THE EDUCATION UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

Course Outline

Part I

Programme Title	: Bachelor of Education (Honours); All undergraduate programmes
Programme QF Level	: 5
Course Title	: Introduction to Political Science
Course Code	: SSC1147
Department	: Social Sciences and Policy Studies
Credit Points	: 3
Contact Hours	: 39
Pre-requisite(s)	: Nil
Medium of Instruction	: EMI
Course Level	: 1

Part II

The University's Graduate Attributes and seven Generic Intended Learning Outcomes (GILOs) represent the attributes of ideal EdUHK graduates and their expected qualities respectively. Learning outcomes work coherently at the University (GILOs), programme (Programme Intended Learning Outcomes) and course (Course Intended Learning Outcomes) levels to achieve the goal of nurturing students with important graduate attributes.

In gist, the Graduate Attributes for Sub-degree, Undergraduate, Taught Postgraduate, Professional Doctorate and Research Postgraduate students consist of the following three domains (i.e. in short "PEER & I"):
- **P**rofessional **E**xcellence;
- **E**thical **R**esponsibility; **&**
- **I**nnovation.

The descriptors under these three domains are different for the three groups of students in order to reflect the respective level of Graduate Attributes.

The seven GILOs are:
1. Problem Solving Skills
2. Critical Thinking Skills
3. Creative Thinking Skills
4a. Oral Communication Skills
4b. Written Communication Skills
5. Social Interaction Skills
6. Ethical Decision Making
7. Global Perspectives

1. **Course Synopsis**

    This course is designed to provide students with basic knowledge in political science in preparation for their study of more advanced courses. It offers an introduction to the key arguments in major political theories and ideologies, regime types, political parties and interest groups, political values and participation, governmental institutions, the policy process, and international relations in this globalized world. Through lecture, case study and group discussion, students are expected to gain a critical understanding of the major issues and topics in the field of political science.

2. **Course Intended Learning Outcomes** (CILOs)

    Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

    CILO$_1$ examine critically the basic features and theories of political science.

    CILO$_2$ understand the nature and functioning of political system of different forms.

    CILO$_3$ apply political concepts and theories to understand real-world political issues in both local and international contexts.

    CILO$_4$ develop critical thinking skills using multiple perspectives.

3. **Content, CILOs and Teaching & Learning Activities**

Course Content	CILOs	Suggested Teaching & Learning Activities
Political science as a social science discipline, its history and basic methodological approaches: institutionalism, pluralism and rationalism	*CILO$_1$*	• Textual inquiry • Group discussion
Political ideologies: liberalism, conservatism, socialism communism and critical perspectives like green thoughts and feminism	*CILO$_1$*	• Textual inquiry • Group discussion
Political institutions and process in democratic contexts; electoral system and political parties	*CILO$_2$*	• Textual inquiry • Group discussion
Alternative political systems: authoritarianism and totalitarianism	*CILO$_2$*	• Textual inquiry • Group discussion
Political participation, civil society, mass media and the internet	*CILO$_{1, 2}$*	• Textual inquiry • Group discussion • Case studies • discussion of local and international contexts
Public policy making theories and models	*CILO$_{1, 3}$*	• Textual inquiry • Case studies of different policy domains and national contexts
Political economy: economic development and welfare politics	*CILO$_{3, 4}$*	• Textual inquiry • Group discussion
Globalization and international relations: major theoretical outlooks of global order	*CILO$_{3, 4}$*	• Textual inquiry • Group discussion

4. Assessment

Assessment Tasks	Weighting (%)	CILO
Class participation and presentation	25 %	CILO $_{1,2,3,4}$
Final examination	35 %	CILO $_{1,2,3,4}$
Two short papers	40 %	CILO $_{1,2,3,4}$

5. Required Texts

Heywood, A (2013). *Politics*. London: Palgrave.

6. Recommended Readings

Baylis, John et al., eds. 2019. *The Globalization of World Politics*. 8th ed. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Hague, Rod, Martin Harrop and John McCormick. 2019. *Comparative Government and Politics: An Introduction*. London: Red Globe Press.

Heywood, Andrew. 2015. *Key Concepts in Politics and International Relations (2nd Edition)*. London: Palgrave.

Kurian, George Thomas, ed. 2011. *The Encyclopedia of Political Science*. Washington: CQ Press.

Lui, Tai-Lok, Stephen W.K. Chiu & Ray Yep, ed. 2018. *Routledge Handbook of Contemporary Hong Kong*. London: Routledge.

Peters, Guy. 2010. *The Politics of Bureaucracy*. 6th ed. N.Y.: Routledge.

Peters, Guy. 2015. *Advanced Introduction to Public Policy*. Cheltenham, UK: Edward Elgar.

Woll, Jonathan. 2016. *An Introduction to Political Philosophy*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

7. Related Web Resources

Asian Development Bank (https://www.adb.org/)

Brookings Institution (https://www.brookings.edu/)

Carnegie Endowment for International Peace (https://carnegieendowment.org/)

Chatham House, UK (https://www.chathamhouse.org/)

CSIS, Georgetown University (https://www.csis.org)

Council of Foreign Relations (https://www.cfr.org/)

European Council of Foreign Relations (https://www.ecfr.eu/)

McKinsey & Company (https://www.mckinsey.com/featured-insights)

OECD (https://www.oecd.org/)

OECD Governance (http://www.oecd.org/governance/)

UNDP (https://www.undp.org/)

World Bank Development Indicators
  (https://databank.worldbank.org/source/world-development-indicators)

World Bank Governance Indicators (https://info.worldbank.org/governance/wgi/)

8. Related Journals
Asian Survey
China Journal
China Quarterly
China Review
Chinese Journal of International Politics
Chinese Leadership Monitor
Chinese Public Administration Review
Comparative Politics
Comparative Political Studies
European Journal of Political Research
Foreign Affairs
Foreign Policy
Global Policy
Governance
International Relations of the Asia-Pacific
Journal of Contemporary Asia
Journal of Contemporary China
Journal of East Asian Studies
Journal of International Affairs
Journal of Public Policy
International Affairs
International Organization
International Security
Millennium: Journal of International Studies
Pacific Affairs
Pacific Review
Public Administration
Public Administration Review
Third World Quarterly
SAIS Review
The Washington Quarterly
World Development
World Politics

9. **Academic Honesty**
   The University upholds the principles of honesty in all areas of academic work. We expect our students to carry out all academic activities honestly and in good faith. Please refer to the *Policy on Academic Honesty, Responsibility and Integrity* (https://www.eduhk.hk/re/uploads/docs/00000000016336798924548BbN5). Students should familiarize themselves with the Policy.

10. **Others**
    China Daily
    The Economist
    Financial Times
    Global Times
    New York Times
    South China Morning Post
    Wall Street Journal

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