

10/28/2020

DTRW-I

MM/DD/YYYY

Curriculum Committee

12/09/2020

Board

MM/DD/YYYY

CCCCO

12/18/2020

Control Number

CCC000599731

DOE/accreditation approval date

MM/DD/YYYY