

# UConn | COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES

---

## COMMITTEE ON CURRICULA AND COURSES

### Proposal to Add a New Undergraduate Course

Last revised: September xx, 2013

1. Date: 9-24-2013
2. Department requesting this course: Pols
3. Semester and year in which course will be first offered: Spring 2015

### Final Catalog Listing

---

Assemble this after you have completed the components below. This listing should not contain any information that is not listed below!

#### **Pols 3205 Voting Behavior and Public Opinion Around the World**

Three Credits. Open to Juniors and Above. Suggested preparation Pols 1202 or Pols 1207

How voting patterns differ across countries. Topics may include turnout, class voting, the electoral role of religion, accountability for the economy, vote buying, ethnic politics, attitudes toward welfare, support for democracy, and Anti-Americanism.

### Items Included in Catalog Listing

---

#### **Obligatory Items**

1. Standard abbreviation for Department, Program or Subject Area: POLS
2. Course Number: 3205
3. Course Title: Voting Behavior and Public Opinion Around the World
4. Number of Credits: 3
5. Course Description (second paragraph of catalog entry): How voting patterns differ across countries. Topics may include turnout, class voting, the electoral role of religion, accountability for the economy, vote buying, ethnic politics, attitudes toward welfare, support for democracy, and Anti-Americanism.

#### **Optional Items**

6. Pattern of instruction, if not standard: Lecture and discussion
7. Prerequisites, if applicable:
  - a. Consent of Instructor, if applicable: N/A
  - b. Open to sophomores/juniors or higher: Only juniors and higher
8. Recommended Preparation, if applicable: Pols 1202/Pols 1207
9. Exclusions, if applicable:
10. Repetition for credit, if applicable: N/A
11. Skill codes "W", "Q" or "C": n/a at the present time
12. University General Education Content Area:  
If Content Area 1, CLAS areas A-E: n/a

13. S/U grading: No

### **Justification**

---

1. Reasons for adding this course: This course increases the breadth of our offerings in comparative politics, which will give students more options as they complete the major.
2. Academic merit: As survey data has become more widely available in recent decades, scholars have begun to recognize that models of political behavior developed in the United States may not translate to the multiparty systems that predominate in Europe or in the context of new democracies. This course focuses on these differences across countries and seeks to explain the general patterns that are common across countries as well as the contextual factors that cause patterns of behavior to diverge.
3. Overlapping courses: None. We have a courses on "Political Opinion and Electoral Behavior" (Pols 3612), "Public Opinion in American Politics" (Pols 3622), and "Polling and Public Opinion" (Pols 3625). All focus on American politics whereas this course is explicitly comparative and will spend very little time on American politics.
4. Number of students expected: 36-48
5. Number and size of sections: 1 section
6. Effects on other departments: None
7. Effects on regional campuses: None
8. Staffing: Dr. Matthew Singer
9. Dates approved by
  - Department Curriculum Committee: 9-25-13
  - Department Faculty: 10-2-13
10. Name, Phone Number, and e-mail address of principal contact person:  
Matthew Singer  
6-2615  
Matthew.m.singer@uconn.edu

### **Syllabus**

---

A syllabus for the new course must be attached to your submission email.