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:
This course offers a survey of the foundational concepts of political science, including a survey of its various sub-fields – American politics, comparative politics, international politics and political philosophy. Students will analyze political ideas, theories, ideologies, systems and policies and will be asked to apply these concepts in identifying types of political institutions, describing political behavior from an empirical perspective, and to construct normative critiques of political behavior. This includes concepts such as the state, power, political actors, social science research methods, and political values. With these tools, students will focus on and investigate political problems on a national and global level as well as define central concepts related to the study of political science.

This course is approved as a General Education competency satisfier.

General Education Goal: Social and Cultural Awareness
Competency: Understand the process that influences human values, thoughts, social systems, and behavior.
Learning Outcome: Students will examine the impact of social factors on personal belief, while consider alternatives to the dominate culture’s viewpoint.

General Education Learning Objectives
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.
Course Outcome Summary

General Education Satisfier Course

POLSC 153 Introduction to Political Science

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

1. Distinguish between politics, authority, and the different forms or types of states.
   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.

2. Understand the role of national identity, nationalism and ideology in the pursuit of the ideal state
   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.

3. Evaluate different empirical and normative political theories as they apply to political actors, political behavior, and political institutions
   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.