COLLEGE OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS
COURSE OUTLINE

CIP No. 45.1001
POL 101  Introduction to Political Science
Alpha Number

Course Title

Course Description

Introduces basic terminology, typologies, and development of western political thought, as well as the contributions of various political and non-political groups to the structures and practices of the contemporary state.

Course prepared by:  Ponipate Rokoekulu  Fall 2004

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<th>Hours per Week</th>
<th>Number of Weeks</th>
<th>Total Hours</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tr>
<td>Lecture</td>
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<td>Laboratory</td>
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<td>Clinical</td>
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<td>Seminar</td>
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Purpose of Course:  Degree Requirement

- Degree Elective: X
- General Education: X
- Certification: 
- Developmental: 
- Other: 

Prerequisite(s)

Total Credit Hours

Signature, Curriculum and Assessment Committee Chairperson
1-4-2012

Signature, Dean of Academic Affairs
1-4-2012

Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs
11/14/2009

Date last reviewed:  November 2009
I. Introduction to Political Science

II. Course Objectives

A. General Outcomes

Students who complete this course will:
1. Define basic concepts in the field of political science (GE 1) (LA 1)
2. Describe and differentiate among various major western political theories (GE 1, 3, 6) (LA 1, 3, 5)
3. Identify the basic features of the state and the general machinery of government (GE 1, 2) (LA 1, 2)
4. Compare and contrast the effects of the application of political theory and practice in various global and regional contexts (GE 1, 2, 3) (LA 1, 2, 3)

B. Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:
1. Define basic concepts related to political science
   a. Explain the differences and linkages between political theory, political economy, public policy, and comparative politics.
   b. Describe ways in which political science is considered part of both the humanities and social sciences.
2. Describe and differentiate among major western political theories
   a. Compare and contrast theories of the divine right of kings, natural law, the social contract, republicanism, and democratic governance.
   b. Illustrate the differences between federalism, fascism, and communism.
3. Identify basic features and machinery of the state and government
   a. Describe the legislative process, specifically the roles of checks and balances and separation of powers.
   b. Compare and contrast parliamentary and bicameral legislatures.
   c. Assess the roles of the state at the national and local (municipal) levels.
4. Compare and contrast the effects of the application of political theory
   a. Define political and economic “development,” both theoretically and practically.
   b. Describe the effects of the rise of the military-industrial-congressional complex and its role in the contemporary spread of democratic models globally.
   c. Analyze the roles of non-governmental and international funding agencies in the development of western political models in non-western contexts.
   d. Evaluate the prospects for “good governance” and “transparency” in governmental practice both globally and regionally.

III. Course Content

This course introduces students to the interplay of the art and science of politics, with special emphasis given to the development of political thought in the west and its global and regional application.

1. Theories of political science
2. Political theory
   a. Monarchism
   b. Constitutionalism
   c. Republicanism
3. Legislative processes
   a. Bicameral and parliamentary systems
b. Checks and balances
  c. Separation of powers
4. Political economy
  a. Marxism
  b. Neo-liberalism
5. Contemporary political development in theory and practice
  a. Rise of the military-industrial-congressional complex
  b. Exportation of democratic processes and structures
  c. Non-governmental organizations
  d. International funding and aid agencies

IV. Methods of Instruction

1. Lecture
2. PowerPoint presentations
3. Guest speakers
4. Library and Internet research
5. Student inquiry projects and presentations
6. Discussion and debate
7. Short-term and semester-long writing assignments

V. Equipment and Materials

1. Computer projector and laptop
2. Internet access to academic databases
3. Library access

VI. Suggested Methods of Evaluation

1. Oral presentations
2. Papers
3. Class participation

Letter grades will be assigned per CMI Grading System.
Course History Summary

Course Number: **POL 101 Introduction to Political Science (3cr)**

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