Former U.S. Marine Corps Officer, Galloway Resident Offers First Veteran Course For Stockton Students

Professor Ronald Caro to Offer New Course Titled "The Veteran Experience"

For Immediate Release

Wednesday, May 05, 2010

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Galloway Township, **NJ-** Students at The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey will have the opportunity to examine military culture from a social sciences perspective. Dr. Ron Caro, an assistant professor of education and a former United States Marine Corps Officer, will teach "The Veteran Experience," a four-credit course offered at Stockton College, which is scheduled to launch for the spring 2011 semester.

Dr. Caro's course, which is compatible with all majors, will explore veteran and active duty service members' experiences— both war and peacetime. Dr. Caro explained, "This course will provide an understanding of what it means to be a U.S. veteran. Students will look through the social science lens to develop a better understanding of the psychological, emotional, political and financial aspects of military service and their effects on veterans."

Patrick Shields, coordinator of Veteran Affairs, said, "The enrollment of student-veterans continues to increase each year. In response to the growing population, the College's President [Herman J. Saatkamp, Jr.] wanted to offer a course focusing on the experiences of our student-veteran population."

Student-veterans who take the course will be asked to self-reflect on their experiences and non-veterans will gather information through interviews with veterans. Guest speakers, readings and films will also be included in the coursework. Professor Ron Caro is currently reaching out to veterans and active duty service members who may be interested in sharing their experiences with students as a guest lecturer.

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Presently, Stockton's has nearly 150 student-veterans receiving educational benefits, and on April 27, President Saatkamp cut the ribbon to officially commemorate Stockton's new Veterans Lounge, the first of its kind in New Jersey.