

Basic Course Information

Semester:	Fall 2017	Instructor Name:	Tomás Oliva
Course Title & #:	Intro to Political Science POLS 100	Location:	Imperial Valley College
CRN #:	11193	Classroom	Building 200 – Room 204
Class Dates:	08/17/ 2017 – 12/07/2017	Office Hours:	Available Upon Request
Class Days:	Thursdays	Class Times:	6:30 PM – 9:40 PM
Units:	3		

Course Description

This course is designed to provide a broad introduction to the field of political science by examining the historical development and processes of political ideologies. Students will acquire a basic familiarity with political theories, principles, concepts, and definitions. Students will examine contemporary national and international issues that influence their lives and develop critical thinking skills that simulate an appreciation of politics and human rights.

Student Learning Outcomes

Course Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) are written statements that represent faculty and departmental learning goals for students. During this course, students will:

Outcome 1:	Develop an understanding of the major sub-fields of political science.
Outcome 2:	Examine the world's major ideologies and political systems.
Outcome 3:	Develop and understanding of universal human rights.

Institutional SLOs: Institutional Student Learning Outcomes (ISLOs) are areas of learning that students, faculty, staff, and administrators work toward and assess on a regular basis. After successful completion of a program or degree at Imperial Valley College, students are expected to have measurable improvement in the following areas: **ISLO1** - Communication Skills, **ISLO2** - Critical Thinking Skills, **ISLO3** - Personal Responsibility, **ISLO4** - Information Literacy, and **ISLO5** - Global Awareness.

POLS 102 American Government & Politics will provide students with learning opportunities to improve in all five of the Institutional Student Learning Outcomes.

Course Objectives

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of the following course objectives:

Objective 1	Students will demonstrate an understanding of the operations of a nation-state;
Objective 2	Students will demonstrate an understanding of the terms used in comparative politics;
Objective 3	Students will demonstrate an understanding of how domestic issues affect international issues;
Objective 4	Students will demonstrate an understanding of the challenges poised to the world's environment;
Objective 5	Students will demonstrate an understanding of the different types of governments around the world;
Objective 6	Students will demonstrate an understanding of the various types of economic systems in the world;
Objective 7	Students will demonstrate an understanding of how technology has changed global interactions;
Objective 8	Students will demonstrate an understanding of the differences between industrialized and less developed countries;
Objective 9	Students will demonstrate an understanding of international issues impact nation-states; and
Objective 10	Students will demonstrate an understanding of how countries can be compared to one another.

Textbooks & Other Resources or Links

Analyzing Politics – An Introduction to Political Science, 6th Edition

Ellen Grigsby

ISBN-13: 978-1-28546559-3

ISBN-10: 1-285-46559-8

These are your main textbooks for the course. The questions contained in the exams will come from these books, so read and study it carefully.

Course Requirements and Instructional Methods

Students are required to read all assigned chapters and participate in classroom activities and discussions. Role playing will allow the student to employ empathetic and active listening skills. The student is expected to examine, evaluate and demonstrate proficiency in presenting counseling strategies and techniques. Most of the text book materials will be presented in the form of lectures, articles and film reviews will also be utilized for the purpose of group discussion and learning.

Course Grading Based on Course Objectives

Grades will be calculated by using the format described below:

20 Points for Class Participation

20 Points for 1st Exam

25 Points for 2nd Exam

35 Points for Final Exam

100 Points Total

A=90-100, B=80-89, C=70-79, D=60-69, F= 59 and Below

Attendance

- A student who fails to attend the first meeting of a class will be dropped. Should readmission be desired, the student's status will be the same as that of any other student who desires to add a class. It is the student's responsibility to drop or officially withdraw from the class. See [General Catalog](#) for details.
- Regular attendance in all classes is expected of all students. A student whose continuous, unexcused absences exceed the number of hours the class is scheduled to meet per week may be dropped.

Classroom Etiquette

- Disruptive Students: Students who disrupt or interfere with a class may be sent out of the room and told to meet with the Principal, College Coordinator, and/or Counselor before returning to continue with coursework. Disciplinary procedures will be followed as outlined in the [General Catalog](#).

Academic Honesty

Academic honesty in the advancement of knowledge requires that all students and instructors respect the integrity of one another's work and recognize the importance of acknowledging and safeguarding intellectual property.

There are many different forms of academic dishonesty. The following kinds of honesty violations and their definitions are not meant to be exhaustive. Rather, they are intended to serve as examples of unacceptable academic conduct.

Plagiarism is to take and present, as one's own the writings or ideas of others, without citing the source. You should understand the concept of plagiarism and keep it in mind when taking exams and preparing written materials.

Cheating is defined as fraud, deceit, or dishonesty in an academic assignment or using or attempting to use materials, or assisting others in using materials, or assisting others in using materials, which are prohibited or inappropriate in the context of the academic assignment in question, such as:

- copying or attempting to copy from others during an examination or on an assignment;
- communicating test information with another person during an examination;
- allowing others to do an assignment or portion of an assignment, including the use of a commercial term paper service.

Basically, you cannot copy anything directly from any source, including your textbooks or the Internet, unless you are using a quotation. You must note the book or article or website and page number from the source of your quote. If you paraphrase something, you must also cite the source of your information. *If cheating or plagiarism is discovered, the assignment will be given "0" points. Violations will be reported to the IVC Dean of Student Affairs.*

Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSPS)

Any student with a documented disability who may need educational accommodations should notify the instructor or the Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSP&S) office as soon as possible.

Student Counseling Services

Students will have academic counseling services available. These services will be provided by Imperial Valley College, Minority Male Collaborative Coordinator, Eduardo Pesqueira. Mr. Pesqueira will schedule academic appointments upon request.

Student Rights and Responsibilities

Students have the right to experience a positive learning environment and to due process of law. For more information regarding student rights and responsibilities, please refer to the IVC [General Catalog](#).

Information Literacy

Imperial Valley College is dedicated to helping students skillfully discover, evaluate, and use information from all sources.

Anticipated Class Schedule/Calendar

Date or Week	Activity, Assignment, and/or Topic
Week 1	Syllabus / Class Introductions Defined & Discussed
Week 2	Chapter 1 – Introduction
Week 3	Chapter 2 – Political Science and Scientific Methods in Studying Politics
Week 4	Chapter 3 – Key Concepts in Political Science
Week 5	Chapter 4 – Political Theory: Examining the Ethical Foundations of Politics
Week 6	MIDTERM
Week 7	Chapter 5 – Political Ideologies I: Liberalism, Conservatism, and Socialism
Week 8	Chapter 6 – Political Ideologies II: Fascism
Week 9	Chapter 7 – Political Ideologies III: Feminism, Environmentalism, and Postmodernism
Week 10	MIDTERM
Week 11	Chapter 8 – Comparative Politics I: Governmental Systems, Democracy, and Non-Democracy
Week 12	Chapter 9 - Comparative Politics II: Interest Groups, Political Parties, and Elections
Week 13	Chapter 9 - Comparative Politics III: Governing Democracies, Executives, Legislatures, and Judiciaries
Week 14	Chapter 11 – International Relations I
Week 15	THANKSGIVING BREAK
Week 16	Chapter 12 – International Relations II: Contemporary Issues
Week 17	Final Exam

*****Tentative, subject to change without prior notice*****