PROPOSAL TO LIST A COURSE, OR TO RENEW THE LISTING OF A COURSE, IN THE GENERAL EDUCATION SOCIAL SCIENCES AREA AT LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY

[Signature] Renewal [Signature] New Listing

Course designation, number, and title: (e.g.: PHIL/1000/Introduction to Philosophy)

Po li 2051 American Government

Course designation Course number Course title

Semester credits: 3 Contact hours per week: Lecture: 3 Laboratory:

Department (or other unit) offering the course and proposing its inclusion: Po li

College or School: Humanities and Social Sciences

Please attach the requested information. Submit a single electronic copy (pdf file) bearing unit and college/school signatures to gened@lsu.edu.

Chair of the proposing unit, affirming approval by its faculty or appropriate faculty committee:

Signature: [Signature] Date: April 25, 2012
Typed or printed name: Jane R. Smith

Dean of College or School, affirming support of the proposal:

Signature: [Signature] Date: ________________
Typed or printed name: ________________

Chair, Faculty Senate Committee on General Education, affirming approval by the Committee:

Signature: [Signature] Date: ________________
Typed or printed name: ________________

Office of Academic Affairs:

Signature: [Signature] Date: ________________
Typed or printed name: ________________
Proposal to Renew the Listing of Political Science 2051
In General Education at Louisiana State University

1. Attached is a syllabus for Political Science 2051 that includes the course description, reading assignments, statement of general education goals in social science, description of assignments and examinations used to assess student learning, and an outline of the subject matter of the course.

2. Political Science 2051 is a broad, multiple section, general introduction to American Government with typical enrollments from 50 to 300 students. It is designed to be a comprehensive course that introduces students to the study of American politics. More specifically, it is designed to introduce students to the foundations of our American system, including the constitution, federalism, and questions concerning the democratic nature of our government. It examines political participation and the role that parties, elections, interest groups, and the media play in the political process. In these sections of the course, particular attention is paid to the general education goal of understanding political dynamics. An examination of American political institutions (the congress, presidency, judiciary, and bureaucracy) reveals how the game of politics is really played. In this section, students are exposed to the patterns by which societies organize themselves and how people are connected to the world around them in terms of economics and culture.

3. The required readings for the course along with the exams and quizzes are designed to provide students with various opportunities for developing an “understanding of the informing factors of global interdependence, including economic forces, political dynamics, and cultural and linguistic difference.”

The specific general education competency will be assessed in this course during the fall semesters. During those semesters, the instructors will discuss and select appropriate assessment questions.

Instructors for all of the sections will agree upon some common questions used in the course for assessing the general education competency. Approximately 10 to 15 multiple choice questions given to students on the final examination will be used. Some examples of these are:

The process by which individuals come to have certain core beliefs and political attitudes is called
A) compartmentalization.
B) socialization.
C) brainwashing.
D) ethnocentrism.

You are a member of Congress who is opposed to a large public works spending package proposed by the majority party in the House. Your public criticisms of this bill cause the Speaker to call you into his/her office and remind you that areas in your district will benefit from this bill and that your constituents might disapprove of your position if they knew. You decide to tone down your criticism of this bill. What lesson is the Speaker employing?

A) It's better to receive than to give.
B) All politics is local.
C) Keep your enemies in front of you.
D) Only talk when it improves the silence.
Which of the following presently seems to be of least concern as a potential threat to the United States in the Post-Cold War era?

A) Economic competition of allies  
B) Terrorists  
C) Military rivalry from the former Soviet Union  
D) Development of weapons of mass destruction by North Korea and Iran

Since the Great Depression, international economic policies have tended to emphasize:

A) High tariffs and protectionism  
B) Central planning and policy making  
C) Lower tariffs and freer trade  
D) Heavy reliance on international economic organizations.

Assessment scores will be tabulated according to percentage of students who fall into the categories below, for each section and across all sections for two semesters, as follows:

- 90% = Exceeds Expectations  
- 70 - 89% = Met Expectations  
- Under 70% = Did Not Meet Expectations

It is expected that if 70% of the students meet or exceed expectations, the objective will have been met.
POLS 2051 - AMERICAN GOVERNMENT

Spring 2011

Professor: Stacia L. Haynie
Office: 231 Stubbs Hall
E-mail: pchayn@lsu.edu
Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 10:30am to 12:00am and by appointment
Department Office: 240 Stubbs 578-2141

This course is designed to introduce students

COURSE OBJECTIVE:
This course will introduce students to the principles, structures, processes and functions of the American political system with an emphasis on national government. This knowledge will provide a foundation enabling students to better understand and critically evaluate our form of government. Specifically, this course is designed to familiarize students with political behavior and its relationship to the executive, legislative, and judicial functions of government. Students also will be introduced to the bureaucracy responsible for administering social welfare, regulatory, foreign, economic, and fiscal policies.

GENERAL EDUCATION OBJECTIVES:
As a social science general education elective this course is designed to prepare you to meet the following competency requirements: LSU graduates will demonstrate an understanding of the informing factors of global interdependence, including economic forces, political dynamics, and cultural and linguistic difference.

REQUIRED TEXTS:

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENT: Mypoliscilab

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Students will be required to complete the assigned readings in the textbook and the on-line assignments. The on-line assignments will be equal to 50 points. Each quiz is 2 points and each multimedia assignment is 2 points. In addition, three exams of equal weight (150 points each) will be administered. The final examination will not be cumulative. Makeup exams will not be given unless the instructor is notified in advance and agrees the absence was necessitated by a documented emergency or is a university excused absence according to PS-22. Your final grade is computed from the SUM of the three tests and the on-line assignments as follows:

\[ 448-500 = A \]
\[ 398-447 = B \]
\[ 348-397 = C \]
\[ 298-347 = D \]
\[ Below\ 297 = F \]

The lectures are intended to prepare you for the exam. Material will be presented in the lecture that is not in the textbook and will be on the exam. Class begins at 9:10 am. Students should come to class prepared and be attentive and responsive during the lecture with cell phones off. Laptops are not allowed in class. Students are expected to attend regularly, punctually and for the duration of the class.

Students are expected to adhere to the Code of Student Conduct which can be located at http://appol003.lsu.edu/slas/dos.nsf/$Content/Code+of+Conduct?OpenDocument. Violators will be referred immediately to the Dean of Students.
## COURSE OUTLINE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Reading Assignment</th>
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<td><strong>Introduction</strong></td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>Democracy</td>
<td>Chapter 1</td>
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<td>Chapter 1 - mypoliscilab multimedia 1.6 - Assess the role of political ideology in shaping American politics - multiple choice quiz due</td>
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<td>Chapter 1 exam due - mypoliscilab</td>
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<td>Constitution/Federalism</td>
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<td>Chapter 2 exam due - mypoliscilab</td>
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<td>Chapter 3 exam due - mypoliscilab</td>
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<td>Chapter 2 - mypoliscilab multimedia 2.4 - Visual Literacy: The American System of Checks and Balances - Analyze the underlying principles of the U.S. Constitution – multiple choice quiz due</td>
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<td>Judiciary</td>
<td>Chapter 10</td>
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<td>February 1</td>
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<td>Civil Liberties</td>
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<td>Chapter 5</td>
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<td>Chapter 5 exam due - mypoliscilab</td>
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<td>Civil Rights</td>
<td>Chapter 6</td>
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<td><strong>EXTRA CREDIT (1 POINT):</strong> Chapter 6 - mypoliscilab multimedia 6.3 - Comparative: Comparing Civil Rights - Analyze the civil rights movement and the effects of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 – multiple choice quiz due</td>
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<td>Civil Rights</td>
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<td>17</td>
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<td><strong>FIRST EXAMINATION</strong></td>
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<td>Public Opinion</td>
<td>Chapter 11</td>
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<td>Chapter 11- mypoliscilab multimedia 11.2 – Simulation: You Are a Polling Consultant - Describe the methods for conducting and analyzing different types of public opinion polls. – multiple choice quiz due</td>
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<td>March 1</td>
<td>Public Opinion</td>
<td>Chapter 11 &amp; 12</td>
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<td>Chapter 11 exam due – mypoliscilab</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Political Parties</td>
<td>Chapter 12</td>
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<td><strong>MARDI GRAS HOLIDAY</strong></td>
<td>Chapter 12, 13</td>
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<td>Political Parties/Elections and Voting</td>
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<td><strong>EXTRA CREDIT (1 POINT):</strong> Chapter 12 - mypoliscilab multimedia 12.3 – Simulation: You Are a Campaign Manager - Identify the functions performed by American political parties – multiple choice quiz due</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>Elections and Voting/Campaign Process</td>
<td>Chapter 13 &amp; 14</td>
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<td>Chapter 13 exam due – mypoliscilab</td>
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<td>Chapter 13- mypoliscilab multimedia 13.5 – Visual Literacy: Voting Turnout - Identify six factors that affect voter turnout– multiple choice quiz due</td>
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</table>
17 Campaign Process/Media Chapter 14 & 15
Chapter 14 exam due – mypoliscilab

22 News Media/Interest Groups Chapter 15 & 16
Chapter 15 exam due – mypoliscilab

24 Interest Groups Chapter 16
Chapter 16 exam due – mypoliscilab

EXTRA CREDIT (1 POINT): Chapter 16- mypoliscilab multimedia 16.3 – Simulation – You Are a Lobbyist - Identify several strategies and tactics used by organized interests – multiple choice quiz due

29 SECOND EXAMINATION

31 Congress Chapter 7
Chapter 7- mypoliscilab multimedia 7.2 – Visual Literacy: Why is it so Hard to Defeat an Incumbent – Characterize the demographic attributes of members of Congress, and identify factors that affect their chances for reelection – multiple choice quiz due

April 5 Congress/President Chapter 7 & 8
Chapter 7 exam due – mypoliscilab

7 President Chapter 8
Chapter 8 exam due – mypoliscilab

EXTRA CREDIT (1 POINT): Chapter 8- mypoliscilab multimedia 8.2 – Simulation: Presidential Leadership - Identify and describe the constitutional powers of the president– multiple choice quiz due

12 Bureaucracy Chapter 9

14 Bureaucracy Chapter 9

Chapter 9 exam due – mypoliscilab

19 SPRING BREAK HOLIDAY

21 SPRING BREAK HOLIDAY

26 Domestic Policy Chapter 17
Chapter 17 exam due – mypoliscilab
Chapter 17 - mypoliscilab multimedia 17.2 – Comparative: Comparing Health Systems - Describe the evolution of health policy in the United States– multiple choice quiz due

28 Domestic Policy/Economic Policy Chapters 17 & 18
Chapter 18 - mypoliscilab multimedia 18.3 – Simulation: Making Economic Policy - Analyze the effect of the Federal Reserve System on monetary policy– multiple choice quiz due

May 3 Economic Policy Chapters 18
Chapter 18 exam due – mypoliscilab

5 Foreign & Military Policy Chapter 19
Chapter 19 exam due – mypoliscilab

EXTRA CREDIT (1 POINT): Chapter 19 - mypoliscilab multimedia 19.4 – Visual Literacy: Evaluating Defense Spending - Identify four contemporary foreign and defense policy challenges confronting the United States– multiple choice quiz due

13 THIRD EXAMINATION 7:30am
(Students arriving late for the final exam will be given an alternative exam that will consist of 22 identifications and 14 essays.)