

2026 Common Course Numbering Articulation Policy (CCNAP)

POL/POLS/POSC/PS 201Z U.S. Politics and Government

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CCN Political Science Subcommittee

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Chair Dustin Ellis

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**[715-025-0070](https://www.oregon.gov/HECC/715-025-0070) institutions that do not offer an equivalent of this course are not required to participate in the CCNAP.

Approved Course Information

Course Subject Code and Number: POL/POLS/POSC/PS 201Z

Course Title: U.S. Politics and Government

Course Credits: 4

Course Description: Introduces political institutions, culture, and behavior in the United States. May include topics such as Constitutional foundations, branches of government, the Bill of Rights (civil rights and liberties), federalism, interest groups, parties, elections, and civic participation.

Course Learning Outcomes:

1. Explain how the institutions of the U.S. government function and interact with each other.
2. Analyze how individuals and other political actors influence contemporary political processes and outcomes.
3. Evaluate struggles over power in the U.S. political system at the local, state, and national levels.

Teach Out Plan: N/A

Required to begin appearing in this catalog year: 2027-28

Maintenance Considerations

OAR 715-025-0110: "The Transfer Council shall ensure the ongoing alignment of courses subject to Common Course Numbering Articulation Policies (CCNAP) between institutions."

The Transfer Council will oversee the review and maintenance of the aligned course. The Council will review courses from three disciplines every five years beginning AY 27-28. The Transfer Council may initiate additional review at any time based on emerging feedback from faculty or institutions and/or system needs. If faculty or institutions have concerns about aligned course information, please contact the Transfer Council at TransferCouncil@hecc.oregon.gov.

Items for consideration when a course is reviewed as part of the maintenance and review schedule:

Consider all changes to course information that would have the effect of causing an institution to be out of compliance with obligations under the CCNAP unless a modification is approved through the process established in this rule or the institution receives an exemption as provided in [OAR 715-025-0060](#). Examples include changes to a course description or course learning outcomes.

The CCN Political Science Subcommittee has no special considerations for alignment of this course.

Overview

Each year, the Transfer Council (TC), in collaboration with the Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC), approves a plan for the development of Common Course Numbering Articulation Policies (CCNAPs) by selecting a set number of introductory or lower-division, highly transferred courses that would benefit from standardized content and numbering. Once courses are selected, the TC appoints a faculty subcommittee comprising representation from faculty. The selection rule ([OAR 715-025-0065](#)) is part of Oregon's ongoing effort to enhance credit transferability and facilitate degree progress for students across institutions.

Each faculty subcommittee appointed by TC collaborates to create CCNAP recommendations for all components of each selected course as outlined in the CCN Framework, ensuring that content aligns with educational goals and transfer objectives. Each finalized CCNAP ensures that course content, competencies, and numbering are consistent statewide, providing students with a seamless credit transfer experience while maintaining academic integrity and coherence across institutions.

This document serves as a statewide policy guiding the development and alignment of Common Course Numbering Articulation Policies (CCNAPs) for **POL/POLS/POSC/PS 201Z U.S. Politics and Government** from Oregon's participating post-secondary institutions. CCNAPs ensure that courses with similar content and competencies are standardized in terms of course number, subject code, title, course description, credits, course learning outcomes, and the Z-designator, located in the last place of the course number field.

The following information represents the recommendation of the **2026 CCN Political Science Subcommittee's** alignment work and discussions for **POL/POLS/POSC/PS 201Z U.S. Politics and Government** as well as the information approved by the Transfer Council on **June 18, 2026**.

Common Course Numbering

[SB 233 \(2021\)](#) established the common course numbering (CCN) system in Oregon. This includes but is not limited to accepting a transfer of academic credit for each course that is subject to a CCNAP as if the academic credit was earned at the institution that is accepting the transfer of academic credit with respect to:

- The total amount of academic credit awarded;
- Satisfying general education requirements for graduation; and

- Satisfying any requirements for a major in a baccalaureate or associate degree program.

Additionally, public post-secondary institutions must recognize and abide by all rights and guarantees outlined in Oregon Revised Statute (ORS) [350.423](#) and Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR) [715-025-0065 through 0115](#).

Finally, an institution may not offer a course similar in course description and course learning outcomes to a course with a CCNAP. Courses that are deemed similar (i.e., articulated as equivalent upon transfer) must adopt the relevant CCNAP.

Transfer Council Decisions

The Transfer Council unanimously voted to recommend to institutions that due to changes in course information under [OAR 715-025- 0065 through 0115](#), colleges and universities should ensure students' academic progress is not disrupted. Courses completed before CCN changes should count toward graduation, even if requirements shift. Holding students harmless means honoring their efforts, supporting them through transitions, and keeping learning—not compliance—the central focus. CCN course information should be adopted as written without exception. For more detailed information on what can be added to the course description and course learning outcomes, see the CCN Framework below. And for more general information, see CCN Reports and Memos on the [Educator Resources—Common Course Numbering](#) webpage.

Common Course Numbering Framework

The Common Course Numbering (CCN) Framework was developed in 2022 by the Systems and Operations Subcommittee and was officially approved by the Transfer Council October 21, 2022. Pursuant to Senate Bill 233 (2021) and [ORS 350.423](#), the Framework establishes requirements for aligning key course elements including subject/subject code and course number, credits, course description, title, and course learning outcomes. The CCN Framework was subsequently updated with clarifying examples and implementation guidance and approved by the Transfer Council at its April 18, 2024 meeting. The following framework provides further clarification and clarity, based on feedback provided by institutions during the first four years of CCN.

Course Element	Implementation Guidance
Course Designator	There must be a common course designator, and it will be a capital Z in the final position in the course number field, with no spaces (e.g., MATH 111Z or MATH 111HZ).
Subject	Subjects must match.
Subject Code (Prefix)	Subject codes must match. Existing subject codes may be retained if they are abbreviated differently (e.g., HIST and HST are both allowed).
Course Number	The course number must match (e.g., 111Z).
Course Credit	Course credits must match. Course credits for separate lecture/lab courses may be approved as a total number of credits for both lecture and lab. As per the CCN OARs (715-025-0075), “any course for which a CCNAP is developed must be the same number of credits at each institution. If a CCNAP is developed that is greater than the least number of credits currently awarded for the course governed by the proposed CCNAP, the subcommittee must provide justification to the Council so that it can consider the issue at the time of adoption.”
Course Description	<p>Course descriptions must match. Institutions may add</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Course requisites/pre-requisites • Information linking a course to a previous iteration of the course <p>Example: Approved course description with allowed additions (showing added course requisites or what is required to enroll in the course and prerequisites, in italics).</p> <p>WR 121Z engages students in the study and practice of critical thinking, reading, and writing. The course focuses on analyzing and composing across varied rhetorical situations and in multiple genres. Students will apply key rhetorical concepts flexibly and collaboratively throughout their writing and inquiry processes.</p> <p><i>Previously WR 121. Prereq: SAT Reading or SAT Writing score below 37, or ACT verbal score below 32, or equivalent.</i></p>
Course Learning Outcomes	<p>Course learning outcomes must match. Institutions may add</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One additional local course learning outcome. • Additional learning outcomes specific to categorical institutional requirements such as information literacy or general education. These will not count as the “one additional...outcome,” above. <p>Example: Approved course learning outcomes with allowed additions (showing the addition of one local course learning outcome and allowed categorical institutional requirements for WR 121Z, in italics).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Apply rhetorical concepts through analyzing and composing a variety of texts; <i>(WR1)(WR3)(CCN)</i> 2. Engage texts critically, ethically, and strategically to support writing goals; <i>(WR1)(IL2)(IL4)(CCN)</i>

Course Element	Implementation Guidance
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Develop flexible composing, revising, and editing strategies for a variety of purposes, audiences, writing situations, and genres; (WR1)(CCN) 4. Reflect on knowledge and skills developed in this course and their potential applications in other writing contexts; (WR1)(WR3)(CCN) 5. <i>Identify and apply some basic elements of information literacy and critical thinking such as locating and analyzing sources, evaluating evidence, and answering objections; (WR1)(WR2)(IL1)(IL2)(IL3)(IL4)(IL5)</i>
Course Title	<p>Course titles must match. Institutions may use different punctuation or Arabic/Roman numerals in course titles.</p> <p>Note: The course title will not be the required primary designator for the common course numbering system courses.</p> <p>Example: MTH 111Z Precalculus I: Functions (approved title) Precalculus 1 - Functions (with allowed Arabic numeral and punctuation)</p>

Approved Information for CCNAP Lecture/Lab Courses

For CCN Courses with a Separate CCNAP for Lecture and Lab:

1. Transfer Council approves a uniform number of credits for both lecture and lab (under two, separate CCNAPs).
 - a. Institutions may determine the credit distribution between the two courses, but their combined credits must equal the approved total.
 - b. Institutions must assign a minimum of one credit for all courses with a CCNAP.
2. If the lecture and lab are
 - a. Two separate courses, meaning a stand-alone lecture and stand-alone lab with separate CCNAPs for each course, both courses **MUST** be completed successfully to articulate as a completed Z-lecture and lab.
3. Institutions **MUST** offer BOTH the lecture and the lab as separate courses, though institutions may decide if the lecture and lab will be offered in the same or different quarters.
4. An institution may only require a student to retake the part of a separate lecture and lab course in which they failed to meet institutional requirements, as outlined in [ORS 715-025-0100, section 4.](#)

For CCN Courses with a Single CCNAP for Lecture and Lab:

1. The Transfer Council approves a uniform number of credits for the course (lecture and lab under one CCNAP).
2. Institutions MUST offer BOTH the lecture and the lab as one course.
3. If the lecture and lab is
 - a. One course with one CCNAP for both the lecture and lab, the entire course MUST be completed successfully to articulate as a completed Z-lecture and lab.

Course Sequence Completion Plans

All sequential courses will provide a teach out plan which outlines how institutions will help current students complete a course sequence if courses in a sequence have become subject to a CCNAP, as per [ORS 715-025-0105](#). For the CCNAP, sequential courses are defined as courses that are inter-dependent (e.g., requisites) and may or may not need to be taken in a certain order.

Note: If a CCNAP is part of a course sequence, insert the plan here; otherwise, omit this section.

CCNAP Termination

If an institution decides to terminate a course covered by a CCNAP, it must notify the Transfer Council. Students who were enrolled in that course at the time of its termination continue to have the rights and guarantees under the CCNAP for at least seven academic years following the year of termination (OAR 715-025-0105).

Date: June 18, 2026

Provide copies to:

CCN Political Science Subcommittee Chair Dustin Ellis

Transfer Council Co-chairs Chris Long and David Plotkin

HECC CCN Lead Jane Denison-Furness, Transfer Initiatives Unit