

Appendix C College of Micronesia-FSM

COURSE OUTLINE COVER PAGE

Introduction to Political Science
Course Title

SS101
Department and Number

Course Description:

This course is an introduction to the major elements of political science. Students will learn about politics through a conflict management approach which focuses on social & political conflict.

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State Pohnpei

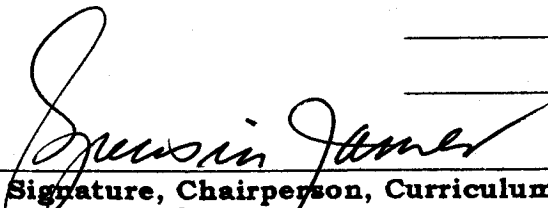
	Hours per Week		No. of Week		Total Hours	=	Semester Credits
Lecture	<u>3</u>	x	<u>16</u>	x	<u>48</u>	=	<u>3</u>
Laboratory		x		x		=	
Workshop		x		x		=	

Total Semester Credits = 3

Purpose of Course: Degree Requirement _____
Degree Elective x _____
Certificate _____
Other _____

Prerequisite Course(s): NA

Date Approved by Committee


Signature, Chairperson, Curriculum Committee


Signature, President, COM-FSM

1/31/03
Date Approved by Committee

2/3/03
Date Approved by President

I. COURSE OBJECTIVES

A. General Objectives

1. To introduce basic terminologies and concepts of political science. (PART I)
2. To introduce and discuss the evolution of political thoughts from the early philosophers to the contemporary political theorist. (PART I)
3. To introduce major areas of the State and Public Policy. (PART II)
4. To introduce the concept of different types of regimes and citizenships. (PART III)
5. To discuss the importance of non-governmental dimensions of the political systems such as public opinion, interest groups, political parties, and political action committees. (PART IV)
6. To introduce the structure of modern political systems. (PART IV)
7. To introduce the concept of international relations and global politics. (PART V)

B. Specific Objectives

Upon completing this course, a student should be able to:

PART I

1. Define basic vocabularies and concepts of politics.
2. Write an essay explaining on how politics is used in modern day FSM.
3. Explain how politics is used as a power to make collective decisions.
4. Discuss political science as a field and apply that idea into a working theory.
5. Differentiate ancient and modern political philosophies.
6. Analyze modern political philosophies in terms of underlying ideologies.

PART II.

1. Discuss the concepts of "state" and "nation".
2. Write an essay on "nationalism" and its application in the FSM.
3. Discuss and explain variety of policy decisions which face the modern state.
4. Discuss economic policies and issues such as economic growth, inflation, unemployment and economic inequality.
5. Define justice and how it applies to policy making in the state.
6. Discuss the evaluation of policy fairness and efficiency.

PART III:

1. Explain how and why legitimacy exists with the people of the state.
2. Discuss how governments achieve legitimacy in the eyes of their citizens.
3. Discuss the fragility of democracy.
4. Explain the development of democracy; from the process of "last word" to the "end of history".
5. Explain the different problems in which democracy faces.
6. Write an essay on the existence of democracy in the FSM.
7. Compare and contrast democratic governments and autocratic governments.

8. Differentiate democratic governments vs. non-democratic governments.
9. Describe non-democratic governments such as military government and one-party government.

PART IV:

1. Discuss the concept of constitutionalism.
2. Write an essay on the development of the FSM Constitution.
3. Explain the functions served by elections; both the democratic function and the universal function.
4. Describe the electoral system of such democratic nations as United States and Sweden and apply to FSM's own electoral system.
5. Differentiate interest groups and political parties.
6. Discuss the origin of political parties.
7. List functions of political parties in democratic states.
8. Discuss and explain the diversity of interest groups in modern states.
9. Describe the basic model of a parliamentary government.
10. Describe the basic model of a presidential government.
11. Compare and contrast between a parliamentary government and presidential government.
12. Define public administration.
13. Discuss the recent growth of public administration.
14. Discuss the political problems of public administration.
15. Define Bureaucracy.
16. List problems of bureaucracy.
17. Discuss the concept of legal systems.
18. Discuss FSM's modern day legal system and how it applies to the islands' traditional legal systems.
19. List the different types of laws.
20. List and explain the different varieties of courts.

PART V.

1. Discuss and explain the evolution of the international system since 1945.
2. Explain what the "New World Order" is.
3. Discuss the differences between inter-state politics and intra-state politics.
4. Write an essay on how FSM political policies and affairs are influenced by the international world and events.

II. COURSE CONTENT

PART I

**Setting the stage for Politics
Modern Ideologies and Political Philosophy**

PART II

The Modern State Policies of the State

Political Economy of the State Political Choices

PART III

Authority and Legitimacy

Democracy and Its Recent Surge in the World Autocratic Government

PART IV

Constitutions and the Design of the Government

Elections

Political Parties

Structural Conflicts: Interest Groups and Politics

National Decision-making Institutions: Parliamentary vs. Presidential governments

Bureaucracy and the Public Sector

Law and the Courts

PART V

Global Politics

Politics among States and others

III. TEXTBOOK

Shively, Phillips W. 2003, *Power and Choice: An Introduction to Political Science*, 8th Edition, McGraw Hill, New York

IV. REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS -- none

V. REFERENCE MATERIALS

FSM and the Four FSM States' Constitutions,

<http://www.fsmlav~.ors/fsrn/constitution/index.Htm>

Hanlon, David David. 1998, *Remaking Micronesia: Discourses over Development in a Pacific Territory, 1944-1982*, University of Hawaii Press, Hawaii

Kaselehlia Press, Current issues to appropriately apply to daily discussions

Pacific Islands Report, http://pidp.eastwestcenter.org/_pireport/

Current International Issues on CNN.com, <http://www.cnn.com>

VI. INSTRUCTIONAL COST -- none

VII. METHOD OF INSTRUCTION

Different modes of teaching will be utilized in order for students to have a comprehensive understanding of the field of political science. They will include lectures, class discussions,

group work, videos and group work. Lectures will be designed to allow room for students to have open discussions on topics from the instructor or text. In addition to lectures, Videos will be shown throughout the semester to introduce topics and to supplement both lectures and assigned readings. Group work will be when students are divided into smaller groups to discuss given issues. For example, the class might divide into two groups were they do a pro and con discussion on such topics as abortion and government leaders using government funds for election campaigns.

Course Videos

Catalysts of Change; Exploration, War and Revolution (Modern state, Authority, Legitimacy & Political Choices)

Your Vote, Our Vote (Elections, Parties, Parliamentary Systems & Bureaucracy) *Micronesia A Beginning* (Democracy and Constitutionalism in FSM)

The Upside Down Economy (Political Economy of FSM)

VIII. EVALUATION (SUGGESTED)

60% Unit Tests - A test will be taken after the completion of each unit of the textbook, a total of 5 unit tests. Questions will be taken from textbook readings, class lectures and discussions. Each unit test will have 4 parts; 1) Multiple Choices, 2) Matching, 3) True or False, and 4) Short Essays. Each test will be designed to be completed in the allotted class time.

10% Video Summaries - When videos are viewed, a summary will be written and due the day after. Each summary should have an indication of the student's understanding to the video shown and his/her clear ability to apply issues or topic discussed in video to what is addressed in class.

20% Assignments - Assignments will basically be short questions in which will help guide students in their reading and understanding of the assigned readings. Most questions will be definitions or/and short essays.

10% Attendance, Class Participation and Group Work - Students will be encouraged to participate in class discussions by answering lecture questions or asking questions. Group work is when class splits into different groups, spends 30 minutes or more discussing a particular issue and presenting to the whole class for discussion. By participating in class discussions whether it is through group work or just answering lecture questions, students will enhance their abilities to analytically express their ideas and their abilities to speak in public.

IX. ATTENDANCE POLICY

The standard COM-FSM attendance policy applies to this course.

X ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY

The standard COM-FSM academic honesty policy applies to this course.