

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

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