

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY CHANNEL ISLANDS

NEW COURSE PROPOSAL

PROGRAM AREA POLITICAL SCIENCE

1. Catalog Description of the Course. *[Follow accepted catalog format.]*

Prefix POLS Course# 318 Title THE ELECTORAL PROCESS Units (3)

3 hours Lecture per week

Prerequisites

Corequisites

Description Explores political parties, campaigns, elections and voting behavior in the American context.

Graded

Gen Ed

CR/NC

Repeatable for up to units

Categories

Lab Fee Required

A - F

Total Completions Allowed

Optional (Student's choice) Multiple Enrollment in same semester choice

2. Mode of Instruction.

	Units	Hours per Unit	Benchmark Enrollment	Graded Component	CS # (filled in by Dean)
Lecture	3	1	30	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Seminar	_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Laboratory	_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Activity	_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____

3. Justification and Learning Objectives for the Course. (Indicate whether required or elective, and whether it meets University Writing, and/or Language requirements) *[Use as much space as necessary]*

Justification: This is an elective course in the political science major. Elections are frequently studied by political scientists, and an electoral process course is a typical component of an undergraduate curriculum.

Learning Objectives:

Upon completion of this course students will be able to:

(Press enter for the next bulleted item)

- Explain why elections are essential to the democratic process.
- Discuss how the right to vote in the United States has gradually expanded over a period of time.
- Evaluate why voter turnout as a percentage of eligible voters has declined at the same time that the base of suffrage has expanded, and consider why voter turnout is lower in the United States than in most European countries.
- Describe how structural factors such as constitutional rules, unequal access to resources, and cultural ideas help determine why some groups participate more than others.
- Assess how elections affect the behavior of public officials.
- Outline the process by which a viable candidate would campaign for the office of president.
- Explain what role money plays in elections and distinguish between the effects of soft money and hard money in political campaigns.
- Evaluate the alternative theories of responsible party government, electoral competition, and electoral reward and punishment.

4. Is this a General Education Course YES NO

If Yes, indicate GE category and attach GE Criteria Form:

A (English Language, Communication, Critical Thinking)

A-1 Oral Communication

A-2 English Writing

A-3 Critical Thinking

B (Mathematics, Sciences & Technology)

B-1 Physical Sciences

B-2 Life Sciences – Biology

- B-3 Mathematics – Mathematics and Applications
- B-4 Computers and Information Technology
- C (Fine Arts, Literature, Languages & Cultures)**
- C-1 Art
- C-2 Literature Courses
- C-3a Language
- C-3b Multicultural
- D (Social Perspectives)**
- E (Human Psychological and Physiological Perspectives)**
- UD Interdisciplinary**

5. Course Content in Outline Form. *[Be as brief as possible, but use as much space as necessary]*
(Press enter for the next bulleted item)

- Elections and Political Parties
- Political Participation
- Theories of voting behavior and elections
- Public opinion and ideology
- Suffrage and turnout
- Organized groups and the political process
- Presidential elections
- Congressional elections
- State and local elections
- Campaign finance
- The media and the electoral process
- Campaigns and political communication

Does this course overlap a course offered in your academic program? YES NO
 If YES, what course(s) and provide a justification of the overlap?

Does this course overlap a course offered in another academic area? YES NO
 If YES, what course(s) and provide a justification of the overlap?

Signature of Academic Chair of the other academic area is required on the consultation sheet below.

6. Cross-listed Courses (Please fill out separate form for each PREFIX)

List Cross-listed Courses

Signature of Academic Chair(s) of the other academic area(s) is required on the consultation sheet below

Department responsible for staffing: POLS

7. References. *[Provide 3 - 5 references on which this course is based and/or support it.]*
(Press enter for the next number)

1. Bibby, John F. 2003. Politics, Parties, and Elections in America (5th edition). (Belmont, CA: Thomson Wadsworth).
2. Flanigan, William H. and Nancy H. Zingale. 2003. Political Behavior of the American Electorate. (Washington, D.C.:CQ Press Inc.)
3. Herrnson, Paul S. 2003. Congress Elections: Campaigning at Home and in Washington. (Washington, D.C.: CQ Press Inc.)
4. Maisel, L. Sandy. 2002. Parties and Elections in America: The Electoral Process. (New York: Rowman and Littlefield Publishers, Inc.)
5. Popkin, Samuel L. 1994. The Reasoning Voter: Communication and Persuasion in Presidential Campaigns. (Chicago: University of Chicago Press).
6. Rosenstone, Steven J and John Mark Hansen.1993. Mobilization, Participation, and Democracy in America. (New York: Macmillan Publishing)
7. Zapato, Larry J. 2005. Get in the Booth! A Citizen's Guide to the 2004 Election. (New York: Pearson Longman)

8. List Faculty Qualified to Teach This Course.

Scott Frisch
New Hire

9. Frequency.

- a. Projected semesters to be offered: Fall Spring Summer

10. New Resources Required. YES NO

If YES, list the resources needed and obtain signatures from the appropriate programs/units on the consultation sheet below.

- a. Computer (data processing), audio visual, broadcasting needs, other equipment)
- b. Library needs
- c. Facility/space needs

11. Will this new course alter any degree, credential, certificate, or minor in your program? YES NO

If, YES attach a program modification form for all programs affected.

Scott Frisch

Proposer of Course

9/20/2005

Date