# 7/27/2020

# brcc keystone logo

Baton Rouge Community College

*Academic Affairs Master Syllabus*

Date Approved: 4 September 2020

Term and Year of Implementation: Fall 2020

**Course Title:** American Government

**BRCC Course Rubric:** POLI 2013

**Previous Course Rubric**: POLI 251

**Lecture Hours per week-Lab Hours per week-Credit Hours**: 3-0-3

**Per semester: Lecture Hours-Lab Hours-Instructional Contact Hours**: 45-0-45

**Louisiana Common Course Number:** CPOL 2013

**CIP Code:** 45.1002

**Course Description:** Introduces the principles, institutions, processes, and functions of the United States government. Emphasizes national government, development of our constitutional system, and the role of the citizen in the democratic process.

**Prerequisites:**  None

**Co-requisites:** None

**Suggested Enrollment Cap:** 35

**Learning Outcomes.** *Upon successful completion of this course, the students will be able to:*

1. Discuss the major theoretical and historical underpinnings of the U.S. constitution.

2. Identify the elements and concepts underpinning the three institutions of government, governing processes, the exercise of power, and the political outcomes associated with each.

3. Identify the evolving forms of citizen participation and explain the influence of socio-political movements, interest groups, political parties, campaigns and elections on democratic politics and policy outcomes.

4. Describe contemporary major policy issues in domestic and foreign policy and evaluate multiple perspectives regarding their solutions.

**General Education Learning Outcome(s):** This course supports the development of competency in the following area(s). Students will:

Examine social responsibilities, ethics, and individual rights in a democratic society. (General Education Competency: Teamwork)

**Assessment Measures.** Assessment of all learning outcomes will be measured using the following methods:

1. Departmental-designed post exam linked to each SLO will be administered.

2. Instructor graded exams including multiple choice, identifications and/or essays

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4. Instructor designed instruments such as a policy journal or policy memo

**Information to be included on the Instructor’s Course Syllabi:**

* ***Disability Statement*:** Baton Rouge Community College seeks to meet the needs of its students in many ways. See the Office of Disability Services to receive suggestions for disability statements that should be included in each syllabus.
* ***Grading:*** The College grading policy should be included in the course syllabus. Any special practices should also go here. This should include the instructor’s and/or the department’s policy for make-up work. For example in a speech course, “Speeches not given on due date will receive no grade higher than a sixty” or “Make-up work will not be accepted after the last day of class”.
* ***Attendance Policy*:** Include the overall attendance policy of the college. Instructors may want to add additional information in individual syllabi to meet the needs of their courses.
* ***General Policies*:** Instructors’ policy on the use of things such as beepers and cell phones and/or hand held programmable calculators should be covered in this section.
* ***Cheating and Plagiarism*:** This must be included in all syllabi and should include the penalties for incidents in a given class. Students should have a clear idea of what constitutes cheating in a given course.
* ***Safety Concerns:*** In some courses, this may be a major issue. For example, “No student will be allowed in the lab without safety glasses”. General statements such as, “Items that may be harmful to one’s self or others should not be brought to class”.
* ***Library/ Learning Resources:*** Since the development of the total person is part of our mission, assignments in the library and/or the Learning Resources Center should be included to assist students in enhancing skills and in using resources. Students should be encouraged to use the library for reading enjoyment as part of lifelong learning.

**Expanded Course Outline:**

I. The Founding

A. The Declaration of Independence

B. The Constitution

C. The Bill of Rights and other Amendments

II. The Institutions of Government

A. The U.S. Congress

B. The Presidency

C. The Judiciary

D. The Bureaucracy

III. Participation and Citizenship

A. Interest Groups

B. Parties

C. The Media

D. Federalism

E. Public Opinion

F. Voting & Elections

IV. Policies

A. Domestic & Economic Policy

B. Foreign & Defense Policy