

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:

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

IGETC:	Transfer Area			Effective:	Inactive:
CSU Transfer:	Transferable	Effective:	Fall 1981	Inactive:	Spring 2011
UC Transfer:		Effective:		Inactive:	

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.