



The University of Southern Queensland

Course specification

Description: Political and Economic Institutions

Subject	Cat-nbr	Class	Term	Mode	Units	Campus
POL	2001	34197	2, 2004	EXT	1.00	TWMBA

Academic group:	FOBUS
Academic org:	FOB002
Student contribution band:	1
ASCED code:	090101

STAFFING

Examiner: John Searle

Moderator: Geoff Cockfield

SYNOPSIS

This course introduces students to the basic institutions and processes of government and the economy. While the course has broad application it examines institutions within a regional framework using examples from Australia and Asia where appropriate. Sovereignty of the domestic institutions of government and the economy is examined as international institutions become prominent as coordinators of national activity. Australian political and economic institutions are analysed as exemplars of the roles of institutions in a regional economy. Domestic, political and economic institutions are compared and examined within an international context. Political and Economic Institutions consists of core modules and two module streams. Students may select a module set (modules 5, 6 and 7) that suits their particular interests or study requirements.

OBJECTIVES

NOTE. The course objectives apply to both the Political Institutions and Economic Institutions streams of study. Although assessment expectations differ between streams, students may attempt assignment and examination questions from either stream. For the 2004 offering of this course, alternative political and economic streams will not be offered. In 2004 the primary focus of the course will be political in nature and the assessment requirements will reflect this. On completion of this course students will be able to:

1. explain the nature of the international and regional political and economic environment that bears upon political and economic institutions;
2. have an informed understanding of the structure, roles and activities of political and economic institutions within countries that comprise the Asian regional economy;

3. broadly explain the history of Australian and Asian regional, political and economic institutional development in the period following 1945;
4. have the capacity to appreciate and evaluate political and economic institutions and phenomena in an analytical manner;
5. critique the development of theory with respect to economic and/or political institutions;
6. present rational, well-researched, written arguments about political and economic institutions with clarity and coherence; and
7. understand the nature of significant political and economic concepts as they apply to institutions in Australia, Asia and other countries.

TOPICS

	Description	Weighting (%)
1.	Domestic political and economic institutions in Australia and the Asia Pacific	8.00
2.	Constitutions	8.00
3.	Global political and economic institutions	8.00
4.	The public service and bureaucracy	8.00
5.	The electoral system and voter behaviour	16.00
6.	Economic institutions	10.00
7.	Policy analysis	10.00
8.	Political parties	16.00
9.	Interest groups	16.00

TEXT and MATERIALS required to be PURCHASED or ACCESSED:

ALL textbooks and materials are available for purchase from USQ BOOKSHOP (unless otherwise stated). Orders may be placed via secure internet, free fax 1800642453, phone 07 46312742 (within Australia), or mail. Overseas students should fax +61 7 46311743, or phone +61 7 46312742. For costs, further details, and internet ordering, use the 'Textbook Search' facility at <http://bookshop.usq.edu.au> click 'Semester', then enter your 'Course Code' (no spaces).

Text for the Economic Institutions stream is to be advised.

Text for the Political Institutions stream is to be advised.

Summers, J & Smith, B 2004, *Communication skills handbook: how to succeed in written and oral communication*, John Wiley & Sons, Milton, Queensland.

(revised and updated edition)

REFERENCE MATERIALS:

Reference materials are materials that, if accessed by students, may improve their knowledge and understanding of the material in the course and enrich their learning experience.

Reference materials for the Economic Institutions stream and further reference material for the Political Institutions stream are to be advised.

Cohn, TH 2003, *Global political economy: theory and practice*, 2nd edn, Longman, New York.

Emy, HV 1978, *The politics of Australian democracy: fundamentals in dispute*, 2nd edn, MacMillan, South Melbourne.

Feng, Y 2003, *Democracy, governance and economic performance: theory and evidence*, MIT Press, Cambridge.

Frieden, JA & Lake, DA 2000, *International political economy*, 4th edn, Wadsworth, Belmont.

Jackson, RJ & Jackson, D 2000, *An introduction to political science - comparative and world politics*, 3rd edn, Prentice Hall Canada, Scarborough, Ontario.

Jaensch, D 1984, *An introduction to Australian politics*, 2nd edn, Longman Cheshire, Melbourne.

Lucy, R 1983, *The pieces of politics*, 3rd edn, MacMillan, South Melbourne.

Maddox, G 1989, *The Hawke government and Labor tradition*, Penguin, Ringwood, Victoria.

Roskin, MG, Cord, RL, Medeiros, JA & Jones, WS 2000, *Political science, an introduction*, 7th edn, Prentice Hall, Upper Saddle River, New Jersey.

Smith, R & Watson, L 1997, *Politics in Australia*, 3rd edn, Allen & Unwin, St Leonards.

Spero, JE & Hart, JA 2003, *The politics of international economic relations*, 6th edn, Thomson, Belmont.

Summers, J, Woodward, D & Parkin, A (eds) 2002, *Government politics and power in Australia: an introductory reader*, 7th edn, Longman, Frenchs Forest, New South Wales.

STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS:

ACTIVITY	HOURS
Assessment	56.00
Directed Study	39.00
Private Study	65.00

ASSESSMENT DETAILS

Description	Marks out of	Wtg(%)	Due date
ESSAY 1	20.00	20.00	27 Aug 2004
ESSAY 2	30.00	30.00	08 Oct 2004 (see note 1)
2.5 HOUR EXAMINATION	50.00	50.00	END S2 (see note 2)

NOTES:

1. This assignment is research based. Although assessment expectations differ between streams, students may attempt assignment questions from either stream.
2. The examination is scheduled to be held in the end-of-semester examination period. Students will be advised of the official examination date after the timetable has been finalised. Although assessment expectations differ between streams, students may attempt examination questions from either stream.

IMPORTANT ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

- 1 Attendance requirements:
If you are an international student in Australia you are advised to attend all classes at your campus. Failure to attend may infringe the conditions of your student visa. For all other students, there are no attendance requirements for this course. However, it is the students' responsibility to study all material provided to them or required to be accessed by them to maximise their chance of meeting the objectives of the course and to be informed of course-related activities and administration.
- 2 Requirements for students to complete each assessment item satisfactorily:
To complete the assignments satisfactorily, students must obtain at least 50% of the marks available for the assignments in aggregate. To complete the examination satisfactorily, students must obtain at least 50% of the marks available for the examination.
- 3 Penalties for late submission of required work:
If students submit assignments after the due date without prior approval then a penalty of 20% of the total marks available for the assignment will apply for each working day late.
- 4 Requirements for student to be awarded a passing grade in the course:
To be assured of receiving a passing grade a student must attempt all of the summative assessment items, achieve an aggregated mark of at least 50% in the total marks allocated for the assignments, achieve at least 50% in the examination, and at least 50% of the available weighted marks for the summative assessment items.
- 5 Method used to combine assessment results to attain final grade:
The final grades for students will be assigned on the basis of the weighted aggregate of the marks (or grades) obtained for each of the summative assessment items in the course.
- 6 Examination information:

This is a closed examination. Candidates are allowed to bring only writing and drawing instruments into the examination.

- 7 Examination period when Deferred/Supplementary examinations will be held:
Any Deferred or Supplementary examinations for this course will be held during the next examination period.
- 8 University Regulations:
Students should read USQ Regulations 5.1 Definitions, 5.6. Assessment, and 5.10 Academic Misconduct for further information and to avoid actions which might contravene University Regulations. These regulations can be found at the URL <http://www.usq.edu.au/corporateservices/calendar/part5.htm>. Students should also read the Faculty of Business Guide to Policies and Procedures of the Faculty which can be found at the URL <http://www.usq.edu.au/handbook/current/buspolproc.html>.

ASSESSMENT NOTES

- 1 Assignments: (i) The due date for an assignment is the date by which a student must despatch the assignment to the USQ. The onus is on the student to provide proof of the despatch date, if requested by the Examiner. (ii) Students must retain a copy of each item submitted for assessment. This must be produced within five days if required by the Examiner. (iii) The Examiner may grant an extension of the due date of an assignment in extenuating circumstances. Students may apply for an assignment extension either by application through DEC before the due date or by application with the submitted assignment after the due date. Such applications should be in writing and include supporting documentary evidence. The authority for granting extensions rests with the relevant Examiner. (iv) The Examiner will normally only accept assessments that have been typed or printed on paper-based media. (v) The Examiner will not accept submission of assignments by facsimile. (vi) Students who do not have regular access to postal services or who are otherwise disadvantaged by these regulations may be given special consideration. They should contact the Examiner to negotiate such special arrangements. (vii) In the event that a due date for an assignment falls on a local public holiday in their area, such as a Show holiday, the due date for the assignment will be the next day. Students are to note on the assignment cover the date of the public holiday for the Examiner's convenience.
- 2 Course Weightings: Course weightings of topics should not be interpreted as applying to the number of marks to questions testing those topics in an examination paper.
- 3 Referencing in Assignments: Students must demonstrate effective essay writing techniques, including correct in-text referencing and bibliographical details, using the Harvard system. Assignments must comply with the guidelines set out in the 'Communication skills handbook: How to succeed in written and oral communication'.
- 4 Deferred Work: Students who, for medical, family/personal, or employment-related reasons, are unable to complete an assignment or to sit for an examination at the scheduled time may apply to defer an assessment in a course. Such a request must be accompanied by appropriate supporting documentation. One of the following temporary grades may be awarded: IDS (Incomplete - Deferred Examination);

IDM (Incomplete Deferred Make-up); IDB (Incomplete - Both Deferred Examination and Deferred Make-up).