

## POL S104 : Introduction to Political Theory

### General Information

Author:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Michelle Stonis</li><li>Hastings, Cameron</li><li>Kono, Daniel</li></ul>
Course Code (CB01) :	POL S104
Course Title (CB02) :	Introduction to Political Theory
Department:	POL S
Proposal Start:	Winter 2025
TOP Code (CB03) :	(2207.00) Political Science
CIP Code:	(45.1001) Political Science and Government, General.
SAM Code (CB09) :	Non-Occupational
Distance Education Approved:	No
Will this course be taught asynchronously?:	No
Course Control Number (CB00) :	CCC000536001
Curriculum Committee Approval Date:	05/08/2024
Board of Trustees Approval Date:	06/18/2024
Last Cyclical Review Date:	05/08/2024
Course Description and Course Note:	POL S 104 is an introduction to the history of political theory. What is justice? How do the meanings of equality and freedom impact state policies? Students will explore debates around these issues, including when revolution is justified and the meaning of democracy.
Justification:	Mandatory Revision
Academic Career:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Credit</li></ul>
Author:	No value

### Academic Senate Discipline

Primary Discipline:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Political Science</li></ul>
Alternate Discipline:	No value
Alternate Discipline:	No value

### Course Development

Basic Skill Status (CB08) Course is not a basic skills course.	Course Special Class Status (CB13) Course is not a special class.	Grading Basis <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Grade with Pass / No-Pass Option</li></ul>
<input type="checkbox"/> Allow Students to Gain Credit by Exam/Challenge	Pre-Collegiate Level (CB21) Not applicable.	Course Support Course Status (CB26) Course is not a support course

## Transferability & Gen. Ed. Options

### General Education Status (CB25)

Not Applicable

### Transferability

Transferable to both UC and CSU

### Transferability Status

Approved

IGETC Area	Area	Status	Approval Date	Comparable Course
4H-Political Science, Government & Legal Institutions	Political Science, Government & Legal Institutions	Approved	09/03/2013	No Comparable Course defined.
CSU GE-Breadth Area	Area	Status	Approval Date	Comparable Course
D8-Political Science, Government and Legal Institutions	Political Science, Government and Legal Institutions	Approved	02/19/2013	No Comparable Course defined.
C-ID	Area	Status	Approval Date	Comparable Course
POLS	Political Science	Approved	02/19/2013	POLS 120 - Introduction to Political Theory and Thought

## Units and Hours

### Summary

<b>Minimum Credit Units (CB07)</b>	3
<b>Maximum Credit Units (CB06)</b>	3
<b>Total Course In-Class (Contact) Hours</b>	54
<b>Total Course Out-of-Class Hours</b>	108
<b>Total Student Learning Hours</b>	162

### Credit / Non-Credit Options

#### Course Type (CB04)

Credit - Degree Applicable

#### Noncredit Course Category (CB22)

Credit Course.

#### Noncredit Special Characteristics

No Value

#### Course Classification Code (CB11)

Credit Course.

Variable Credit Course

#### Funding Agency Category (CB23)

Not Applicable.

Cooperative Work Experience  
 Education Status (CB10)

### Weekly Student Hours

In Class

Out of Class

### Course Student Hours

Course Duration (Weeks)

18

Lecture Hours	3	6
Laboratory Hours	0	0
Studio Hours	0	0

<b>Hours per unit divisor</b>	54
<b>Course In-Class (Contact) Hours</b>	
Lecture	54
Laboratory	0
Studio	0
<b>Total</b>	54

<b>Course Out-of-Class Hours</b>	
Lecture	108
Laboratory	0
Studio	0
<b>Total</b>	108

### Time Commitment Notes for Students

No value

### Units and Hours - Weekly Specialty Hours

Activity Name	Type	In Class	Out of Class
No Value	No Value	No Value	No Value

### Pre-requisites, Co-requisites, Anti-requisites and Advisories

#### Prerequisite

POL S101 - Introduction to United States and California Government and Politics

##### Objectives

- Describe the theoretical basis of government.
- Describe and evaluate the impact of federalism.
- Analyze the elements of the federal Constitution and the California Constitution.
- Evaluate the basic institutions of the federal government and the State of California.
- Evaluate political processes such as elections and interest groups affecting the federal government and California.
- Critique selected public policies.
- Analyze the role of culture, diversity, and ideology in shaping public opinion and public policy in the United States and California.

OR

#### Prerequisite

POL S102 - Modern Comparative Governments

##### Objectives

- Differentiate common patterns of government.
- Analyze political systems from different world regions.
- Compare democratic and authoritarian governments.
- Evaluate various forms of government in their ability to solve social, economic and political problems.

## Entry Standards

Entry Standards

## Course Limitations

Cross Listed or Equivalent Course

## Specifications

### Methods of Instruction

Methods of Instruction                      Lecture

Methods of Instruction                      Discussion

Methods of Instruction                      Collaborative Learning

Methods of Instruction                      Multimedia

### Out of Class Assignments

- Research paper (e.g. a research paper evaluating current scholarship on selected theorists or political concepts)
- Annotated bibliographical essay on selected theorists or concepts
- Written/oral report on public lectures on selected theorists or concepts

### Methods of Evaluation

### Rationale

Exam/Quiz/Test

Essay examinations

Exam/Quiz/Test

Final exam, including an essay (e.g. the essay would require evaluation of two or more theorists on a major concept)

Presentation (group or individual)

Student presentations (e.g. students would present an article from the secondary literature on a theorist or concept)

### Textbook Rationale

Many of the books in this course are in the public domain, so they are free to students. These are seminal original works in the field that contemporary textbooks cannot replace.

Textbooks				
Author	Title	Publisher	Date	ISBN
Plato	The Republic	Cambridge: Cambridge University Press	2000	9780521484435
Machiavelli	The Prince	Cambridge: Cambridge University Press,	1988	9780521349932
Rousseau	'The Discourses' and Other Early Political Writings	Cambridge: Cambridge University Press	1997	9780521424455
Marx	Later Political Writings.	Cambridge: Cambridge University Press	1996	9780521182805
Mill	'On Liberty' and Other Writings	Cambridge: Cambridge University Press	2010	9780521379175
Plato	Crito	CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform	2015	978-1518668555
Held, D	Models of Democracy	Redwood City: Stanford University Press	2006	978-0804754729
Washington, B	Up From Slavery	New York: Skyhorse Publishing	2015	978-1632202840
Du Bois, W	The Souls of Black Folk	CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform	2014	978-1505223378
Mary Wollstonecraft	A Vindication of the Rights of Man and a Vindication of the Rights of Woman and Hints	Cambridge University Press	1995	9780521436335

#### Other Instructional Materials (i.e. OER, handouts)

No Value

## Materials Fee

No value

## Learning Outcomes and Objectives

### Course Objectives

Identify the meanings of the concepts of justice, equality, freedom, democracy and revolution as well as other significant concepts in the history of political theory.

Explain the main debates over political concepts in different eras in the history of political theory.

Critique the importance of the impact of the historical contexts on various political theorists for the validity of their theories for their own and subsequent periods.

Evaluate the relationships between political theories and political practice.

Analyze contemporary debates over the nature of political theory.

### SLOs

**Evaluate key concepts, theories and debates that have defined thinking about politics over time.**

Expected Outcome Performance: 70.0

<i>ILOs</i> Core ILOs	Analyze and solve problems using critical, logical, and creative thinking; ask questions, pursue a line of inquiry, and derive conclusions; cultivate creativity that leads to innovative ideas.
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<i>POL S</i> Political Science	Critically analyze and evaluate political institutions and processes in their state, national and international environments.
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<i>SOC S</i> Social Sciences	Developed a broad and critical understanding of the complex interconnections between the human and environmental forces in their world
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<i>ILOs</i> General Education	apply methodologies used by social and behavioral scientists recall, analyze, and synthesize theories and real-world issues and topics related to social, political, and/or economic institutions
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**Analyze contemporary debates over the nature of political theory.**

Expected Outcome Performance: 70.0

**Critique the importance of the impact of the historical contexts on various political theorists for the validity of their theories for their own and subsequent periods.**

Expected Outcome Performance: 70.0

## Additional SLO Information

**Does this proposal include revisions that might improve student attainment of course learning outcomes?**

No

**Is this proposal submitted in response to learning outcomes assessment data?**

No

**If yes was selected in either of the above questions for learning outcomes, explain and attach evidence of discussions about learning outcomes.**

No Value

**SLO Evidence**

No Value

## Course Content

### Lecture Content

#### **What Is Political Theory? (3 hours)**

- Key Concepts in the History of Political Theory

#### **Justice (5 hours)**

- Ancient and medieval conceptions
- Early modern conceptions
- Late modern conceptions
- Contemporary debates

#### **Human Nature, the Individual and Society (6 hours)**

- Ancient and medieval conceptions
- Early modern conceptions
- Late modern conceptions
- Contemporary debates

#### **Freedom and Human Rights (6 hours)**

- Ancient and medieval conceptions
- Early modern conceptions
- Late modern conceptions
- Contemporary debates

#### **Equality (5 hours)**

- Ancient and medieval conceptions
- Early modern conceptions
- Late modern conceptions
- Contemporary debates

#### **Democracy (6 hours)**

- Ancient and medieval conceptions
- Early modern conceptions
- Late modern conceptions
- Contemporary debates

#### **Authority, Obligation and Revolution (6 hours)**

- Ancient and medieval conceptions
- Early modern conceptions
- Late modern conceptions
- Contemporary debates

#### **War and Peace (6 hours)**

- Ancient and medieval conceptions
- Early modern conceptions
- Late modern conceptions
- Contemporary debates

#### **Non-Western Traditions of Political Theory (7 hours)**

#### **The Role of Political Theory in Contemporary Society (4 hours)**

- Political theory and political practice
- The death and life of political theory

**Total Hours: 54**

## Additional Information

Is this course proposed for GCC Major or General Education Graduation requirement? If yes, indicate which requirement in the two areas provided below.

Yes

### GCC Major Requirements

No Value

### GCC General Education Graduation Requirements

Social Sciences

### Repeatability

Not Repeatable

### Justification (if repeatable was chosen above)

No Value



## Resources

Did you contact your departmental library liaison?

No

If yes, who is your departmental library liaison?

No Value

Did you contact the DEIA liaison?

No

Were there any DEIA changes made to this outline?

No

If yes, in what areas were these changes made:

No Value

Will any additional resources be needed for this course? (Click all that apply)

- No

If additional resources are needed, add a brief description and cost in the box provided.

No Value