POLITICAL SCIENCE (PO)

PO 106 The Government of the United States (3)
Theory, organization and functioning of our democratic government in modern society with special emphasis on the national government and its relations with the states. The role of government in a democratic society as a supplier of services, the embodiment of values and the arbiter of conflict is stressed.  
(General Ed Social Science. Global Citizenship Ethics Div.)

PO 107 Kansas and the U.S., State and Local Government (3)
Examines American state and local politics, government, and public policies from the grassroots to the institutional level with a particular emphasis on the similarities and differences that exist in Kansas in comparison to the characteristics found in the rest of the states. Contrasting the fundamental differences between states and localities and the national government is also an emphasis of the course.  
(General Ed Social Science. Global Citizenship Ethics Div.)

PO 225 Introduction to International Politics (3)
Theory and practice of international politics with special attention to foreign policy and decision-making process, major issues facing the international system, the role and functions of international and transnational organizations with respect to conflict and cooperation in the international community.  
(General Ed Social Science. Critical and Creative Thinking.)

PO 235 Governments of the World: Comparative Politics (3)
Examines selected governments of the world. Basic concepts, theories and methods in comparative analysis of political institutions, processes, and policies of nations. Case studies of selected political systems developed and developing, Western and non-Western, democratic and non-democratic illustrate the analytical approaches.  
(General Ed Social Science. Global Citizenship Ethics Div.)

PO 245 Introduction to Public Administration (3)
Designed to acquaint the student with the organization and functioning of the administration of government. Includes introduction to theories of administration, policy and administration values, study of the governmental bureaucracy and administrative behavior.  

PO 255 Introduction to the American Legal System (3)
Designed to acquaint the student with the basic institutions and procedures of the American legal system. Also a very basic introduction to substantive areas of American law such as: torts, contracts, civil procedure, regulation of business.  
(General Ed Social Science. Critical and Creative Thinking.)

PO 300 Special Topics/Public Science (1-3)
Topics will vary from semester to semester and will be announced in advance.

PO 305 Public Policy (3)
Examines the role of government as a supplier of services to its citizens. It will cover the following topics: the nature of politics and policy; social problem identification and articulation, interest groups and the formation of public policy, the analysis of policy content, policy implementation, and policy evaluation.

PO 306 Urban-Metropolitan Government (3)
Analysis of historical, political, economic, and social development of urban America. Emphasis will be placed on discussion of contemporary urban problems through investigation of the legal status of municipal and county governments, machine, reform, and ethnic politics, socioeconomic class status and urban society, community power, forms of participation in urban politics, the problems and politics of urban policymaking, and suggestions for improving urban-metro governments.

PO 307 Internship - State or Local Government (3-6)
Experience in an operating office of state or local government in order to gain insight into government at these levels. Problem paper required. Prerequisites: Political Science 107 and/or consent of instructor. Junior or Senior standing.

PO 308 American Elections and Federalism (3)
Examines American national elections in the context of the American federal system. A study of the nature, patterns, and impact of American federalism, including historical, fiscal, economics, policy and political significance.

PO 309 Kansas Legislative Experience (3)
Analysis of the Kansas legislature and governor, along with other state-wide offices and the media — how all function within the governmental system of Kansas. Along with an in-depth study of the legislative session, the student will be required to attend legislative committee meetings, floor debates, and gubernatorial press conferences. Students will also conduct participant observation within a legislative or executive branch office. No prerequisites.

PO 325 Advanced International Relations (3)
The course will examine traditional realist approaches to international power; alternative perspectives to power politics; American foreign policy; and understandings of the roots and resolution of international conflict. Prerequisite: PO 225. Non-majors may enroll without prerequisite by instructor permission.

PO 332 Politics through Film & Literature (3)
Exposes students to the nature and varied dynamics of politics through film and literature. Emphasis will be placed on classical, modern, and post-modern understandings of politics as expressed in film and literature with the expectation of sharing an informed and inviting view of politics in the Western world. No prerequisites.

PO 335 Advanced Comparative Politics (3)
A study of the governments politics, policies and political cultures of the countries in particular regions of the world e.g. Latin America, Central and Western Europe, or China, Japan and Eastern Asia. Analysis of the political processes, government institutions, national and multi-national alliances, public policies, political economies, cultures, interest groups and leaders that shape the political landscapes of the particular region covered in a given semester constitutes the scope of each semester’s class. A specific emphasis on the forces of political and economic change will be central to the course. Prerequisite: PO 235. Non-majors may enroll without prerequisite by instructor permission.

PO 337 Religions and Politics (3)
Describes the many current trends of religions and politics in the U.S. focusing on the major religions and their political teachings, considerable political power and activism in contemporary American politics, society and life. Prerequisite: 3 hours of political science, or consent of the instructor.
PO 343 Administrative Law (3)
The scope of the law as it applies to administrative agencies of the
government. Focuses on the powers of agencies, administrative
rule-making, regulatory activities, due process, and judicial review of
administrative actions.

PO 346 Problems in Public Administration (3)
Problems and cases involved in administering public policy.

PO 371 Topics: American Politics and Government (3)
At the discretion of the instructor this course may investigate any
aspect of the theories, institutions, contexts, or contemporary problems
of American politics and government. Chief subject elements they
include are the various branches of American government, federalism,
corporatism, constitutionalism, the roles of the press, public opinion, interest groups
and non-governmental policy and service institutions, and the various
policy fields of the government, e.g. economic, welfare, education, public
health, and military defense.

PO 372 Topics: Comparative Politics (3)
At the discretion of the instructor this course may investigate any
aspect of the theories, institutions, contexts, or contemporary problems
of comparative politics. Chief subject elements may include regional
international alliances, democratization, non-democratic governmental
systems, international political economy, human rights issues, global
trade, the international political implications of immigration, food
production, environmental degradation and restoration, species
migration, and climate change.

PO 373 Topics-International Relations (3)
At the discretion of the instructor this course may investigate any aspect
of the theories, institutions, contexts, or contemporary problems of
international relations. Chief subject elements may include theories of
nation-state interaction, negotiation, and war, American foreign policy,
and examining aspects of changing global hegemonic power.

PO 374 Topics-Public Administration (3)
At the discretion of the instructor this course may investigate any aspect
of the theories, institutions, contexts, or contemporary problems of the
field of Public Administration including but not limited to: the theories
of bureaucratic administration; public law; personnel management
and labor relations; organizational theory, management and behavior;
policy making, implementation, and evaluation; intergovernmental
relations; leadership; public finance, budgeting and auditing.

PO 386 Directed Readings (1-3)
Readings in the selected fields of Political Science. May be taken until
three credit hours are earned. This course is repeatable for another 1-3
hours if the topic areas differ. Prerequisite: Senior Political Science major
or approval of the department head.

PO 390 Applied Political Research (3)
Introduction to utilization of basic research techniques in public
administration and political science.

PO 391 Public Personnel Administration (3)
The principles and techniques involved in managing public employees.
Particular attention is given to staffing, separation, and administrative
functions related to public employment.

PO 393 Public Budgeting (3)
The politics of planning, financing, and managing governmental budgets
at the national, state, and local levels.

PO 394 Public Management Techniques (3)
A study of the differences in the setting of the management of the
various kinds of public organizations, and a survey of the basic
techniques of strategic planning, fund-raising, decision-making,
community inter-organization development, leadership, negotiations,
mission definition, policy analysis and evaluation for maximum
effectiveness in the public sector.

PO 395 Non-Profit Management (3)
A survey of the various forms and particular differences of the
management and operation of Non-Profit organizations as distinguished
from traditional government administration.

PO 396 Topics in Applied Research (3)
This is an expansion of the methodological foundation laid in PO 390,
the required methodology course for PO majors. In this course the basic
techniques and tools introduced in PO 390 are reviewed and expanded
to include contemporary techniques in multi-variate analysis. Students
will also be expected to develop and complete research inquiries into
relevant quantitative and/or qualitative data, and prepare and present
their analysis before a departmental audience. Prerequisite: PO 390 or by
permission of the course instructor.

PO 397 Advanced Applied Research (3)
This is an advanced course in social science research methodology
involving instruction and student participation in various aspects of the
research enterprise as used by political campaign staffs, consultants,
public agencies and other public policy investigative organizations.
Possible areas of investigation include but are not limited to survey
research design, questionnaire development and testing, focus group
research, quasi-experimental research design and execution, qualitative
research tools, multi-variate statistical analysis, OLS regression analysis,
data description, and presentation formatting. Prerequisite: PO 390 or by
permission of the course instructor.

PO 401 Program Evaluation Methods (3)
The most vital methods of evaluating the effects of programs and agency
goals of government and non-profit agencies.

PO 450 Senior Seminar (1)
This is required for graduating Seniors majoring in political science.
It is a capstone course offered every semester. It is a review of the
major theories in the areas of Political Theories, American Politics,
Comparative Politics, Public Administration, and International Relations,
plus quantitative research methods. The course is team taught by the
faculty. Student proficiency in the discipline will be measured by a
national performance exit exam over areas of Political Science.

PO 671 Topics in American Politics and Government (3)
At the discretion of the instructor this course may investigate any
aspect of the theories, institutions, contexts, or contemporary problems
of American Politics and Government. Chief subject elements may
include the various branches of American government, federalism,
corporatism, institutionalism, the roles of the press, public opinion, interest groups
and nongovernmental policy and service institutions, and the various
policy fields of the government, e.g., economic, welfare, education, public
health, and military defense. Prerequisites: Admission to MLS graduate
program or consent.
PO 672  Topics in Comparative Politics (0-3)
At the discretion of the instructor this course may investigate any aspect of the theories, institutions, contexts, or contemporary problems of comparative politics. Chief subject elements may include regional international alliances, democratization, non-democratic governmental systems, international political economy, human rights issues, global trade, the international implications of immigration, food production, environmental degradation and restoration, species migration, and climate change. Prerequisites: Admission to MLS graduate program or consent.

PO 686  Directed Readings (1-3)
Readings in the selected fields of political science. May be taken until 3 credit hours are earned. Prerequisites: Admission to the MLS Program or consent.