



Education and Humanities Division  
1400 Tanyard Road, Sewell, NJ 08080  
856-468-5000

## **POL 103: Introduction to Political Science**

Syllabus

Lecture Hours/Credits: 3/3

### **Catalog Description**

*Prerequisite: RDG099 or ENG 104*

This is an introductory course in Political Science with emphasis on tools of the discipline, political systems, political policymaking, political philosophy, and political change.

### **Textbook and Course Materials**

It is the responsibility of the student to confirm with the bookstore and/or their instructor the textbook, handbook, and any other materials required for their specific course and section.

Click here to see current textbook prices at [rcgc.bncollege.com](http://rcgc.bncollege.com).

### **Evaluation Assessment**

#### **Online Proctoring**

All courses offered at RCSJ, whether they are web-enhanced, hybrid, or fully online, may include assessments that make use of Online Proctoring. To find out more about Online Proctoring, and to learn about the minimum technical requirements, visit [rcsj.edu/elearning/online-proctoring](http://rcsj.edu/elearning/online-proctoring).

### **Grading Distribution**

Grading to be determined by individual instructors.

Individual instructors may include the following assessment(s):

- Exams
- Quizzes
- Written Assignments
- Research Paper
- Group Discussions
- Activities
- Attendance and Participation

## Grading

The grading scale for each course and section will be determined by the instructor and distributed the first day of class.

## Rowan College South Jersey Core Competencies

(Based on the NJCCC General Education Foundation - August 15, 2007; Revised 2011; Adopted 2014)

This comprehensive list reflects the core competencies that are essential for all RCSJ graduates; however, each program varies regarding competencies required for a specific degree. Critical thinking is embedded in all courses, while teamwork and personal skills are embedded in many courses.

1. **Written and Oral Communication:** Students will communicate effectively in both speech and writing.
2. **Quantitative Knowledge and Skills:** Students will use appropriate mathematical and statistical concepts and operations to interpret data and to solve problems
3. **Scientific Knowledge and Reasoning:** Students will use the scientific method of inquiry, through the acquisition of scientific knowledge.
4. **Technological Competency:** Students will use computer systems or other appropriate forms of technology to achieve educational and personal goals
5. **Society and Human Behavior:** Students will use social science theories and concepts to analyze human behavior and social and political institutions and to act as responsible citizens.
6. **Humanistic Perspective:** Students will analyze works in the fields of art, history, music, or theater; literature; philosophy and/or religious studies; and/or will gain competence in the use of a foreign language
7. **Historical Perspective:** Students will understand historical events and movements in World, Western, non-Western or American societies and assess their subsequent significance.
8. **Global and Cultural Awareness:** Students will understand the importance of a global perspective and culturally diverse peoples.
9. **Ethical Reasoning and Action:** Students will understand ethical issues and situations.
10. **Information Literacy:** Students will address an information need by locating, evaluating, and effectively using information.

## POL 103 Core Competencies

This course focuses on three of RCSJ's Core Competencies:

- Written and Oral Communication
- Society and Human Behavior
- Historical Perspective

## Student Learning Outcomes: Introduction to Political Science

Successful completion of POL 103 will help students:	RCSJ Core Competencies	Evaluation / Assessment (Additional means of evaluation may be included by individual instructors)
<p>Understand the field of Political Science as an academic discipline:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Describe the central questions that political scientists investigate and the methods of inquiry used to do so</li> <li>• Demonstrate an understanding of, and an ability to apply, the basic concepts and theories used most frequently by political scientists to analyze major political ideas, institutions, and issues</li> <li>• Define the basic vocabulary and concepts used by political scientists</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Society and Human Behavior</li> <li>- Historical Perspective</li> <li>- Written and Oral Communication</li> </ul>	<p>Exams and Quizzes Written Essays Research Paper Group Discussions Activities Attendance and Participation</p>
<p>Examine issues in the area of Political Science:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrate an understanding of the central political, economic, and social issues driving contemporary inter-state relations and conflict in the world today</li> <li>• Identify, analyze, and compare the major types of political regimes, governments, electoral systems, and party systems in use in the world today</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Society and Human Behavior</li> <li>- Historical Perspective</li> <li>- Written and Oral Communication</li> </ul>	<p>Exams and Quizzes Written Essays Research Paper Group Discussions Activities Attendance and Participation</p>
<p>Evaluate generalized theories in light of America's political experience:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrate an understanding of America's political development</li> <li>• Develop a basic understanding of democracy and what it means today</li> <li>• Demonstrate a general knowledge of the U.S. Constitution</li> <li>• Understand the three cornerstones and roles of American Government:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Legislative</li> <li>2. Executive</li> <li>3. Judicial</li> </ol> </li> <li>• Identify and analyze the problems facing America today</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Society and Human Behavior</li> <li>- Historical Perspective</li> <li>- Written and Oral Communication</li> </ul>	<p>Exams and Quizzes Written Essays Research Paper Group Discussions Activities Attendance and Participation</p>
<p>Develop a foundation for further exploration in the field of Political Science:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Differentiate between the four subfields of Political Science as a foundation of further study:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Political Theory</li> <li>2. International Relations</li> <li>3. Comparative Politics</li> </ol> </li> <li>• Boundary Spanning</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Society and Human Behavior</li> <li>- Historical Perspective</li> <li>- Written and Oral Communication</li> </ul>	<p>Exams and Quizzes Written Essays Research Paper Group Discussions Activities Attendance and Participation</p>

<b>Successful completion of POL 103 will help students:</b>	<b>RCSJ Core Competencies</b>	<b>Evaluation / Assessment (Additional means of evaluation may be included by individual instructors)</b>
Understand the importance of politics and political participation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Construct an effective argument for the importance of the study of politics for everyday life</li> <li>• Understand that events around the world influence our day-to-day lives</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Society and Human Behavior</li> <li>- Historical Perspective</li> <li>- Written and Oral Communication</li> </ul>	Exams and Quizzes Written Essays Research Paper Group Discussions Activities Attendance and Participation

### **Topical Outline**

- The Study of Politics
- The Idea of the Public Good
- Utopias
- Constitutional Democracy
- The Authoritarian Model
- The Totalitarian Model
- Parliamentary Democracy
- States and Economies in Transition
- Anarchism
- Political Socialization
- Political Participation
- Political Leadership
- Issues in Public Policy
- Revolution
- Terrorism
- War

### **Affirmative Action Statement**

The Board of Trustees is committed to providing a work and academic environment that maintains and promotes affirmative action and equal opportunity for all employees and students without discrimination on the basis of certain enumerated and protected categories. These categories are race, creed (religion), color, national origin, nationality, ancestry, age, sex (including pregnancy and sexual harassment), marital status, domestic partnership or civil union status, affectional or sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, atypical hereditary cellular or blood trait, genetic information, liability for military service, or mental or physical disability, including AIDS and HIV related illnesses.

For questions concerning discrimination, contact Almarie J. Jones, Special Assistant to the President, Diversity and Equity/Title IX and Compliance, 856-415-2154 or [ajones@rcsj.edu](mailto:ajones@rcsj.edu) or (Cumberland) Nathaniel Alridge, Jr., JD, Director, Diversity and Equity/Title IX and Judicial Affairs, 856-691-8600, ext. 1414 or [nalridge@rcsj.edu](mailto:nalridge@rcsj.edu). For disability issues or any barriers in the learning or physical environment related to a document condition/disability please contact: Gloucester campus – Dennis M. Cook, Director, Department of Special Services, ADA/504 Officer at 856-415-2265 or [dcook@rcsj.edu](mailto:dcook@rcsj.edu); or Cumberland Campus – Meredith Vicente, Senior Director, Physical & Learning Disabilities, Center for Academic & Student Success (CASS) at 856-691-6900 ext. 1282 or [mvicent1@rcsj.edu](mailto:mvicent1@rcsj.edu)

### **Department of Special Services**

The Department of Special Services is located in the Instructional Center, room 425A. The Special Services Department is committed to providing support services and ensuring equal access to eligible students with documented disabilities as outlined by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the Americans with Disabilities Act with Amendments. If you are an eligible student with a documented disability please visit our website at [RCSJ.edu/SpecialServices](http://RCSJ.edu/SpecialServices) or call the office at 856-415-2265 or 856-415-2247 to speak to the Assistant Director Carol Weinhardt, [cweinhar@rcsj.edu](mailto:cweinhar@rcsj.edu).

## Reporting Allegations of Sexual Assault and Resource Referrals (8/2020) Gloucester Campus

There are multiple safe places for students to report allegations of sexual assault, both on and off campus. Reports of sexual assault can be made to any of the following offices listed in the chart below.

All students are encouraged to report alleged crimes on campus. Crimes that pose a threat to the campus community must be reported to 9-1-1, Security, the Sheriff's Office or the Deptford Township Police Department. All employees, including Security staff, must report incidents of discrimination, harassment or sexual misconduct to the Title IX Officer.

Service	Resource	Phone Number/Location/Website
<b>Non-Confidential Reporting</b>  Local Law Enforcement	Gloucester County Sheriff's Office Deptford Township Police Dept. Gloucester Co. Prosecutor's Office Sexual Assault Response Team	856-681-2200 856-845-2220 856-384-5500 856-384-5555
<b>Non-Confidential Reporting 9-1-1 and Campus Security</b>	9-1-1 Gloucester County Emergency Management Dispatch  Campus Security <b>Blue Light Emergency Phones OR ext. 4444 from any campus desk phone</b>	9-1-1 or push <b>RED</b> button on Campus <b>Blue Light</b> Emergency Phones  856-681-6287
<b>Non-Confidential On-Campus Reporting Support Services</b>	Almarie J. Jones Special Assistant to the President <b>Diversity and Equity/Title IX and Compliance</b>  John F. Ryder Director <b>Student and Veteran Affairs</b>	856-415-2154 College Center, Room 116 <a href="mailto:ajones@rcsj.edu">ajones@rcsj.edu</a>  856-468-5000, ext. 6456 College Center, room 202 <a href="mailto:jryder@rcsj.edu">jryder@rcsj.edu</a>
<b>Confidential On-Campus Counseling and Support Services</b>	Lois Y. Lawson-Bridgell, Ph.D. MSW, LSW, Director <b>Counseling &amp; Wellness Services Center</b>  William Leonard, Ph.D. <b>Intervention Teams Consultant</b>  Crystal Noboa, LSW, MSW Director, The Center for <b>People in Transition (PIT)</b>  Diane Mussoline, EdS, LMFT <b>Director of Behavioral Services</b>	856-464-5236 <a href="mailto:llawsonb@rcsj.edu">llawsonb@rcsj.edu</a> College Center, Room 206  <a href="mailto:wleonard@rcsj.edu">856-415-2119 wleonard@rcsj.edu</a> <a href="#">College Center, STEM Office C-168</a>  856-415-2264 <a href="mailto:cnoboa@rcsj.edu">cnoboa@rcsj.edu</a> Workforce Development Bldg., room 809  856-494-5665 <a href="mailto:dmussoli@rcsj.edu">dmussoli@rcsj.edu</a> College Center, Room 200A
<b>Confidential Off-Campus Full-Service Support</b>	<b>Center for Family Services/ Services Empowering Rights of Victims (SERV)</b>	1-866-295-7378 Camden and Gloucester counties <a href="http://centerffs.org/serv">centerffs.org/serv</a>
<b>Hospitals with Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners</b>	<b>Inspira Medical Center</b>  <b>Jefferson Washington Township Hospital</b>	700 Mullica Hill Rd. Mullica Hill, NJ · 856-508-1000  435 Hurffville-Crosskeys Rd., Turnersville, NJ · 856-582-2500