

## Course Information

Page 1 of 4

**Division:** 

Academic

**Department:** Arts & Humanities

Date:

November 1, 1995

**New Course:** 

Revision of Course Information Form:

Dated:

May 1987

C: **POLI 101** 

D: INTRODUCTION TO POLITICAL SCIENCE

Subject & Course No.

**Descriptive Title** 

Semester Credit

#### F: Calendar Description:

An "Introduction to Political Science" will provide students with a broad overview and understanding of the basic elements of our political experiences. Students will become acquainted with many of the fields of study in the discipline, among them, political theory, methodology, international relations, Canadian government, ideologies, and comparative politics. The course will include an overview of basic political concepts and theories, and an examination of the structures and processes involved in politics and policy-making.

Summary of Revisions: (Enter date & section) Eg. Section C,E,F

1995.11.01: Section C, J, M, N

G: Type	of Instruction:	Hours per	Week/per	Semester

Lecture	2	Hrs.
Laboratory Seminar Clinical Experience Field Experience Practicum Shop Studio Student Directed Learning	2	Hrs. Hrs. Hrs. Hrs. Hrs. Hrs. Hrs.
Other		Hrs.

H: Course Prerequisites:

None

I: Course Corequisites:

None

J: Course for which this Course is a Prerequisite:

POLI 201, 207, 210

K: Maximum Class Size:

College Credit Transfer

**TOTAL** 

X

4

**HOURS** 

College Credit Non-transfer

M: Transfer Credit:

Requested:

Granted:

Specify Course Equivalents or Unassigned

Credit as Appropriate:

UBC POLI 101 = Poli 2nd (3)

**SFU POLI 101 = Pol 100 (3)** 

**UVIC POLI 101 = Poli 200 level (1.5)** 

COURSE DESIGNER(S)

OR/CHAIRPERSON

DIVISIONAL DEAN

REGISTRAR

# N: Textbooks and Materials to be Purchased by Students (Use Bibliographic Form):

Texts and readings will be selected from the following:

- M.O. Dickerson, T. Flanagan. An Introduction to Government and Politics, A Conceptual Approach. 4th edition. Toronto: Nelson Canada, 1994.
- M.O. Dickerson, T. Flanagan. <u>Introductory Readings in Government and Politics</u>. 4th edition. Toronto: Nelson Canada, 1995.
- J.J. Guy. <u>People, Politics, and Government: A Canadian Perspective</u>. 3rd edition. Scarborough: Prentice-Hall, 1995.
- G.M. Scott, S.M. Garrison. <u>The Political Science Student Writer's Manual.</u> Prentice-Hall, 1995.

Complete Form with Entries Under the Following Headings:

O: Course Objectives; P: Course Content; Q: Method of Instruction;

R: Course Evaluation

## O. COURSE OBJECTIVES

- 1) Students will become familiar with the general scope and methods of political science at an introductory level.
- 2) Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of fundamental concepts in the study of politics.
- 3) Students will be able to apply their understanding of concepts to analyses of contemporary regimes, political structures, political processes, and contemporary issues at the national and international levels.
- 4) Students will be prepared for further study in more advanced work in Canadian Government, Ideology, International Relations, Comparative Politics, Scope and Methods.

## P. COURSE CONTENT

**Unit One:** 

An Introduction to Political Science
The Methods of Political Inquiry

The Role of Theory Concepts of Politics Political Culture Political Socialization

State, Society and the Political System

Constitutions

Civil Liberties, Civil Rights

Unit Two: An Introduction to Political Ideologies

Concepts of Ideology Role of Ideology in Politics

Liberalism: Classical, Reform, Contemporary Conservatism: Classical, Contemporary

Socialism: Historical, Utopian, "Scientific", Democratic

Fascism Nationalism

**Unit Three:** An Introduction to Government

Liberal Democracy
Authoritarian Systems
Totalitarian Systems
Parliamentary Government
Presidential Government
Federal/Unitary Systems

Unit Four: An Introduction to the Political Process

Interest Articulation Structures
Interest Aggregation Structures
Interest Communication Structures

Rule Making Structures Rule Application Structures Rule Adjudication Structures

Political Parties

**Elections/Participation** 

Policy Making

Revolutionary/Evolutionary Change

### Q. METHOD OF INSTRUCTION

Presentation of the course will involve the use of formal lectures, structured group work by students, and in-class discussion of assigned material. Additional readings may be assigned for each unit of the course, and placed on reserve in the library. Where appropriate, audio-visual materials will be used.

#### R. COURSE EVALUATION

Evaluations of a student's performance will be based on a combination of written examinations, a formal research paper, a seminar presentation, and participation. All evaluation elements assigned must be completed by the student.

Midterm Exam	20%
Research Essay	30% (5% of which may be
Final Exam	20% assigned to outline)
*Participation (criteria on p. 4)	20%
•	100%

## R. COURSE EVALUATION Continued...

- \*(Participation grades for students will be based on a combination of objective criteria, which will include a selection of the following:
  - Short in-class tests
  - Attendance, participation
  - Short research papers
  - Book review
  - In-class presentation
  - Formal debate
  - Instructor evaluation of individual student progress and research skills
  - Oral examination
  - Additional assignments

© Douglas College. All Rights Reserved.