

CATALOG INFORMATION

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Dept & Nbr: POL 200 Title: AMERICAN GOVERNMENT AND

Full Title: American Government and Politics

Units	Course Hours	Per Week	Nbr of Weeks	Course Hours	Total
Max: 3.0	Lecture	3.0	17	Lecture	51.0
Min: 3.0	Lab	0.0		Lab	0.0
	Contact DHR	0.0		Contact DHR	0.0
	Contact Total	3.0		Contact Total	51.0
	Non-contact DHR	0.0		Non-contact DHR	0.0

Title 5 Category: 01 AA Degree Applic  
Grading: GC Credit course for grade or CR/NC  
Repeatability: 00 No repeatability allowed or defined  
Also listed as:

CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

Historical and contemporary development of U.S. political institutions at the national, state and local level. Meets the state requirement in American Institutions and Government for transfer students.

PREREQUISITES:

COREQUISITES:

RECOMMENDED PREPARATION:

ENG 80 or placement into ENG 200 through the assessment process.

LIMITS ON ENROLLMENT:

SCHEDULE OF CLASSES INFORMATION:

Recommended: ENG 80 or placement into ENG 200 through the assessment process.  
Historical and contemporary development of U.S. political institutions at the national, state, and local level. Meets the state requirement in American Institutions and Government for transfer students. (Grade or CR/NC)  
Transfer Credit: CSU; UC. (CAN GOVT 2)

ARTICULATION and CERTIFICATE INFORMATION

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ASSOCIATE DEGREE: Effective: FALL 1981 Inactive:  
Area: B1 AMERICAN INSTITUTIONS

CSU GE: Effective: FALL 1981 Inactive:  
Transfer area: D8 POLITICAL SCI., GOVT./LEGAL INSTITUTIONS

IGETC: Effective: FALL 2004 Inactive:  
 Transfer area: 4H POLITICAL SCIENCE

CSU TRANSFER: TRANSFERABLE Effective: FALL 1981 Inactive:

UC TRANSFER: TRANSFERABLE Effective: FALL 1981 Inactive:

CAN:  
 GOVT 2 Grp Nbr: 01 Effective: SPRING 1989 Inactive:

CERTIFICATE APPLICABLE: N NOT CERTIFICATE/MAJOR APPLICABLE

#### APPROVAL AND DATES

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Version 02 Submitted by: PHILLIP WARF Date: 12/05/2007  
 Department approved: Debra Polak Date: 01/11/2008  
 Curriculum approved: 06/01/1981 Version approved: 11/15/2007  
 Prerequisites approved: 06/01/1981 Last reviewed: 11/15/2007  
 Term effective: SPRING 2008 Last taught: SUMMER 2008 Inactive:

#### COURSE CONTENT

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##### OUTCOME AND OBJECTIVES:

1. Gain an appreciation of the workings of the government of the United States.
2. Participate in the political process.
3. Understand the American political institutions and how they operate.

##### TOPICS AND SCOPE:

1. Introduction -
  - A. Why Government?
    1. Social Order
    2. National defense
    3. Collective Goods
  - B. Why Politics?
    1. Different Citizen Preferences
    2. Level of Impact / Intensity
    3. Scarcity
    4. Demand for Equality
2. Constitutional History
  - A. Age of Enlightenment.
  - B. John Locke/Thomas Paine
  - C. Articles of Confederation.
  - D. Shays' Rebellion
  - E. Constitutional Convention
    1. Slate Representation
    2. Slave Representation
    3. Checks and Balances
3. Economic Theory
  - A. Types of Economics
  - B. Capitalism
    1. Private Ownership
    2. Individual Economic Choice
    3. Material Incentives

4. Federalism
  - A. Centralization
  - B. Decentralization
5. Political Beliefs
  - a. Political attitudes
  - b. Cultural commitment
  - c. Mass media
6. Elections
  - a. Nomination process
  - b. Campaigns
  - c. Issues
  - d. The Electoral College
  - e. Gerrymandering
7. The Executive Branch
  - a. Establishment of the Presidency
  - b. Presidential powers
  - c. The White House Staff
  - d. The Executive Office
8. The Judicial Branch
  - a. Role of the Courts
  - b. Judicial review
  - c. Types of law
  - d. The Adversary Process
  - e. Limitations on the power of the court.
9. The Legislative Branch
  - a. Popular Rule
  - b. Evaluation of Congress
  - c. House Legislation is passed.
    1. Committee structure
10. California
  - a. State Constitution
  - b. Relationship of state and local government.
  - c. Functions of state and local government.

**ASSIGNMENTS:****READING ASSIGNMENTS:**

Students will be required to read assigned chapters in the course textbook, and various articles from selected periodicals (e.g., The New Republic, The National Review, The Economist).

**WRITING ASSIGNMENTS:**

Appropriate writing assignments may include:

1. Essay exams.
2. Topical (6-8 page) essay.
3. Journal Article Reviews.

**OUTSIDE ASSIGNMENTS:**

Preparing writing assignments and reading required selections and studying for exams.

**METHOD OF INSTRUCTION:**

Lecture, discussion, debate, video tapes, and Internet.  
For distance education courses, the content of this course is delivered using some form or forms of distance technology such as television, videotape, audiotape, or the Internet. For telecourses, no less than 11

hours of personal contact between instructor and students shall be included through: group or individual meetings; orientation and review sessions; supplemental in-person activities.

For on-line courses, instructor/student contact may take place in a face-to-face setting and/or through email or other electronic means. Students may interact with each other through in-person study groups, electronic message boards, or other means.

METHODS OF EVALUATION:

1. Mid-term exams. 2. Quizzes. 3. Writing Assignments. 4. Journal Article Reviews.

BASIS FOR GRADING:

The assignment of a grade is based on the level of achievement of the outcomes and objectives of the course outline and is reflected in quantifiable terms in the course syllabus.

REPRESENTATIVE TEXTBOOKS:

American Government, Alan Gitelson, Houghton Mifflin, current edition  
California Politics and Government, Gerston and Christensen, Wadsworth Publishing.

REASON FOR REVISION

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The POL 200 distance course will now be offered online instead of by video. Also, I am proposing a name change for POL 200. I will be introducing a new course for Fall 2008 which will be POL 204, California Government and Politics. The POL 200 name change from "State and Federal Government" will eliminate any potential confusion about the focus of the respective courses. Also, this will be more consistent with contemporary course titles for similiar courses offered elsewhere in the CCC, CSU, and UC systems.

RESOURCES REQUIRED

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## MISCELLANEOUS

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Advisory generate desc:	N	NO
Area department:	POL	POLITICAL SCIENCE
Audit flag:	N	NOT AUDITABLE
Basic skills:	X	NOT BASIC SKILLS
Classification:	A	Liberal Arts and Sciences
Cost level:	01	
Disciplines:		POLITICAL SCIENCE
Division:	02	MERIDITH RANDALL
Faculty service areas:		POLITICAL SCIENCE
Fee:	\$0.00	
In-service:	X	NOT IN-SERVICE
Level below transfer:	X	NOT APPLICABLE
Matric-requiring:	X	Exempt from assessment
Maximum class size:	0	
Maximum wait list:	0	
Method of instruction:	02	LECTURE
	63	TV/VIDEO 1-WAY; PASSIVE
	72	DELAYED INTERACTION
Non-credit category:	X	NOT APPLICABLE, CREDIT COURSE
Open entry/exit:	N	Not open entry/exit
Pacs activity:	2207	POLITICAL SCIENCE
Pacs program project:	0000	
Preq/coreq generate desc:	N	NO
Preq/coreq provisional:	N	NO
Preq/coreq reg check:	N	NO PREREQUISITE RULES EXIST
Repeat group id:		
Requires instructor sig:	N	INSTRUCTOR'S SIGNATURE NOT REQUIRED
SAM classification:	E	Non-occupational
Selected/special topic:	N	NOT A SELECTED TOPIC COURSE
Special class:	X	NOT A SPECIAL COURSE
TOP code:	2207.00	POLITICAL SCIENCE
Workload:	0.0000	