

## **COURSE OUTLINE**

**Course Code / Title** : HA1012 Fundamentals of Politics

**Pre-requisites** : Nil

**No. of AUs.** : 3

**Contact Hours** : 39

### **Course Aims**

Every discipline has its own vocabularies and ways of expression. The purpose of this module is to introduce students, especially those majoring and minoring in Public Policy and Global Affairs, to the language of political science and ways of thinking seriously about politics. Politics is often misunderstood, or ill-understood. Often, politics gets a bad reputation, without proper comprehension of what it entails. The module is thus designed for students who have never had structured training in the study of politics and are interested to explore the key issues in politics and governance.

Students will be exposed to, and hopefully acquire, the basic theoretical, conceptual, and empirical tools that will enable them to continue with other courses in Public Policy and Global Affairs, and other social science modules. Students will also eventually have a better appreciation for political realities and issues of the day. By the end of the course, students are expected to be able to critically analyse matters concerning politics in a more systematic manner.

### **Intended Learning Outcomes (ILO)**

By the end of the course, you should be able to:

1. Explain the basic concepts pertaining to the study of Political Science
2. Describe important political processes, ideologies and institutions.
3. Critically assess salient contemporary political topics.
4. Debate on the major political issues and events of our time.
5. Discuss political science concepts and issues with your peers and others.

### **Course Content**

1. Introduction
2. The Modern Nation-State
3. Political Ideologies
4. Formal Institutions
5. Informal Institutions

- 6. Parties and Elections
- 7. Political Behaviour
- 8. Authoritarianism and Democratization
- 9. Revolutions
- 10. Beyond the Nation-State
- 11. Political Violence
- 12. Methodological Issues

**Course Assessment**

CA1 - Term Paper	: 30%
CA2 - Tutorial Participation	: 20%
Final Examination	: 50%
<b>Total</b>	-----
	<b>100%</b>