

UConn | COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES

COMMITTEE ON CURRICULA AND COURSES

Proposal to Change an Existing Course

Last revised: September 24, 2013

1. Date: Feb 17, 2014
2. Department requesting this course: Pols
3. Nature of Proposed Change: Change title and course description
4. If proposing to add this course to a CLAS general education area A-E, then
 - a. Specify a CLAS area, A-E: n/a
 - b. Provide justification for inclusion in CLAS area, A-E:
(Please consult [CLAS guidelines](#) for areas A-E.)
5. [Effective Date](#) (semester, year): ASAP
(Consult Registrar's change catalog site to determine earliest possible effective date. If a later date is desired, indicate here.)

Current Catalog Copy

3612. Political Opinion and Electoral Behavior

Three credits. Prerequisite: Open to juniors or higher.

Analysis of public opinion and its potential to affect government policies.

Emphasis on explaining elections and the basis for voters' decisions.

3625. Public Opinion in American Politics

Three credits. Prerequisite: Open to juniors or higher.

Structure and dynamics of public opinion in American politics

Proposed Catalog Copy

(See information in the "Add a course" form if you have any questions regarding specific items.)

3612. Electoral Behavior

Three credits. Prerequisite: Open to juniors or higher.

Explaining elections and the basis for voters' decisions.

3625. Public Opinion

Three credits. Prerequisite: Open to juniors or higher

Structure and dynamics of public opinion **in American politics.**

Justification

1. [Reasons for changing this course](#): Pols 3612 focuses primarily on elections while Pols 3625 focuses more on public opinion. As those divisions in topics between the two courses have become more explicit over time, we want the course description to better signal to students the difference. For the 3625 course, it was also felt that specifying "and American politics" focused too much on the connection of public opinion and political outcome when much of the course focuses on structures and dynamics of public opinion itself. This title will better communicate the focus of the course.
2. Effect on Department's curriculum: None-we hope this will help students see why they might consider taking both 3612 and 3625.
3. Other departments consulted: None
4. [Effects on other departments](#): None
5. Effects on regional campuses: None
6. [Staffing](#): Sam Best
7. [Dates approved](#) by
Department Curriculum Committee: Feb 1, 2014
Department Faculty: Feb 1, 2014
8. Name, Phone Number, and e-mail address of principal contact person:

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