



C-ID Descriptor

Introduction to Political Science

Descriptor Details

- **Descriptor Title:** Introduction to Political Science
- **C-ID Number:** 150
- **Units:** 3.0
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General Description

An introduction to political science designed to familiarize students with basic political concepts, political ideologies, political systems, and subfields within political science.

Prerequisites

None

Corequisites

None

Advisories

None

Content

1. Political science as a field of study and scholarly community.

2. Key concepts in political science, such as nations, states, power, institutions, and political behavior.
3. Introduction to the methods of political science.
4. Political theory and ideologies.
5. Comparative politics, including types of governments, institutional arrangements, and political processes.
6. International relations, including theories, actors, and levels of analysis.
7. Professional and career opportunities for political science majors

Lab Activities

N/A

Objectives

At the conclusion of this course, the student should be able to:

1. Explain the development of political science and its subfields.
2. Identify the key concepts in political science.
3. Evaluate and analyze normative and empirical approaches.
4. Identify and analyze basic political systems and their differences.

Evaluation Methods

May include as appropriate:

In-class or take-home examinations
Research papers or projects
Written assignments
Analytical papers
Simulations
Oral presentations
Participation in class discussions and debates

Textbooks

Any college-level introduction to political science textbook including, but not limited to

Danzinger. *Understanding the Political World: A Comparative Introduction to Political Science*

Van Belle and Mash. *A Novel Approach to Politics: Introducing Political Science through Books, Movies, and Popular Culture*

Grigsby. *Analyzing Politics: An Introduction to Political Science*

Magstadt. *Understanding Politics: Ideas, Institutions and Issues*

Roskin, Cord, Medeiros, and Jones. *Political Science: An Introduction*

Sell. *Introduction to Politics.*

https://socialsci.libretexts.org/Bookshelves/Political_Science_and_Civics/Book%3A_An_Introduction

Simon, Douglas W., Joseph Romance, and Neal Riemer. 2018. *The Challenge of Politics: An Introduction to Political Science*. CQ Press.

Van Belle and Mash. *A Novel Approach to Politics: Introducing Political Science through Books, Movies, and Popular Culture*

Whitman Cobb, Wendy N. 2019. *Political Science Today*. SAGE Publications.

May also include supplementary materials such as, but not limited to, primary sources, readers, etc.