



COURSE OUTLINE : POL S 101

D Credit – Degree Applicable

COURSE ID 004139

Cyclical Review: July 2020

Revision: October 2021

COURSE DISCIPLINE : POL S

COURSE NUMBER : 101

COURSE TITLE (FULL) : Introduction to United States and California Government and Politics

COURSE TITLE (SHORT) : Introduction to Government

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM C-ID : POLS 110 – Introduction to American Government and Politics

ACADEMIC SENATE DISCIPLINE: Political Science

CATALOG DESCRIPTION

POL S 101 is an introduction to the principles, institutions, policies, and politics of government in the United States and California.

CATALOG NOTES

Starting Spring 2014, POL S 101 allows only one unit of credit for students who have completed POL S 105 or SOC S 132, and allows two units of credit for students who have completed POL S 106. POL S 101 satisfies both the CSU and GCC American Institutions and State and Local Government graduation requirements.

Total Lecture Units:3.00

Total Laboratory Units: 0.00

Total Course Units: 3.00

Total Lecture Hours:54.00

Total Laboratory Hours: 0.00

Total Laboratory Hours To Be Arranged: 0.00

Total Contact Hours: 54.00

Total Out-of-Class Hours: 108.00

Recommended Preparation: ENGL 100 or ESL 141.



ENTRY STANDARDS

	Subject	Number	Title	Description	Include
1	ESL	141	Grammar And Writing IV	demonstrate control of verb tenses in active and passive voice, gerunds and infinitives, conditionals real and unreal, adjective, noun, and adverb clauses, and transitional expressions;	Yes
2	ESL	141	Grammar And Writing IV	comprehend multi-paragraph reading passages in textbooks.	Yes
3	ENGL	100	Writing Workshop	Read, analyze, and evaluate contemporary articles and stories to identify topic, thesis, support, transitions, conclusion, audience, and tone;	Yes
4	ENGL	100	Writing Workshop	read, analyze, and evaluate contemporary articles and stories for the comprehension of difficult content and the identification of main ideas and (topic-based) evidence;	Yes
5	ENGL	100	Writing Workshop	read, analyze, and evaluate student compositions for unity, development, use of evidence, interpretation, coherence, and variety of sentence form;	Yes
6	ENGL	100	Writing Workshop	write a summary of a contemporary article or story with correct citation techniques;	Yes
7	ENGL	100	Writing Workshop	write an argumentative essay that has an introduction, body paragraphs, and a conclusion, demonstrating a basic understanding of essay organization;	Yes
8	ENGL	100	Writing Workshop	write an argumentative essay that addresses the topic, is directed by a thesis statement, uses appropriate textual evidence, develops logical interpretations, and concludes with some compelling observations;	Yes
9	ENGL	100	Writing Workshop	write an argumentative essay that integrates the ideas of others (i.e., authors) through paraphrasing, summarizing, and quoting with correct citation techniques;	Yes
10	ENGL	100	Writing Workshop	write an argumentative essay that generates novel ideas (those that add to the conversation rather than repeating the author's ideas) related to the topic and the readings;	Yes
11	ENGL	100	Writing Workshop	write compositions (e.g., summaries and argumentative essays) that are easy to read and follow, though some errors in grammar, mechanics, spelling, or diction may exist;	Yes
12	ENGL	100	Writing Workshop	proofread and edit essays for content, language, citation, and formatting problems.	Yes



EXIT STANDARDS

- 1 Describe the theoretical basis of government;
- 2 describe and evaluate the impact of federalism;
- 3 analyze the elements of the federal Constitution and the California Constitution;
- 4 evaluate the basic institutions of the federal government and the State of California;
- 5 evaluate political processes such as elections and interest groups affecting the federal government and California;
- 6 critique selected public policies;
- 7 analyze the role of culture, diversity, and ideology in shaping public opinion and public policy in the United States and California.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

- 1 critically analyze and evaluate the institutions and political process of American and California government and politics

COURSE CONTENT WITH INSTRUCTIONAL HOURS

	Description	Lecture	Lab	Total Hours
1	Introduction to Power, Authority and Government <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Theoretical basis of government • Structures and philosophies • Analytical criteria • The nature of politics 	5	0	5
2	National and State Constitutions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Structure and powers of the federal government • The principle of federalism • The peoples' rights and liberties • State Constitutions: Emphasis on California 	8	0	8
3	Institutions of American Government <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The presidency • Congress • Bureaucracy • The courts 	12	0	12
4	Institutions of California Government <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The legislature • The executive • The judiciary • Local government 	4	0	4



5	<p>The Background to California Government and Politics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Historical development • Socioeconomic change • Political change 	4	0	4
6	<p>Elections and Democracy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suffrage • Elections • Elections and direct democracy in California 	5	0	5
7	<p>Political Processes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Political parties • Pressure groups • Elites • Parties and groups in California 	5	0	5
8	<p>Public Policy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foreign Policy • Domestic policies • Solving California's problems • Patterns of population • Problems of future growth 	5	0	5
9	<p>The Political Context</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Political culture • Ideology • Socialization • Political economy • Public opinion • Race and ethnicity 	6	0	6
				54

OUT OF CLASS ASSIGNMENTS

- 1 personal journal reflecting the influence of course concepts on student's life (e.g., students will reflect on the impact of politics in their daily lives);
- 2 written report on public lectures or presentations comparing and contrasting institutions of government (e.g., a report on the effectiveness of local government after a student has attended a local city council meeting);
- 3 research project on government designed to develop analytical and critical thinking skills (e.g., a presentation on the role of special interests in the policymaking process).



METHODS OF EVALUATION

- 1 Presentation of an argument related to course content (e.g., mock campaign to end gerrymandering);
- 2 Essay examinations;
- 3 Final essay examination

METHODS OF INSTRUCTION

- Lecture
- Laboratory
- Studio
- Discussion
- Multimedia
- Tutorial
- Independent Study
- Collaboratory Learning
- Demonstration
- Field Activities (Trips)
- Guest Speakers
- Presentations

TEXTBOOKS

Title	Type	Publisher	Edition	Medium	Author	ISBN	Date
The Struggle for Democracy	Required	Pearson	12	Print	Edward Greenberg	978-0135202760	2018
California Government and Politics Today	Required	Longman	15	Print	Mona Field	978-0-13-462710-6	2017
American Government	Required	OpenStax	2	Electronic	Glen Krutz	978-1-947172-66-1	2019
We The People	Required	W.W. Norton	12	Print	Benjamin Ginsberg	978-0393679670	2019