SYLLABUS

DATE OF LAST REVIEW: 02/2013
CIP CODE: 24.0101
SEMESTER: Departmental Syllabus
COURSE TITLE: Introduction to Political Science
COURSE NUMBER: POSC-0101
CREDIT HOURS: 3
INSTRUCTOR: Departmental Syllabus
OFFICE LOCATION: Departmental Syllabus
OFFICE HOURS: Departmental Syllabus
TELEPHONE: Departmental Syllabus
EMAIL: KCKCC - “issued email accounts are the official means for electronically communicating with our students.”

PREREQUISITE(S): None

REQUIRED TEXT AND MATERIALS: Please check with the KCKCC bookstore, http://www.kckccbookstore.com/, for the required texts for your particular class.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:
Containing a wealth of factual, historical, and theoretical materials, this course is designed to acquaint the students with a variety of political systems and their components. To help the students to fully comprehend the subject matter, the course will adopt a conceptual framework which, tracking the origin and development of different political traditions in the West (i.e., liberal democratic, socialist, and social democratic traditions). 1) Will allow us to categorize the existing political system in terms of these traditions, and 2) a “cross-sectional” approach which will show the similarities and differences among the political systems grouped within each tradition in terms of ideology, mode of representation, types of government, party system, etc.

METHOD OF INSTRUCTION: A variety of instructional methods may be used depending on content area. These include but are not limited to: lecture, multimedia, cooperative/collaborative
learning, labs and demonstrations, projects and presentations, speeches, debates, panels, conferencing, performances, and learning experiences outside the classroom. Methodology will be selected to best meet student needs.

**COURSE OUTLINE:**

I. Introduction
   A. The discipline and its major subfields

II. Research Methods.
   A. Empirical methods
   B. Content analysis
   C. Historical method

III. Intellectual and Material foundations of the Liberal Democratic Tradition
   A. Transition from feudalism to capitalism in Europe
      1. Economic basis of feudalism
      2. Political – ideological basis of feudalism
   B. Emergence and development of the “cores” of Liberal Democratic Tradition from within the feudal socio-economic system.
      1. The moral core
      2. The political core
      3. The economic core

IV. Intellectual and material foundations of the socialist tradition.
   A. The material foundation
      1. Industrial Revolution
      2. Development of Capitalism in England
      3. The condition of working class in England
   B. Intellectual foundation
      1. German philosophy
      2. French Utopian Socialism
      3. British Political Economy
   C. Marx and Engels and the rise of Socialists tradition
   C. Revisionist movement in Germany (Edward Bernstein): The origin of social democracy in Europe

V. Social Democracy: A synthesis of liberal democratic and Socialist traditions
   A. Crystallization of social democracy in political parts in Western Europe

VI. Components and variety of political systems within the Liberal Democratic Tradition
   A. Governments
   B. Party systems and representation
   C. Ideologies
   D. Economy

VII. Components and variety of political systems within the Socialist tradition
   A. Governments
   B. Party Systems
   C. Ideologies: Totalitarianism and Communism (Lininism, Stalinism, Maoism, Titoism, etc.)
   D. Economy: Planned vs. Market Countries

VIII. Political economy of the Third World Countries
EXPECTED LEARNER OUTCOMES:

A. To explain the nature of Political Science.
B. To discuss the research methodology used within the discipline.
C. To develop critical and analytic skills utilized in Political Science.
D. Understand the polity as an inseparable part of the social totality.
E. Recognize and differentiate the major elements of the existing political traditions in the West.
F. Discuss the elements and processes of different political systems.

COURSE COMPETENCIES:

To explain the nature of Political Science.
1. The student will be able to explain the nature of political science and political analysis.
2. The student will be able to distinguish among the four major fields in political science.

To discuss the research methodology used within the discipline.
3. The student will be able to describe social and behavioral science methods regarding the study of political behavior, political socialization, and political beliefs and attitudes.

To develop critical and analytical skills utilized in Political Science.
4. The student will be able to prepare a written critique of a variety of presentations relating to selected current issues.

Understand the polity as an inseparable part of the social totality.
5. The student will be able to identify factors and causes of political indifference.

Recognize and differentiate the major elements of the existing political traditions in the West.
6. The student will be able to trace the origins of western classical liberalism and classical conservatism through to Contemporary American liberalism and conservatism.
7. The student will be able to describe the structure, functions, accomplishments, limitations, and ever changing alignments of the major international organizations.
8. The student will be able to distinguish the characteristics of the liberal democratic tradition from the feudal system that it replaced.
9. The student will be able to state the role of intellectual thought that German, French, and British philosophers played in the emergence of the socialist tradition.
10. The student will be able to discuss the role that Marx played in the emergence of the socialist tradition.
11. The student will be able to discuss the role of political theory with the emergence of the 3rd world and the key components of 3rd world international politics.
Discuss the elements and processes of different potential systems.

12. The student will be able to trace the origins of socialism including Marxism, Marxism-Leninism, Maoism, and democratic socialism.

13. The student will be able to trace the origins of fascism through to its contemporary influences.

14. The student will be able to compare the Articles of Confederation with the federalism of the U.S. Constitution.

15. The student will be able to describe the role of political parties, pressure groups, and public opinion in the American political system.

16. The student will be able to distinguish between democratic and non-democratic governments.

17. The student will be able to compare left-wing with right-wing dictatorships.

18. The student will be able to compare presidential and parliamentary government using the American and British systems as models.

19. The student will be able to describe and compare various types of local campaigns.

20. The student will be able to describe local and state-wide campaign strategies.

21. The student will be able to analyze and differentiate between campaign strategies.

22. The student will be able to discuss the role of political candidates.

23. The student will be able to examine the role of money in the political process.

24. The student will be able to identify and discuss components of direct political process.

25. The student will be able to identify and discuss components of indirect political action.

26. The student will be able to examine selected current issues and describe their impact on society.

27. The student will be able to discuss how the United States with the oldest written fundamental law continues to have a relevant document in the Constitution of the United States.

28. The student will be able to distinguish a pressure group from a political party. She/he will discuss the advantages and disadvantages of each approach in a nation’s development.

29. The student will be able to describe the role of foreign policy in the formation of national power for the respective nation.

30. The student will be able to explain the role of compromise in the international operations of a nation’s growth and development.

ASSESSMENT OF LEARNER OUTCOMES:
Student progress is evaluated by means of classroom participation, out-of-class written assignments, Internet assignments, a minimum of three in class one-hour examinations, and a final examination. In addition, the student will review each videotape and the instructor will include reviews with the final grade report. These reviews will be turned in to the office the Dean of the Social Science Division.

SPECIAL NOTES:
This syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor. Material included is intended to provide an outline of the course and rules that the instructor will adhere to in evaluating the student’s progress. However, this syllabus is not intended to be a legal contract. Questions regarding the syllabus are welcome any time.

Kansas City Kansas Community College is committed to an appreciation of diversity with respect for the differences among the diverse groups comprising our students, faculty, and staff that is free of bigotry and discrimination. Kansas City Kansas Community College is committed to providing a multicultural education and environment that reflects and respects diversity and
that seeks to increase understanding.

Kansas City Kansas Community College offers equal educational opportunity to all students as well as serving as an equal opportunity employer for all personnel. Various laws, including Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972, require the college’s policy on non-discrimination be administered without regard to race, color, age, sex, religion, national origin, physical handicap, or veteran status and that such policy be made known.

*Kansas City Kansas Community College complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act. If you need accommodations due to a documented disability, please contact Director of Academic Resource Center, in Room 3354 or call (913) 288-7670.*
Kansas City Kansas Community College

21st Century General Education Learning Outcomes

Learning Outcomes

Discipline knowledge and content mastery is expected of all graduates. More specifically, KCKCC is committed to the Learning Outcomes listed below. We believe that competence in the Learning Outcomes is essential for the success of graduates and will enhance their ability to become contributing members of our increasingly complex world. These areas of knowledge and skills are equally valid for all KCKCC graduates, whether they transfer to a four-year college or pursue a career after leaving college.

General Education Learning Outcomes

Communication Learning Outcomes
The learner will have the ability to express, interpret, and modify ideas/information effectively (both written and oral), including but not limited to reading text accurately and correctly; writing with a clear purpose and effective organization; speaking effectively using appropriate styles that suit the message, purpose, and content; and employing active listening techniques.

Computation Learning Outcomes
The learner will have the ability to understand and apply mathematical concepts and reasoning using numerical data.

Critical Reasoning Learning Outcomes
The learner will understand inductive and deductive reasoning and have the ability to define problems and use data (qualitative and quantitative) to make complex decisions utilizing analysis, synthesis, and evaluation skills.

Technology and Information Management Learning Outcomes
The learner will have the ability to define, collect, organize, analyze, and evaluate information from a variety of sources. The learner will also have the ability to understand basic technology concepts and functionality in order to use technology as a tool to locate and retrieve information.

Community and Civil Responsibility Learning Outcomes
The learner will demonstrate knowledge, awareness, and understanding of diverse ideas, values, and perspectives of a culturally diverse world; an understanding of the ethical issues and values that are
prerequisites for making sound judgments and decisions; a recognition of the obligation to become actively involved as a contributing member of the community; and a sensitivity to the awareness of aesthetic expression.

**Personal and interpersonal Skills Learning Outcomes**

The learner will have the ability to work cooperatively and productively with others; to understand and evaluate his/her capabilities; to manage his/her personal growth by setting realistic and appropriate goals.

**SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES**

**STUDENT SUCCESS STRATEGIES**

Know your teacher’s name.

Turn off your electronic devices in class/make paying attention to the work of the class your only concern.

Miss class only when you cannot attend/acquire missed information and materials ASAP.

Know your syllabus.

Know the attendance policy.

Know the requirements for tests and assignments.

Know information about final exam and make-up exams.

Know instructor’s position on use of Wikipedia or other online sources.

Know the instructor’s preferred writing style (APA, MLA, etc.).

Always know your grade.

Contact your teacher ASAP with concerns or questions.

Know the benefits of the academic resource center.

Know if your course has a practicum, service learning component, or other exception.

Use an academic planner.

Know the course withdrawal policy.

Know your instructor’s office hours and make appointments when necessary.
Know the school's scholastic honesty policy.

Be familiar with the course learning objectives, course competencies, and the college's 21st century learning outcomes for general education.