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Introduction to Political Science

North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University

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COURSE SYLLABUS

College Name: College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences
Department Name: Department of History and Political Science
Course Name: Introduction to Political Science

COURSE INFORMATION

- Course Number/Section: POLI 100
- Term:
- Semester Credit Hours: 3
- Times and Days:
- Class Location:

INSTRUCTOR CONTACT INFORMATION

- Instructor:
- Office Location:
- Office Phone:
- Email Address:

Faculty must notify students of the approximate time and method they can expect to receive an answer to all communications (e.g., email, phone, course messages). Excluding holidays, the response should be provided within 48 hours.

If there's a graduate teaching assistant assigned to work with this course, please include their names also.

STUDENT HOURS

These are times students may visit the professor without an appointment to request the assistance they need.

NOTE: Students are responsible for reading, understanding, and following the syllabus.

: AM / PM – : AM / PM

Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday

COURSE PREREQUISITES

None

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is an introduction to major concepts in political science including political culture, socialization, ideologies, institutions, processes, public policy, human rights, and interaction among nations.

STUDENT LEARNING OBJECTIVES/OUTCOMES (SLO)

Learning outcomes should be specific, measurable, and focused on the content knowledge the students are expected to master and not what the faculty will teach.

If the course is a General Education Course, the SLO should be listed and labeled as "General Education."

SLO 1: Develop an understanding of the concept and importance of politics as well as its application to the wider world.

SLO 2: Develop an awareness of the socio-cultural (e.g.-class, ethnicity, gender, religion) complexities that influence politics and the field of Political Science.

SLO 3: Learn to differentiate between the various fields of Political Science.

SLO 4: Explore opportunities related to the field of Political Science and/or the study of politics.

SLO 5: Learn to identify arguments in newspaper articles and scholarly journal articles.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS AND MATERIALS

Any course-level subscriptions and tools linked in Blackboard Learn learning management system (LMS) should be listed here. The Blackboard LMS must have links to their student data privacy statement.

REQUIRED TEXTS:

Kevin L. Dooley and Joseph Patten (2020). Why Politics Matters: An Introduction to Political Science, Wadsworth Publishing

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

SUGGESTED COURSE MATERIALS

SUGGESTED READINGS/TEXTS:

SUGGESTED MATERIALS:

GRADING POLICY

ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING POLICY

94% and above	A		76% - 74%	C
93% - 90%	A-		73% - 70%	C-
89% - 87%	B+		69% - 67%	D+
86% - 84%	B		66% - 64%	D
83% - 80%	B-		63% - 60%	F
79% - 77%	C+			

For GRADUATE COURSES: See 2019-2020 Graduate Catalog p.38 for graduate grading scale and Non-Graded Courses

GRADING ALLOCATION

Course grades are based on a weighted grading scale of 100%. The breakdown for the course is as follows: *[Faculty, please adjust according to your course.]*

Category	# of Activities	Percentage Grade Weight
Discussion Boards	13	42.9
Final Discussion	1	2.1
Tests	4	40
Analytical Paper	1	15
Total	19	100%

COURSE POLICIES

USE OF BLACKBOARD AS THE LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Blackboard is the primary online instructional and course communications platform. Students can access the course syllabus, assignments, grades, and learner support resources. Students are encouraged to protect their login credentials, complete a Blackboard orientation, and log in daily to the course.

Note: Uploading assignments through Blackboard presents a challenge for Chromebook users in locating the files for submission. If you use a Chromebook, please be sure you also have access to a Mac computer or Windows computer so you can fully participate in your Blackboard class. For more information about student computer recommendations, please visit <https://hub.ncat.edu/administration/its/computer-recommendations.php>.

MAKE-UP EXAMS

See << Update Academic Year >> *Undergraduate Bulletin*:

<https://www.ncat.edu/provost/academic-affairs/bulletins/index.php>

**For GRADUATE STUDENTS: See 2019-20 Graduate Catalog p. 54
EXTRA CREDIT**

LATE WORK

SPECIAL ASSIGNMENTS

For GRADUATE STUDENTS: FAILING TO MEET COURSE REQUIREMENTS (Graduate Catalog p.40)

For GRADUATE STUDENTS: CLASS ATTENDANCE (see 2019-20 Graduate Catalog p. 53-54)

Students are expected to attend class and participate on a regular basis in order to successfully achieve course learning outcomes and meet federal financial aid requirements ([34 CFR 668.22](#)). Class attendance in online courses is defined as active participation in academically-related course activities. Active participation may consist of course interactions with the content, classmates, and/or the instructor. Examples of academically-related course activities include, but are not limited to:

- Completing and submitting assignments, quizzes, exams, and other activities within Blackboard or through Blackboard (3rd-party products).
- Participating in course-related synchronous online chats, discussions, or meeting platforms such as Blackboard Collaborate in which participation is tracked.

CLASSROOM CITIZENSHIP

Courtesy, civility, and respect must be the hallmark of your interactions.

COMPLIANCE WITH THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

North Carolina A&T State University is committed to following the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act (ADAAA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. If you need an academic accommodation based on the impact of a disability, you must initiate the request with the Office of Accessibility Resources (OARS) and provide documentation in accordance with the Documentation Guidelines at N.C. A&T. Once documentation is received, it will be reviewed. Once approved, you must attend a comprehensive meeting to receive appropriate and reasonable accommodations. If you are a student registered with OARS, you must complete the Accommodation Request Form to have accommodations sent to faculty.

OARS is located in Murphy Hall, Suite 01 and can be reached at 336-334-7765, or by email at accessibilityresources@ncat.edu. Additional information and forms can be found on the internet at <https://www.ncat.edu/provost/academic-affairs/accessibility-resources/index.php>.

Please note: Accommodations are not retroactive and begin once the Disability Verification Form is provided to faculty.

TITLE IX

North Carolina A&T State University is committed to providing a safe learning environment for all students—free of all forms of discrimination and harassment. Sexual misconduct and relationship violence in any form are inconsistent with the university’s mission and core values, violates university policies, and may also violate federal and state law. Faculty members are considered “Responsible Employees” and are required to report incidents of sexual misconduct and relationship violence to the Title IX Coordinator. If you or someone you know has been impacted by sexual harassment, sexual assault, dating or domestic violence, or stalking, please visit the Title IX website to access information about university support and resources. If you would like to speak with someone confidentially, please contact Counseling Services at 336-334-7727 or the Student Health Center at 336-334-7880.

TECHNICAL SUPPORT

If you experience any problems with your A&T account, you may call Client Technology Services (formerly Aggie Tech Support and Help Desk) at 336-334-7195, or visit <https://hub.ncat.edu/administration/its/dept/ats/index.php>.

FIELD TRIP POLICIES / OFF-CAMPUS INSTRUCTION AND COURSE ACTIVITIES

If applicable:

Off-campus, out-of-state, foreign instruction, and activities are subject to state law and university policies and procedures regarding travel and risk-related activities. Information regarding these rules and regulations may be found at <https://www.ncat.edu/campus-life/student-affairs/index.php>.

STUDENT HANDBOOK

<https://www.ncat.edu/campus-life/student-affairs/departments/dean-of-students/student-handbook.php>

STUDENT TRAVEL PROCEDURES AND STUDENT TRAVEL ACTIVITY WAIVER

https://hub.ncat.edu/administration/student-affairs/staff-resources/studen_activity_travel_waiver.pdf

OTHER POLICIES (e.g., Copyright Guidelines, Confidentiality, etc.)

STUDENT HANDBOOK

<https://www.ncat.edu/campus-life/student-affairs/departments/dean-of-students/student-handbook.php>

[Graduate Catalog](#)

SEXUAL MISCONDUCT POLICY

<https://www.ncat.edu/legal/title-ix/sexual-harassment-and-misconduct-policies/index.php>

FAMILY EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS AND PRIVACY ACT (FERPA)

<https://www.ncat.edu/registrar/ferpa.php>

STUDENT COMPLAINT PROCEDURES

<https://www.ncat.edu/current-students/student-complaint-form.php>

STUDENT CONDUCT AND DISCIPLINE

North Carolina A&T State University has rules and regulations that govern student conduct and discipline meant to ensure the orderly and efficient conduct of the educational enterprise. It is the responsibility of each student to be knowledgeable about these rules and regulations.

Please consult the following about specific policies such as academic dishonesty, cell phones, change of grade, disability services, disruptive behavior, general class attendance, grade appeal, incomplete grades, make-up work, student grievance procedures, withdrawal, etc.:

- Undergraduate Bulletin
<https://www.ncat.edu/provost/academic-affairs/bulletins/index.php>
- Graduate Catalog
<https://www.ncat.edu/tgc/graduate-catalog/index.php>
- Student Handbook
<https://www.ncat.edu/campus-life/student-affairs/departments/dean-of-students/student-handbook.php>

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY POLICY

Academic dishonesty includes but is not limited to the following:

1. Cheating or knowingly assisting another student in committing an act of cheating or other academic dishonesty;
2. Plagiarism (unauthorized use of another's words or ideas as one's own), which includes but is not limited to submitting exams, theses, reports, drawings, laboratory notes or other materials as one's own work when such work has been prepared by or copied from another person;
3. Unauthorized possession of exams or reserved library materials; destroying or hiding source, library or laboratory materials or experiments or any other similar actions;
4. Unauthorized changing of grades, or marking on an exam or in an instructor's grade book or such change of any grade record;
5. Aiding or abetting in the infraction of any of the provisions anticipated under the general standards of student conduct;
6. Hacking into a computer and gaining access to a test or answer key prior to the test being given. N.C. A&T reserves the right to search the emails and computers of any student suspected of such computer hacking (if a police report of the suspected hacking was submitted prior to the search); and
7. Assisting another student in violating any of the above rules.

A student who has committed an act of academic dishonesty has failed to meet a basic requirement of satisfactory academic performance. Thus, academic dishonesty is not only a basis for disciplinary action, but may also affect the evaluation of a student's level of performance. Any student who commits an act of academic dishonesty is subject to disciplinary action.

In instances where a student has clearly been identified as having committed an act of academic dishonesty, an instructor may take appropriate disciplinary action, including loss of credit for an assignment, exam, or project; or awarding a grade of “F” for the course, **subject to review and endorsement by the chairperson and dean.**

For GRADUATE STUDENTS: Reference for academic dishonesty – 2010-2020 Graduate Catalog, p.58-59

For GRADUATE STUDENTS: STUDENT RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCE (see Graduate Catalog, p.55)

ASSIGNMENTS AND ACADEMIC CALENDAR

Include topics, reading assignments, due dates, exam dates, withdrawal dates, pre-registration and registration dates, all holidays, and convocations.*

THE WEEK OF MM/DD/YY	SUBJECT	UNIT LEARNING OUTCOMES (ULO)	READING IN TEXT, ACTIVITY, HOMEWORK, EXAM
	Unit 1: Why Politics Matters	<p>ULO 1: Explain political ideologies; differentiate between left-wing and right-wing ideologies. (SLO 1)</p> <p>ULO 2: Describe the study of political science and describe the different areas political scientists focus on. (SLO 1)</p> <p>ULO 3: Explain the concept of power; differentiate between “hard power” and “soft power”. (SLO 1-2)</p> <p>ULO 4: Evaluate how we are socialized by family, friends, peers and how our political beliefs are formed. (SLO 1,4)</p> <p>ULO 5: Describe policy issues and debates; identify learned skills needed in debates. (SLO 5)</p>	<p>1. Read Textbook: Kevin L. Dooley and Joseph Patten (2020). Why Politics Matters: An Introduction to Political Science, Wadsworth Publishing a. Chapter 1: Why Politics Matters</p> <p>2. Complete: Discussion Board #1 (ULO 3)</p>
	Unit 2: Ancient Political Thought	<p>ULO 1: Explain the ancient political thought and how it impacts current political system and processes. c Describe the thoughts of the Greek Ionians and Sophists. (SLO 1-2)</p> <p>ULO 2: Survey the works of</p>	<p>1. Read Textbook: Kevin L. Dooley and Joseph Patten (2020). Why Politics Matters: An Introduction to Political Science, Wadsworth Publishing a. Chapter 2: Ancient Political Theory</p> <p>2. Complete: Discussion Board #2 (ULO 1-4)</p>

		<p>such giants of ancient times as Socrates, Plato and Aristotle. (SLO 1-2)</p> <p>ULO 3: Explain the main ideas of Plato, his work “Politics’ concept of Happiness; the Human Soul; the Guardians and the rationale behind it; the Theory of Forms and the Allegory of the Cave. (SLO 1-2)</p> <p>ULO 4: Explain main ideas of Aristotle’s The Natural State; Theory of Forms and Happiness; theory of Mixed Constitutions and Aristotle’s influence on America’s Founding Fathers. (SLO 1-2)</p>	
	Unit 3: Modern Political Theory	<p>ULO 1: Explain the origins of modern political thought. (SLO 1)</p> <p>ULO 2: Survey the fundamental political thoughts of Machiavelli; his concept of power, self-interest; appearance of leaders; how power ought to be exercised. (SLO 1-2)</p> <p>ULO 3: Explain the core political thoughts of Hobbes and his view on human nature; lust for power; state of nature. (SLO 1-2)</p> <p>ULO 4: Discuss the Social Contract Theory of Hobbes and differentiate it from that of Locke’s Social Contract. (SLO 1-2)</p> <p>ULO 5: Analyze the impact of Locke’s political ideas on the US declaration of independence and the US federal Constitution. (SLO 1-2)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Read Textbook: Kevin L. Dooley and Joseph Patten (2020). Why Politics Matters: An Introduction to Political Science, Wadsworth Publishing <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Chapter 3: Modern Political Theory Complete: Discussion Board #3 (ULO 1-5)
	Unit 4: The American Government	<p>ULO 1: Explain the origins of the American Democracy.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Read Textbook: Kevin L. Dooley and Joseph Patten (2020). Why Politics Matters: An Introduction

		<p>(SLO 1)</p> <p>ULO 2: Evaluate the article of the confederation and explain reasons for its failure. (SLO 5)</p> <p>ULO 4: Describe the Constitutional convention, congress and representation. (SLO 1,2)</p> <p>ULO 5: Evaluate the position of the federalist and anti-federalist groups. (SLO 1-2)</p> <p>ULO 5: Describe the new federal constitution and its three principles. (SLO 1-2)</p> <p>ULO 6: Explain the amendment process and the first group of the Bill of Rights. (SLO 1-2)</p>	<p>to Political Science, Wadsworth Publishing</p> <p>a. Chapter 4: The American Government</p> <p>2. Complete: Discussion Board #4 (ULO 2-4)</p> <p>3. Complete: Test #1 (ULO Unit 1-3)</p>
	Unit 5: Nationalism and Populism in the United States and Abroad	<p>ULO 1: Explain the causes of nationalism and populism. (SLO 1,3)</p> <p>ULO 2: Evaluate the emergence of nationalism and populism in the US. (SLO 1-2)</p> <p>ULO 3: Explain political tribalism and presidential politics in the US. (SLO 1-2)</p> <p>ULO 4: Evaluate the impact of populism and nationalism on US immigration policy. (SLO 1-2)</p> <p>ULO 6: Describe the rise of nationalism and populism in West, Central and Eastern Europe. (SLO 2-3)</p>	<p>1. Read Textbook: Kevin L. Dooley and Joseph Patten (2020). Why Politics Matters: An Introduction to Political Science, Wadsworth Publishing</p> <p>a. Chapter 5: Nationalism and Populism in the United States and Abroad</p> <p>2. Complete: Discussion Board #5 (ULO 1-5)</p>
	Unit 06: Comparing Legislatures	<p>ULO 1: Explain the fundamental reasons for having legislatures in society. (SLO 1-2)</p> <p>ULO 2: Survey the powers of</p>	<p>1. Read Textbook: Kevin L. Dooley and Joseph Patten (2020). Why Politics Matters: An Introduction to Political Science, Wadsworth Publishing</p> <p>a. Chapter 6: Authoritarian Systems of Government</p>

		<p>the US Congress. (SLO1-3)</p> <p>ULO 3: Explain the tasks of the House and of the Senate. (SLO1-2)</p> <p>ULO 4: Differentiate between the presidential and parliamentary system of governments. (SLO1-3)</p> <p>ULO 5: Evaluate the features of unicameral and bicameral legislatures (US, UK, Japan, France, Germany, Israel). (SLO1-4)</p>	<p>2. Complete: Discussion Board #6 (ULO 1-5)</p>
	Unit 07: Comparing Democratic Executives	<p>ULO 1: Explain the types of the presidential and parliamentary executives. (SLO 1)</p> <p>ULO 2: Survey the presidential and parliamentary systems. (SLO 1-3)</p> <p>ULO 3: Identify the powers of the US President and review the constitutional provisions. SLO 1-2)</p> <p>ULO 4: Identify the powers of the prime minister of the United Kingdom. (SLO 1-3)</p> <p>ULO 5: Describe the features, structure and powers of the Cabinet system. (SLO 1-2)</p> <p>ULO 6: Evaluate the parliamentary federal system of the largest democracy on earth- India. (SLO 4)</p>	<p>1. Read Textbook: Kevin L. Dooley and Joseph Patten (2020). Why Politics Matters: An Introduction to Political Science, Wadsworth Publishing a. Chapter 7: Democratic Systems of Government</p> <p>2. Complete: Discussion Board #7 (ULO 1-6)</p> <p>3. Complete: Test #2 (ULO Unit 4-6)</p>
	Unit 08: Comparing Judicial Systems	<p>ULO 1: Explain the US constitutional provisions and powers of the third branch of government the Judiciary. (SLO 1)</p> <p>ULO 2: Survey the duality mode of existence of the judiciary system in the US.</p>	<p>1. Read Textbook: Kevin L. Dooley and Joseph Patten (2020). Why Politics Matters: An Introduction to Political Science, Wadsworth Publishing a. Chapter 8: Comparing Legislatures</p> <p>2. Complete: Discussion Board #8 (ULO 1-6)</p>

		<p>(SLO 1-2)</p> <p>ULO 3: Explain the relations of the judiciary with the legislature and the executive branches within the context of Division of Powers and Checks and Balances. (SLO 3)</p> <p>ULO 4: Identify the types of laws reviewed by states and federal courts and the US Supreme Courts' role in the expanding of Civil Rights. (SLO 1-2)</p> <p>ULO 5: Describe the selection process; the composition; the structure of the US Supreme Court. (SLO 1-2)</p> <p>ULO 6: Compare the German Federal Constitutional Court with the US Supreme Court. (SLO 3-4)</p>	
	Unit 09: Authoritarian States	<p>ULO 1: Explain the concept of authoritarianism, its origin and development. (SLO 1)</p> <p>ULO 2: Survey the different religious and intellectual justifications of authoritarianism. (SLO 1-2)</p> <p>ULO 3: Evaluate power and security as the modern justifications of authoritarianism. (SLO 1-3)</p> <p>ULO 4: Identify the general characteristics of authoritarian regimes. (SLO 1)</p> <p>ULO 6: Analyze contemporary authoritarianism by taking case studies: Saudi Arabia, North Korea and China. (SLO 3-4)</p>	<p>1. Read Textbook: Kevin L. Dooley and Joseph Patten (2020). Why Politics Matters: An Introduction to Political Science, Wadsworth Publishing a. Chapter 9: Comparing Executives</p> <p>2. Complete: Discussion Board #9 (ULO 1-5)</p>
	Unit 10:	ULO 1: Explain International	1. Read Textbook: Kevin L. Dooley

	<p>Understanding International Relations: Terms and Theories</p>	<p>Relations; its terms and its theories. (SLO 1)</p> <p>ULO 2: Evaluate the concept of hard and soft power in International Relations. (SLO 1-2)</p> <p>ULO 3: Explain the central concept of National Interest of states and its impact on International Relations. (SLO 1-3)</p> <p>ULO 4: Explain the three levels of analysis of International Relations. (SLO 3)</p> <p>ULO 5: Discuss the four theories of state interactions, identify their differences in understanding International Relations. (SLO 3-4)</p>	<p>and Joseph Patten (2020). Why Politics Matters: An Introduction to Political Science, Wadsworth Publishing</p> <p>a. Chapter 10: Comparing Judiciaries</p> <p>2. Complete: Discussion Board #10 (ULO 1-5)</p> <p>3. Complete: Test #3 (ULO Unit 7-9)</p>
	<p>Unit 11: War, Diplomacy, and the Beginning of International Relations Part I</p>	<p>ULO 1: Explain the concepts of war and diplomacy & their significance in international relations. (SLO 1)</p> <p>ULO 2: Explain the concept of raison d'état & understand why Europe is the center of modern international relations. (SLO 1-2)</p> <p>ULO 3: Explain the concept the Balance of Powers Theory & the rise of State System. (SLO 1-2)</p> <p>ULO 4: Explain the intricate power relations in the period of Napoleon's domination. (SLO 1-2)</p> <p>ULO 5: Survey the process of Germany emerging as a unified state under the leadership of Prussia's Otto von Bismarck. (SLO 1-3)</p>	<p>1. Read Textbook: Kevin L. Dooley and Joseph Patten (2020). Why Politics Matters: An Introduction to Political Science, Wadsworth Publishing</p> <p>a. Chapter 11: Understanding International Relations: Terms and Theories</p> <p>2. Complete: Discussion Board #11 (ULO 1-5)</p> <p>3. Complete: Analytical Paper (ULO Unit 1-11)</p>
	<p>Unit 12: War, Diplomacy, and the</p>	<p>ULO 1: Explain the concept of Collective Security and its</p>	<p>1. Read Textbook: Kevin L. Dooley and Joseph Patten (2020). Why Politics Matters: An Introduction</p>

Beginning of International Relations Part II	<p>significance on international relations. (SLO 1)</p> <p>ULO 2: Explain the power alignments & causes for World War I. (SLO 1-2)</p> <p>ULO 3: Understand the reasons for the Emergence of the League of Nations & assess its strengths & failures. (SLO 1)</p> <p>ULO 4: Explain the balance of powers in the interwar period of 1919 to 1939 & divergent interests of the powers of the period. (SLO 1-2)</p> <p>ULO 5: Explain the power alignments & reasons for yet another global war World War II & failures to stop this war. (SLO 3-4)</p> <p>ULO 6: Explain the emergence of a new global order which resulted in the formation of the United Nations. (SLO 3-4)</p> <p>ULO 7: Assess the performance of the UN. (SLO 4)</p>	<p>to Political Science, Wadsworth Publishing</p> <p>a. Chapter 11: Understanding International Relations: Terms and Theories</p> <p>2. Complete: Discussion Board #12 (ULO 1-7)</p>
Unit 13: Competing Visions for the Future of International Relations	<p>ULO 1: Explain Contemporary International Relations. (SLO 1)</p> <p>ULO 2: Explain nuclear security and Cold War politics, deterrence and containment. (SLO 1,3)</p> <p>ULO 3: Understand the post-Cold war instability, the Globalization process and neoliberalism. (SLO 3-4)</p> <p>ULO 4: Explain the root cause of state, domestic and transnational terrorism. (SLO 1-2)</p>	<p>1. Read Textbook: Kevin L. Dooley and Joseph Patten (2020). Why Politics Matters: An Introduction to Political Science, Wadsworth Publishing</p> <p>a. Chapter 12: War, Diplomacy, and the Beginning of International Relations</p> <p>2. Complete: Discussion Board #13 (ULO 1-5)</p>

		ULO 5: Understand the impacts of MNCs and NGOs. (SLO 4)	
	Unit 14: Conclusion Discussions	<p>ULO 1: Explain the evolving of the political entity called the state in the 21st century and beyond. (SLO 4)</p> <p>ULO 2: Explain how political ideologies would evolve and merge across the different political spectrums. (SLO 4)</p>	1. Complete: Final Discussion (ULO 1-2)
	Unit 15: Final Week	<p>ULO 1: Explain how the study of political science would evolve in the 21st century as a multi-disciplinary empirical based science. (SLO 3-4)</p> <p>ULO 2: Explain how the basic unit of political analysis 'the state' would be challenged by multinational entities that operate across the globe and continents marshaling financial resources unmatched by states. (SLO 3-4)</p>	1. Complete: Test #4 (ULO Unit 10-15)

** These descriptions and timelines are subject to change at the discretion of the instructor.*