Course Information Form (CIF)

Course Code: POS 167

Course Title: Introduction to British Government and Politics

Department: Arts, Media, and Social Sciences
PCS Code: 1.1 - Baccalaureate/Transfer
CIP Code: 45.1001
Repeatability: 0

Effective Date: Summer 2026

Credit Hours

Catalog Notation: 3-0-3
Credit Hour Distribution:

Lecture: 3	Lab: 0	Clinical: 0	**Total: 3**

General Course Information

Catalog Description

Main themes in British political life, including developing relations with Commonwealth, Europe, and United States. (Canterbury Study Abroad Program only)

General Course Objectives

The student will gain knowledge of certain aspects of social, historical, and political life in Britain.

Minimum Placement Levels

English	Reading	Math
None	Placement out of CCS 098	None

Prerequisites

None

Methods of Evaluation

50% of grade: 1 essay exam (2 hours in class). 50% of grade: written assignments of approximately 1,000 words each.

Instructional Materials and Additional Supplies

Northern Ireland Since 1968: Making Contemporary Britain, 2nd edition. By Arthur and Jeffery. 978-0631200840
The Government of the United Kingdom: Political Authority in a Changing Society, 2nd edition. By Beloff and Peele. 978-0393955231
The British Welfare State: A Critical History, 1st edition. By John Brown. 978-0631171928
Governing Britain: A Guidebook to Political Institutions, by Hanson and Wales. 978-0-00-636758-1

Course Content

General Learning Outcomes (GLOs)

- Critical Thinking and Information Literacy: Students will demonstrate the ability to evaluate perspectives, evidence, and implications, and to locate, assess, and use information effectively.
- Global Awareness and Cultural Reasoning: Students will demonstrate their understanding of global issues, gender and sexual orientation, and multicultural perspectives.

Course Segments and Student Learning Outcomes

Course Segment	Learning Outcomes	Lecture Hours	Lab Hours	Clinical Hours
Main Themes in British Culture and Society	1. Describe and discuss the main themes in British culture, society, and government.	3	0	0
The Disunited Kingdom	1. Discuss the creation of the United Kingdom and problems that test the union between the countries.	6	0	0
Northern Ireland - The Problem	1. Detail issues related to Northern Ireland. 2. Discuss the problems with sectarian violence and the peace agreement that helped address the conflict.	3	0	0
Northern Ireland - The Background	1. Trace the background of Northern Ireland and detail its culture, society, and government.	3	0	0
The Monarchy Under Fire	1. Pinpoint the advantages and disadvantages of a monarchy. 2. Discuss some of the problems that are unique to monarchy. 3. Distinguish between a monarchy and a democracy. 4. Discuss some of the problems that are unique to a democracy.	3	0	0
The Significance of the Monarchy Today	1. Analyze the significance of the monarchy today.	3	0	0
The British Constitution	1. Detail the drawbacks of not having a British Constitution and discuss the advantages and disadvantages of having a U.S. Constitution. 2. Define and pinpoint the differences between the U.S. presidential and legislative system and the monarchy and Parliament in the British system. 3. Discuss the similarities and differences between the U.S. Congress and the House of Lords and House of Commons.	6	0	0
The Educational System	1. Discuss the British educational system.	6	0	0
Britain and the European Community	1. Discuss Britain and its relationship with the European Community.	6	0	0
Class in Britain	1. Discuss the British class system.	3	0	0
Race in Britain	1. Discuss race in Britain.	3	0	0

Total Contact Hours

Lecture Hours	Lab Hours	Clinical Hours
45	0	0