

## POLITICAL SCIENCE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

- POL 100**                      **Introduction to Political Science**                      **3 credits**  
An overview of the discipline and introduction to the basic concepts and vocabulary of political science and its subfields. Its purpose is to enable students to grasp the nature and scope of the discipline and to equip them with the conceptual tools with which to examine the complexities of politics in greater depth.
- POL 201**                      **Introduction to Law and the Judiciary**                      **3 credits**  
Surveys the American legal system. Provides an understanding of the strengths and weakness of law and the role law plays in a complex modern society. The course is a blend of theory and case analysis in areas such as constitutional interpretation, due process, criminal law, torts, contracts and property.
- POL 202**                      **Criminal Law and Procedure**                      **3 credits**  
A study of criminal law and procedure that focuses on the Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Amendments of the U.S. Constitution. A survey of the process from the arrest stages through sentencing and appeals. Included in the survey is search and seizure, right to an attorney, and the exclusionary rule.
- POL 203**                      **Topics in Legal Issues**                      **3 credits**  
Provides students with an opportunity to fully investigate a legal issue from all aspects of the political arena and at all levels. Topics may include: civil, criminal, civil rights, gender rights, right to privacy or sexuality.
- POL 205**                      **Political Fiction**                      **3 credits**  
Exploration of the premise that significant insight into politics can be gained through the medium of political fiction. The class, by reading fictional accounts of politics from a variety of historical eras and settings, attempts to define political fiction and discern political meaning from these fictional artifacts.
- POL 210**                      **American Politics**                      **3 credits**  
An introduction to the study of American politics. Familiarizes students with the basic concepts of the American political system: its foundations (or roots), its primary institutions and their interaction with one another, its primary actors and their political behavior, and its public policy-making process.
- POL 260**                      **Introduction of Comparative Politics**                      **3 credits**  
Through the use of political system types and representative country studies, this course explores the historical and cultural sources of politics in contemporary nation-states. Topics include the institutional and behavioral dimensions of politics, the making of public policy, and the challenge of change in a variety of settings. (*See POL 451*)
- POL 320**                      **Public Administration**                      **3 credits**  
The interface of politics and administration, value and fact are examined in order to understand the unique characteristics of the environment of decision-making experienced by public and quasi-public administrators, including those serving in health care organizations and welfare agencies. Topics include legislative relations, budgeting, organization theory, personal and labor relations, conflict resolution and collective bargaining decision-making, and administrative law.
- POL 322**                      **Public Policy Analysis**                      **3 credits**  
An examination of the basic concepts of and methods for analyzing public policy making in the United States. Identification of the important factors at every step, including interested public and private groups, governmental decision-makers, bureaucrats and program evaluators. An examination of selected policy issues facing our political system.
- POL 324**                      **Government Budgeting**                      **3 credits**  
The budget is examined as a major instrument of power, policy, outputs and outcomes at the national, state and local levels of government. The history, development, and changing forms and uses of the budget process have altered American politics in a significant fashion. Attention is given to the various modes of budgeting and their usefulness, including line-item, program, PPBS, and zero-base formats. The impact of political budgetary considerations in quasi-public organizations such as health care organizations, foundations and child care agencies is also reviewed.





## **Education Methods Courses Related to Political Science**

**EDU 442**                      **Methods and Materials of Instruction for Social Science in Elementary and Middle Schools**                      **2 credits**

Design of effective social studies instruction with a focus on National Council of Social Studies goals and its integration into the curriculum through practical strategies, collaborative activities and technology. An interdisciplinary approach blending both social studies content and classroom applications are utilized. Additional emphasis is placed on research including a review and analysis of contemporary issues. Both classroom and field experiences are an integral part of this course.

**EDU 443**                      **Teaching Reading in the Elementary and Middle Schools**                      **3 credits**

Current view of reading which emphasizes the constructive, interactive dynamic nature of the reading process. The theoretical and practical knowledge necessary for understanding the reading process is also emphasized. Planned observations in a school environment are required.

**EDU 459**                      **Instructional Technology**                      **3 credits**

Introduction and exposure to technology and its uses in all phases of instruction with stress on realistic application in the classroom. Emphasis focuses on practical hands-on projects of such various instructional media as non-projected and projected visuals, computers, multimedia, distance learning, telecommunications and the Internet as well as the strategies and methodologies for their integration into the curriculum.

**EDU 469**                      **Curriculum and Methods of Teaching in Secondary Schools**                      **3 credits**

An introduction to curriculum and instructional methods at the secondary level to increase students' repertoires of instructional strategies. The focus is on constructing lessons and units for use at middle and senior high school levels. Topics include: curriculum structure and content at the lesson and unit level; academic task structures; participant structures; methods of instruction; classroom leadership; lesson designs, assessment, evaluation and reporting of student progress. Students develop items for professional portfolios

**EDU 473**                      **Curriculum and Methods of Teaching in Secondary Schools: Social Studies**                      **3 credits**

Foundation of knowledge and skills to teach history, geography, economics, political science and social science courses at the middle and high school levels. Focus is on design, implementation, and evaluation of units/lessons with well-articulated outcomes, appropriate instructional strategies and relevant assessments. Topics include: communication of concepts; curricular organization of secondary social studies; resources for curriculum development and instruction; and critical examination of practice. Students continue development of professional portfolios.

**EDU 600**                      **Computer Uses in Education**                      **3 credits**

Advanced study of current trends and methodology strategies in technology and their integration into the curriculum. Hardware and software applications utilized in education and human services. Research of contemporary issues in this area.

**SED 460**                      **The Education and Mainstreaming of Exceptional Persons**                      **3 credits**

Overview, research, general background, nature, and characteristics of each special education category (AI, CI, ECDD, EI/BD, G, HI, LD, OHI, POHI, SLI, SMI, SXI, TBI, VI) are presented. Various growth and developmental patterns, learning styles, educational, social, psychological and physical needs are addressed. Basic commonalities and differences between various exceptionalities and general education students are explored. Methodologies and approaches to meet the needs of the various exceptionalities are examined. Special education Federal and State legislation is studied.

**SED 560**                      **The Education and Mainstreaming of Exceptional Persons**                      **3 credits**

Introduction, overview, research, general background, nature, and characteristics of the following various special education classifications: the educable impaired, trainable impaired, emotionally impaired/behaviorally disordered, physically and otherwise health impaired, learning disabled, visually impaired, hearing impaired, multiple impaired, traumatic brain injured, and gifted. Various growth and developmental patterns, learning styles, and the implication(s) of their impairment to their education, role(s) in society, psychological and social development, and

productivity. Commonalities and differences between the various exceptionalities and the regular education student in regard to social, emotional, behavioral, intellectual, and physical growth and development are explored. The principles of the "least restrictive" environment are explored. Special education federal and state legislation is presented and discussed