



MONROE COUNTY
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Course Outcome Summary

General Education Satisfier Course

**POLSC 151: Introduction to American
Government**

Course Information

Division	Humanities / Social Sciences
Contact Hours	45
Total Credits	3

Prerequisites RDG 090 and ENGL 090 or qualifying scores on accepted placement tests

Course Description

Students will examine the fundamental components of American government from the perspective of political science. This includes understanding the historical and political culture that shaped the structure of the government, its constitution, and the political norms and values that are protected in the constitution, its amendments, and laws. Students will also learn about different political actors and groups, such as interest groups, political parties, media, etc. that participate in the political process. Students will also explore the structures of government and power, such as the Congress, the presidency, the courts, the system of federalism, and the electoral process.

This course is approved as a General Education competency satisfier.

General Education Goal: Social and Cultural Awareness

Competency: Understand the processes that influence human values, thoughts, and social systems, and behavior.

Learning Outcome: Students will examine the impact of social factors on personal beliefs, while considering alternatives to the dominant culture's viewpoint.

General Education Learning Objectives

- Recognize the process by which individual acquire social knowledge, attitudes, and beliefs.
- Recognize major influences on social behavior and social systems.
- Demonstrate knowledge of human diversity including characteristics of a culture outside the student's own.
- Demonstrate knowledge of at least one systematic method for obtaining knowledge about social influences according to a recognized social science discipline.

Course Outcomes

In order to evidence success in this course, the students will be able to:

- Explain how the history of the United States and its founding shaped the political attitudes and governmental structures of the American government. This includes the U.S. Constitution, the system of federalism, key constitutional amendments and court cases, the Bill of Rights and different civil liberties and civil rights movements.
Applies to General Education Objective
B: Recognize major influences on social behavior and social systems.
C: Demonstrate knowledge of human diversity including characteristics of a culture outside the student's own.
- Students will be able to outline the different political actors that compete in the process of governing, such as interest groups, advocacy groups media, political parties, politicians, and the state.



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Applies to General Education Objective

- A: Recognize the process by which individual acquire social knowledge, attitudes, and beliefs.
 - B: Recognize major influences on social behavior and social systems.
 - C: Demonstrate knowledge of human diversity including characteristics of a culture outside the student's own.
 - D: Demonstrate knowledge of at least one systematic method for obtaining knowledge about social influences according to a recognized social science discipline.
3. Students will be able to describe composition of the American government system, including the presidency, the Congress, the Courts, the electoral system, and the federal division of powers.

Applies to General Education Objective

- A: Recognize the process by which individual acquire social knowledge, attitudes, and beliefs.
 - B: Recognize major influences on social behavior and social systems.
 - C: Demonstrate knowledge of human diversity including characteristics of a culture outside the student's own.
 - D: Demonstrate knowledge of at least one systematic method for obtaining knowledge about social influences according to a recognized social science discipline.
4. Throughout the course, students will apply theories of power, legitimacy, and political socialization in their analysis of American politics.

Applies to General Education Objective

- A: Recognize the process by which individual acquire social knowledge, attitudes, and beliefs.
- B: Recognize major influences on social behavior and social systems.
- C: Demonstrate knowledge of human diversity including characteristics of a culture outside the student's own.
- D: Demonstrate knowledge of at least one systematic method for obtaining knowledge about social influences according to a recognized social science discipline.

Honors Program Objectives: Citizenship

Citizenship - Learning Outcome: Students will explain what constitutes citizenship along with the rights and duties of being a United States Citizen.

Honors Outcome

In order to evidence success in the honors component, the honor students will be able to:

1. Critically evaluate the challenges of citizenship in the context of increasing globalization in the areas of environmental policy and human rights.

Applies to Honors Program Objective: Citizenship

- A. Identify the process and institutions that influence participatory citizenship in the United States or global society.
- B. Describe the rights and responsibilities of citizens.