

## Master Syllabus

### PLS 2200 - Political Life, Systems & Issues

**Division:** Liberal Arts, Communication and Social Sciences

**Department:** Political Science

**Credit Hour Total:** 3.0

**Lecture Hrs:** 3.0

**Date Revised:** June 2014

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### Course Description:

Basic political and government concepts and systems, including ideologies and comparative political systems; current political issues in Asia, Africa, Europe, Latin America, along with United States interests and policy options.

### General Education Outcomes:

- ❑ Oral Communication Competency
- ❑ Written Communication Competency
- ❑ Critical Thinking/Problem Solving Competency
- ❑ Values/Citizenship/Community Competency
- ❑ Computer Literacy Competency
- ❑ Information Literacy Competency

### Course Outcomes:

#### Governmental Systems and Structures

Demonstrate an understanding of the structural differences and options among political systems.

**Assessment Method:** Locally developed exams

**Performance Criteria:** 70% or better on exams

#### Political theories & ideologies

Describe and compare (historical & contemporary) political theories and comparative political systems.

**Assessment Method:** Locally developed exams

**Performance Criteria:** 70% or better on exams

**Assessment Method:** Portfolios

**Performance Criteria:** 70% or better

#### International political events, issues & trends

Demonstrate knowledge of and critically discuss political and economic histories, events, developments, and trends in Asia, Africa, Europe, and the Americas and throughout the world.

**Assessment Method:** Locally developed exams

**Performance Criteria:** 70% or better on exams

### Outline:

Basic political terminology  
Compare capitalism, socialism and communism  
Democracy versus authoritarianism and totalitarianism  
Classifications of comparative governments and systems  
United Nations and international organizations  
Governments in Asia, Africa, Europe, Middle East and the Americas  
International issues, developments and trends