



UNIVERSITY OF MANAGEMENT AND TECHNOLOGY
SCHOOL OF GOVERNANCE AND SOCIETY
Course: Introduction to Political Science (POL 110)
BS PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION
Fall 2021

Resource person: Irum Arshad

Credit hour: 3

Class timings: Friday, 2nd and 3rd slot (9:30-10:45, 11:00-12:15pm)

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Office hours: Friday and Saturday (after making an appointment)

Course description

This introductory course is designed from the perspective of public administration. It focuses on nation-states who create political structure, for reducing conflict and increasing cooperation necessary to organize citizens for collective action. Politics is unavoidable in a society because every individual has own goals which need resources to achieve those goals. Resources for goal achievement can be cause of conflict. Likewise, nation-states have national interest which may cause conflict within the nation and with other nations. It, therefore is necessary to understand how politics is organized and experienced around the world, what are views on good or bad politics and why would people act politically? This course will take you through the basic concepts in political science, like nation-state, type of governments, different political ideologies, democracies, globalization and nation-states, constitution, etc.

Course Objectives

The objectives of the course are to:

1. Understand concepts, theories and political ideologies
2. Critically evaluate the political ideologies that states follow
3. Evaluate the representativeness of government and use of power
4. Comprehend the concepts of constitution, democracies, welfare etc.

Assessment: Attendance, discussion (10%), test (10%), Assignment and presentation (15%), mid-term (20%) and final exam (45%)

Assessment Criteria

The assignment should demonstrate that students have understood the issue they are addressing, made themselves familiar with the appropriate literature, and demonstrated the ability both to assess the arguments on all sides of the debate, and to formulate a rationale for their own position.

In marking students' written work, the follow will be taken into consideration:

- a) the quality of content: the breadth and depth of analysis, the quality of critical comment;
- b) the structure: logical development and coherence of the argument;
- c) the range of literature used in making the argument;
- d) The presentation and layout and the competence with which sources are referenced.

A Note on the Academic integrity: This course will strictly follow the university policies on academic dishonesty. **Plagiarism will not be tolerated. Plagiarism involves presenting someone else's ideas or written work as your own, without giving proper citation and credit to the original source. Please follow APA citation method.**

Make-up Exams and Late Assignments: There will be no make-up exams, unless there is a valid (documented) reason for not taking the scheduled exams, or prior arrangements have been made with the instructor. The late submission of an assignment will be impacted on the marks.

Weekly topics

Week 1

Introduction to the course and some definitions

Concept of Political Science
Scope of Political Science
Definition of Political Science, politics, power and state.

Week 2

What is state and Government?

Meaning of state
Essential elements of the state
Aristotle's classification of states
Differentiate between effective, weak and failed state
What are unitary and federal states?

Week 3

Sovereignty

Meanings of sovereignty
Kinds of sovereignty
Austin's theory of sovereignty
Pluralistic theory of sovereignty

Week 4

Political institutions (Legislature, Executive and Judiciary)

Objectives:

Explain the origin of parliament
Compare parliamentary and presidential system
Understand the purpose of bicameral system

Week 5

Judiciary

Understand the various types of laws and its origins
Explain the judicial review and how it originated in Pakistan
Understand the court structure in Pakistan

Week 6

Constitutional developments

What is constitution?

Understand the purpose of constitutions and related laws

Comprehend the rights and responsibilities of citizens in modern state

Trace the history of constitutional development and political culture in Pakistan

Week 7

Democracy and other forms of Government

Learn the concept of democracies

What are others forms of government

Kinds of democracy

Drawbacks and advantages of Democracy

Week 8

Understanding political culture

Understand the concept of political culture

Comprehend the process of change in political culture

Differentiate between elite and mass subculture

Explain distinct minority subculture within a nation

Political culture of Pakistan

Week 8

MID-TERM

Week 9

Ideologies, their evolution and political theories

- Liberalism, Conservatism, Socialism, Marxism
- Nationalism, fascism and feminism

Week 10

Political Parties

Understand the functions of political parties

Compare political parties in global North and Global South

Understand the ideological perspective for classifying political parties

Explain political parties as product brand

Week 11

Interest Groups

Understand what interest groups (IG) are and how these are different from political parties
Explain the relationship between IG and democracy and how IG can become effective
Explain the strategies that IG use to become effective

Week 12

Elections

The theory of elections
Methods of elections
Methods of voting

Week 13

Bureaucracy

Understand the function of minister in parliamentary system and presidential system
Comprehend that bureaucratization is inevitable

Week 14

What do political system do?

Understand the purpose of political system
Review the economic performance of political system in Pakistan
Compare the entitlements and welfare in Pakistan since 1980s
Explain why resources were not distributed equitably

Week 15

Presentation and wrap-up

Text Book

Roskin, Cord, Mederios and Jones (2017) 14 edition. Political Science: An Introduction. Pearson

Group Assignment Submission Criteria

Please strictly adhere the following assignment submission criteria, failing which your assignment will face rejection:

Group assignment filename: Sec A or B, group name or number, assignment title

Document submission criteria:

Font type Times roman

font size 12

line space 1.5

Well formatted with proper headings in APA format

Group members name on the title page along with sec, assignment tile