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| **Contra Costa College** |

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| **Course Outline** |

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| **Department & Number** | **La Raza Studies 113** | **Number of Weeks** | **18** |
| **Course Title** | **Introduction to Analysis of American Political Institutions** | **Lecture Hours** | **3** |
| **Prerequisite** | **None** | **Lab Hours** | **0** |
| **Challenge Policy** | **None** | **\*Hours By Arrangement** | **0** |
| **Co-requisite** | **None** | **Activity Hours** | **0** |
| **Challenge Policy** | **None** | **Units** | **3** |
| **Advisory** | **None** |

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| **\*HOURS BY ARRANGEMENT:** | |  | Hours per term. |
| **ACTIVITIES:** (Please provide a list of the activities students will perform in order to satisfy the HBA requirement): | | | | |
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| **COURSE/CATALOG DESCRIPTION** |

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| This course examines the U.S. Constitution and the U.S. system of government at the national and state levels, with an emphasis on Latino political participation. The course covers both U.S. and California political processes, and highlights the relationships between the federal government and state and local governments. It will also survey the resolution of conflicts and the establishment of cooperative mechanisms under the constitutions of both the state and federal governments. Included will be the process to achieve resolution. Important events since the American Revolution and contributions of Latinos, women and various ethnic groups will be surveyed. Cultural diversity in California and in the U.S. will be emphasized. Not repeatable. |

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| **COURSE OBJECTIVE** | |
| At the completion of the course the student will be able to: | |

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| 1. To discuss the workings of the United States Federal, California State and local governments using the Constitution  of the U.S. and California Constitution. |
| 1. Students will be able to analyze the political philosophies of the framers of the U.S. Constitution; discuss the rights,  obligations and participation of citizens under the U.S. Constitution. |
| 1. To examine significant events since the American Revolution and the contributions of Women, Native Americans,   Asian Americans, African Americans, European Americans, and a special emphasis upon the contributions of  Latino Americans to the political fabric of the nation. |
| 1. Partially satisfy the American Institutions and Ideals, history, California State Constitution and California State  and Local Government requirements at Contra Costa College and CSUC (Executive Order #405) Transfer: UC, CSU,  and satisfy the Cultural Pluralism requirement for graduation and transfer. |

**COURSE CONTENT:** (In detail; attach additional information as needed and include percentage breakdown)

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| 20 | **%** | Fundamentals of Political Science: Sociological foundations of government and politics, government and law, the State and society, the U.S. Constitution, the State of California Constitution. |
| 20 | **%** | The Democratic Process: representation, collective behavior and government behavior, political parties, citizenship and suffrage, nominations and elections, political campaigns (national, state and local). |
| 20 | **%** | The Structure and Operation of Government: forms of government, Federalism, California State Government, California Local Government, legislature and legislative process, the Chief Executive, and the Judiciary (Federal and California). |
| 15 | **%** | Important events since the American Revolution and contributions of women and various ethnic groups will be surveyed. Cultural diversity in California and in the U.S. will be emphasized. |
| 15 | **%** | Current issues in California and Local Government. |
| 10 | **%** | The development of U.S. Latino political philosophies and participation. |

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| **METHODS OF INSTRUCTION** |

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| 1. Lecture/discussion |
| 1. Group discussion |
| 1. Research, individual/group |
| 1. Oral presentations, group/individual |
| 1. Collaborative learning |

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| **INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS** |

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| **Textbook Title:** | Introduction to Latino Politics in the U.S. |
| **Author:** | Lisa Garcia Bedolla |
| **Publisher:** | Polity. |
| **Edition/Date:** | 1st Ed. 2009. |
| **Textbook Title:** | The Democratic Debate: An Introduction to American Politics |
| **Author:** | Bruce Miroff |
| **Publisher:** | Wadsworth Publishing |
| **Edition/Date:** | 4th Ed. 2006. |

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| **COURSE EXPECTATIONS** (Use applicable expectations) |

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| **Outside of Class Weekly Assignments** | **Hours per week** |

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| Weekly Reading Assignments | 3 |
| Weekly Writing Assignments | 3 |
| Weekly Math Problems |  |
| Lab or Software Application Assignments |  |
| Other Performance Assignments |  |

**STUDENT EVALUATION**: **(Show percentage breakdown for evaluation instruments)**

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| 20 | **%** | Quizzes |
| 20 | **%** | Research paper |
| 20 | **%** | Oral presentations |
| 20 | **%** | Midterm |
| 20 | **%** | Final Exam |

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| **GRADING POLICY (Choose LG, CR/NC, or SC)** |

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|  | **Letter Grade** | |  | **Pass / No Pass** | | X | **Student Choice** |
| 90% - 100% = A | | | 70% and above = Pass | | | 90% - 100% = A |
| 80% - 89% = B | | | Below 70% = No Pass | | | 80% - 89% = B |
| 70% - 79% = C | | |  | | | 70% - 79% = C |
| 60% - 69% = D | | |  | | | 60% - 69% = D |
| Below 60% = F | | |  | | | Below 60% = F |
| *or* |
| 70% and above = Pass |
| Below 70% = No Pass |
| **Prepared by:** | | | Agustin Palacios | | |

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| **Content Review Date:** | 03/29/2010 |

Revised 04/09