

Minnesota State University Moorhead

POL 380: Politics of Great Britain

A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Credits: 3

Lecture Hours/Week: 3

Lab Hours/Week: *.*

OJT Hours/Week: *.*

Prerequisites: None

Corequisites: None

MnTC Goals: None

The development and workings of the British constitutional monarchy, the empire and commonwealth as political actors, the functions of the parliament and devolved parliaments of Great Britain and the attendant judiciary and bureaucracy.

B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES: 08/22/2011 - Present

C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

1. Late twentieth century Britain.
2. The constitution: The Westminster model.
3. The political parties---labour and conservative and others.
4. The British electorate.
5. The parliament.
6. The continuation of parliament in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.
7. Ministers and Prime Ministers.
8. The media and mass public opinion in Britain.
9. The courts and civil liberties.
10. Northern Ireland and other territorial issues.
11. Commonwealth and Post-Imperial British identity.
12. Britain within the European Union.

D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)

1. Students shall be able to articulate the differences between the British and American systems of politics and explain the origins of these differences.
2. Students shall understand the workings of a multi-party parliamentary system.
3. Students shall be familiar with the careers of significant British political actors of recent times.
4. Students shall appreciate Britain's relationships with its component parts and former colonies.
5. Students will analyze the ways in which Britain is both incorporated within and separate from the European union.
6. Students will understand the significance of an "unwritten constitution" based on precedent and its effect on the British judiciary and common law.

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

None

F. LEARNER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT

As noted on course syllabus

G. SPECIAL INFORMATION

None noted