PHIL 3380: Political Philosophy

A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Credits: 3
Lecture Hours/Week: 0
Lab Hours/Week: 0
OJT Hours/Week: *.*
Prerequisites: None
Corequisites: None
MnTC Goals: Goal 06 - Humanities/Fine Arts, Goal 09 - Ethical/Civic Resp

Survey of major theories of government, law and justice in political philosophy, with an emphasis on modern traditions. Course will also equip students to apply political philosophy to contemporary issues, e.g., torture, global poverty, free expression [Core Curriculum Goal Area(s) 6 & 9]

B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES: 08/22/1997 - Present

C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

1. The roots of modern political philosophies of democracy and justice in antiquity
2. The principles of political philosophy; the role of political philosophy in political leadership
3. Major modern political philosophies of democracy and their critics, e.g., social contract theory, republicanism, liberalism
4. Key concepts in the philosophy of law
5. The philosophical sources of selected contemporary political movements, e.g., socialism, anarchism, libertarianism, fascism, religious fundamentalism
6. The composition and communication of work in political philosophy

D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)

1. demonstrate mastery of major political philosophies of justice and democracy.
2. identify political philosophies at work in current political debates and movements.
3. articulate their political views of democracy and justice with reference key concepts in political philosophy.
4. create practical, persuasive and intellectually sound depictions of issues and debates in political philosophy.
E. Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Goal Area(s) and Competencies

Goal 06 - Humanities/Fine Arts
1. Demonstrate awareness of the scope and variety of works in the arts and humanities.
2. Understand those works as expressions of individual and human values within an historical and social context.
3. Respond critically to works in the arts and humanities.
4. Articulate an informed personal reaction to works in the arts and humanities.

Goal 09 - Ethical/Civic Resp
1. Examine, articulate, and apply their own ethical views.
2. Understand and apply core concepts (e.g. politics, rights and obligations, justice, liberty) to specific issues.
3. Analyze and reflect on the ethical dimensions of legal, social, and scientific issues.
4. Recognize the diversity of political motivations and interests of others.
5. Identify ways to exercise the rights and responsibilities of citizenship.

F. LEARNER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT
As noted on course syllabus

G. SPECIAL INFORMATION
None noted