

Common Course Outline
LBST 110
Lobbying and Political Advocacy
3 semester hours

Note: this course was designated as POLS 110 and has been changed to an LBST course

Description

Lobbying and Political Advocacy

Discusses the history and practices of the political system in the United States; examines how to prepare legislation and lobby for its passage, as well as the skill and importance of building political coalitions.

Prerequisite: (RDNG 052 or LVR 2), (ENGL 052 or LVE 2)

Overall Course Objectives.

Upon completion of this course, a student will be able to:

1. Understand the political system in the United States.
2. Evaluate how legislation is passed.
3. Judge how to lobby for passage of legislation.
4. Identify the methods for establishing a successful political action campaign.
5. Demonstrate successful “grassroots” political campaigns.
6. Differentiate the labor movement’s political campaigns since 1650 in the United States.
7. Evaluate the success and difficulties of political coalitions
8. Identify current political campaigns and issues
9. Evaluate ways to personally participate in ongoing political issues and campaigns
10. Develop a lobbying campaign for the passage of a specific piece of legislation

Major Topics

- I. The development of the political system in the United State
- II. The World Trade Organization and its impact on political issues in the United States
- III. The history of labor’s political issues and campaigns
 1. Political activities in Colonial America and during the American War of Independence
 2. Labor parties of the early 1800s and the Jackson campaign
 3. The rise of the two-party system and the challenge of third parties
 4. The alliance of the labor movement and the Democratic Party, with a discussion of Labor Non-Partisan League
 5. The current challenge of third parties

- IV. How legislation is introduced and passed
 - 1. The political structure at federal, state and local levels
 - 2. How legislation is created and passed
- V. Effective lobbying
 - 1. How to create a political position paper
 - 2. How to make effective written communication
 - 3. How to make effective in-person communication
- VI. Current Political Campaigns and Issues
- VII. Building an effective grassroots political movement
- VIII. The benefits and problems of creating a coalition

Course Requirements

Grading/exams: Grading procedures will be determined by the individual faculty member but will include the following:

A written mid-term exam

A written final exam

A class project on individual involvement in a political campaign

Other Course Information

Individual faculty members may include additional course objectives, major topics and other course requirements to the minimum expectations stated in the Common Course Outline.

The Community College of Baltimore County is committed to providing a high-quality learning experience that results in growth in knowledge, attitudes, and skills necessary to function successfully as a transfer student, in a career and as a citizen. To accomplish this goal, we maintain high academic standards and expect students to accept responsibility for their individual growth by attending classes, completing all homework and other assignments, participating in class activities and preparing for tests.

We take seriously our responsibility to maintain high-quality programs and will periodically ask you to participate in assessment activities to determine whether our students are attaining the knowledge, attitudes and skill appropriate to various courses and programs. The assessment activities may take many different forms such as surveys, standardized tests, discussion groups or portfolio evaluations. We ask that you take these activities seriously so that we can obtain valid data to use for the continuous improvement of CCBC's courses and programs.