Banner/Catalog Information (Coversheet)

1. ___ New Course or ___ Revision of Existing Course

2. Course prefix and number: ______ PLS 5001 _____________________________

3. Short title: __Research in Political Science__

4. Long title: __Research in Political Science__

5. Hours per week: ___ Class ___ Lab ___ Credit (note: this course is held during the first half of the semester)

6. Terms: ___ Fall ___ Spring ___ Summer ___ On demand

7. Initial term: ___ Fall ___ Spring ___ Summer Year: 2016___

8. Catalog course description: Introduces political science graduate students to the role of graduate research and research training in political science. Topics include the literature review, research ethics, case studies, interview research methods, policy relevant research, and the value of research to the discipline.

9. Course attributes:
   
   General education component: ___ NA ________________________________
   ___ Cultural diversity ___ Honors ___ Writing centered ___ Writing intensive ___ Writing active

10. Instructional delivery

    Type of Course:
    ___ Lecture ___ Lab ___ Lecture/lab combined ___ Independent study/research
    ___ Internship ___ Performance ___ Practicum/clinical ___ Other, specify: __________________

    Mode(s) of Delivery:
    ___ Face to Face ___ Online ___ Study Abroad
    ___ Hybrid, specify approximate amount of on-line and face-to-face instruction_____________________

11. Course(s) to be deleted from the catalog once this course is approved. ___ none

12. Equivalent course(s): ___ none _________________________________

   a. Are students allowed to take equivalent course(s) for credit? ___ Yes ___ No

13. Prerequisite(s):

   a. Can prerequisite be taken concurrently? ___ Yes ___ No

   b. Minimum grade required for the prerequisite course(s)? N/A___
c. Use Banner coding to enforce prerequisite course(s)? ___ Yes ___ No

d. Who may waive prerequisite(s)?

___ No one ___ Chair ___ Instructor ___ Advisor ___ Other (specify)

14. Co-require(s): ____ N/A

15. Enrollment restrictions

a. Degrees, colleges, majors, levels, classes which may take the course: ___ MA students in Political Science

b. Degrees, colleges, majors, levels, classes which may not take the course: ___ none

16. Repeat status: ___ May not be repeated ___ May be repeated once with credit

17. Enter the limit, if any, on hours which may be applied to a major or minor: __

18. Grading methods: ___ Standard ___ CR/NC ___ Audit ___ ABC/NC

19. Special grading provisions:

___ Grade for course will not count in a student’s grade point average.

___ Grade for course will not count in hours toward graduation.

___ Grade for course will be removed from GPA if student already has credit for or is registered in:

___ Credit hours for course will be removed from student’s hours toward graduation if student already has credit for or is registered in:

20. Additional costs to students:

Supplemental Materials or Software ___ none ___ Additional Materials

Course Fee ___ No ___ Yes, Explain if yes

21. Community college transfer:

___ A community college course may be judged equivalent.

___ A community college course may not be judged equivalent.

Note: Upper division credit (3000+) will not be granted for a community college course, even if the content is judged to be equivalent.
Rationale, Justifications, and Assurances (Part I)

1. x Course is required for the major(s) of __M.A. degree in Political Science_________
   ___Course is required for the minor(s) of ___________________
   ___Course is required for the certificate program(s) of _____________
   ___ Course is used as an elective

2. **Rationale for proposal**: This course is a revision of the existing PLS 5001 course, updating the course language, and allowing for on-line delivery. The possibility of online delivery provides added scheduling flexibility for our graduate students.

3. **Justifications for (answer N/A if not applicable)**
   Similarity to other courses: N/A
   Prerequisites: N/A
   Co-requisites: N/A
   Enrollment restrictions: This is a graduate level course focusing specifically on research methods used in Political Science, making the enrollment restriction appropriate.
   Writing active, intensive, centered: N/A

4. **General education assurances (answer N/A if not applicable)**
   General education component: N/A
   Curriculum: N/A
   Instruction: N/A
   Assessment: N/A

5. **Online/Hybrid delivery justification & assurances (answer N/A if not applicable)**
   Online or hybrid delivery justification: The online version of this course will allow added scheduling flexibility for graduate students, and is vital for our development of an on-line MA option for Political Science students.
   Instruction: The course will be delivered primarily via the LMS at EIU (currently D2L), although email and other online technologies may be used occasionally. Online sections will be taught by faculty who completed training for on-line course development and pedagogy. The primary difference between the online course and the face-to-face course will be the conduit for discussion, with a discussion board instead of a seminar room. The faculty and students can facilitate a rich discussion in either learning environment. The technology will be used to support student achievement by allowing them to interact with one another and the instructor at times which are convenient for them.
   Integrity: The integrity of student work will be assured through repeated writing assignments. Given that students often have signature writing styles or voices, having someone else submit
a single assignment will be evident to the instructor. In addition, all assignments are checked through on-line mechanisms for plagiarism. Academic honesty is addressed in the syllabus.

**Interaction:** Instructor-student and student-student interaction will be promoted through a variety of means, including (but not limited to) the LMS discussion board, email, feedback on individual assignments, peer review, and online chats. Faculty are also be available to meet students via phone conversation or on campus for a face-to-face meeting.

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**Model Syllabus (Part II)**

Please include the following information:

1. **Course number and title:** PLS 5001/Research in Political Science
2. **Catalog description:** Introduces political science graduate students to the role of graduate research and research training in the discipline of political science. Topics to be examined include the literature review, research methodology, research ethics, case studies, interview research methods, the potential for policy relevant research, publishing in political science, and the connection between scholarship and teaching in the field.
3. **Learning objectives:**
   a. Identifying, interpreting, and organizing scholarly sources to develop a literature review (G2/critical thinking, G1/content knowledge, G4/advanced research)
   b. Identifying, interpreting and applying data and other relevant information for research (G2/critical thinking, G1/content knowledge, G4/advanced research)
   c. Understanding, evaluating, and applying small-N research methodologies used in Political Science (G2/critical thinking, G4/advanced research, G3/communication)
   d. Identifying and evaluating ethical issues in human subject research (G2/critical thinking, G4/advanced research)
   e. Demonstrating an understanding of the purpose and value of Political Science research (G2/critical thinking, G4/advanced research, G3/communication)
   f. Communicating research development and evaluations in writing, discussions, and presentations (G1/content knowledge, G2/critical thinking, G3/communication)
4. **Course materials:** The required text for this course (available at TRS) is Powner’s *Empirical Research and Writing: A Political Science Student’s Practical Guide*. Additional readings will be required from *PS: Political Science & Politics*, and other journals, available through Booth Library.
5. **Weekly outline of content.**
   a. **Week 1:** Introduction to Research in Political Science/focusing on the value of Political Science research, challenges to research, and developing research questions
   b. **Week 2:** The Value of Cumulative Research/focusing on the purpose and organization of literature reviews, an evaluation of sample literature reviews
   c. **Week 3:** Data, Ethics & Human Subjects Research/focusing on data sources, Ethical issues, and EIU’s IRB certification for human subjects research
   d. **Week 4:** Case Study/focusing on research design, advantages and disadvantages, and case study techniques
   e. **Week 5:** Interviews and Survey Techniques/focusing on questionnaire and survey design, advantages and disadvantages, and common practices
   f. **Week 6:** Research, Publishing & Teaching/focusing on examining the dynamic relations between research, teaching, and the professional world
   g. **Week 7:** Literature Review presentations/focusing on student presentations of their literature review projects and student feedback

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6. Assignments and evaluation, including weights for final course grade.
   a. Weekly participation, 30% of final grade
      Students will be expected to substantively participate and engage in class discussion. In a traditionally-delivered class, this will occur face-to-face, but in the online course, this will occur through the discussion board. Guidelines for satisfactory quantity and quality of discussion will be provided.
   b. Four weekly assignments (weeks 2 and 4-6), 45% of final grade
      Students will write four 2-page papers that analyze and evaluate assigned readings, and require them to apply concepts from the readings to their own research projects.
   c. IRB certification (week 3), 5% of final grade
      Students will complete EIU’s IRB training program. Students who recently completed this training will write a brief reaction paper based on the assigned readings.
   d. Literature review project, 20% of final grade
      Students will develop a research question and compile a bibliography of scholarly sources related to that research question, organizing their sources by schools of thought or an appropriate theme. Students will present their literature review project to classmates, and receive feedback. In the online class, this can be done through the LMS or other technologies.

7. Grading scale.
   A 90-100%  B 80-89%  C 70-79%  D 60-69%  F 0-59%

8. Correlation of learning objectives to assignments and evaluation.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weekly Participation</th>
<th>Weekly Assignments</th>
<th>IRB Training</th>
<th>Literature Review Project</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3a/literature review</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
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<tr>
<td>3b/data</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
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<td>3c/small-N methods</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
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<td>3d/ethics</td>
<td>x</td>
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<td>3e/value of research</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
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<td>3f/written and oral communication</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
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Date approved by the department or school: November 18, 2015
Date approved by the college curriculum committee: December 11, 2015
Date approved by the Honors Council (if this is an honors course):
Date approved by CAA: Not applicable   CGS: February 2, 2016