

POL-1020: STATE & LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Cuyahoga Community College

Viewing: POL-1020 : State & Local Government

Board of Trustees:

January 2023

Academic Term:

Fall 2023

Subject Code

POL - Political Science

Course Number:

1020

Title:

State & Local Government

Catalog Description:

Examination of state and local governments within the United States federal system. Intergovernmental relations and dynamics of the electoral process, including impacts of public policy decisions on individual lives. Several policy areas may be studied.

Credit Hour(s):

3

Lecture Hour(s):

3

Lab Hour(s):

0

Other Hour(s):

0

Requisites

Prerequisite and Corequisite

ENG-0995 Applied College Literacies, or appropriate score on English Placement Test; or departmental approval.

Note: ENG-0990 Language Fundamentals II taken prior to Fall 2021 will also meet prerequisite requirements.

Outcomes

Course Outcome(s):

Critique, interpret and understand the state and local political process.

Essential Learning Outcome Mapping:

Civic Responsibility: Analyze the results of actions and inactions with the likely effects on the larger local and/or global communities.

Objective(s):

1. Discuss the development and purpose of federalism in the United States.
 2. Define the primary responsibilities of state constitutions.
 3. Define the primary responsibilities of the legislative, executive, and judicial branches.
 4. Assess the role, effectiveness, and influence of the two-party system on the political process.
 5. Assess the role, effectiveness, and influence of the interest group system on the political process.
 6. Discuss and evaluate how citizens interact with political parties and interest groups.
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Course Outcome(s):

Examine the impact of state and local government on individuals' daily lives.

Essential Learning Outcome Mapping:

Civic Responsibility: Analyze the results of actions and inactions with the likely effects on the larger local and/or global communities.

Objective(s):

1. Examine issues and trends in state policy-making.
 2. Critique the ability of state and local government to provide and deliver services.
 3. Assess citizen political attitudes and participation.
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Course Outcome(s):

Investigate the complex nature of intergovernmental relations.

Essential Learning Outcome Mapping:

Civic Responsibility: Analyze the results of actions and inactions with the likely effects on the larger local and/or global communities.

Objective(s):

1. Discuss and evaluate state-local distribution of authority.
 2. Assess the inherent features of federal-state-local relations.
 3. Cultivate the ability to critique the overall efficiency of federal-state-local relations.
 4. Discuss and evaluate federal-state distribution of authority.
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Course Outcome(s):

Explore contemporary state level policy issues.

Essential Learning Outcome Mapping:

Civic Responsibility: Analyze the results of actions and inactions with the likely effects on the larger local and/or global communities.

Objective(s):

Discuss specific areas of focus covered in class, which may vary and can include finance, taxation, budgeting, civil rights, education, transportation, welfare, housing and urban development, crime and corrections, economic development, health care, urban sprawl, etc.

Methods of Evaluation:

- a. Comprehensive exams
- b. Chapter quizzes
- c. Participation in class discussions
- d. Book reviews
- e. Group projects
- f. Research papers
- g. Oral presentations
- h. Assignments deemed appropriate by the course instructor

Course Content Outline:

- a. Foundations
 - i. Comparative method
 - ii. Culture
 - iii. Ideology
- b. Federalism and intergovernmental relations
 - i. Principles of federalism
 - ii. Structure of federalism
 - iii. Evolution of federalism
 - iv. Federal-state-local relations
- c. State constitutions

- i. The evolution of constitutions
 - ii. Formal and informal methods of constitutional change
- d. Political attitudes and participation
 - i. Public opinion
 - ii. Voting and voting rights
 - iii. Elections
 - iv. Voter turnout
 - v. Initiatives, referendums and recall
- e. Political parties and interest groups
 - i. Two party system
 - ii. Membership
 - iii. Regulation
 - iv. Techniques and dynamics
- f. Campaigns
 - i. Primaries
 - ii. General elections
- g. Legislatures
 - i. Functions
 - ii. Structure and powers
 - iii. Apportionment and districting
- h. The Executive Branch
 - i. Powers of governors
 - ii. Other executive offices
 - iii. Bureaucracy
- i. The State court systems
 - i. Structure
 - ii. Jurisdiction and powers
 - iii. Judicial selection
 - iv. Prosecution and defense
- j. State-level policymaking
 - i. Areas of focus may include finance, taxation, budgeting, civil rights, education, transportation, welfare, housing and urban development, crime and corrections, economic development, health care, urban sprawl, etc.
- k. Local Government
 - i. Types and functions
 - ii. Executive and legislative functions

Resources

Berman, David R. *State and Local Politics*. 9th. New York: Routledge, 2015.

Bowman, Ann and Richard Kearney. *State and Local Government*. 11th ed. Boston: Wadsworth, Cengage Learning, 2021.

Cosling and Dresang. *Politics and Policy in American States and Communities*. 8th. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson Education, Inc., 2013.

Robertson, David Brian. *Federalism and the Making of America*. 2nd ed. New York: Routledge, 2018.

Dinan, John J. *The American State Constitutional Tradition*. 4th. Kansas: University Press of Kansas, 2006.

Smith, Kevin and Greenblatt, Alan. *Governing States and Localities: The Essentials*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage/CQ Press, 2015.

Srcacic, Paul and Binning, William. *Ohio Government and Politics*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage/CQ Press, 2016.

Stinebrickner, Bruce ed. "Annual Editions: State and Local Government"

Lieskie, Joel. "American State Cultures: Testing a New Measure and Theory" 42. 2010-12-31 22:00:00.0.

Shor, Boris and McCarty, Nolan. "The Ideological Mapping of American Legislatures" 105. 2011-07-31 22:00:00.0.

Miller, Susan, Nicholson-Crotty, Jill and Nicholson-Crotty, Sean. "Re-Examining the Institutional Effects of Term Limits in U.S. State Legislatures" 36. 2010-12-31 22:00:00.0.

Stein, Robert M. and Vonnahme, Greg. "Engaging the Unengaged Voter: Vote Centers and Voter Turnout" 70. 2008. April.

Hastings, Jeff and Cann, Damon. "Ballot Titles and Voter Decision Making on Ballot Questions" 46. 2014. June.

"Voting Outside the Polling Place: Absentee, All-Mail and other Voting at Home Options," National Conference of State Legislatures, March 14, 2022. <https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/absentee-and-early-voting.aspx>

Audiovisual. *"The King Fish", A biographical examination of one of America's most controversial governors, Louisiana Governor Huey Long*. A&E Biography, February 7, 2000.

Resources Other

- a. **The Ohio Legislature.** www.legislature.ohio.gov (<http://www.legislature.ohio.gov>)
 - i. Legislature: directory, leadership, district maps
 - ii. Committees: House, Senate, Joint
 - iii. Laws: codes and constitution
- b. **Governor, State of Ohio.** <https://governor.ohio.gov>
 - i. Executive leadership, cabinet, and committees
 - ii. Initiatives and priorities
 - iii. News releases, executive orders,
- c. **Ohio Supreme Court.** www.supremecourt.ohio.gov (<http://www.supremecourt.ohio.gov>)
 - i. Court justices, Ohio laws, civic education
- d. Relevant titles as deemed appropriate by the course instructor.

Instructional Services

OAN Number:

Ohio Transfer 36 TMSBS and Transfer Assurance Guide OSS014

Top of page

Key: 3694