MINNESOTA WEST COMMUNITY & TECHNICAL COLLEGE
COURSE OUTLINE

Faculty are required to have the outline submitted to the Academic Affairs Office. The course outline is the form used for approval of new courses by the Collegewide Curriculum Committee.

DEPT. PSCI    COURSE NO. 1101    CREDITS 3

COURSE TITLE Intro to Pol. Science

CATALOG DESCRIPTION Acquaints students with the fundamental concepts, institutions, principles and procedures of the discipline of political science. The course will provide a brief background in classical political theory through some exposure to the ideas of past political philosophers (such as Aristotle, Machiavelli, Hobbes, Locke, Marx and others). The course also introduces the study of comparative systems through consideration of the governments of Great Britain, France, and Canada. PSCI 1101 is viewed as a general introductory course. The course also counts as a Global Perspective course.

AUDIENCE registered college students

FULFILLS MN TRANSFER CURRICULUM AREA(S) (Leave blank if not applicable)
Area 5: by meeting the following competencies: a,b,c,d
Area 8: by meeting the following competencies: a,b,c,d
Area : by meeting the following competencies:

PREREQUISITES OR NECESSARY ENTRY SKILLS/KNOWLEDGE: None

LENGTH OF COURSE 1 semester

THIS COURSE IS USUALLY OFFERED:
Every other year ☒ fall ☐ spring ☐ summer ☐ undetermined ☐

Four goals are emphasized in course at Minnesota West Community & Technical College:

1) ACADEMIC CONTENT: 1. to acquaint the student with fundamental definitions, concepts and principles of political science; 2. to expose the student to key political theories of the classical political philosophers of the past; 3. to study the basic components of the political process according to the model established by David Easton; 4. to outline and discuss the functions of legislatures, executives and judiciaries; 5. to compare and contrast presidential and parliamentary political systems; confederal, federal and unitary political structures

2) THINKING SKILLS: 1. to develop a critical attitude toward the political process in order to become a more informed participant and responsible citizen; 2. to be able to use and criticize competing political theories; 3. to be able to use and analyze various methods for collecting and analyzing data
such as public opinion polls, charts, graphs; 4. to relate broad political concepts and developments to the individual

3) COMMUNICATIONS SKILLS: 1. to develop a critical attitude toward the political process in order to become a more informed participant and responsible citizen; 2. to be able to use and criticize competing political theories; 3. to be able to use and analyze various methods for collecting and analyzing data such as public opinion polls, charts, graphs; 4. to relate broad political concepts and developments to the individual

4) HUMAN DIVERSITY: 1. to provide through the study of comparative political systems a better understanding of the student's own and other political systems; 2. to analyze the impact of such forces as nationalism, ethnicity, multiculturalism and pluralism on the political process in the contemporary world; 3. to appreciate the varieties of political experiences and systems found in the world

TOPICS TO BE COVERED:
A. The Bases of Politics
B. Political Attitudes
C. Political Interactions
D. The Institutions of Politics
E. What Political Systems Do

LIST OF EXPECTED COURSE OUTCOMES: See above under goals

LEARNING/TEACHING TECHNIQUES used in the course are:
- Collaborative Learning
- Student Presentations
- Creative Projects
- Lecture
- Demonstrations
- Lab
- Problem Solving
- Interactive Lectures
- Individual Coaching
- Films/Videos/Slides

ASSIGNMENTS AND ASSESSMENTS FOR THIS CLASS INCLUDE:
- Reading
- Oral Presentations
- Textbook Problems
- Group Problems
- Other (describe below)
  2 Outside Assignments
- Tests
- Worksheets
- Papers
- Term Paper
- Individual Projects
- Collaborative Projects
- Portfolio
EXPECTED STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:
1. to learn fundamental definitions, concepts and principles of political science; 2. to learn key political theories of the classical political philosophers of the past; 3. to comprehend the basic components of the political process according to the model established by David Easton; 4. to outline and discuss the functions of legislatures, executives and judiciaries; 5. to compare and contrast presidential and parliamentary political systems; confederal, federal and unitary political structures; 6. to achieve the above listed outcomes while developing the goals related to thinking skills, communications skills and human diversity listed above.

The information in this course outline is subject to revision

To receive reasonable accommodations for a documented disability, please contact the campus Student Services Advisor or campus Disability Coordinator as arrangements must be made in advance. In addition, students are encouraged to notify their instructor.

Veteran Services: Minnesota West is dedicated to assisting veterans and eligible family members in achieving their educational goals efficiently. Active duty and reserve/guard military members should advise their instructor of all regularly scheduled military appointments and duties that conflict with scheduled course requirements. Instructors will make every effort to work with the student to identify adjusted timelines. If you are a veteran, please contact the Minnesota West Veterans Service Office.

This document is available in alternative formats to individuals with disabilities by contacting the Student Services Advisor or by calling 800-658-2330 or Minnesota Relay Service at 800-627-3529 or by using your preferred relay service.

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