

# North Hennepin Community College

## PHIL 1070: Political Philosophy

### A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Credits: 3

Lecture Hours/Week: \*.\*

Lab Hours/Week: \*.\*

OJT Hours/Week: \*.\*

Prerequisites: None

Corequisites: None

MnTC Goals: Goal 06 - Humanities/Fine Arts, Goal 09 - Ethical/Civic Resp

In this course we will examine issues in political philosophy through discussion of a range of primary western and non-western historical texts from ancient, medieval, and modern political writers. In the process of this examination of the historical development of political philosophy, a variety of topics will be explored such as: diverse theories of human nature and their implications for the role of government, the dynamics of power, the ideals of duty, justice, liberty and equality, and justifications for private property, profit, and civil disobedience.

**B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES:** 08/27/2007 - Present

### C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

1. Ideal forms of government and their assumptions about human nature
2. The dynamics of and rationale for using governmental power
3. Analysis of common political ideals such as justice, liberty and equality
4. Possible justifications of principles such as private property, profit, and civil disobedience.
5. Emphasis will be on primary historical texts including ancient and non-western sources.

### D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)

1. To instill an appreciation and tolerance for the complexities connected with basic ideals and principles of government (MnTC G2, comps. a, b, c, d; NHCC ELOs 1, 2, 3, 4)
2. To provide an opportunity to discuss and form arguments about ideals and justifications for government and governmental actions. (MnTC G2, comps. c, d; NHCC ELOs 1, 2, 3, 4)
3. To deepen understanding of divergent political theories and to develop a richer range of concepts and vocabulary for analyzing and evaluating current issues. (MnTC G2, comps. a, b, c, d; NHCC ELOs 1, 2, 3, 4)
4. To be willing to be honest and take intellectual risks in an open, challenging, and engaging learning environment. (NHCC ELO 3)

## **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**

1. Knowledge of Human Cultures and the Physical and Natural World--Through study in the sciences, mathematics, social sciences, humanities, histories, languages, the arts, technology and professions.
2. Intellectual and Practical Skills--Including: Inquiry and analysis; Critical and creative thinking; Written and oral communication; Quantitative literacy; Information literacy; Teamwork and problem solving.
3. Personal and Social Responsibility and Engagement--Including: Civic knowledge and involvement--campus, local and global; Intercultural knowledge and competence; Ethical reasoning and action; Foundations and skills for lifelong learning.
4. Integrative and Applied Learning--Including: Synthesis and advanced accomplishment across general education, liberal studies, specialized studies and activities in the broader campus community.