

# Political Science Course Offerings

## – Spring 2012

### **POS 110: Introduction to Political Science**

An introduction to the complex issues of politics, political behavior, and types of governmental structures. The purpose of this course is to develop analytical skills so that students as citizens may identify and deal with political alternatives.

### **POS 120: American National Government**

An analysis of major governmental institutions at the national level with specific emphasis on their constitutional, statutory and customary powers, in interrelationships, and changing roles in contemporary American society. Special emphasis is on policy-making processes and outcomes.

### **POS 207: The Urban Political Process in the U.S.**

An analysis of the plight of America's cities and metropolitan areas through an examination of the causes and political ramifications of the housing, transportation, crime, educational and fiscal challenges to urban communities. Study of neighborhood and interest group coalitions as well as traditional governance systems is included. (Damon City Campus)

### **POS 210: Introduction to Political Philosophy**

A survey of major political ideas of the Western World including Anarchy, Conservatism, Liberalism, Elitism and Utopianism. Alternative value systems of thinkers such as Machiavelli, Locke, Marx and Mao Tse-tung are analyzed to determine their impact on our political world view.

### **POS 220: International Politics**

This course critically analyzes the structure and principles of the international system. The objective of this course is to give students a fundamental understanding of contemporary international affairs through a systematic examination of those concepts and events that directly relate to the global community. Such topics as nationalism, foreign policy and war will be studied in conjunction with other aspects of the international system; namely, regionalism, international law and organization, and economic interdependence. Emphasis will be placed on the role of nation-states and prominent political leaders, as well as an analysis of important current events.

### **POS 225: Comparative Political Systems**

This course provides a mode of analysis for the study of political systems. Basic concepts of political science are utilized to present descriptive and analytical examination of various political systems that can be generally classified as Liberal Democracies, Communist and Post-Communist, or Developing World. Particular attention is paid to the

government structure, political process, current leadership, and major issues of public policy of those selected political systems under review.

### **POS 230: Civil Liberties – U.S.**

An examination of controversial issues in Constitutional history, such as sex and race discrimination, obscenity, social reform and the rights of the accused. Students will read landmark Supreme Court cases which determine both the limits and content of vital personal freedoms.

### **POS 234: Model United Nations**

This course offers opportunities for academic, career and personal growth for those interested in international affairs and the political arena. Students will work together researching the history, culture and relevant domestic issues of the assigned country, and will learn about one of the most important international organizations in the world: the United Nations. In the process, this class will provide students with the knowledge and leadership skills (i.e., negotiating, team building, public speaking, etc.) to prepare students as delegates to the Model United Nations Conference. In contrast to standard lecture courses, students will be actively involved in team directed preparation and content delivery. Attendance at the Model United Nations Conference is mandatory. (registration in this course is by permission only following an application and selection process that takes place in the Fall semester).

### **POS 245: The American Presidency**

An appraisal of the presidency of the United States, the growth of the imperial presidency and attempts to curtail power. Constitutional, statutory, political and personal factors are examined.

