

**Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research  
Scientific Supervision and Scientific Evaluation Apparatus  
Directorate of Quality Assurance and Academic Accreditation  
Accreditation Department**



# **Academic Program and Course Description Guide**

**2024**

## **Introduction:**

The educational program is a well-planned set of courses that include procedures and experiences arranged in the form of an academic syllabus. Its main goal is to improve and build graduates' skills so they are ready for the job market. The program is reviewed and evaluated every year through internal or external audit procedures and programs like the External Examiner Program.

The academic program description is a short summary of the main features of the program and its courses. It shows what skills students are working to develop based on the program's goals. This description is very important because it is the main part of getting the program accredited, and it is written by the teaching staff together under the supervision of scientific committees in the scientific departments.

This guide, in its second version, includes a description of the academic program after updating the subjects and paragraphs of the previous guide in light of the updates and developments of the educational system in Iraq, which included the description of the academic program in its traditional form (annual, quarterly), as well as the adoption of the academic program description circulated according to the letter of the Department of Studies T 3/2906 on 3/5/2023 regarding the programs that adopt the Bologna Process as the basis for their work.

In this regard, we can only emphasize the importance of writing an academic programs and course description to ensure the proper functioning of the educational process.

## Concepts and terminology:

**Academic Program Description:** The academic program description provides a brief summary of its vision, mission and objectives, including an accurate description of the targeted learning outcomes according to specific learning strategies.

**Course Description:** Provides a brief summary of the most important characteristics of the course and the learning outcomes expected of the students to achieve, proving whether they have made the most of the available learning opportunities. It is derived from the program description.

**Program Vision:** An ambitious picture for the future of the academic program to be sophisticated, inspiring, stimulating, realistic and applicable.

**Program Mission:** Briefly outlines the objectives and activities necessary to achieve them and defines the program's development paths and directions.

**Program Objectives:** They are statements that describe what the academic program intends to achieve within a specific period of time and are measurable and observable.

**Curriculum Structure:** All courses / subjects included in the academic program according to the approved learning system (quarterly, annual, Bologna Process) whether it is a requirement (ministry, university, college and scientific department) with the number of credit hours.

**Learning Outcomes:** A compatible set of knowledge, skills and values acquired by students after the successful completion of the academic program and must determine the learning outcomes of each course in a way that achieves the objectives of the program.

**Teaching and learning strategies:** They are the strategies used by the faculty members to develop students' teaching and learning, and they are plans that are followed to reach the learning goals. They describe all classroom and extra-curricular activities to achieve the learning outcomes of the program.

## Academic Program Description Form

**University Name:** University Of Baghdad

**Faculty/Institute:** College Of Political Science

**Scientific Department:** Political System Departments

**Academic or Professional Program Name:** Bachelor Of Political Science

**Final Certificate Name:** Bachelor of Political Science

**Academic System:** Semester

**Description Preparation Date:** 1/10/12024

**File Completion Date:** 1/10/12024

**Signature:**

**Head of Department Name:**

Asst. Prof. Ali Drewel Mohammed

**Date:**     /     /2024

**Signature:**

**Scientific Associate Name:**

Asst. Prof. Ahmed Aziz Kadhim

**Date:**     /     /2024

**The file is checked by:**

**Department of Quality Assurance and University Performance**

**Director of the Quality Assurance and University Performance Department: Dr.**

**Mohammed Hussein Ali**

**Date:**

**Signature:**

**Approval of the Dean**

## 1. Program Vision

Defining the nature of contemporary global political systems, with a focus on the political systems in Global South countries to highlight similarities and differences compared to those in the Global North. This includes providing comparisons of these systems to clarify the ability of a political system to fulfill its functions more effectively, its capacity to survive, adapt to changes, and face challenges. Additionally, the focus is on researching the mechanisms for developing and enhancing political systems to achieve more efficient functionality through the study of democracy, its mechanisms, and the cultivation of political culture.

Furthermore, the relationship between the political system and its internal environment is clarified through its intermediary channels—political parties, civil society institutions, and public opinion—ensuring a humanistic and civilized discourse that involves governing societies and performing governance practices, not practices of control and domination. Finally, it involves comparing simple states to federal states in terms of their structural organization, as well as examining public policies across advanced and other political systems.

## 2. Program Mission

**The mission of the Department of Political Systems focuses on defining the relationship between politics and society as a close, general, and permanent relationship, where everything social is political and vice versa.** This relationship is not only reflected in intellectual forms in human life but also requires organizational and institutional structures, as well as executive and procedural mechanisms, to manifest in reality.

Thus, this mission centers on studying the nature and characteristics of political authority, the types of states and the reasons and circumstances of their emergence, and the nature and characteristics of ancient, modern, and contemporary political and constitutional systems worldwide. It also includes how to formulate and implement public policies, the functions and authorities of local governments, the development of democracy, electoral and parliamentary systems, human rights, public freedoms, political parties, pressure groups, their types and characteristics, as well as the nature, types, roles, and factors of public opinion. Moreover, it involves theories of social and political development, building political culture, and addressing political issues in the Global South.

The ultimate goal is to build a national identity that transcends sub-loyalties, to establish modern societies and political systems capable of performing their functions, achieving their goals, and solving their problems in a way that serves the

interests of their peoples and fulfills their aspirations.

### 3. Program Objectives

**Preparing a scientifically competent and high-quality workforce with good education in the field of political science is essential for creating an interactive social environment that meets the political developmental needs of society and the state.**

1. Introducing political sociology as a result of the relationship between sociology and politics, and preparing and qualifying specialized leadership cadres in political systems.
2. Introducing the types of states, political and constitutional systems, and supplying relevant institutions with specialists in political science, particularly in the field of political systems.
3. Introducing local governments, their functions, and authorities, and preparing a specialized global workforce in managing parliamentary and local electoral processes.
4. Introducing public policies and the methods for their preparation and implementation.
5. Introducing democracy, electoral, and parliamentary systems, and preparing a specialized global advisory workforce to monitor and supervise global electoral processes of all kinds.
6. Introducing human rights and public freedoms.
7. Introducing political parties, pressure groups, and public opinion.
8. Introducing theories of social and political development, building political culture, and addressing political issues in countries.

### 4. Program Accreditation

Does the program have program accreditation? And from which agency? N/A

### 5. Other external influences

"Reviewing global and Arab curricula and updating the study courses in line with methodological developments in comparable Arab and international universities."

<b>6. Program Structure</b>				
<b>Program Structure</b>	<b>Number of Courses</b>	<b>Credit hours</b>	<b>Percentage</b>	<b>Reviews*</b>
<b>Institution Requirements</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>11</b>		<b>Fundamental</b>
<b>College Requirements</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>42</b>		<b>Fundamental</b>
<b>Department Requirements</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>21</b>		<b>Fundamental</b>
<b>Summer Training</b>	<b>/</b>	<b>/</b>	<b>/</b>	<b>/</b>
<b>Other</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>74</b>		

\* This can include notes whether the course is basic or optional.

<b>7. Program Description</b>				
<b>Year/Level</b>	<b>Course Code</b>	<b>Course Name</b>	<b>Credit Hours</b>	
			<b>theoretical</b>	<b>practical</b>
<b>First year</b>	PSC102	Political system	2	
<b>Second Year</b>	Poso212	Political Sociology	2	
	Arps213	Arab Political Systems (Mashreq Systems)	2	
	LOGO214	Local Governments	2	
	PSCI215	Political Systems in Contemporary Iraq (Monarchical Era)	2	
<b>Third Year</b>	PSA&A319	Asian Political Systems	2	
	PuPo322	Public Policy (in English)	2	
<b>Fourth Year</b>	E&US426	Political Systems in Europe	2	
	RPST&I427	Regional Political Systems (Turkey and Iran)	3	
	PPPo428	Political Parties	2	

<b>8. Expected learning outcomes of the program</b>	
<b>Knowledge</b>	
<p>Explain the intellectual, legal, political, and international realities that govern and regulate international relations.</p> <p>Provide students with knowledge of theories, opinions, principles, and practices related specifically to political science and international policies.</p> <p>Enable students to translate political theories into practical and scientific case studies.</p> <p>Develop students' knowledge and skills for effective planning, implementation, and evaluation in the teaching and learning processes.</p> <p>Expand students' understanding in the fields of international policies, political thought, and political systems.</p> <p>Enhance students' creative abilities in the areas of political approaches, comparisons, and scientific alignments.</p> <p>Strengthen students' skills in innovation, improvisation, and forecasting after mastering the aforementioned topics.</p>	Learning Outcomes Statement 1
<b>Skills</b>	
<p><input type="checkbox"/> Developing skills.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Political empowerment through knowledge and outcomes of political science.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Developing students' knowledge, perceptions, and skills in planning, management, comparison, description, and analysis.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Equipping students with communication skills and effectively using modern educational technologies.</p>	Learning Outcomes Statement 2
<b>Ethics</b>	
Learning Outcomes 4	Learning Outcomes Statement 4
Learning Outcomes 5	Learning Outcomes Statement 5

<b>9. Teaching and Learning Strategies</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lectures and lessons</li> <li>• Developmental courses</li> <li>• Discussion sessions</li> <li>• Workshops</li> <li>• Scientific conferences</li> <li>• Internal and external seminars</li> <li>• Field visits to the three presidencies and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (practical)</li> <li>• Conducting field-based applied research</li> <li>• Encouraging field visits and office hours</li> <li>• Visiting online platforms of global and virtual libraries</li> <li>• Completing the preparation of lectures and study materials, and everything related to them</li> <li>• E-learning during and outside lecture hours via the Google Classroom platform.</li> </ul>



## 10. Evaluation methods

Self-assessment of the student by the professor, determined through observation and continuous class attendance, adherence to academic instructions, and other guidance from the professor and administration regarding the course material. This also includes the student's interaction in lectures and both in-class and extracurricular activities, written exams, oral tests, discussions, and participation within the lectures.

## 11. Faculty

### Faculty Members

Academic Rank	Specialization		Special Requirements/Skills (if applicable)		Number of the teaching staff	
	General	Special			Staff	Lecturer
Professor	Political Science	Political System			9	
Assistant Professor	Political Science	Political System			8	
Lecturer	Political Science	Political System			10	
	English Language	Methods of Teaching English Language			1	
	Arabic Language	Grammar and Linguistics			1	
Assistant Lecturer	Political Science	Political System			7	
		International Studies			2	
		Political thoughts			1	
	Arabic Language	Phonetics			1	

## **Professional Development**

### **Mentoring new faculty members**

planning in this field is based on utilizing the content of the course material and dividing it according to the number of hours and weeks, with each semester consisting of fifteen weeks. Each week includes three hours, two hours, or one theoretical class hour, depending on the course. Therefore, it is required of the course instructor to keep up with scientific, academic, and educational developments related to the subject being taught to the students. The instructor should also prepare a weekly study plan for the course that balances the course content with supplementary materials and recent developments, in accordance with the prescribed hours.

### **Professional development of faculty members**

Briefly describe the academic and professional development plan and arrangements for faculty such as teaching and learning strategies, assessment of learning outcomes, professional development, etc.

## **12. Acceptance Criterion**

According to the Central Admission Regulations set by the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research, as approved by the university for the morning study program, and direct application in accordance with the competition rules, admission plan, and mechanisms established by the college, which are supervised by the university for the evening study program.

## **13. The most important sources of information about the program**

- The Sectoral Board of Deans of Political Science Colleges
- Comparable Global and Arab Universities
- The International Information Network (Internet)
- The Accreditation Program for Political Science Departments / Department of Political Systems

## 14. Program Development Plan





## Program Skills Outline

				Required program Learning outcomes											
Year/Level	Course Code	Course Name	Basic or optional	Knowledge				Skills				Ethics			
				A1	A2	A3	A4	B1	B2	B3	B4	C1	C2	C3	C4
First year	PSC102	Political system		✓				✓				✓			
Second Year	Poso212	Political Sociology													
	Arps213	Arab Political Systems (Mashreq Systems)													
	LOGO214	Local Governments													
	PSCI215	Political Systems in Contemporary Iraq (Monarchical Era)													
Third Year	PSA&A319	Asian Political Systems													
	PuPo322	Public Policy (in English)													
Fourth Year	E&US426	Political Systems in Europe													
	RPST&I427	Regional Political Systems (Middle East)													

	PPPo428	Political Parties													

● **Please tick the boxes corresponding to the individual program learning outcomes under evaluation**

