Bemidji State University

SOC 3310: Community Organizing for Social Change

A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

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

This course explores the history of community organizing and how individuals have come together to more deeply understand the rights and obligations of citizenship and how to organize for social justice for themselves and others in their communities. Students will develop deeper knowledge of the overall worldview associated with community organizing and will be able to articulate and apply the tools and tactics to effect change. They will also learn how to assess action taken and they will address how alternative approaches inform future action cycles. [Core Curriculum Goal Area 9]

B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES: 01/12/2020 - Present

C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

1. Organizational frames of community organizing across time  
2. Strategies and tactics related to organizing, inequality and social justice, civic action, power and structure

D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)

1. explain and analyze the process of social change related to protests, lobbying and other tools and tactics important to affect change at the micro, meso, and macro levels in societies.  
2. apply a sociological perspective to better understand community organizing in historical and contemporary times through empirical evidence and scientific methods.  
3. apply sociological concepts and processes important to understanding community organizing and political change through traditional and untraditional methods.  
4. map power structures, key stakeholders, organizing strategies, and tactics of a community-organized action.  
5. analyze how race, gender, sexuality, and oppression relate to the tools and tactics necessary to achieve social justice at the local, regional, and global level.

E. Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Goal Area(s) and Competencies

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