

**JAMESTOWN COMMUNITY COLLEGE**  
**State University of New York**

---

**INSTITUTIONAL COURSE SYLLABUS**

**Course Title:** Law & Civil Rights

**Course Abbreviation and Number:** POL 2530

**Credit Hours:** 3

**Course Type:** Lecture

**Course Description:** Using the case method, students will demonstrate how to "brief" significant cases in First Amendment law involving freedom of religion, freedom of speech, freedom of press, and freedom of association. Students will also learn the difference between natural rights and citizenship rights.

Prerequisite: ENG 1510.

---

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

After successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of major concepts, models, and issues of at least one discipline in the social sciences. [SUNY Gen Ed – Social Sciences]
  2. Demonstrate understanding of the methods social scientists use to explore social phenomena, including observation, hypothesis development, measurement and data collection, experimentation, evaluation of evidence, and employment of mathematical interpretive analysis. [SUNY Gen Ed – Social Sciences]
  3. Demonstrate knowledge of common institutions, practices, or policies, and how they have affected different social groups or individuals in society. [JCC Gen Ed – Social Sciences]
- 

**Topics Covered:**

- Freedom of and from Religion (Virginia Statute of Religious Freedom)
  - Freedom of Expression (“speech” and press)
  - Freedom of Association
  - Civil Rights v. Civil Liberties
  - The Original Constitution of 1787
  - The “second” Constitution ushered in by the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment
  - The “third” Constitution through application and understanding of the “right to privacy”
  - The US legal system
  - US Court Structure
  - US Supreme Court (processes and procedures)
- 

**Information for Students**

- Expectations of Students
  - [Civility Statement](#)
  - [Student Responsibility Statement](#)
  - [Academic Integrity Statement](#)
- [Accessibility Services](#)  
Students who require accommodations to complete the requirements and expectations of this course because of a disability must make their accommodation requests to the Accessibility Services Coordinator.
- [Get Help: JCC & Community Resources](#)
- [Emergency Closing Procedures](#)
- Course grade is determined by the instructor based on a combination of factors, including but not limited to, homework, quizzes, exams, projects, and participation. Final course grade can be translated into a grade point value according to the following:

A=4.0	B+=3.5	B=3	C+=2.5	C=2	D+=1.5	D=1	F=0
-------	--------	-----	--------	-----	--------	-----	-----

- Veterans and active duty military personnel with special circumstances (e.g., upcoming deployments, drill requirements, VA appointments) are welcome and encouraged to communicate these to the instructor.
- 

**Effective Date:** Fall 2021