STANDARDIZED COURSE OUTLINE

SECTION I

SUBJECT AREA AND COURSE NUMBER: POL*101

COURSE TITLE: Introduction to Political Science

COURSE CATALOG DESCRIPTION: General survey of the field of political science, with emphasis on politics, political systems, and political behavior. Analysis of institutions and processes involved in the making of public policy is included.

LECTURE HOURS PER WEEK: 3

CREDIT HOURS: 3

LAB HOURS PER WEEK (if applicable): N/A

PREREQUISITE(S): none

SECTION II

A. SCOPE: The course will introduce students to the study and discipline of political science. Emphasis will be placed on political structures, in a comparative global context, and political behavior.

This course fulfills a Designated Core Competency in the area of Social Phenomena (SP).

This course fulfills an Embedded Core Competency in the Area of Appreciation of Ethical Dimensions of Humankind (ED).

This course fulfills an Embedded Core Competency in the Area of Historical Knowledge (HK).

 B. REQUIRED WORK: To be determined by the instructor and described in the course syllabus.

C. ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION: Regular attendance and class participation are expected. Policies specific to the instructor should be outlined in the class syllabus.

D. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION: The methods of instruction are determined by each instructor and may include but are not limited to: lecture, class or group discussion, collaborative learning, readings/interpretation of primary and secondary sources, distance learning, student presentations, and use of technologies including audio-visual materials, computers, and maps.

E: OBJECTIVES, OUTCOMES, and ASSESSMENT: The following objectives and outcomes represent the department's core requirements for student achievement:

LEARNING OBJECTIVES	LEARNING OUTCOMES	ASSESSMENT METHODS
To demonstrate an understanding of:	Students will:	As measured by:
Basic political structures and systems in the world today.	Identify and describe various political systems throughout the world, and explain the cultural and historical factors that influenced their development. (SP 1 and 4)	Participation in class discussion and performance on exams and written assignments.
The theoretical and practical variables that shape and influence political structures and behaviors.	Summarize different theories and research methods used to investigate social phenomena, and apply these theories to explain historical and/or contemporary political issues. (SP 2 and 5)	Participation in class discussion and performance on exams, written assignments, projects, and/or case studies.
How the American government functions within a historical and global political context.	Explain the political and historical influences that have shaped the evolution of government in the United States, as well as the changing nature of federalism. (SP 1) (HK 3, 5, and 6)	Participation in class discussion and performance on exams, written assignments, and projects.
Ethical principles that guide individual and collective actions and apply those principles to the analysis of contemporary social and political problems.	Recognize and reflect critically on ethical issues pertaining to contemporary social and political problems; apply appropriate academic standards to defend and re-evaluate their positions and beliefs based on evidence. (ED 1 and 3) (SP 3 and 5)	Participation in class discussion and performance on exams, written assignments, projects, and/or case studies.

Core Competency Assessment Artifact(s):
Assignments from this course that address learning outcomes noted above may be collected to assess student learning across the school.

F. TEXT(S) AND MATERIALS: College level introductory textbook on political science, study guides, and supplementary reading.

G. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY: Basic knowledge of the use of computers to write papers as well as on-line search and use of internet resources. Extent of use of information technology will vary by instructor.