

Las Positas College  
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## Course Outline for POLI 45

### SELECTED TOPICS IN POLITICAL SCIENCE

Effective: Fall 2001

#### I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

POLI 45 — SELECTED TOPICS IN POLITICAL SCIENCE — 2.00 - 3.00 units

An examination of a current topic/issue in Political Science, including such areas as international relations, economic/social policy issues, comparative government, elections and political parties, political theory and American foreign affairs, with emphasis on an examination of public policy alternatives. Topics/areas of study will vary with class offering, designed to meet the interests of students. Strongly recommended: A college course in Political Science and/or American History.

2.00 - 3.00 Units Lecture

#### Grading Methods:

#### Discipline:

	<u>MIN</u>	<u>MAX</u>
<b>Lecture Hours:</b>	36.00	54.00
<b>Total Hours:</b>	36.00	54.00

#### II. NUMBER OF TIMES COURSE MAY BE TAKEN FOR CREDIT: 1

#### III. PREREQUISITE AND/OR ADVISORY SKILLS:

#### IV. MEASURABLE OBJECTIVES:

**Upon completion of this course, the student should be able to:**

1. be able to understand the political, economic and societal factors which define the issues under study
2. analyze and evaluate the public policy alternatives and make clear distinctions among competing public policy choices
3. apply the analytical tools of Political Science in the area of study
4. develop viable policy choices

#### V. CONTENT:

- A. Depending upon the topic under study, the course will offer an opportunity for an indepth study of public policy issues, with emphasis on the use of the analytical tools of Political Science. Possible topics include: international relations, economic/social policy issues, comparative government, elections and political parties, political theory and American foreign affairs and others which may be developed to meet the needs/interest of students.

#### VI. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

- A. guided readings
- B. **Discussion** - classroom discussions
- C. **Lecture** -
- D. **Audio-visual Activity** - appropriate audio/visual media
- E. **Projects** - outside projects and possible simulations will be used

#### VII. TYPICAL ASSIGNMENTS:

#### VIII. EVALUATION:

##### A. **Methods**

1. Exams/Tests
2. Papers
3. Oral Presentation
4. Class Participation
5. Other:
  - a. The basis of evaluation are the quality of critical essays written by the student, participation in classroom activities, class presentations and midterm and final examinations.

##### B. **Frequency**

b

#### IX. TYPICAL TEXTS:

1. Selected textbook and/or collection of readings will vary with topic under study.

X. OTHER MATERIALS REQUIRED OF STUDENTS: