

PSC 4186 – Dissertation I

Introduction

In this course unit, students will learn the process of research proposal writing, conducting research, and political science writing. The focus is on preparing the Special Degree students for their research and dissertation writing. Students are expected to work on their research topics, research problems and hypotheses, literature survey and the research designs. By the end of the Semester, they are expected to complete and present their research proposals.

Objectives

This course unit seeks to achieve the following objectives:

- i. To train special degree students in Political Science in the writing of their final year research proposals, with emphasis on research problems, hypotheses, literature review and research designs.
- ii. To enable students to learn practical aspects of research.
- iii. To train students in the art of political science analysis and writing.

Learning Outcomes

At the end of this course unit, students will have

- i. Finalized their research proposals,
- ii. Learned in the class room as well as through practical exposure methods and techniques of field research, and
- iii. Learned the art of political science writing.

Course Content

This course will combine class room teaching, field activity, field training and practical exercises.

Evaluation

Students will be evaluated according to the following scheme:

Class attendance and participation	10%
Mid-term test	10%
Research Proposal	10%.

Recommended Reading

Johnson, J. B. and H. T. Reynolds, 2007, *Political Science Research Methods*, Washington: CQ Press.