

Political Science Convening Notes

Disciplinary Sector Leaders

Community Colleges: Don Kilguss, Bristol Community College
State University: Ben Taylor, Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts
UMass: Susan Gallagher, UMass Lowell

Faculty Attendees:

Eric Budd	ebudd@fitchburgstate.edu	Fitchburg State University
Paul Chiano	pchiano@massasoit.edu	Massasoit Community College
Lisa Cook	lcook@qcc.mass.edu	Quinsigamond Community College
Diane Curtis	dcurtis@polsci.umass.edu	University of Massachusetts Amherst
Lawrence Davis	ldavis@northshore.edu	North Shore Community College
John Fielding	j_fielding@mwcc.mass.edu	Mount Wachusett Community College
Susan Gallagher	susan_gallagher@uml.edu	University of Massachusetts Lowell
Shannon Jenkins	sjenkins@umassd.edu	University of Massachusetts Dartmouth
Robert Kaulfuss	kaulfussr@middlesex.mass.edu	Middlesex Community College
Don Kilguss	donald.kilguss@bristolcc.edu	Bristol Community College
Paul Kowert	paul.kowert@umb.edu	University of Massachusetts Boston
Michael Magala	mmagala@stcc.edu	Springfield Technical Community College
Kenneth Paulsen	kspaulse@bhcc.mass.edu	Bunker Hill Community College
Stephen Slaner	sslaner@necc.mass.edu	Northern Essex Community College
David Smailes	dsmailles@westfield.ma.edu	Westfield State University
Ben Taylor	j.b.taylor@mcla.edu	Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts

Foundational Courses

Three of the Following:

American Government
Comparative Government
International Relations
State and Local Government*

*UMass Dartmouth does not offer State and Local Government and will give students a free elective credit upon transfer.

*MCLA does not offer State and Local Government and will give students credit for a 300-level Political Science course.

The goal of the meeting was to have system-wide agreement on what the foundational courses are for the first two years of study in the discipline and a commitment that our campuses will accept these courses and count them towards the baccalaureate degree. Transfer professionals also attended the meeting and provided insight on a number of issues.

Disciplinary Segmental Leaders requested that faculty submit syllabi for the foundational courses prior to the meeting in order to conduct a review that would allow them to identify core course components. During the meeting, faculty agreed on the core components for American Government, Comparative Government, International Relations, State and Local Government.

Following this exercise, faculty discussed community college course alignment. They agreed that if a course covered a certain percent (specifics below) of the topics in the core course components sheet, it would be considered appropriate for transfer for a Political Science major.

- 80% in American Government
- 75% Comparative Government
- 80% International Relations
- 75% State and Local Government

Disciplinary Segmental Leaders agreed that identifying a minimum percent of topics covered would allow faculty to teach the courses based on their own interests and specialties, as well as accommodate for any time constraints.

The components are not necessarily in order of importance, nor does a course need to be organized chronologically to be eligible for transfer. Additionally, some of the items may be considered optional, such as public policy and media in American Government.

One faculty member asked if the topic of which courses would be considered foundational would be discussed and said he believed that Introduction to Political Science should be included in the list. The foundational courses were agreed upon during the Fall convening and since only one community college offered that course, other faculty did not think it would be beneficial to consider it “foundational” for a statewide transfer pathway. However, the equivalencies for that course would remain the same and campuses that accepted the course in the past would continue to do so unless otherwise specified.

Faculty expressed an interest in sharing the syllabi used during the meeting could be shared. They have been asked to use the Yammer site to upload their syllabi. To join Yammer, please visit:
<https://www.yammer.com/massachusettsacademictransferpathways>.

Transfer professionals were asked to notify Lois Alves (lalves@bhe.mass.edu) should any changes need to be made to the Pathways sheets. Course equivalencies will be updated annually to maintain accurate transfer pathways information for students.

Discipline: Political Science
Course: American Government
Essential Core Course Components

Origins of the US Constitution
Federalism
Civil Liberties
Civil Rights
Congress
Presidency and Bureaucracy
Judiciary
Political Parties and Elections
Interest Groups and Political Participation
Public Policy – Optional
Media – Optional

Community College Course Alignment
American Government

Community College	Course Number and Title	Adequately addresses Essential Core Components	Notes
Berkshire	GOV 105 United States Gov	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Need More Info	
Bristol	GVT 111 US Government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Need More Info	
Bunker Hill	GOV 101 Gov/Politics in the U.S.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Need More Info	
Cape Cod	GOV 111 American Government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Need More Info	
Greenfield	POL 101 American Politics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Need More Info	
Holyoke	POL 110 U.S. National Gov	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Need More Info	
MassBay	GV 201 American Government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Need More Info	
Massasoit	GOVT 105 Amer National Gov	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Need More Info	
Middlesex	GOV 120 American Gov	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Need More Info	
Mt Wachusett	POL 205 Amer National Gov	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Need More Info	
North Shore	GOV 102 Amer Natl Gov & Politics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Need More Info	
Northern Essex	GOV 101 Amer Gov & Politics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Need More Info	
Quinsigamond	PSC 201 United States Gov	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Need More Info	
Roxbury	SSI 119 Intro to US Gov & Politics	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Need More Info	Not present.
Springfield	PSC 101 Amer Gov & Politics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Need More Info	

Discipline: Political Science
Course: Comparative Government
Essential Core Course Components

Origins and types of state
Concepts, methods, and theories in comparative politics
Comparative economic development
Participatory institutions and organization
The role of institutions within states
Comparative political developmental
Political cultures
Origins and types of political conflict

Community College Course Alignment
Comparative Government

Community College	Course Number and Title	Adequately addresses Essential Core Components	Notes
Berkshire	GOV 125 Comparative Gov	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Need More Info	
Bristol	GVT 112 Comparative Gov	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Need More Info	
Bunker Hill	GOV 211 Comparative Gov	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Need More Info	
Cape Cod	GOV 101 Comparative Politics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Need More Info	
Greenfield	POL 103 Comparative Politics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Need More Info	
Holyoke	POL 126 Comparative Gov	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Need More Info	
MassBay			Not offered.
Massasoit	GOVT 305 Comparative Government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Need More Info	Will begin to offer Fall 2015.
Middlesex	GOV 110 Intro to Government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Need More Info	
Mt Wachusett			Not offered.
North Shore			Not offered.
Northern Essex			Not offered.
Quinsigamond			Not offered.
Roxbury			Not offered.
Springfield			Not offered.

Discipline: Political Science
Course: International Relations
Essential Core Course Components

Evolution of the state and international system
IGOs/NGOs in the international system and international law
Development and international political economy
Origins of conflict in and among states
Theories of international relations
International security
Non-state actors in the international system

Community College Course Alignment
International Relations

Community College	Course Number and Title	Adequately addresses Essential Core Components	Notes
Berkshire			Not offered.
Bristol			Not offered.
Bunker Hill			Not offered.
Cape Cod	GOV 102 International Relations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Need More Info	
Greenfield	POL 105 International Politics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Need More Info	
Holyoke	POL 125 World Politics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Need More Info	
MassBay	GV 210 Contemp Global Issues	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Need More Info	
Massasoit			Not offered.
Middlesex			Not offered.
Mt Wachusett	POL 210 Amer International Rel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Need More Info	
North Shore			Not offered.
Northern Essex			Not offered.
Quinsigamond			Not offered.
Roxbury	SSI 210 Intro to International Rel	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Need More Info	Not present.
Springfield	PSCI 250 International Relations		No longer offered.

Discipline: Political Science
Course: State and Local Government
Essential Core Course Components

State and local constitutions and charters
Federalism
State legislature and local governance structures, executives
State Representation in national institutions: Senate and House of Representatives
Voting and elections (i.e. state ballot initiatives and referendums)
State budgets/city and town budgets/property taxes/other state and local taxes
Political parties and interests groups
States and local governments as laboratories of social change/ legal contests/policy developments
Public policy and administration

Community College Course Alignment
 State and Local Government

Community College	Course # and Title	Adequately addresses Essential Core Components	Notes
Berkshire			Not offered.
Bristol	GVT 251 State and Local Gov	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Need More Info	
Bunker Hill	GOV 103 State/Local Politics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Need More Info	
Cape Cod			Not offered.
Greenfield			Not offered.
Holyoke	POL 120 State and Local Gov	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Need More Info	
Mass Bay			Not offered.
Massasoit	GOVT 301 State and Local Gov	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Need More Info	
Middlesex			Not offered.
Mt Wachusett	POL 211 Massachusetts & Federal Systems	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Need More Info	
North Shore	GOV 104 State & Local Gov in Amer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Need More Info	
Northern Essex			Not offered.
Quinsigamond	PSC 221 State and Local Gov	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Need More Info	
Roxbury	SSI 120 State and Local Politics	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Need More Info	Not present.
Springfield			Not offered.