

**POLS 70 Course Outline as of Spring 2002****CATALOG INFORMATION**

Dept and Nbr: POLS 70                      Title: CALIF STATE & LOCAL GOVT  
 Full Title: California State & Local Government  
 Last Reviewed: 11/13/2023

Units		Course Hours per Week		Nbr of Weeks	Course Hours Total	
Maximum	3.00	Lecture Scheduled	3.00	17.5	Lecture Scheduled	52.50
Minimum	3.00	Lab Scheduled	0	17.5	Lab Scheduled	0
		Contact DHR	0		Contact DHR	0
		Contact Total	3.00		Contact Total	52.50
		Non-contact DHR	0		Non-contact DHR	0

Total Out of Class Hours: 105.00

Total Student Learning Hours: 157.50

Title 5 Category: AA Degree Applicable

Grading: Grade or P/NP

Repeatability: 00 - Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP

Also Listed As:

Formerly:

**Catalog Description:**

Organization, operation and politics of state, county, municipal and special district governments in California. Analysis of various issues facing the state, including education, public finance, environment, planning, and socio-economic conditions.

**Prerequisites/Corequisites:****Recommended Preparation:**

Completion of ENGL 100 or ESL 100.

**Limits on Enrollment:****Schedule of Classes Information:**

Description: Organization, operation & politics of state, county, municipal & special district governments in California. Analysis of various issues facing the state, including education, public finance, environment, planning, and socio/economic conditions. (Grade or P/NP)

Prerequisites/Corequisites:

Recommended: Completion of ENGL 100 or ESL 100.

Limits on Enrollment:

Transfer Credit: CSU;  
Repeatability: Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP

## **ARTICULATION, MAJOR, and CERTIFICATION INFORMATION:**

<b>AS Degree:</b>	<b>Area</b>		<b>Effective:</b>	<b>Inactive:</b>
	D	Social and Behavioral Sciences	Fall 1981	Spring 2011
<b>CSU GE:</b>	<b>Transfer Area</b>		<b>Effective:</b>	<b>Inactive:</b>
	D	Social Science	Fall 2024	
	D8	Political Science, Govt, Legal Instutns		
	D	Social Science	Fall 1999	Spring 2011
	D6	History		
	D8	Political Science, Govt, Legal Instutns		

<b>IGETC:</b>	<b>Transfer Area</b>			<b>Effective:</b>	<b>Inactive:</b>
<b>CSU Transfer:</b>	Transferable	<b>Effective:</b>	Fall 1981	<b>Inactive:</b>	Spring 2011
<b>UC Transfer:</b>		<b>Effective:</b>		<b>Inactive:</b>	

**CID:**

**Certificate/Major Applicable:**

Major Applicable Course

## **COURSE CONTENT**

**Outcomes and Objectives:**

Students will:

- 1) Record lecture material and relate that material to the textbook and to current events
- 2) Define terms, concepts, titles of elected officials and offices of California's local and state government
- 3) Recognize and identify the functions and roles of governing institutions in California
- 4) Describe the issues, problems, concerns of California citizens
- 5) Analyze the issues, problems, concerns, facing California local and state government
- 6) Discuss the tax system and funding system of California local and state government
- 7) Explain the principles of California's initiative, proposition, referendum, and recall process.
- 8) Identify and explain the voting process in California
- 9) Evaluate the environmental issues facing California
- 10) Assess the ethnic issues facing California
- 11) Compare and contrast the issues of pro growth and pro green space in California

**Topics and Scope:**

- I. An overview of Californians and California
  - A) California history
  - B) Variety of peoples
  - C) Political history
  - D) California today
- II. Campaigns, political parties, and elections
  - A) The campaign process
  - B) The election process
  - C) The candidates
  - D) The voters
- III. Interest Groups and Lobbyists
  - A) What are interest groups and lobbyists
  - B) How interest groups and lobbyists function
  - C) An evaluation of interest groups and lobbyists
- IV. The Media in California Politics
  - A) The history of the media in California
  - B) The changing media
  - C) An evaluation of media in California
- V. The Executive Branch in California
  - A) The powers of the governor
  - B) The California bureaucracy
  - C) An evaluation of the executive branch in California
- VI. The Legislature in California
  - A) The Assembly
  - B) The Senate
  - C) Making legislation
  - D) An evaluation of the California legislature
- VII. Judicial System in California
  - A) The local courts
  - B) The higher courts in California
  - C) The election of judges
  - D) An evaluation of the judicial system in California
- VIII. Local Government in California
  - A) The duties and structure of local government
  - B) The funding of local government
  - C) The relationship between local and state government
  - D) An evaluation of local government
- IX. Tax Policy in California
  - A) Where California gets its money
  - B) Tax policy
  - C) An evaluation of the tax policy in California
- X. Education Policy in California
  - A) The quality of California education
  - B) Educational financing
  - C) California education in transition
- XI. The Washington Connection
  - A) What California gets from Washington
  - B) Californians in Congress
- XII. Politics in the Golden State
  - A) The past and future
  - B) Challenges facing California people and government

## Assignment:

1. Read and study appropriate chapters in textbook
2. Regular attendance and extensive notetaking in class is expected and assumed
3. Preparation for three in-class, closed book, no-notes scantron and essay examinations

## Methods of Evaluation/Basis of Grade:

**Writing:** Assessment tools that demonstrate writing skills and/or require students to select, organize and explain ideas in writing.

Essay exams, Term papers

Writing  
20 - 80%

**Problem Solving:** Assessment tools, other than exams, that demonstrate competence in computational or non-computational problem solving skills.

None

Problem solving  
0 - 0%

**Skill Demonstrations:** All skill-based and physical demonstrations used for assessment purposes including skill performance exams.

None

Skill Demonstrations  
0 - 0%

**Exams:** All forms of formal testing, other than skill performance exams.

Multiple choice

Exams  
20 - 80%

**Other:** Includes any assessment tools that do not logically fit into the above categories.

None

Other Category  
0 - 0%

## Representative Textbooks and Materials:

CALIFORNIA GOVERNMENT & POLITICS ANNUAL, 2000-2001, California Journal Press 2000.

John L. Korey, CALIFORNIA GOVERNMENT, 3rd ed., 2002, Houghton Mifflin Co.  
Peter Schrag, PARADISE LOST, New Press, 1998.