

# Minnesota State College Southeast

## **POLS 1101: Introduction to Political Science**

### **A. COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Credits: 3

Lecture Hours/Week: 3

Lab Hours/Week: \*.\*

OJT Hours/Week: \*.\*

Prerequisites: None

Corequisites: None

MnTC Goals: Goal 05 - Hist/Soc/Behav Sci, Goal 09 - Ethical/Civic Resp

An introduction to the basic terms, concepts, principles, and structures of modern political systems worldwide. Problems and issues arising from various political systems, such as democracy, communism, socialism, and totalitarianism will also be studied. (Fulfills MnTC Goals 5 & 9) (Prerequisite: none) (3 credits: 3 lecture/0 lab)

### **B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES: 07/27/2016 - Present**

### **C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS**

1. Examine what comprises the study of political science
2. Examine political ideologies and basic political concepts
3. Examine political behavior and processes, e.g. subjects relating to political culture, communication, opinion, and systems of governance

### **D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)**

1. Examine the study of politics as a science
2. Define and analyze the development of nationhood and government
3. Examine constitutions and constitutional issues
4. Define and analyze democracy and other forms of government
5. Analyze political ideologies
6. Examine political culture
7. Examine the role of ethnicity and race in politics, including those issues relating to minority groups such as Native Americans, African Americans, etc.
8. Analyze public opinion and examine the impact on politics
9. Examine the role of the media in politics
10. Examine the role of interest groups in politics
11. Examine the role of political parties and party systems
12. Examine election issues, including the impact of class, gender, race, religion, and age
13. Examine the basic institutions of governments
14. Examine the branches of governments
15. Analyze and discuss historical and contemporary political issues
16. Examine various political values and personal values
17. Develop critical thinking skills
18. Develop analytical skills

## **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. Develop and communicate alternative explanations or solutions for contemporary social issues.

### 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. Recognize the diversity of political motivations and interests of others.

## **F. LEARNER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT**

As noted on course syllabus

## **G. SPECIAL INFORMATION**

This course was previously POLS 2501.