Docusign Envelope ID: BFABC831-D09A-491C-B02B-5B95909677D9

SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS FORMS

New Course Request

Use this form to request a new common or unique course. Consult the system course database through for information about existing courses before submitting this form.

BSMS
CA

BHSU	School of Math and Social Sciences/ Political Science
Institution	**Division/Department**

Pamela Canivean

Institutional Approval Signature

Click here to enter a date. 3/11/26

Date

Section 1. Course Title and Description

If the course contains a lecture and laboratory component, identify both the lecture and laboratory numbers (xxx and xxxL) and credit hours associated with each. Provide the complete description as you wish it to appear in the system course database, including pre-requisites, co-requisites, and registration restrictions.

Prefix & No.	Course Title	Credits
POLS 399	Media and Politics	3

NOTE: The Enrollment Services Center assigns the short, abbreviated course title that appears on transcripts. The short title is limited to 30 characters (including spaces); meaningful but concise titles are encouraged due to space limitations in the student information system.

Course Description

In this course students will analyze how popular and news media (including but not limited to television, books, social media, and journalism) construct political narratives, shape public opinion, and influence policy agendas through images, stories, and formats. This includes examining how media institutions, platforms, and economic structures direct information flows, define representation, and organize power.

NOTE: Course descriptions are short, concise summaries that typically do not exceed 75 words. DO: Address the content of the course and write descriptions using active verbs (e.g., explore, learn, develop, etc.). DO NOT: Repeat the title of the course, layout the syllabus, use pronouns such as "we" and "you," or rely on specialized jargon, vague phrases, or clichés.

Pre-requisites or Co-requisites (add lines as needed)

Prefix & No.	Course Title	Pre-Req/Co-Req?
None		

Registration Restrictions

None

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Section 2. Review of Course

2.1. Will this be a unique or common course (*place an "X" in the appropriate box*)?

☒ **Unique Course**
If the request is for a unique course, institutions must review the common course catalog in the system course database to determine if a comparable common course already exists. List the two closest course matches in the common course catalog and provide a brief narrative explaining why the proposed course differs from those listed. If a search of the common course catalog determines an existing common course exists, complete the Authority to Offer an Existing Course Form. Courses requested without an attempt to find comparable courses will not be reviewed.

Prefix & No.	Course Title	Credits
POLS 327	Policy and Crisis	3
POLS 253	Current World Issues	3

Provide explanation of differences between proposed course and existing system catalog courses below:

The above courses might have a slight overlap with the proposed course as the instructor could choose to include the role of media in the course discussion. However, the proposed course will focus on media (both news and popular) and its relationships to politics and our practice of politics. Moreover, whereas the politics above tend to focus on formal government institutions and policy, this course would examine both the formal and informal political processes.

☐ **Common Course** *Indicate universities that are proposing this common course:*

☐ BHSU ☐ DSU ☐ NSU ☐ SDSMT ☐ SDSU ☐ USD

Section 3. Other Course Information

3.1. Are there instructional staffing impacts?

☒ **No.** Replacement of POLS 312 Public Opinion and Polling
(course prefix, course number, name of course, credits)
*Attach course deletion form

Effective date of deletion: 8/15/2026

☐ **No.** Schedule Management, explain below:

☐ **Yes.** Specify below:

3.2. Existing program(s) in which course will be offered (i.e., any current or pending majors, minors, certificates, etc.): BS Political Science, Political Science minor.

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3.3. Proposed instructional method by university *(as defined by AAC Guideline 5.4)*:
If requesting an instructional method that is exempt from the Section Size Guidelines, please provide a brief description of how the course is appropriate for the instructional method, as defined in AAC Guidelines.

Lecture (code R).

3.4. Proposed delivery method by university *(as defined by AAC Guideline 5.5)*:

Face-to-face (code B01)

3.5. Term change will be effective: Fall 2026

3.6. Can students repeat the course for additional credit?
☐ Yes, total credit limit: _____ ☒ No

3.7. Will grade for this course be limited to S/U (pass/fail)?
☐ Yes ☒ No

3.8. Will section enrollment be capped?
☒ Yes, max per section: 30 ☐ No

3.9. Will this course equate (i.e., be considered the same course for degree completion) with any other unique or common courses in the common course system database?

☐ Yes ☒ No
If yes, indicate the course(s) to which the course will equate (add lines as needed):

Prefix & No.	Course Title

3.10. Is this prefix approved for your university?
☒ Yes ☐ No
If no, provide a brief justification below:

Section 4. Department and Course Codes (Completed by University Academic Affairs)

4.1. University Department: Math & Social Sciences

4.2. Banner Department Code: BSMS

4.3. Proposed CIP Code: 451001

Is this a new CIP code for the university? ☐ Yes ☒ No