Submit originals (including syllabus) and one copy and electronic copy to the Faculty Senate Office. See http://www.uaf.edu/uafgov/faculty-senate/curriculum/course-degree-procedures/ for a complete description of the rules governing curriculum & course changes.

CHANGE COURSE (MAJOR) and DROP COURSE PROPOSAL
Attach a syllabus, except if dropping a course.

SUBMITTED BY:

Department: Political Science
Prepared by: Patricia Seifert
Email Contact: plseifert@alaska.edu
College/School: College of Liberal Arts
Phone: 474-7609 or 2688
Faculty Contact: Amy Lovecraft

1. COURSE IDENTIFICATION: As the course now exists.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dept</th>
<th>Course #</th>
<th>No. of Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PS</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>3</td>
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</table>

COURSE TITLE: Introduction to American Government and Politics

2. ACTION DESIRED: √ Check the changes to be made to the existing course.

Change Course: X If Change, indicate below what is changing. Add X designator to course number to indicate a GER social science course.

PREREQUISITES:
TITLE
DESCRIPTION

How will the two course levels differ from each other? How will each be taught at the appropriate level?

STACKED LEVEL
(400/600)
Include syllabi.

CREDITS (including credit distribution)

ADD A STACKED LEVEL

COURSE CLASSIFICATION

ADD NEW CROSS-LISTING

STOP EXISTING CROSS-LISTING

OTHER (specify)

3. COURSE FORMAT

NOTE: Course hours may not be compressed into fewer than three days per credit. Any course compressed into fewer than six weeks must be approved by the college or school’s curriculum council and the appropriate Faculty Senate curriculum committee.

Furthermore, any core course compressed to less than six weeks must be approved by the Core Review Committee.

COURSE FORMAT:
(check all that apply)

OTHER FORMAT (specify all that apply)
Mode of delivery (specify lecture, field trips, labs, etc.)
4. **COURSE CLASSIFICATIONS**: (undergraduate courses only. Use approved criteria found in Chapter 12 of the curriculum manual. If justification is needed, attach separate sheet.)

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<th>H = Humanities</th>
<th>S = Social Sciences</th>
<th>X</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Will this course be used to fulfill a requirement for the baccalaureate core?  **YES** √ **NO** □

IF YES*, check which core requirements it could be used to fulfill:

| O = Oral Intensive, *Format 6 also submitted □ | W = Writing Intensive, *Format 7 submitted □ | X = Baccalaureate Core □ |

4.A Is course content related to northern, arctic or circumpolar studies? If yes, a “snowflake” symbol will be added in the printed Catalog. and flagged in Banner.

**YES** □ **NO** □

5. **COURSE REPEATABILITY**:

Is this course repeatable for credit?  **YES** □ **NO** □

Justification: Indicate why the course can be repeated (for example, the course follows a different theme each time).

How many times may the course be repeated for credit? □ TIMES

If the course can be repeated with variable credit, what is the maximum number of credit hours that may be earned for this course? □ CREDITS

6. **COMPLETE CATALOG DESCRIPTION** including dept., number, title, credits, credit distribution, cross-listings, and stacking, clearly showing the changes you have made. (Underline new wording and strike through old wording and use complete catalog format including dept., number, title, credits and cross-listed and stacked.)

Example of a complete description:

**PS F450 Comparative Aboriginal Indigenous Rights and Policies** (s)
3 Credits
Offered As Demand Warrants
Case study: Comparative approach in assessing Aboriginal to analyzing Indigenous rights and policies in different nation-state systems. Seven Aboriginal situations. Multiple countries and specific policy developments examined for factors promoting or limiting self-determination. Prerequisites: Upper division standing or permission of instructor. (Cross-listed with ANS F450.) (3+0)

**PS F101 Introduction to American Government and Politics** (s)
3 Credits
Principles, institutions and practices of American national government; the Constitution, federalism, interest groups, parties, public opinion and elections.

Lecture + Lab + Other: 3 + 0 + 0

7. **COMPLETE CATALOG DESCRIPTION AS IT SHOULD APPEAR AFTER ALL CHANGES ARE MADE**:

**PS F101X Introduction to American Government and Politics** (s)
3 Credits
This is a broad survey course that exposes students to the key theories, methods, and data used to describe and explain the U.S. political system. We examine the principles of governance, institutions and practices of American national government, the Constitution, federalism, interest groups, parties, public opinion and elections.

Lecture + Lab + Other: 3 + 0 + 0 (3 + 0)

8. **GRADING SYSTEM**: Specify only one.

**LETTER**: X □ **PASS/FAIL** □

9. **ESTIMATED IMPACT**

**WHAT IMPACT, IF ANY, WILL THIS HAVE ON BUDGET, FACILITIES/SPACE, FACULTY, ETC.**

None
10. LIBRARY COLLECTIONS
Have you contacted the library collection development officer (kijensen@alaska.edu, 474-6695) with regard to the adequacy of library/media collections, equipment, and services available for the proposed course? If so, give date of contact and resolution. If not, explain why not.

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<th>Yes</th>
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I called and left a message related to all three of these classes, PS101, PS272, and PS221. None are new courses and none involve extensive research so they should not have any additional impact on the library collections.

11. IMPACTS ON PROGRAMS/DEPTS:
What programs/departments will be affected by this proposed action?
Include information on the Programs/Departments contacted (e.g., email, memo)

Political Science will be affected because we will need to ensure the routine offering of all these classes and we are understaffed by one faculty member. We already teach these classes but may have to offer them with more frequency. But, we'll make do. The Elementary Education B.A. program is affected positively because they now require their majors to take PS101, so they will be able to take it and have it count as a GER course.

12. POSITIVE AND NEGATIVE IMPACTS
Please specify positive and negative impacts on other courses, programs and departments resulting from the proposed action.

See above

13. JUSTIFICATION FOR ACTION REQUESTED
The purpose of the department and campus-wide curriculum committees is to scrutinize course change and new course applications to make sure that the quality of UAF education is not lowered as a result of the proposed change. Please address this in your response. This section needs to be self-explanatory. If you ask for a change in # of credits, explain why; are you increasing the amount of material covered in the class? If you drop a prerequisite, is it because the material is covered elsewhere? If course is changing to stacked (400/6000), explain higher level of effort and performance required on part of students earning graduate credit. Use as much space as needed to fully justify the proposed change and explain what has been done to ensure that the quality of the course is not compromised as a result.

We seek to add these three courses PS221, PS272, and PS101 to the GER hopper for social sciences. There will be no lowering of the quality of the courses' content or level of instruction. We are excited to offer this range of classes to the students of UAF so they can learn about the study of governance and complete a GER at the same time.

APPROVALS: (Forms with missing signatures will be returned. Additional signature blocks may be added as necessary.)

Signature, Chair, Program/Department of: [Signature]
Date: 3 Nov 2017

[Signature]
Date: February 10, 2017

Signature, Chair, College/School Curriculum Council for: [Signature]
Date: February 10, 2017

[Signature]
Date: [Signature]

Offerings above the level of approved programs must be approved in advance by the Provost (e.g., non-graduate level program offering of a 600-level course):

Signature of Provost (if applicable)
ALL SIGNATURES MUST BE OBTAINED PRIOR TO SUBMISSION TO THE GOVERNANCE OFFICE.

Signature, Chair
Faculty Senate Review Committee: __Curriculum Review   __GAAC
   __Core Review   __SADAC

ADDITIONAL SIGNATURES: (As needed for cross-listing and/or stacking; add more blocks as necessary.)

Signature, Chair, Program/Department of:
Date

Signature, Chair, College/School Curriculum Council for:
Date

Signature, Dean, College/School of:
Date

Note: If removing a cross-listing, you may attach copy of email or memo to indicate mutual agreement of this action by the affected department(s).

If degree programs are affected, a Format 5 program change form must also be submitted.
Introduction to American Government and Politics
CRN#7XXXX F01
PS101 Autumn 2016
University of Alaska Fairbanks
Dr. A.L. Lovecraft

Meeting places and times: Mondays 17:20-20:20 in GRUE 408.

My contact information: My office hours are 14:15-15:30 Mondays and Wednesdays in Gruening 602A or by appointment. My office telephone number is 907.474.2688. I will usually respond to phone calls within 24 hours during weekdays. My email address is allovecraft@alaska.edu. I will usually respond within 24 hours during weekdays.

THE COURSE GOALS SEPARATE FROM THE STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES: This course is a general introduction to the government and politics of the United States. The text, lesson information, assignments, and feedback are designed to help you critically examine the interests, attitudes, institutions, groups, and activities that have shaped the U.S. polity through the key debates over federalism, rights and liberties, institutional powers, and representation. We also explore the relationship between Alaska and the federal government. You will be exposed to the theories, methods, and data used to explain the U.S. political system. This is a 3 credit course and there are no UAF prerequisites required for this course.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES SEPARATE FROM COURSE GOALS: By the end of this course you will be able to (1) discern the rationale, the logic, embedded in the complex array of American political institutions and practices that we observe today. In order to reach this goal, you will analyze political institutions and processes as means by which we solve the problems facing us - "We the People" - who may live as individuals but govern ourselves collectively (2) perform a basic analysis of how government and politics is interpreted for you by others and respond to these interpretations through assignments that help you to develop your own skills and knowledge base so that you can make political decisions you feel are informed and relevant.

Do note that all students must check sacred cows at the door. Politics inherently discusses sensitive issues - many about which you will likely have strong sentiments. I ask that you simply consider all positions seriously and treat the subjects with respect. A sincere execution of this task engenders your growth as a learner and citizen.

Course Structure and Requirements: This course teaches the "nuts and bolts" of American government in the United States as well as critical thinking skills about politics in order to help you understand and evaluate the American political process. This means that in this course you will be expected to not only remember the material presented to you, but also manipulate this material in creative ways to answer questions posed about the subjects covered.

Your grade in this course will be composed of 3 Assignments and four exams, including a final exam. Your final exam is composed of two comprehensive essays for which you draw on all the material you have learned in the course and synthesize it; you will take this fourth exam in the finals period.

You are also required to keep up with the handouts and posted materials on Blackboard. These will include occasional additional reading and viewing and listening that is required.

**Electronic requirements:** You are all required (as you are by UAF) to have UAF issued email addresses. These will be used to create access for you into this course’s Blackboard location. This website will post the assignments, course changes or updates, study hints, and any other information pertinent to the class. I will usually announce in class when an update is going to be online. If you do not have a computer at home – plan ahead. Ask for a hard copy of the information or simply use one of the many computer labs on campus to check Blackboard. In sum, it is your responsibility to furnish a UAF email address. It is your responsibility to check Blackboard for posted information. It is your responsibility to contact a Blackboard administrator if you are unable to access this information. In other words, do NOT wait until the night before the assignment is due to logon to Blackboard then remember you forgot to give me your UAF email address - you will not be given special consideration in such a case. I will check Blackboard, especially when study assignments are posted, to make sure that it is up and running. I will discuss how to access blackboard at the introduction. The website is: [http://classes.uaf.edu](http://classes.uaf.edu) this class is listed under its assigned CRN.

**PARTICIPATION:** We will take attendance in each class period. Each of you may have one unexcused absence with no penalty. **Each unexcused absence after this will result in a 2 point deduction from your participation grade.** So, if you have two unexcused absences you will lose 4 points from your final grade – an 80 (B-) could become a 76 (C). If you have three absences you lose all 5 points. Classroom attendance is highly recommended. Excessive absences invite academic problems or even failure because the assignments in this course stress material covered in the lectures and discussions as well as from the texts. Lecture days are your days to hear explanations of the course material and ask questions about what you have read and viewed. Paying attention to your colleagues’ questions, comments, and responses in class is advisable because these interactions often lead to clarification of material.

**Should you be required to be away** due to any University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF) sponsored events, job interviews, or medical emergencies you may receive an excused absence, provided you furnish documentation in order for me to consider your case. Absences will only be excused if you bring documentation for these absences. Only in cases of excused absences may assignments be turned in late. No make-up exam will be given once the next exam in the sequence is given.

**Grade Breakdown:** Exams 1, 2, 3 = 20% each; Final exam = 20%; Participation= 5%; Response Papers 3 x 5% TOTAL = 100%

The grade scale for your grades: 100-97 = A+; 96-94=A; 93-90=A-; 89-87 = B+; 86-84=B; 83-80=B- (the remaining grade distributions for “Cs” and “Ds” are the same as for the “B” range. Note that 59 or below = F. Grades that have fractions of points of .5 or higher will be rounded up.

**There are no curves on any exam, quiz, or final grade.** There is no extra credit. I do from time to time offer a few extra points on exams for current events knowledge – listen in class for these opportunities. However, I do take into account a student’s willingness to work hard, improve over time, and contribute to class discussion. At any time during the semester if you feel you are not performing at your desired level please feel free to contact your teaching assistant or me. The teaching assistant and I are here to help you perform well in the class – please come by to see us! Remember that the earlier you discuss your concerns with us, the better your chances will be to improve your performance in the course.
As described by UAF scholastic dishonesty constitutes a violation of the university rules and regulations and is punishable according to the procedures outlined by the UAF. Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating on an exam, plagiarism, and collusion. Cheating includes providing answers to or taking answers from another student. Plagiarism includes use of another author's words or arguments without attribution. Collusion includes unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing written work for fulfillment of any course requirement. Scholastic dishonesty can be punishable by your removal from the course and a grade of F; dishonesty may be reported to the UAF administration. Please see the UAF code of conduct for more information. It is located in the UAF course catalog and available on the university website. http://www.uaf.edu/catalog/current/academics/regs3.html

There are significant resources at UAF that can help you achieve your educational goals

Student Support Services

Student Support Services are available at UAF: http://www.uaf.edu/sssp

These services include:
• Free tutorial services;
• Academic advising,
• Mentoring, and
• Personal support;
• direct financial assistance to qualified low-income participants;
• Use of laptop computers, labs, and other technology resources; and
• Cultural and social engagement.

The office is located at Gruening 512.

TITLE IX PROTECTION

University of Alaska Board of Regents have clearly stated in BOR Policy that discrimination, harassment and violence will not be tolerated on any campus of the University of Alaska. If you believe you are experiencing discrimination or any form of harassment including sexual harassment/misconduct/assault, you are encouraged to report that behavior. If you report to a faculty member or any university employee, they must notify the UAF Title IX Coordinator about the basic facts of the incident.

Your choices for reporting include:
1 You may access confidential counseling by contacting the UAF Health & Counseling Center at 474-7043;
2 You may access support and file a Title IX report by contacting the UAF Title IX Coordinator at 474-6600;
3 You may file a criminal complaint by contacting the University Police Department at 474-7721.

The Writing Center can help you with your writing and printing needs. 801 Gruening Building (907) 474-5314  fywrc@uaf.edu  http://www.uaf.edu/english/writing-center/
UAF Office of Disability Services
Whitaker Building, Room 208
Phone: (907) 474-5655
TTY: (907) 474-1827
Fax: (907) 474-5688
Disability Services E-mail: uaf-disabilityservices@alaska.edu

The Veterans' Resource Center may be of help to some of you. Please contact them if you need assistance 111 Eielson Building at Tel: 907-474-2475 - http://www.uaf.edu/veterans/

The Student Health and Counseling Center 210 Whitaker Building (907) 474-7043 uaf-sh-cc@alaska.edu http://www.uaf.edu/chc/

Leaving the Course
I do not automatically withdraw students from this course. In other words, if you disappear in the middle of the semester and earn and “F” because you have not taken exams or completed assignments you will receive an “F” (not an incomplete) on the final grade roster.

Last day to withdraw from the course with a "W" on your record Friday 30 4 November 2016

This syllabus is subject to change by the professor at any time during the semester. However, any changes will not result in more work than already scheduled for the students.

BRING THE READINGS ASSIGNED FOR THE DAY TO CLASS

29 August – Chapters 1 and 2
What is the logic of American politics?
How did we develop the U.S. Constitution and what is its role in our lives today?
  • Course introduction
  • Introduction of course participants
  • Lecture
  • Discussion
  • Recommended: Documentary – PBS “Liberty!” DVD 887 at UAF Rasmussen Library

5 September – Labor Day no Class

12 September – Chapters 2 and 3
How does American federalism shape the dynamic among states and between the states and federal government?
  • Documentary – “Constitution USA, Episode 1”
    http://www.pbs.org/tpt/constitution-usa-peter-sagal/watch/a-more-perfect-union/
  • Review
  • Lecture and Discussion
19 September 28 Chapters 4 and 5
How have the guarantees of civil rights and liberties developed in the U.S. since the Founding?
- Review
- Lecture
- Response 1 Explained
  - Documentary - A Nation of Liberties (available only on DVD In-Library Reserve), but full transcript available: http://www.pbs.org/wnet/supremecourt/about/index.html
- Discussion

26 September – Civil Rights and Liberties continued, exam review
What did the Founding establish and how has the U.S. system of governing changed over time?
- Response 1 Due
- Finish CL/CR
- Review and practice for Exam 1

3 October – Chapter 6
Why does public opinion matter?
- Exam #1 The Nationalization of Politics – 5:20-6:50pm
  - Lecture 7pm-8:20pm Murie Auditorium
  - Discussion

10 October – Chapter 7
Why does the U.S. only have two competitive national political parties?
- Review
- Lecture
- Discussion
- Response 2 Explained

17 October – Chapter 8
Why should anyone bother to vote at all?
- Review
- Lecture
- Discussion
- Response 2 Due

24 October – Chapter 9
If interest groups are membership organizations to influence politics why are they different from parties?
- Lecture
- Documentary – "Gunned Down: The Power of the NRA"
  http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/gunned-down/
- Discussion
- Response 3 Explained

31 October – Chapter 10
What role does the news media play in shaping the opinions of a democracy?
What is going on in the current race for the U.S. Presidency?
- Response 3 Due
- Review
- Lecture
- Discussion
7 November – Review and Exam
How does the process of producing democratic governance of the U.S. function? What works well and what doesn’t and why?
- Review 5:20 – 6pm
- Exam #2 Selecting and Evaluating our Government – 6:15pm

14 November – Chapter 11
Why do we despise Congress but love our Congressional delegations?
- Review
- Lecture
- Discussion

21 November Chapter 12 and Chapter 13
What is the president’s job description?
- Review
- Lecture
- Discussion

28 November Chapter 13 and Chapter 14
Do what extent does the bureaucracy affect my day-to-day life?
Why do we accept a countermajoritarian process to decide our deepest constitutional questions?
- Review
- Documentary – One Nation Under Law (available only on DVD In-Library Reserve), but full transcript available: http://www.pbs.org/wnet/supremecourt/about/index.html
- Lecture
- Discussion

5 December Chapter 14
Bringing it all together – what does American politics mean?
- Review 5:20 – 6pm
- Exam #3 –The Powers and Constraints of the three branches – 6:15pm
- Review for the final exam

Final exam is on date and time determined by UAF
20:00-22:00 / 8pm-10pm
Monday 12 December in our classroom

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GRADED EVENTS</th>
<th>Exam 1</th>
<th>Exam 2</th>
<th>Exam 3</th>
<th>Final Exam</th>
<th>Assignment #1</th>
<th>Assignment #2</th>
<th>Assignment #3</th>
<th>Participation</th>
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<tr>
<td>Percentage of total grade</td>
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(Columns and rows are blank, presumably for students to fill in their assignments or grades.)