Add Course Request

Submitted on: 2011-11-11 14:59:10

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1. COURSE SUBJECT</th>
<th>Pols</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2. COURSE NUMBER</td>
<td>2607W</td>
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<tr>
<td>(OR PROPOSED NUMBER)</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. COURSE TITLE</td>
<td>American Political Parties</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. INITIATING DEPARTMENT or UNIT</td>
<td>Political Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. NAME OF SUBMITTER</td>
<td>Matthew Singer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. PHONE of SUBMITTER</td>
<td>Phone: +1 860 486 2615</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. EMAIL of SUBMITTER</td>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:matthew.m.singer@uconn.edu">matthew.m.singer@uconn.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. CONTACT PERSON</td>
<td>Matthew Singer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. UNIT NUMBER of CONTACT PERSON (U-BOX)</td>
<td>1024</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. PHONE of contact person</td>
<td>Phone: 6-2615</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. EMAIL of of contact person</td>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:matthew.m.singer@uconn.edu">matthew.m.singer@uconn.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>12. Departmental Approval Date</td>
<td>10/12/2011</td>
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<tr>
<td>13. School/College Approval Date</td>
<td>10/25/2011</td>
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<td>14. Names and Dates of additional Department and School/College approvals</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>15. Proposed Implementation Date</td>
<td>Term: Summer, Year: 2012</td>
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<td>16. Offered before next printed catalog is distributed?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<td>17. General Education Content Area</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>18. General Education Skill Code (W/Q). Any non-W section?</td>
<td>W Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>19. Terms Offered</td>
<td>Semester: Fall Spring Summer Year:</td>
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<td>20. Sections</td>
<td>Sections Taught: 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21. Student Number</td>
<td>Students/Sections: 19</td>
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<td>22. Clarification:</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>23. Number of Credits</td>
<td>3 if VAR Min: Max:</td>
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<tr>
<td>(if VAR Min: Max: credits each term</td>
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<td>24. INSTRUCTIONAL PATTERN</td>
<td>Either two or three class periods a week, depending upon the semester being taught and department scheduling.</td>
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25. Will this course be taught in a language other than English? No

26. Please list any prerequisites, recommended preparation or suggested preparation: ENGL 1010 or 1011 or 3800, Pols 1602

27. Is Instructor, Dept. Head or Unit Consent Required? No

28. Permissions and Exclusions:
Open only to Majors

29. Is this course repeatable for credit? If yes, total credits allowed: If yes, allow multiple enrollments in same term? No

30. Grading Basis Graded

31. If satisfactory/unsatisfactory grading is proposed, please provide rationale:

32. Will the course or any sections of the course be taught as Honors? AsHonors

33. Additional Details:

34. Special Attributes:

35. REGIONAL CAMPUS AVAILABILITY:
It could be taught at the other regional campuses if staffing allows it, but the primary instructor for the course who designed it will be in residence in Storrs.

36. PROVIDE THE PROPOSED TITLE AND COMPLETE CATALOG COPY:

POLS 2607 American Political Parties
Either semester. Three credits. Prerequisite: POLS 1602.
Analysis of the aims, organization, and growth of parties in the United States.

POLS 2607 W American Political Parties
Either semester. Three credits. Prerequisite: POLS 1602.

37. RATIONALE FOR ACTION REQUESTED
Pols 2607 already exists and is taught by Dr. Ron Schurin. Ron would like to teach a W version of his course, which in a major short of W offerings we need. It is numbered at the 2000 level to allow sophomores to enroll, although the demand from juniors and seniors will likely be high enough that there will be few seats left for lower classmen. This course does not change our staffing and has no effect on other departments or regional campuses.

38. SYLLABUS:

Online URL: (https://web2.uconn.edu/senateform/request/course_uploads/mas07010-1321041550-POLS 2607W_Abbreviated syllabus.docx)

39. Course Information: ALL General Education courses, including W and Q courses,
MUST answer this question

a. Course Objectives: This course focuses on the history, structure, role and scope of political parties in the United States. Students will learn what parties are and the various roles they play in American politics. They will also discuss whether reforms to the party system should be made and whether the current party system meets the ideals espoused in democratic theory.

b. Course Requirements: There is a cumulative final exam that will be taken in class and consistent of short answers and essays. Students are also graded on several writing assignments, including a weekly journal (which is not revised and does not constitute part of the W requirements), a short (3-5 page) paper describing one of roles parties play, a book review, and a 15-page term paper. In the process of writing the paper students will prepare a topic proposal, an outline, and a bibliography before producing the first draft. The final draft will be submitted after receiving feedback from peer review and the instructor and making revisions. The short paper and book review will also be revised following instructor comments. Students who do not pass the research paper will not pass the class.

Major themes: What is a party? What roles should parties play? The history of political parties in the United States. Party organization. The role of activists and donors. Why are there no major third parties.

40. Goals of General Education: All Courses Proposed for a Gen Ed Content Area MUST answer this question

41. Content Area and/or Competency Criteria: ALL General Education courses, including W and Q courses, MUST answer this question.: Specific Criteria

a. Arts and Humanities:
   b. Social Sciences:
   c. Science and Technology:
      i. Laboratory:
   d. Diversity and Multiculturalism:
      43. International:
   e. Q course:
   f. W course:

The papers and book report allow the students to explore more in depth the historical themes and theories discussed in the reading. Papers are graded on content and quality, and written elements comprise 70 percent of the overall grade. Students who do not pass the writing component (and in particular the term paper) will not pass the class.

The course will teach writing and research skills, using a text on writing term papers in political science as the basis of classroom instruction on the research process and then both guided peer feedback and instructor feedback on required first drafts. Students are expected to revise their drafts before final submission and grading.

42. RESOURCES:
Sample Syllabus (abbreviated)
Political Science 2607W—American Political Parties

Overview
This course focuses on the history, structure, role and scope of political parties in the United States. As we proceed we will raise and try to answer the following questions:
   1. What is a political party?
   2. What kind of parties does the United States have? What kind should we have?
   3. What special role do parties play in our Constitutional system?
   4. How has our party system changed over time?
   5. Do parties play a positive or a negative role in American governance?
   6. Should our system be reformed? If so, how?

Requirements
(NOTE: Students must pass the “W” component of the course in order to pass the course, and the “W” component constitutes a majority of the course grade. “W” assignments are noted with an asterisk*)
   1. Weekly journal 10% of final grade
   2. Short paper, analyzing a theoretical concept relating to parties* 20% of final grade
   3. Book review* 10% of final grade
      A critique of a relevant book of your choice.
   4. 15-page term paper* 40% of final grade
      Students are required to prepare a topic proposal, an outline, a bibliography, and first draft. Students will receive instructor and peer suggestions and criticisms on this draft and will then rewrite and submit a revised (final) paper based on those suggestions and criticisms. Students may also present their findings to the class at the end of the semester.
   5. Final exam 20% of final grade

Sample Readings
Course Topics
Introduction; review of syllabus and assignments
What is a political party?
What should a political party be?
Parties and the American Constitution
The evolution of the American party system: initial stages
Seeds—and theories—of party dissolution
Parties in the Civil War era
Party politics as tribal combat: Parties in the Gilded Age
The System of 1896: Business, labor, and farmers
The Progressives and the anti-party movement
“The Politics of Upheaval”: the 1928/32/36 realignment (1)
“The Politics of Upheaval” (2)
The New Deal coalition in the postwar years
The 1960s and beyond: realignment, dealignment, or what? The early conservative movement
The 1960s and beyond: The “new politics” and the left
Reagan, Bush (I) and Clinton
Bush (II) and the 51% strategy
Obama: The Democratic triumph; the conservative resurgence
Party organization
The party in the electorate: activists and others
The nominating process
Campaign dynamics and strategies
Money and politics
The “party in government”: the Presidency
The “party in government”: Congress
Third parties in American politics
Political parties in Connecticut