COURSE DESCRIPTION:
POLI-332 provides students with the ability to select readings and conduct research in the area of the legislative process - a study of the evolution, structure, functions, and dynamics of American legislative institutions, with emphasis on the interrelationships among the legislative, Judicial and Executive branches, and outsiders in the law making process in American government. Students will be given some flexibility to conduct research and choose reading materials in their special areas of interest within the broad parameters of the legislative process and politics.

TEXTBOOKS:

COURSE OBJECTIVES:
The successful completion of this course is intended to enhance students' abilities in acquiring special knowledge of literature and skills dealing with the following purposes:

1. Discuss how contemporary Congress laws - from the introduction of bills to their passage into law.
2. Analyze Congressional rules and procedures shape domestic and foreign policies of the United States.
3. Understand the interplay of Congressional rules, precedents, procedures and strategies necessary to comprehending how Congress works as an institution.
4. Comprehend congressional process: Introduction, referral of bills to the House and Senate Committees and Committee actions and measures.
5. Appreciate the political environment in which Congress operates.
6. Understand the leadership structure in congress; pressure exerted on the institution and the recent changes in its operations.

7. Examine the budget process which is at the heart of the legislative process in congress.

8. Comprehend how legislation emerges from committees and scheduling measures for floor consideration and action.

9. Discuss the main features of floor decision making in the House and Senate.

10. Describe how House- Senate differences are reconciled when each chamber passes a different version of the same bill.

11. Comprehend the role of Presidential veto power and the consequent Congressional reaction and counter reactions, including resolution outcomes and strategies.

12. Describe how Congress monitors the implementation of laws it has passed (Congressional Oversight Functions.)

**COURSE REQUIREMENT:**

Three main evaluations are required.
1. Examination 1. reflecting the course work = (33.33 %)
2. Exam. 2 reflecting course work = (33.33%)
3. Term Paper on Congress and related issues.-Topic, scope and methodology must be approved by the instructor. = (33.33 %)

**GRADING:**

92 - 100 = A
83 - 91 = B
73 - 82 = C
64 - 72 = D
0 - 63

**COURSE OUTLINE**

**Chapter/ Topical Contents**
1. Congress and Lawmaking
2. The Congressional Budget Process
3. Preliminary Legislative Action
4. Scheduling legislation in the House
5. House Floor Procedure
6. Scheduling Legislation in the Senate
7. Senate Floor Procedure
8. Resolving House-Senate Differences
9. Legislative Oversight
10. A Dynamic Process

**ADDITIONAL READINGS**


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