

Mt. San Jacinto College
Integrated Course Outline of Record

Form B

Submitted by: Stacey Searl-Chapin Date: 12/17/2020

Department	Subject	Course Number	Title
Political Science	Political Science PS	105	Introduction to Political Theory

Units/Hours

Each lecture unit requires 1 hour per week of class time, and 2 hours per week of study outside of class.
Each laboratory unit requires 3 hours per week of class time.
Each activity unit requires 2 hours per week of class time and 1 hour per week of study outside of class.

Lecture Units	Total Units
3.00	3.00
Lecture Contact Hours	Total Contact Hours
48.00 - 54.00	48.00 - 54.00
Lecture Homework Hours	
96.00 - 108.00	

Stand Alone:

Program Applicable

AA/AS Degree General Ed Breadth Area(s):

B2 SOCIAL & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

General Education Justification:

A course in political theory satisfies the Area B2 Learning Objectives by helping students analyze the historical and philosophical foundation of political ideas and governments. For example, students will analyze the writings of various political thinkers in order to evaluate the relationship between the theory and practice of politics and governments. This is accomplished via textual analysis and then applying said analysis to contemporary political issues and events. This specifically applies to GELO1 (Examine complex issues and discover connections and correlations among ideas to advance towards independent conclusions), GELO 4 (Develop individual responsibility, personal integrity, and respect for diverse people and cultures), and GELO5 (Examine ethical issues that will enhance their capacity for making sound judgements and decisions).

Maximum Enrollment:	40
Maximum Enrollment Justification:	

Grading Method:

TOP code:

Justification:

Letter Grade or P/NP

2207.00

Can be Taken

1

time(s) for credit (max 4)

- Visual or Performing Arts course that is required to meet major requirements for UC/CSU
- Intercollegiate athletics course
- Academic/vocational competition course

Catalog Description:

(Please do not refer to transferability or degree, certificate, or employment concentration applicability. Please only describe the course). (75 words or less in gray box below).

This course will examine the major contributions of political thinkers from Socrates to the present. Political concepts such as democracy, the rule of law, justice, natural rights, sovereignty, citizenship, power, the state, revolution, liberty, reason, materialism, toleration, and the place of religion in society and politics are traced from their origins, through their development and changing patterns, to show how they influence political thinking and institutions today.

Schedule Description:

(Please do not refer to transferability or degree, certificate, or employment concentration applicability. Please only describe the course). (25 words or less in gray box below).

This course examines political ideas and thinkers from Socrates to the present and their application to contemporary issues and debates.

Need for the course:

This course is designed to be an advanced course within the political science department. It fits into Ed Plan Option A under General Ed Area B2 for Social and Behavioral Sciences. It is designed to enhance student awareness of varying political philosophies and their role in shaping the contemporary political landscape. Political Theory is one of the four major sub-fields in political science, and as such is considered a core course for any political science major. It is also an option in the Political Science ADT Degree.

Prerequisite(s):

Prerequisites go through a separate approval process. See Forms E1-E6 for details. (For further clarification, contact the Prerequisite Subcommittee)

- PS 101 with a Grade of C or better.

Corequisite(s):

Corequisites go through a separate approval process. See Forms E1-E6 for details.

-none-

Recommend Preparation:

Recommended Preparation goes through a separate approval process. See Forms E1-E6 for details.

- ENGL 101

Other Enrollment Criteria:

-none-

Learning Objectives:

(please number each objective and express in behavioral terms)

Upon the completion of the course the student will be able to do the following:

1. Analyze and evaluate political concepts, theories, and institutions.
 2. Compare and contrast different political theories, including, but not limited to, the different theoretical bases of liberalism, conservatism, and socialism.
 3. Identify key concepts linking political theory to other social sciences.
 4. Employ research tools including scholarly readings, current media, and the Internet.
 5. Demonstrate critical thinking ability, including the analysis and evaluation of differing philosophies.
 6. Evaluate the relationship between political theory and practice.
 7. Analyze the role political theory plays in current political events.
 8. Evaluate the role of ideology in contemporary politics.
 9. 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.

Course Content:

(please number the outline of main topics and subtopics)

- Topics and theorists covered may include, but are not limited to:

 - 1. The Concept of Ideology**
 - 2. Liberalism**
 - a. Thomas Hobbes—The State of Nature and the Basis of Obligation
 - b. John Locke—Toleration and Government
 - c. Adam Smith—Private Profit, Public Good
 - d. T. H. Green—Liberalism and Positive Freedom
 - e. Donald Allen—Paternalism vs. Democracy: A Libertarian View
 - 3. Conservatism**
 - a. Edmund Burke—Society, Reverence, and the “True Natural Aristocracy”
 - b. Michael Oakeshott—On Being Conservative
 - 4. Socialism and Communism: Marx**
 - a. Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels—The Communist Manifesto
 - b. Karl Marx—On the Materialist Conception of History
 - 5. Socialism and Communism: After Marx**
 - a. Eduard Bernstein—Evolutionary Socialism
 - b. V. I. Lenin—Revisionism, Imperialism, and Revolution
 - 6. Fascism**
 - a. Benito Mussolini—The Doctrine of Fascism
 - b. Adolf Hitler—Nation and Race (from Mein Kampf)
 - 7. The Democratic Ideal**
 - a. Aristotle—Democratic Judgment and the “Middling” Constitution
 - b. John Adams—What Is a Republic?
 - c. Bill of Rights of the United States
 - d. Madison (*Federalists 10 and 51*)
 - 8. Liberation Ideologies and The Politics of Identity**
 - a. MLK and Malcolm X
 - b. Marilyn Frye—Oppression
 - c. John Corvino—Homosexuality: The Nature and Harm Arguments
 - d. Peter Singer—All Animals Are Equal
 - 9. Green Ideology**
 - a. Wendell Berry—Getting Along with Nature
 - b. Dave Foreman-Putting Earth First
 - c. James Cone--Whose Earth is it Anyway?

10. Radical Islamism

- a. Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini—The Necessity for Islamic Government
- b. Osama Bin Laden and Others—Jihad Against Jews and Crusaders

Methods of Instruction:

Methods of instruction may include, but are not limited to the following:

- **Method:** Lecture and discussion
Integration: Lecture and hold discussions on the ideas and socio-political contexts of major political theorists facilitate student understanding of the development of political thought.
- **Method:** Multi-media sources
Integration: Highlight films and websites that reinforce understanding of concepts central to political theory.
- **Method:** Guest speakers
Integration: Invite guest speakers that may be used to discuss various topics relevant to political theory.
- **Method:** The Internet
Integration: Integrate the use of the Course Management Syastem and various websites both in and outside of class to keep students informed on the relevance of political thought to contemporary political issues and trends.
- **Method:** Discussion groups
Integration: Use both in class and online discussion groups via the Course Management System to develop and share student opinion on political theory and its relation to current political topics and issues.
- **Method:** Cooperative and collaborative learning tasks
Integration: Implement collaborative and cooperative learning tasks, including partnered or small-group discussions and projects to develop and reinforce course content and topics.

Methods of Evaluation:

A student's grade shall be determined by the instructor using multiple measures of performance related to the course objectives. Methods of evaluation may include but are not limited to the following:

- **Method:** Quizzes/examinations
Integration: Quizzes and exams will be designed to assess students' ability to recall, analyze, and apply key concepts employed in the study of political theory. Exams may be multiple choice, short answer, fill in the blank, or essay.
- **Method:** Written research papers
Integration: Written assignments will be designed to demonstrate students' understanding of course content by asking students to compare and contrast various political theories. Assignments may use library, scholarly, and internet sources. This will help develop reading, writing, and research skills.
- **Method:** Oral reports/presentations
Integration: Oral presentations will designed to demonstrate students' understanding of key concepts utilized in political theory. Students may be asked to give a particular position on an issue and support it with evidence.
- **Method:** Collaborative group research projects
Integration: Collaborative projects will be used to assess student understanding of key topics, issues, and concepts employed in the course.
- **Method:** In-class participation
Integration: In-class participation will be used as required by the instructor to ensure progress in mastering course content.

Examples of Assignments:

Students will be expected to understand and critique college level texts or the equivalent. Reading and writing, as well as out of class assignments are required. These assignments may include but are not limited to the following:

A variety of assignments may also be used in assessment. Such assignments may include, but are not limited to:

1. Sample writing assignment: Compare and contrast the political ideologies of liberalism, socialism, and conservatism. What are the basic principles of each? Which ideology, in your view, is most relevant today? Why?
2. Sample discussion topic: What is America's greatest contribution to political thought? What impact, if any, has such a contribution made to the larger discussion of political thought? Topic may be addressed in class or online via the Course Management System.
3. **Sample essay topic: Discuss Habermas' "Three Normative Models of Democracy". How and why is it relevant today?**

Textbooks:

- Ball, Terence, and Richard Dagger, eds. (2019). *Ideals and Ideologies: A Reader (11th edition)* Routledge. ISBN: 978-0367235048
- McKinnon, Catriona, et. al, eds. (2019). *Issues in Political Theory* Oxford UP. ISBN: 9780198784067

Other Resources:

Minimum Qualification

- Political Science (Masters Required)