

Course Descriptions

POL 101 – Introduction to Political Science (Prerequisite: None)

This course aims at introducing the basic concepts and terminology such as the concept of politics, political science, the relationship between the politics science and other humanitarian sciences, the research methods in political science and the key concepts of the political science such as the state; its concept, origin and functions.

The course studies the basic ideas of some Greek and old Romans intellectuals and the most important intellectuals of the Renaissance, the Reformation and the modern era.

It also tackles the kinds of states, the forms of governments in addition to the issues of Political sociology such as the country relations with society, the study of political parties and public opinion, as well as the study of the principles of international relations and international politics, international regulation and international law.

POL 122 – Bahrain's Political System (Prerequisite: POL 101)

This course focuses on the political and historical events related to the emergence of the state of Bahrain and reviewing the most important political and constitutional events in Bahrain which affect the political system.

The course illustrates the roles of the three branches of government and their details and the authorities of the regime and how to make its internal and external policy. This course deals with the subject of functions of Bahrain political system.

POL 125 – Constitutional Law (Prerequisite: None)

This course deals with the study of the general theory of constitutional law, its definition and the applied rules and defines the Constitution and its relationship to other laws.

The course studies the sources of constitutional rule, the types of constitutions, the methods of creating constitutions, the value and importance of constitutions, the methods of control over the constitutionality of laws, amending constitution, applying the constitution, the development of the constitutional life in Bahrain and the relationship between the public authorities and the economic, social and political rights in the constitution of Bahrain.

POL 131 – Principles of International Relations (Prerequisite: None)

The course deals with the issues of the international community, its concepts, its patterns and the international determinants. This course tackles the international relations focusing on the types, concepts, contents, theories and approaches of the international relations.

The course discusses the international person and his/her role in the international arena and the impact of the new international variables on the performance of the United Nations. Also, the course tackles the characteristics of the political and economic globalization and the relationship between globalization and international reality.

POL 141 – Principles of Diplomacy (Prerequisite: None)

The course tackles the concept of diplomatic and historical development of diplomacy in ancient societies, medieval and modern ages, the definition of diplomat and consul and the similarities, the differences and coordination between the diplomatic and consular relations.

Also, the course deals with the study of the current situation of diplomacy within the international community, the terms of the exchange of diplomatic representation, and the stages of selecting the members of the diplomatic mission, furthermore, it investigates the diplomatic immunities and privileges, and the end of the diplomatic mission.

POL 211 - Ancient and Medieval Political Thought (Prerequisite: POL 101)

This course defines the environment of ancient, medieval, east and west political thought. Also, the course studies the models of senior intellectuals in the most important ancient civilizations such as China, India, Persia, Arab (before Islam) Greek and Roman civilizations, in addition to the Western Christian political thoughts before the Renaissance.

The course investigates the possibility to benefit from the previous-mentioned ages in order to use them in contemporary age In addition to the study of the main ideas of some Arab and Muslim intellectuals.

POL 221 – Comparative Political Systems (Prerequisite: POL 101)

This course deals with the study of the political systems from the perspective of the comparative analysis based on many modern theories in the classification of political systems. The course also focuses on the study of the characteristics of different political systems as presidential system, parliamentary system, Hybrid and parliamentary assembly. The course studies models applied to contemporary political systems as the American presidential system, the British parliamentary system, the Swiss federal system, the French system and other systems in the developing countries.

POL 232 – Theory of International Organization (Prerequisite: POL 131)

This course deals with the units of the international community and its individuals. The course focuses on the international organizations to highlight them in legal and functional aspects.

It also deals with the international and regional organizations in terms of their definition, objectives, membership, functions and effectiveness. The course focuses on some models as the United Nations, the League of Arab States and the European Common Market and its agencies.

POL 233 – Political Geography (Prerequisite: POL 131)

This course deals with the concepts of political geography and geopolitics, and the difference between these two issues. Also, the course tackles the research methods in geopolitics.

It tackles the components of the state as human and economic resources, the impact of these components on the political activities of the state and regional and international role.

It also deals with some international conflicts over water, borders and explains some of the practical aspects of the countries of the Middle East including the Arab world.

The course also tackles the geopolitical theories, their impact on countries' policies until the World War II and the geopolitical developments during and after the Cold War.

POL 246 – Neighboring Countries of the Arab World (Prerequisite: POL 131)

This course deals with the external orientations of neighboring countries toward the Arab countries. Furthermore, the course dissects the policies of the neighboring countries toward the Arab countries, and vice versa, and how the countries deal with the main issues: such as national security, border problems, water crisis, minorities, development and international trade.

POL 251 – Political Sociology (Prerequisite: POL 101)

This course deals with the study of the socio-political issues and concepts, the relationships between the state and the community, classes and political elites, the role of social institutions in the process of political decision-making and public opinion trends and factors affecting it, in addition to the study of social movements, political parties, lobbies, interests, political culture in the community, political socialization, bureaucratic and political ideology.

POL 252 – Political Development (Prerequisite: POL 101)

This course studies the issues of political development and modernization, in addition to the theories, dimensions and tools of political development and modernization. The course deals with everything related to the reality of political development in the developing world, the frameworks of democracy, political culture, political participation and institution-building in the state in addition to further topics related to the subject of the course.

POL 312 – Modern and Contemporary Political Thought (Prerequisite: POL 211)

This course deals with the evolution of political thought from the Renaissance age and the Reformation in Europe to the present time.

The course focuses on the study of social and political environment that contributes to the elaboration of the main ideas of the intellectuals of the modern and contemporary era, as well as the study of the main ideas of some Arab and Muslim intellectuals in the modern and contemporary era.

POL 313 – Political Theory (Prerequisite: POL 101)

This course deals with the models and theories that have been presented to understand and analyze the world of politics (national and international). It presents models, theories (behavioral and post-behavioral, structural, systemic functional and systemic communication) and the analysis tools.

POL 323 – Gulf Political Systems (Prerequisite: POL 101)

This course studies the political structures of the political system in the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) and focuses on the various authorities of the regime, its political institutions, and the environment of the political systems, the political decision-making, and the relationship between the public authorities.

The course tackles the legislative and regulatory processes in the political systems of the Gulf, furthermore, the course tackles the aspects of democratic change, development experiences and political reform. Furthermore, the course investigates the transformations of Gulf unity.

POL 324 – Arab Political Systems (Prerequisite: POL 101)

This course studies the historical, social and political frames of the Arab political systems. Furthermore, the course discusses the aspects of agreement and disagreement, the characteristics of the Arab political systems, the political and historical changes and the legitimacy and orientations of each system.

The course studies and analyzes a number of Arab political systems and tackles the scientific characteristics and criteria of the classification of the Arab political systems and the research methods in Arab political systems, in addition to the study of political parties, political groups and the map of elites in Arab political systems.

POL 326 – Electoral Systems (Prerequisite: POL 221)

This course deals with the studying and analyzing the electoral systems through studying the concepts and terminology related to the systems of voting, the foundations and the methods of election, preliminary procedures of the elections and the objectives, the types and forms of different voting systems. Also, the course tackles the most important electoral systems and their characteristics; the course includes studying the practical models of modern and contemporary electoral systems.

POL 342 – Comparative Foreign Policy (Prerequisite: POL 131)

This course includes the definition of Comparative foreign policy and research methods in this field and identifies the internal and external factors and determinants that affect the foreign policy-making.

The practical side of the course includes a comparative study of the foreign policies of the countries especially major powers towards some of the main issues in the international politics as restoring and building the international system and its institutions, the international Security, the environment, and human rights, in addition to a comparative study of foreign policy of the major international powers at the stages of the Cold War and post- cold War including the foreign policies of the United States, Russia, China, Japan, Germany and India, in addition to the Foreign policies of some other emerging powers.

POL 343 – Diplomacy in Theory and Practice (Prerequisite: POL 141)

The course deals with the study of the institutes of preparing diplomatic cadres, the art of diplomatic language, and the concept and functions of the diplomatic corps.

This course deals with the study of the arms of Foreign Relations of the state from both theoretical and practical aspects and investigates the following topics: the president of state, Prime Minister, Foreign Minister, others Minister, the Parliament, the leadership of the General Intelligence, permanent diplomatic missions and special diplomatic missions.

It also deals with the international conferences diplomacy and international organizations diplomacy, and then some diplomatic types such as: direct diplomacy, summit diplomacy, events diplomacy and secret diplomacy.

POL 353 – Political Parties (Prerequisite: POL 251)

This course aims to introduce the concept of the party, its inception, and the kinds of parties and investigates different parties systems: a one-party, bilateral party and multi-party system and the nature of the relationship between the parties and democracy. Furthermore, the course studies the scientific attempts to develop a general theory to describe the phenomenon of parties.

In addition, the course seeks to tackle the relationship between the political parties and civil society organizations, and the role of political parties in the Democratic Transition.

POL 361 – Approaches of Political Science (Prerequisite: BA 303)

The course deals with the study of the methods and approaches that are commonly used in political science through understanding the methods, tools and different concepts in political science in addition to the most important methods of political analysis.

This course tackles the theoretical bases of the field researches which are concerned with measuring and understanding the views and positions of individuals and groups. It also focuses on the development of abilities to use modern teaching techniques and how to write scientific researches.

This course is essential subject maid serves all other courses in the major and qualifies the students to prepare graduation research, writing reports and scientific research in his/her field after graduation.

POL362 – Internship (Prerequisite: 90 Credit Hours)

This course aims at providing trainees (students) with practical experiences and processes. The adopted method of distribution is to governmental and non-governmental institutions that are relevant to the field of political science and diplomacy in order to strengthen the trainees' practical abilities during the practical work in the field.

POL 366 – Special Topics in Political Science (Prerequisite: None)

This course deals with the study of the most important political issues in the twenty-first century and tackles the issues of sustainable development, national security, and human security.

This course also tackles the topics of political marketing, media and political transformations. Furthermore, the course seeks to tackle, from the scientific and realistic perspective, the issues of multiculturalism, political stability, immigration, asylum, migration and poverty.

This course also seeks to tackle the issue of women's empowerment and knowledge-based society from a political perspective.

POL 414 – Contemporary Political Ideologies (Prerequisite: POL 312)

This course deals with a number of issues about the ideology: concept, features, functions, and the nature of the state ideology, the criteria of classifying ideologies, ideas and political role in the communities and evaluating the political use of ideology. The course also tackles a number of contemporary ideologies as liberalism, socialism, communism, fascism, nationalism, etc. and their major pioneers.

POL 434 – Theories of the International Relations (Prerequisite: POL 131)

This course deals with the theoretical frameworks and concepts related to the international relations in the various stages of the evolution of the international system.

It focuses on the scientific theory of the international community through distinguishing between the traditional thought and the modern theories and by studying the relevant schools of thoughts and their various theories.

POL 435 – Contemporary International Issues (Prerequisite: POL 131)

The course tackles the process of monitoring a number of issues that represent the changes in the international political reality and other issues as the international war on terror, the issues of disarmament and nonproliferation, human rights issues, humanitarian and military intervention, the issues of poverty, environment and development in developing countries, the issues of water and energy, the issues of armed conflict and global financial crises.

The concept "contemporary" refers to the period which extends beyond the end of the Cold War and its implications in addition to the globalization and the events of 11th of September.

[POL 436 – International Crisis Management \(Prerequisite: POL 131\)](#)

This course defines the concept and the management of international crisis and the related concepts. Furthermore, the course investigates the international crises in the light of political contemporary developments whether at international system or the interactions between the influential forces in the framework of international relations keeping in mind the contemporary international crises and their classification. Also, the course discusses the methods of managing and evaluating the international crises and trying to predict the future for the existing international crises that may rise in the next stage

[POL 444 – Bahrain Foreign Policy \(Prerequisite: POL 131\)](#)

The aim of this course is to study and analyze Bahrain foreign policy based on the scientific methodology which requires the student familiarity with some science concepts related to the subject and the methodology used in this area. After that we apply this methodology on the foreign policy of the Kingdom of Bahrain, then study and analyze the environment of Bahrain foreign policy.

The course identifies the determinants of Bahrain foreign policy and the process and tools of creating it. Then the course tackles some related issues and the regional and international role of Bahrain foreign policy and determines the criteria of evaluating and foreseeing the future.

[POL 445 – Readings in Diplomacy E \(Prerequisite: POL 343 + ENG 102\)](#)

The course deals with the origins of diplomacy and the evolution of its issues, concepts and terminology as a sub discipline of the International relations. It deals also with the broad lines of diplomacy: objectives and means, as well as, its institutions in ancient, medieval, and modern eras.

[POL 463 – Readings in Politics E \(Prerequisite: ENG 102\)](#)

This course handles the international political term by studying and explaining the political concepts and the way they are used by presenting the update concepts of national policy and international politics.

[POL 464 – Applied Research in Political Sciences \(Prerequisite: POL362\)](#)

This course seeks to enable the student to use the curriculum and research methods in studying issues related to political science, and therefore it enables the student to collect, divide and analyze data in order to achieve scientific findings on the targeted topics. The course aims at raising the level of efficiency of research for students and opens horizons in front of them. It has a mix of the two: theory and practice, so as to contribute to enriching the educational process in the field of political science.

[POL 465 – Ethics in Politics \(Prerequisite: POL 101\)](#)

The course covers the concept of ethics in relation to the concept of politics and behaviors stemming from the political system of values and the relationship between ethics and social values and political behavior.

The course also deals with the study of the relationship between ethics and politics and the politics approaches of morality, immorality and moderate.

The course tackles the institutional dimension of the moral values in political practice, such as civil society institutions as human rights organizations, institutions of democracy, and the application of social justice.

[POL 467 – Strategic Studies \(Prerequisite: POL 101\)](#)

This course deals with the concepts and meanings of strategy from theoretical and practical aspects. Also, the course discusses different strategic theories and reviews, the types of strategy, methods of strategic analysis and multiple security concepts. The course focuses on the strategic planning of the issues of national unity, media, public opinion, development, national security and international politics and discussing case studies.