



JOE MIGEY COLLEGE
Instructor Dr. Joseph Migey
SOC 401 SPECIAL TOPICS IN SOCIAL SCIENCE 3 cr. (3-0)



COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course provides a study of special topics and problems in social science through an interdisciplinary approach. Study may be through lecture, readings, discussions, guided research, travel, and field trips. Topics may vary from semester to semester and must be approved by the social science chairperson.

PREREQUISITES: Consent of instructor

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

Specific objective will be developed by the instructor and student to provide opportunities for the student to obtain an understanding of the legislative process by an examination and participation in the process of a bill becoming a law. This would include such activities as an examination of:

1. Role of the committee system in "marking up" a bill
2. Operation of party caucuses
3. Role of the party "whip" in floor sessions
4. Function of lobbyists in committee and floor sessions
5. Parliamentary procedure in floor debates
6. Process of "over-rides" of executive veto

COURSE OUTLINE:

1. Introduction to Model Illinois Government (MIG)
2. Guest speakers
3. Choosing your committee and reviewing bills
4. Parliamentary procedure
5. Attend MIG simulation February 24-February 27, 2011

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

1. Attend weekly class session to discuss specific bills in the legislature. It is very important for students to attend each complete weekly session as scheduled. Failure to do so will gravely affect the final course grade.
2. Participate in a one-day workshop on parliamentary procedure.
3. Travel to Springfield to observe and participate in the legislative process.
4. Attend interview session with state legislator.
5. Submit a final paper detailing the process followed by a specific item of legislation.
6. Complete weekly assignments and prepare legislative binder to be used at each class session and simulation.



Student Success Center. Tutors may be obtained through the Student Success Center. Contact the staff if this service is desired. Joe Migey College will make reasonable accommodations for students with documented disabilities under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Any student with a disability that may have some impact on work in this class, who feels she/he needs an accommodation, should make an appointment with the Coordinator of Services for Students with Disabilities on campus, Before services can be provided, this advisor must determine eligibility and arrange appropriate academic adjustments. ***It is the student's responsibility to register in advance of a school term with this office and to turn in a schedule each term to ensure that there is every opportunity for success in this class.***

English Writing Center/Tutoring. For assistance with writing assignments in any college course, students are encouraged to visit "The Smart Place" in Room E123. English instructors are available for one-on-one tutoring each semester during hours posted at the center.

Financial Aid. Students who receive financial assistance and completely withdraw from classes prior to 60% of the semester being completed (approximately 2-3 weeks after midterm) could be responsible to return a portion of their Federal Pell Grant award. Prior to withdrawing from courses, students should contact the Financial Aid Office.

Course Withdrawal Information. It is expected that you will attend this class regularly. If you stop attending for any reason, you should contact your advisor and withdraw officially to avoid the posting of a failing grade (an E) to your transcript. It is also advisable to discuss the situation with your instructor before dropping.

METHOD OF EVALUATION:

Attendance and participation in all class sessions (includes binder).....	250
Active participation in field trips to Springfield.....	100
Submission of final paper (content and style TBA)	150
	<u>500</u>

Grading Scale

- 450+ = A
- 400 – 449 = B
- 350 – 399 = C
- 300 – 349 = D
- 299 or below = E

METHOD OF PRESENTATION:

Lecture, discussion, field trip, simulation, reading, interviews

TEXT: None

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Joseph Migey

Office: 1234

Ext.: 2011