

CURRICULUM PROPOSAL

APPROVAL PAGE

Proposal Title: Change of Course Descriptions for POLS 2310 and POLS 2311

College: Liberal Arts

Department: Political Science

DEPARTMENT CHAIR- Gaspare M. Genna

I have read the enclosed proposal and approve this proposal on behalf of the department.



2/11/2022

Signature

Date

COLLEGE CURRICULUM COMMITTEE CHAIR – Crystal Herman

I have read the enclosed documents and approve the proposal on behalf of the college curriculum committee.

Signature

Date

COLLEGE DEAN – Denis O'Hearn

I have read the enclosed documents and approve the proposal on behalf of the college. I certify that the necessary funds will be allocated by the college in support of this proposal.

Signature

Date

UNDERGRADUATE CURRICULUM CHANGE MEMO

Date: February 11, 2022

From: Todd Curry, Director of Undergraduate Studies, Political Science

Through: Gaspare M. Genna, Chair Political Science

Through: Denis O'Hearn, Dean, College of Liberal Arts

To: Crystal Herman, Chair, Undergraduate Curriculum Committee

Proposal Title: Catalog Description Change for POLS 2310 and POLS 2311

We propose to change the catalog course descriptions for POLS 2310 (Introduction to Politics) and POLS 2311 (American Government & Politics) in order to better reflect the current content being taught. The current content prioritizes student critical thinking and analysis of a variety of worldviews and ideas, encourages students understand and exploration of these worldviews and ideas, while not privileging or prioritizing particular political ideologies over others. In addition, the changes do not alter the core topics as previously taught and mandated by Legislature and THECB and comply with University Core Curriculum criteria.

Changes are as follows with additions in red.

POLS 2310. Introduction to Politics.

Introduction to Politics: [Common Course Number GOVT 2302] An overview of the concepts, principles, and practices of politics as background for the study of American and Texas political institutions. The course may employ an international, comparative, or theoretical focus.

Prerequisite: Freshman standing. **Students will engage in critical analysis as they explore themes including electoral systems; party systems; liberation movements; globalization; political economies; conquest, colonization, and imperialism; migration and citizenship; gender, class/labor, and racial/ethnic relations; international organizations and cooperation; conflict; political theory; and contemporary issues.**

POLS 2311. American Gover & Politics.

American Government and Politics: [Common Course Number GOVT 2301] A survey of contemporary American, national, state, and local political processes and institutions, with emphasis upon the Constitutions of the United States and Texas. **Students will engage in critical analysis as they explore themes including the constitutional foundations of American democracy; colonization and territorial expansion dispossessing Indigenous Peoples; separation of powers and policymaking; federalism and state rights; racial and ethnic violence; emancipatory movements; electoral politics and voting; citizenship; gender, class/labor and race relations; Texas constitution and institutions; and contemporary issues.** This course meets teacher certification requirements for out-of-state graduate students. Prerequisite: Freshman standing.