

POLS 3388: Lobbying and Interest Groups

3 Credit Hours

Prerequisite: POLS 1101

This course familiarizes students with public sector lobbying and the role of interest groups in a democratic society. The processes, procedures, and techniques of lobbying government entities will be examined in depth, as well as the issue concerns and persuasion strategies of interest groups. The course will focus on applied learning, and will help prepare students for employment in professional political environments.

POLS 3390: Political Research On-Line

3 Credit Hours

Prerequisite: POLS 1101

This course will help students become familiar with and adept at using on-line resources to perform political and governmental research. Students will be coached on using Internet tools and processes to improve their ability to find and use political and governmental information. Students will be assessed on their proficiency in on-line political research.

POLS 3394: Public Opinion

3 Credit Hours

Prerequisite: POLS 1101

This course introduces students to the techniques and uses of polls and surveys in political science and public policy. Students will learn the art of questionnaire design, questionnaire construction, sampling, data collection, coding, and analysis. Students will learn the basics of telephone survey techniques and focus group moderation for the purposes of collecting information. Class projects may include the construction and implementation of a survey, reading and critiquing existing surveys and questionnaires. Quantitative and qualitative approaches will be examined.

POLS 3396: Cooperative Study

1-3 Credit Hours

Prerequisite: POLS 1101; approval of the department chair and coordinator of cooperative education/internship (Career Services).

A supervised work experience program in business, industry or government. For sophomore, junior or senior level students who wish to obtain successive on the job experience in conjunction with their academic training.