1. Course Information
College: Liberal Arts
Department: Political Science
Course Title: Political Life
Course Number: PLS 200
GE Area: Area III: Human Behavior - Political Science

Writing Intensive: ___Yes ___No

Methods of Instruction: ___Lecture ___Web-enhanced

Includes Lab ___Yes ___No

Prerequisites: None

2. Objectives

GE Program Objectives:
   a. To develop skills and knowledge that will form the basis for lifelong learning.
   b. To increase knowledge and understanding of the past, of the world in which we live, and of how both past and present have an impact on the future.

GE Area Objectives:
   a. To use multiple approaches/perspectives to analyze complex individual and institutional behavior culturally, subculturally, and cross-culturally.
   b. To recognize appropriate ethical uses of social scientific knowledge.

Course Objectives and GE learning Outcomes:
   PLS 200 is a course about political ideas and issues. The course provides students with an introduction to systems of political thought. These foundation concepts are applied to an analysis of contemporary political issues.

Area Three learning outcomes addressed:
   a. Use of multiple approaches and perspectives:
      1. Comparison of diverse systems of political thought
      2. Analysis of specific issues in national politics
      3. Analysis of issues in international affairs
      4. Analysis of regional issues in world politics
      5. Discussion of impact of cultural differences on world politics
b. Recognize appropriate ethical uses of social scientific knowledge
   1. Analysis of the philosophical and ethical basis of diverse systems of
      political thought
   2. Discussion of ethical considerations raised by specific political
      issues

3. **Suggested Course Materials**
   Texts: Robert G. Thobaben, Donna M. Schlagheck and Charles
   (Fourth Edition), Prentice Hall.
   Charles Funderburk and Robert G. Thobaben, *Political Ideologies: Left
   Center Right.* (Fourth Edition), Pearson Publishing.

4. **Suggested Methods of Evaluation**
   Three exams using short answer, identification and multiple choice format.

5. **Grading Policy**
   All courses are graded A-F.

6. **Suggested Weekly Course Outline Including Typical Assignments**

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<tr>
<th>DATES</th>
<th>TOPICS:</th>
<th>READINGS:</th>
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<td>PART I.</td>
<td>POLITICAL IDEAS: IDEOLOGIES: Left, Center, Right</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wk 1:</td>
<td>The LEFT</td>
<td>F &amp; T, <em>Ideologies</em>, Chapter 1</td>
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<td>Communism</td>
<td>F &amp; T, <em>Ideologies</em>, Chapter 3</td>
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<td>Wk 2:</td>
<td>The Democratic Left</td>
<td>F &amp; T, <em>Ideologies</em>, Chapter 4</td>
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<td>The CENTER</td>
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<td>F &amp; T, <em>Ideologies</em>, Chapter 5</td>
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<td>Wk 3:</td>
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<td>The RIGHT</td>
<td>F &amp; T, <em>Ideologies</em>, Chapter 8</td>
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<td>Wk 4:</td>
<td>The Right in America</td>
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   **EXAM # ONE**

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<tr>
<th>PART II.</th>
<th>POLITICAL ISSUES</th>
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<td>Wk 5</td>
<td><em>Ideologies: Conclusion</em></td>
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<td>African-American Political Thought</td>
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<td>Gender Ideologies</td>
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<td>Wk 6</td>
<td><em>Money and Politics</em></td>
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<td>America Today</td>
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<td>Poverty and Welfare</td>
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Wk 7  The Politics of Health Care  TSF, Issues, Chapter 2
      Political Corruption  TSF, Issues, Chapter 3
      Crime  TSF, Issues, Chapter 4

Wk 8  EXAM # TWO

PART III  ISSUES IN INTERNATIONAL POLITICS

Wk 8 (contd)  Terrorism  TSF, Issues, Chapter 5
Wk 9  Arms and Arms Control  TSF, Issues, Chapter 6
      Biomedical Issues  TSF, Issues, Chapter 7
Wk 10  Biotechnology  TSF, Issues, Chapter 8
      Environment and Population  TSF, Issues, Chapter 9

EXAM # THREE

7. Other

Syllabus distributed to students should employ the format approved by UCAP and must include:
   Instructor name, office hours and contact information
   Office of Disability Services information
   Information on how grades will be determined
   Attendance Policy