Alexandria Technical and Community College

POLS 1635: Civil Military Organization and Policies: Introduction to US Government

A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Credits: 3
Lecture Hours/Week: 3
Lab Hours/Week: 0
OJT Hours/Week: *. *

Prerequisites:
This course requires the following prerequisite
PHIL 1460 - Naval Ethics and Leadership

Corequisites: None

MnTC Goals: Goal 05 - Hist/Soc/Behav Sci

This course provides students with an overarching understanding of how the American political system is organized and the role that the military has in that system. This course introduces American politics, along with an introduction to policies relevant to the Naval Services. The lessons taught in this course were developed to prepare service members to operate within the military construct of the American political system. This course prepares students for further instruction on the concepts and theories of political science and public administration.

B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES: 05/24/2022 - Present

C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

1. Historical origins of the US civil-military approach, governing philosophy, and political system
2. Key government structures and functions
3. People and government: roles and responsibilities
4. Federal policy making and how it shapes defense policy
5. The military in the US government system
6. Department of Defense (DOD) structures, functions, and roles
7. The Common Defense and citizenry concepts
8. Civil-military relations in the United States
9. Critical thinking and analytical decision-making

D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)

1. Explain the nature of great power rivalries and how these are manifested (historic and current day).
2. Investigate the structure of the international political system and its basic components (states, alliances, international organizations).
3. Analyze security implications of non-state actors in world affairs.
4. Assess the impact of cultural factors on geopolitical approaches to planning and strategy.
E. Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Goal Area(s) and Competencies

Goal 05 - Hist/Soc/Behav Sci

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.

F. LEARNER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT

As noted on course syllabus

G. SPECIAL INFORMATION

None noted