

# MINNESOTA WEST COMMUNITY & TECHNICAL COLLEGE

## COURSE OUTLINE

DEPT. PSCI

COURSE NUMBER: 2210

NUMBER OF CREDITS: 3

Lecture: 3 Lab: 0 OJT: 0

<b>Course Title:</b>
Environmental Politics

<b>Catalog Description:</b>
Environmental Politics examines the political nature of environmental problems and surveys American political institutions and public policies that deal with these problems. The course will also assess and critique current environmental policies. While the major emphasis will be national environmental concerns, certain local and global environmental problems will also be addressed.

<b>Prerequisites or Necessary Entry Skills/Knowledge:</b>
STSK 0095 or placement by multiple measures.

**FULFILLS MN TRANSFER CURRICULUM AREA(S) (*Leave blank if not applicable*)**

☐ Goal 5: History and the Social and Behavioral Sciences: By meeting the following competencies:

1. Employ the methods and data that historians and social and behavioral scientists use to investigate the human condition.
2. Examine social institutions and processes across a range of historical periods and cultures.
3. Use and critique alternative explanatory systems or theories.
4. Develop and communicate alternative explanations or solutions for contemporary social issues.

☐ Goal 10: People and the Environment: By meeting the following competencies:

1. Explain the basic structure and function of various natural ecosystems and of human adaptive strategies within those systems.
2. Discern patterns and interrelationships of bio-physical and socio-cultural systems.
3. Describe the basic institutional arrangements (social, legal, political, economic, religious) that are evolving to deal with environmental and natural resource challenges.
4. Evaluate critically environmental and natural resource issues in light of understandings about interrelationships, ecosystems, and institutions.
5. Propose and assess alternative solutions to environmental problems.
6. Articulate and defend the actions they would take on various environmental issues.

<b>Topics to be Covered</b>
Introduction
Historical Framework for Environmental Protection
Participants in the Environmental Debate
The Political Process
The Land
The Water
The Air
Globalized Environmental Issues
Environmental Issues and Policies for 2000 and Beyond

<b>Student Learning Outcomes</b>
Develop fundamental definitions, concepts and principles of political science.
Develop fundamental definitions, concepts and principles of environmental science.
Understand basic components, institutions and groups involved in the political process, especially in terms of environmental issues.
Develop a critical attitude toward the political process in order to become a more informed participant and responsible citizen.
Analyze various methods of collecting and analyzing data such as public opinion polls, charts and graphs.
Relate broad political concepts and developments to particular environmental issues.
Evaluate the functioning of the American political system in terms of its addressing concerns in the environmental area.
Evaluate critically the alternatives for change within the political system and/or need for alteration of environmental issues.
Discuss both orally and in writing, theories, relationships and concepts in political science and environmental science.
Analyze the impact of such forces as nationalism, multiculturalism, pluralism and gender on the political process in the contemporary world.
Analyze the environmental movement in terms of human diversity.

<b>Is this course part of a transfer pathway:</b> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<small>*If yes, please list the competencies below</small>

Revised Date: 3/25/2022