PSC100

MISSOURI CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT

1 Credit Hour

Prepared by:
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Mindy Selsor, Dean
Arts & Science Education
I. CATALOGUE DESCRIPTION

A. No pre-/co-requisites: Reading proficiency

B. 1 semester hour credit

C. This one hour course is a study of the US and Missouri Constitution. Focus is on the principles and government institutions of both the State and Federal Constitution. (F,S,SU)

II. EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES/ASSESSMENT MEASURES

| Identify and analyze the differences between the US and Missouri Constitution | Short Answer-Test Multiple Choice Questions and Comparative Paper |
| Discuss the development of Missouri’s 1945 Constitution | Short Answer-Test |
| Identify and analyze the current structure of the 3 branches of Missouri Government. | Short Answer-Test Multiple Choice questions on quizzes and test |
| Discuss with meaningful understanding the fundamental rights described in the Missouri Constitution and how the rights are applied in a practical setting. | Comparative Paper |
| Demonstrate and comprehend the effects of government and its policies on everyday life. | Short Answer Test Multiple Choice Test Comparative Paper |

III. OUTLINE OF TOPICS

A. Introduction section of the text
   1. The US Constitution
   2. Passing the US Constitution

B. The Missouri State Constitution
   1. Constitutions of 1820, 1875 and 1943
   2. Articles of the Missouri Constitution

C. The Bill of Rights and Distribution of Power
   1. Missouri Bill of Rights
   2. Distribution of State Government Power
D. The State Legislature
   1. Legislative Functions
   2. Missouri House and Senate
   3. Legislative Process

E. The Executive Department
   1. Missouri Governor
   2. Other Statewide Elected Offices
   3. Executive Bureaucracy

F. The Judiciary
   1. Selection of Local Judges
   2. Selection of Supreme Court Judges
   3. Judicial Structure
   4. Cases Considered by the Missouri Supreme Court

G. The Miscellaneous Articles and the Conclusion
   1. Local Governments
   2. Public Officers
   3. Voting
   4. Education
   5. Taxation

H. Comparing the Missouri Constitution and the US Constitution
   1. Compare Bill of Rights
   2. Compare Selection of Judges
   3. Compare General Assembly to US Congress
   4. Compare Elections of President and Governor

IV. METHOD(S) OF INSTRUCTION

   Online PowerPoint Notes (narrated for each topic)
   Students will be required to read a chapter in the text for each topic

V. REQUIRED TEXTBOOK(S)


VI. REQUIRED MATERIALS

   Students will also need a copy of the US Constitution. It may be found online at http://www.house.gov/house/Constitution/Constitution.html
VII. SUPPLEMENTAL REFERENCES

None needed

VIII. METHOD OF EVALUATION

A. Course Requirements - Please note that this is a self-paced semester course. It is up to you to budget your time to pass the quizzes and pass the exam with appropriate scores. The student must pass all quizzes with a score of 8 or higher before taking the exam. Once the student has scored at least an 8 out of ten points on all quizzes, passed the comparative paper with at least a 40 out of 50 points then student may then take the final exam. Once the student has passed the exam (75 points or higher) they are finished with the course. The student may take the exam after passing as often as they wish to improve their overall grade for the course.

B. Quizzes: Students are expected to learn how to analyze and understand their readings. This class will have quizzes that will cover each chapter of the assigned reading material. Each quiz will be worth 10 points. It is students responsibility to budget your time and make sure that students have a reliable internet connection and reliable computer. Students must take and earn at least an 8 out of possible ten points on each of the quizzes. A student may take each quiz as often as they like. The highest quiz score on each quiz will count towards student grade. Students may use book, notes or any other aids to take the quizzes.

C. Exam: There will be one exam for the course. The test will consist of true-false, multiple choice, and short answer questions. There will be a study guide provided to the students before the exam. In order to pass the course the student must score at least 75 points out of a possible 100 points on the exam. A student may take the exam as often as desired. The highest exam score will count towards your final grade. The exam must be taken at a Jefferson College Testing Center by end of the semester. Students are allowed to take this exam as often as needed to pass or improve their grade in the course. Please keep in mind that you must pass with a score of 8 or higher on all quizzes before you can take the exam. Students may not use any materials when taking the exam.

D. Comparative Paper: The paper should be at least 3 full pages in length. The margins should be one inch and please use 12 point font Times New Roman. The assignment is to examine the US and Missouri Constitution for similarities and differences. For example you might want to discuss the differences in judicial selection at the state and federal levels. You could include the similarities between the Missouri General Assembly and the US Congress. The student must complete the paper and receive a grade of at least 40 out of 50 points before taking the exam. The paper is worth 50 points.
E. Grading Scale (Possible 230 points total)
   A= 215 to 230 pts
   B= 195 to 214 pts
   C= 194 to 180 pts
   D= 179-171 pts
   F= 170 points or less

IX. ADA STATEMENT

Any student requiring special accommodations should inform the instructor and the Coordinator of Disability Support Services (Library; phone 636-481-3169). Following registration and within the first two weeks of class, please contact me to discuss appropriate academic accommodations. Appropriate arrangements will be made to insure equal access to the course.

X. ACADEMIC HONESTY STATEMENT

Please refer to the 2011-2012 Jefferson College Student Handbook pages 11, 29 and 30. The Honesty Statement may also be found online at www.jeffco.edu. Students who are caught cheating or plagiarizing will receive a ZERO for the assignment. Repeat offenders will be referred to the Dean of Arts and Sciences.