



School of Graduate and Extended Studies
Dual Credit Program
Humphreys 410
Office 660-543-8718
FAX 660-543-8333
www.ucmo.edu/dualcredit
scruz@ucmo.edu

Dear Girls State Participant,

Congratulations on your selection for participation in the American Legion Missouri Girls State Program. As in past years we are offering college credit for your successful completion of Girls State, and the academic requirements as explained in the syllabi. This year we are excited to announce that there will be two options to select from for earning dual credit through UCM. *Please note that you must meet the requirements as explained in the attached syllabi to be eligible for college credit in either option.* Abstract descriptions of each option are provided below and a detailed syllabus for each are enclosed.

Option I (2 Credit Hours Pass/Fail):

All work will be completed at Girls State for this option, see the attached syllabus. Once you have been verified as successfully completing the Girls State program based upon the requirements prescribed in the syllabus, we will notify you via the email address you provided. This email will include: notification of your eligibility to participate in this option, enrollment information, and further instruction on the credit option you have chosen.

Option II (3 Credit Hours, Letter Grade):

*This option requires additional work, which includes: Researching and writing a paper that builds on the information that was covered in your classes and academic sessions at Missouri Girls State, see attached syllabus. ****You will need internet access as all work will be submitted online.**** (If you have any questions about the paper, grade, or course work please contact Dr. Shari Bax at bax@ucmo.edu).* Once you have been verified as successfully completing the Girls State program, based upon the requirements prescribed in the syllabus, we will notify you via email. This email will include: notification of your eligibility to participate in this option, enrollment information, and further instruction on the credit option you have chosen.

Tuition for these options is set at \$85 per credit hour which is just one third of the cost of regular undergraduate tuition. If you are interested in either of these options, **please return the interest form provided along with your Girls State packet information on the first day of Girls State.** If you have any questions please contact me at 660-543- 8718.

Sincerely,

Sandy Cruz
Dual Credit Program Coordinator

Important Note: If your son is planning on attending another college or university, we would recommend that you contact them directly to find out whether this credit will transfer before signing up for this credit. The course number is POLS 1244 and the syllabus can be found on our website at ucmo.edu if that college needs a copy.

Interest Form

University of Central Missouri
410 Humphreys Warrensburg, MO 64093-2324
www.ucmo.edu/dualcredit
1-877-SAY-UCMO, Ext. 23

By completing this form you are giving UCM permission to contact you via e-mail once you have been verified as successfully completing the Girls State program based upon your completion of the requirements prescribed in the syllabus and your expressed interest in our college credit program.

Personal Data

Student Name: _____
Last First Middle

Home Address: _____

County: _____ City: _____, MO Zip: _____

Home Telephone: (____) _____ - _____ Birth Date: ____/____/____

Email Address Student: _____ Parent: _____

Sex: () Male () Female Marital Status: () Single () Married

Are you: () US Citizen () Non-Resident () Resident Alien Do you consider yourself to be Hispanic/Latino? () Yes () No

Ethnic Origin: () White () Black () Hispanic () Asian/Pacific Islander () American Indian/Alaskan Native

Admission to the University of Central Missouri is not prohibited because of race, religion, sex, age, national origin, veteran or handicap. Age, racial, and sexual data are important in determining the effectiveness of efforts related to provision of equal educational opportunity. This information is not used for admissions purposes.

*This signature allows UCM and Girls State to discuss course material, grading procedures, and eligibility information within each entity as well as with the parents of the above mentioned Girls State Participant.

Student Signature: _____

Political Science 1244
Workshop in Political Science

Instructor of Record: Dr. Shari Garber Bax E-Mail: bax@ucmo.edu Office: Wood 5

Course required Reading Material: MISSOURI BOYS STATE CITIZENSHIP MANUAL or MISSOURI GIRLS STATE MANUAL, and any hand-outs and/or manuals provided in the school of instruction

Course Description and Objectives:

The purpose of the class is to introduce the student to the workings of state, county and local governments. This is accomplished through a weeklong intensive educational activity consisting of lectures, guest speakers, and a practical simulation experience. The general curriculum is multifaceted. It includes instruction about local governments--city and county--and state government. The workings of these three types of government are the core of the simulation held each day of the workshop. At the outset, every student is randomly assigned to a city, which is one of two cities within a county. With the other "citizens" of the city/county, the student is instructed in the structure and functioning of municipal government, county government and state government. Each city and county is responsible for establishing a government, and once established passing city/county ordinances, creating a budget, and carrying out city/county business by applying appropriate political processes.

Students also participate in a partisan organization as part of their general instruction. Upon arrival, each student is randomly assigned to a political party (the federalists or the nationalists), and as such will participate in caucus-convention activities and vote in primaries.

Other core instructional tools are general assemblies. At general assemblies, an assortment of public officials including the Governor and other statewide officials, and other national political figures speak and answer questions about government and politics.

In addition to the general curriculum, a specific curriculum is provided to students within a selected school of instruction. There are five schools of instruction -- government executive, law, law enforcement, legislative, and media. The student selects one school of instruction to attend. Throughout the week the student is given 8 hours of instruction within that specific area. Educated and experienced experts within the respective field provide this instruction. Student comprehension of the general and specific curriculum is assessed through examinations at the end of the week. Student application is assessed through participation in the simulation.

Upon completion of this course, the student will be expected to have a working knowledge of the functions of state and local governments, as well as a better understanding of how governmental authority impacts on the lives of citizens and the importance of participation in a democratic political system. More specifically the course objectives are to 1) provide knowledge of state and local government 2) instill a sense of relevance of state and local issues, 3) heighten interest and awareness of public service as a career choice, 4) provide a working knowledge of the Missouri Constitution, and 5) provide an understanding of bureaucratic hierarchy in local and state government.

Throughout the workshop students are introduced to key concepts essential to the understanding of democratic political systems. It is expected that students will develop an

understanding of these ideas including, but not limited to, policy-making, civil liberties and civil rights, due process, campaigns and campaign management, the legislative process, and adjudication. Students are also given the opportunity to discuss and formulate policy positions regarding current issues such as abortion, gun control, law enforcement, and drug abuse.

Eligibility and Grading: Throughout the week, the core concepts and skill are developed and assessed in two ways--examination, and participation in governmental activities (simulations of local and state governments).

Completion of the following standards constitutes eligibility for college credit. In order to be awarded college credit, the student must apply in the fall following his participation in Boys State or Girls State.

- 1) Successfully complete the entire week. Students who leave the program for any reason will not be eligible for college credit.
- 2) Actively participate in the academic portions of the program (i.e. special assemblies, schools of instruction, and governmental activities). It must be evident that the student is at least attempting to be an active citizen by running for government and/or political office, seeking appointments, helping other citizens campaign for office, serving as a reporter for one of the medias, etc. Daily newspapers, city and county reports, ballots, and reports by the counselors will be used to evaluate each citizen's participation. In addition, each student will write an essay or complete a participation chart summarizing participation and what was learned. The student must complete and submit this essay or chart and it must satisfactorily address the question and adequately demonstrate an ability to communicate in writing in order to be eligible. Participation in fitness activities is not counted toward a student's academic participation.
- 3) Receive at least a 70% on all examinations.

Upon meeting the above stated criteria, the student will be contacted by the university in the fall following the program, and be given the chance to enroll. The student may choose to enroll for two credit hours or three credit hours.

Option 1, Two Hour Credit: All work is completed. The student must complete the enrollment process to receive a grade of "pass". Grades are recorded in the December following the program.

Option 2, Three Hour Credit: The student must complete the enrollment process in the fall to take this course in the spring following the program. Each student enrolled will be expected to write a 3-5 page paper integrating the knowledge of state and local government gained through Boys State or Girls State with current Missouri government and politics; specific topics and assignment criteria will be posted on the course webpage in January. This paper will be used to determine the student's final grade for the three credit hour course¹. Student essays will be evaluated based upon completeness and content (knowledge and understanding of subject, explanation and justification of arguments, and depth of analysis), and general

¹ The student's successful completion of Boys State or Girls State ensures the student a minimum grade of D, but the paper will be used to determine grades of A, B, C, D.

presentation of the material including organization, grammar, citation, and clarity. Papers are due in April, and grades recorded in May.

Course Schedule

Activity	Option 1, 2 hr Credit	Option 2, 3 hr Credit
Attend Program	June 2011	June 2011
Eligibility determined, university contacts students to enroll	October 10, 2011	October 10, 2011
Enrollments Due	November 14, 2011	November 14, 2011
Students receive course webpage access information	N/A	December 5, 2011
2 Hour credit closes, grades submitted	December 12, 2011	N/A
Spring class opens, course webpage available	N/A	January 9, 2012
Paper due	N/A	April 6, 2012
3 Hour Credit class closes, grades submitted	N/A	May 7, 2012