COURSE INFORMATION

COURSE TITLE
POS105 Introduction to Political Science

COURSE DESCRIPTION
Focuses on a survey of the discipline of political science, including political philosophy and ideology, democratic and non-democratic governments, and processes, and international relations.

This course is one of the Statewide Guaranteed Transfer courses.

• gtPathways Requirement Course Information Page

CREDIT HOURS
3

CCCOnline COURSE POLICIES
The CCCOnline Course Policies page contains information about the student's role in the classroom, grading policies, and rights and responsibilities.
**COURSE MATERIALS**

You can purchase all course materials (texts, calculators, software, etc), either with cash, a credit card or financial aid from your [home college bookstore](#). Click on the “Ready to Order” option and select the bookstore from which you’d like to make your purchase.

**MINIMUM COMPUTER REQUIREMENTS**

To complete this course, you will need **regular** access to a computer from which you can get to the internet and use email. In order to ensure that your course functions properly, you must run the System Check. This is a CRITICAL STEP, and taking the time to do it now will eliminate a tremendous amount of frustration for you later. To run the System Check, click Tools in the course NavBar and then click System Check.

**REQUIRED eTEXT**


This course uses **Vital Source** which integrates the eText directly into the course site.

- [Visit the Vital Source Course Start](#) page for details on first access of the materials.

To make sure your computer is set up correctly to access the eText and other digital content, review the [Vital Source Technical Support](#) page, also linked in the Technical Support Module.
**Course Competencies and Outcomes**

**Student Competencies**

The competencies you will demonstrate in this course are as follows:

1. Distinguish between traditional and behavioral approaches to the study of politics.
2. Discuss general approaches to the study of politics such as political philosophy, political ideologies, and political systems.
3. Analyze theories, actors, and practices of international relations.
4. Examine comparative political systems.
5. Discuss international political economy.

The module outcomes that will permit you to demonstrate course competencies are:

**Module 1**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outcomes</th>
<th>Competencies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Define power</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Identify and Describe components of the nation-state</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Distinguish social philosophy study between the individual and society</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Identify political philosophers and treatises</td>
<td>2, 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Explain political socialization</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Distinguish between authoritarian, totalitarian, Marxist, national socialist, fascist, and democratic forms</td>
<td>3, 2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Module 2**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outcomes</th>
<th>Competencies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Distinguish power from justice</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Define a nation-state system</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Distinguish realism from normativism</td>
<td>1, 2, 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Analyze voting and participation and electoral systems</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Classify Marxism, democratic capitalism and democratic socialism</td>
<td>2, 3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Module 3**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outcomes</th>
<th>Competencies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Compare electoral systems and roles of political parties</td>
<td>2, 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Distinguish between presidential and parliamentary systems</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Explain why presidential systems are rarely chosen when forming a new democracy</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Module 4**

**Outcomes**

1. Explain leadership and power
2. Explain the role of technology in political participation
3. Show how authoritarian rulers use power
4. Inspect Marxism and third world ideologies in the international arena
5. Recognize the evolution of international law and international organizations
6. Describe international balance of power

**Competencies**

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5

**Module 5**

**Outcomes**

1. Explain evolution of international balance of power
2. Explain development of the international system
3. Identify root causes of international conflict
4. Define globalism and the process of globalism

**Competencies**

- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
# Grading and Evaluation

## Methods

Evaluation includes a combination of discussion participation, assignments, and other evaluations. Rubrics are provided for assignments and discussions.

## Grading Policies

Mark all Module due dates on your calendar for this class. You may submit assignments AHEAD of schedule. Written assignments submitted through the assignment folder may be submitted up to five days late with a 10% late penalty per day (up to 50%), with the exception of the Module 5 deliverables which are due the last day of class. Written assignments will not be accepted late after this five-day grace period. No late work will be accepted for the discussions. Discussions are designed for students to discuss module concepts in the week they are covered; therefore, discussions cannot be submitted after their due date.

## Summary of Grading

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class Introductions</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hypothesis Discussion</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Checkpoint Discussion</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>4.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic Discussions (5 @ 30 points each)</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>15.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In the News! Discussions (5 @ 30 points each)</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>15.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes (5 @ 15 points each)</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>7.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Module Essay Assignments (5 @ 50 points each)</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>25.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Module Checkpoint Assignments (4 @ 50 points each)</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>20.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Module 5 Checkpoint</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>10.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>1000</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Grading Scale**

- A = 90 to 100%
- B = 80 to 89%
- C = 70 to 79%
- D = 60 to 69%
- F = 59% and below

## Discussions

Discussions criteria are found in the various discussion rubrics. No make-up assignments are available for these, as they measure both comprehension and class participation. Students need to post their response to the discussion prompt by the initial post date indicated on the syllabus. Then, responses to peer posts must be made on multiple days as noted in the rubrics. The number of peer posts required varies depending on the type of discussion.
ASSIGNMENTS
Students are to choose one of the three essay options available per module and complete the module checkpoint assignment by the due date.

QUIZZES
Quizzes are taken each unit. These cannot be made up.
COURSE SCHEDULE
The Schedule is subject to change as needed.

This page summarizes all of the graded assignments, exams, and reading assignments for the course. If you want, you can print it out and post it somewhere handy.

All assignments are described in detail on the Module assignment pages. If you have questions check there and/or send me an e-mail.

This course is not self-paced and is not open-exit. All assignments, papers, quizzes, discussions, etc., are to be completed by no later than 11:59 pm MST/MDT of the due date.

NOTE: Important CCCOnline semester dates (e.g., drop/withdraw/term end) appear on the CCCOnline calendar.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MODULE 1</th>
<th>Due Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Reading/Assignments/Exams</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Read chapters 1 and 2 and the Module 1 Exploration Introduction Discussion</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Checkpoint Discussion</td>
<td>Initial post due:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hypothesis Discussion</td>
<td>Peer responses due:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic Discussion</td>
<td>Initial post due:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In the News! Discussion</td>
<td>Peer responses due:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Module 1 Essay</td>
<td>Initial post due:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Module 1 Checkpoint Assignment</td>
<td>Peer responses due:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Module 1 Quiz</td>
<td>Peer responses due:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Students must participate in a graded assessment in Module 1 by XXX, or they will be dropped for non participation.
**Module 2**

**Reading/Assignments/Exams**
Read chapters 3 and 4 and the Module 2 Exploration
Academic Discussion

In the News! Discussion

Module 2 Essay
Module 2 Checkpoint Assignment
Module 2 Quiz

**Due Dates**
Initial post due:
Peer responses due:

---

**Module 3**

**Reading/Assignments/Exams**
Read chapters 5, 6 and 7 and the Module 3 Exploration
Academic Discussion

In the News! Discussion

Module 3 Essay
Module 3 Checkpoint Assignment
Module 3 Quiz

**Due Dates**
Initial post due:
Peer responses due:

---

**Module 4**

**Reading/Assignments/Exams**
Read chapters 8 and 9 and the Module 4 Exploration
Academic Discussion

In the News! Discussion

Module 4 Essay
Module 4 Checkpoint Assignment
Module 4 Quiz

**Due Dates**
Initial post due:
Peer responses due:

---

**Module 5**

**Reading/Assignments/Exams**
Read chapters 10 and 11 and the Module 5 Exploration
Academic Discussion

In the News! Discussion

Module 5 Essay
Module 5 Checkpoint Assignment
Module 5 Quiz

**Due Dates**
Initial post due:
Peer responses due: