

# Course Expectations Letter

**Subject:** Political Science 110

**E-Mail Contact Information:**

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**Catalog Course Description:**

This course surveys and analyzes the origins, principles, institutions, policies, and politics of U.S. National and California State Governments, including their constitutions. Emphasis is placed on the rights and responsibilities of citizens, and an understanding of the political processes and issues involved in the workings of government. This course fulfills the American Institutions requirement for the Associate Degree. It also is suitable for students wishing to expand their knowledge of local, state and national governments.

3 Units

54 Lecture hours.

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

Given a description of American government, including the three branches of government and the political processes, the student will evaluate the concept of “checks and balances.” The student will also examine and explain the role and functions of governmental structures and political parties in achieving the goals of a democratic government.

By logging into Canvas you affirm that you are the student who enrolled in the course(s) and are the person who will complete the assigned work. Furthermore, you agree to follow the regulations regarding academic integrity, personal identification and the use of student information as described in [BP 5500 \(Standards of Conduct\)](#) and [AP 5520 \(Student Conduct Procedures\)](#) which are the Rio Hondo College student conduct codes that govern student rights and responsibilities. You acknowledge that failure to abide by the regulations set forth in BP 5500 and AP 5520 may result in disciplinary action, including expulsion from the college.

This is **NOT** a self-paced course. There are firm deadlines in this class. There are assignments due on a regular basis. Please plan your time carefully!

**Textbook:** Please consult the Bookstore for information at (562) 463-7345 or go to [Rio Hondo College Online Bookstore](#)

**This course will include regular instructor student contact. Methods of regular instructor student contact include:**

1. Weekly (one or multiple e-mails) from instructor to class instructing them about new assignments posted, due dates, and instructions on how to function in the class. These e-mails will be posted as Announcements on the front of the class website.
2. 5-7 Discussion Assignments (5 in Summer Session and 7 in Fall and Spring sessions) in which students will answer a discussion question provided by the instructor and reply to their classmates.

3. Periodic posting of major news stories affecting American government in which students can comment and ask questions of the instructor. The instructor will also post relevant stories sent to him by students.
4. A Discussion Board purely dedicated to Questions for the Instructor will allow students to ask non-private questions which affect the entire class and inform them about items in the class.
5. Instructor will reply to all student e-mails as soon as possible (usually replied to within 24 hours).

***The instructor may drop you for non-participation.***

There will be a one to three business day delay after an add code is used before a student may be able to log on to Canvas.

For students new to online classes, it is highly recommended that you take the Online Orientation through our Online Education website. This will help explain what online classes are like and familiarize you with how the class is laid out. The orientation can be found at: <http://www.riohondo.edu/canvas-orientation//>

Email Responses: Instructors will make every attempt to respond to students in a timely fashion. Responses can take up to 48 hours before a response is received, excluding weekends and holidays.

Disability: A Student with a verified disability may be entitled to appropriate academic accommodations. Please contact your instructor and/or the [Disabled Students & Programs](#) office at 562-908-3420 for more information.

*Modifications and Disclaimer: The instructor reserves the right to modify the content of the course or any course procedure. It is the responsibility of the student to keep apprised of all changes. If the student wishes to drop the class he/she is responsible for initiating the drop. Do not take it for granted that you will be dropped. If you stop working and do not drop the course, you may get an undesirable grade.*