**Course Name:** Introduction to Political Science

**Course Number:** POL*E101

**Credits:** 3

**Catalog description:**

This course is a study of political ideology and power in the modern world. This course presents a broad introduction to political theory, political philosophy and accompanying contemporary concepts. The history and development of basic political themes such as justice, law, equality, democracy and nationalism will be discussed in a comparative context.

**Prerequisite:** ENG*E101- Composition

**Corequisite, or Parallel:**

# General Education Competencies Satisfied:

**Embedded Competency(ies):**

**ED**          **Appreciation of the Ethical Dimensions of Humankind (Outcomes ☒ 1 ☒ 2 ☐ 3 ☒4)**

**Discipline-Specific Attribute Code(s):**

☒ **SSCI**          **Social Science elective**

## Course objectives:

**General Education Goals and Outcomes:**

**Embedded Appreciation of the Ethical Dimensions of Humankind**: Students will identify ethical principles that guide individual and collective actions and apply those principles to the analysis of contemporary social and political problems.

1. ☒ Respond critically to ethical issues.
2. ☒ Apply appropriate concepts and terminology in identifying ethical problems, proposing and defending solutions to them.
3. ☐ Apply standards and practices of scholarship, research, and documentation to defend positions and beliefs, including reevaluating beliefs in light of unforeseen implications or new evidence.

4. ☒ Recognize the value of creative, collaborative, and innovative approaches to problem-solving, including the ability to acknowledge differing points of view.

**Course Specific Objectives:**

1. Acquire a basic understanding of common themes in political science.
2. Learn about the origins and development of modern-day political theory and political philosophy.

3. Acquire basic knowledge of political history, and its application to contemporary political ideologies and processes.
4. Develop active listening skills.
5. Understand the concept and origins of globalization, and how globalization impacts politics and society in the modern world.
6. Demonstrate the ability to argue and make informed judgements concerning legal and ethical issues related to political science.
7. Demonstrate an understanding of the ever-changing ethical and legal issues in political science.
8. Recognize and reflect critically on ethical issues in political science.
9. Develop and defend a position on an ethical issue in the field of political science.

**Course Content:**

I.  The Bases of Politics
   a)      Nations, states and governments
   b)      Individuals and constitutions
   c)      Democracy, totalitarianism and authoritarianism
II.  Political Attitudes
   a)      Political ideology
   b)      Political culture
   c)      Public opinion
Ill.  Political Interaction
   a)      Political communication and the media
   b)      The political party system
   c)      Interest groups
   d)      Voting
IV. Political Institutions
   a)      Basic structures of government
   b)      Administration and bureaucracy
   c)      Legal and court systems
V  Functions of political systems
   a)      Public policy
   b)      International relations
   c)      Violence and revolution

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