**FORMAN CHRISTIAN COLEGE (A CHARTERED UNIVERSITY)**

**Department of Political Science**

**PLSC 101: Introduction to Political Science**

Credits: 3

Duration: 16 weeks

Instructor: Mudassir Farooqi, email: mudassirfarooqi@fccollege.edu.pk,

Office- Elahi Building-115-A

Office hours: can be sorted on email.

Classroom- E-140, Class Timings- 2-3:15PM

**Course Description**

This course introduces students to the basic concepts and ideas of Political Science. It surveys the area covered in political science including the nature of political science, the nature and forms of the state, structure of government, political dynamics, and the development of an appropriate political science vocabulary.

**Learning Objectives**

By the end of the course the students will be able to

• define and describe the basic concepts

• explain the concepts, distinguish and analyze their kinds

• describe and compare & contrast the merits and demerits of the concepts

• identify, analyze, argue and discuss solutions to problems in class discussions

• communicate effectively in writing

• demonstrate self-organization and time-management during exams

• apply concepts, theories and methods used in the study of political science to the

analysis of political ideas, institutions and practices.

**Course Content**

The weekly breakdown is tentative

This course content is a minimum requirement- Instructors may teach more topics.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Weeks | Title /Topic | Contents/Concepts  | Readings (book/chapter /article ) | Methodology(lecture /discussion /activity)Discretion of the instructor |
| 1 | Introduction  |  |  |  |
| 2 | What is Political Science? | * What is Political Science?
* Theories or approaches in Political Science
 | Ch 1 Politics and Political Science (Political Science- An Introduction by Michael G. Roskin et al) |  |
| 3 | Political Concepts  | * Politics
* Government
* Governance
* Classification of Governments
* Power
* Authority
* Legislature
* State
* Sovereignty
* Nation and Nationalism
* Ideology
 | Ch 1 Political Concepts (Comparative Government and Politics- An Introduction by Rod Hague and Martin Harrop ) |  |
| 4 |
| 5 | Regimes – Democratic,Authoritarian | * Democracy
* Forms of Democracy
* Authoritarian Rule
* Kinds of Authoritarian Rule
 | Ch 5 Regimes **(**Political Science- An Introduction by Michael G. Roskin et al) |  |
| 6 |  |
| 7 |  Mid Term Examination |
| 8 | Parts of Government Legislature | * Legislature
* Origin
* Parliamentary and
* Presidential systems
* Unicameral and Bicameral legislatures
* Functions of legislature
 | Ch 12 Legislatures**(**Political Science- An Introduction by Michael G. Roskin et al) |  |
| 9 | Executive  | * Executive
* Presidents and Prime Ministers
* Cabinets
 | Ch 13 Executives and Bureaucracies **(**Political Science- An Introduction by Michael G. Roskin et al)  |  |
| Judiciary | * Constitutions
* Judicial review
* Judicial activism and restraint
* Judicial independence
 | Ch 7 Constitutions and Courts(Comparative Government and Politics- An Introduction by Rod Hague and Martin Harrop ) |
| 10 |  Multilevel Governance-Federal StateUnitary State | * Federalism
* Strengths and weaknesses of Federalism
* Unitary states
 | Ch 11 Sub-National Government (Comparative Government and Politics- An Introduction by Rod Hague and Martin Harrop ) |  |
| 11 | Political Dynamics-Elections, Political Parties | * Elections
* Types of electoral systems
* Political parties
* Functions of parties
* Party Systems
 | Ch 11 Votes, Elections, Parties (Introduction to Politics by Robert Garner, Peter Ferdinand, and Stephanie Lawson) |  |
| 12 |  |
| 13 | Introduction to Global Politics | States and Nations in Global Politics | Ch 14 Introducing Global Politics (Introduction to Politics by Robert Garner, Peter Ferdinand, and Stephanie Lawson) |  |
| 14 |  |  |  |  |
|  |  Final Examination  |

**Assessment Strategy**

Each instructor may use his/her discretion to divide the 100 marks assigned for the course, however, giving mid-term and final exam is mandatory. Rubrics to be shared with the students at the beginning of the course.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Type of Assessment  | Marks  |
| Mid Term Exam | 20 |
| Final Exam | 30 |
| Poster on Political Philosopher  | 10 |
| Group Short Video on Political Science  | 10 |
| Off campus writing assignments, class discussion and attendance  | 30 |
| Total Marks  | 100 |

**Note: Plagiarism, cheating or any other violation will be dealt with according to FCC policies**

**Readings**

The latest editions are recommended

1. Introduction to Politics by Robert Garner, Peter Ferdinand, and Stephanie Lawson (2016)
2. Comparative Government and Politics- An Introduction by Rod Hague and

Martin Harrop (2016)

1. Political Science- An Introduction by Michael G. Roskin et al(2017)