POLITICAL SCIENCE (POL) CPSO

Visit the Course Schedule Search website to find out when courses will be offered during the academic year.

Read more about the courses within this subject prefix in the descriptions provided below.

POL 450 - American Government and Politics
Credits: 4
This course introduces the learner to the historical background, the institutions, and the political processes within the United States national government. The focus is on process, but the appropriate attention is given to the institutions of government in which the political processes occur, such as Congress, the courts, and local governments. The course employs a systems model of politics to identify how politics works in the United States. Both process and institutions are studied from a systems perspective so that critical functions and decision points can be identified, described, and assessed. Specific attention will be paid to the legislative process, elections, and enacting change.
Attributes: HumanBehavSocial Sys (Gen Ed); Writing Intensive Course
Equivalent(s): POL 550G
Grade Mode: Letter Grading

POL 554 - Law and Society
Credits: 4
This course is designed to provide an interdisciplinary approach to study of the law, incorporating history, philosophy, economics, political science, sociology, and psychology. Students are introduced to law in society by focusing on social and legal theory analysis from a critical perspective. Beginning with a historical overview of the law, learners explore the variety of forces that shape the law as well as its impact on society at large. In addition, the course provides a basic introduction to legal reasoning and the law in the context of society. Landmark United States Supreme Court criminal and civil cases will also be examined.
Attributes: HumanBehavSocial Sys (Gen Ed)
Equivalent(s): POL 554G
Grade Mode: Letter Grading

POL 690 - The US in World Affairs
Credits: 4
This course examines U.S. foreign relations since WWII with a particular focus on the late twentieth century through modern day. Students will explore patterns of U.S. policy in a volatile environment marked by fundamental changes to the international system of states since the collapse of the Soviet Union. Students trace the transformation in international relations that has led to the creation of world trade and globalized institutions, the proliferation of regional ethnic and religious conflicts, and most challenging of all, the emergence of transnational terrorism. Students will have the opportunity to analyze the international system and relevant political theories, develop competence in defining both transient and enduring national interests, and build confidence in appraising the policy responses of national actors to those challenges.
Attributes: HumanBehavSocial Sys (Gen Ed); Historical Perspectives(Disc); Writing Intensive Course
Equivalent(s): POL 600G
Grade Mode: Letter Grading