

# Dakota County Technical College

## **POLS 1000: 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

Introduction to Political Science will present a broad introduction to the basic concepts, approaches, and areas of study of political science. Discussion and active debate of key political ideologies: liberalism, conservatism, socialism, communism, fascism, nationalism, feminism, and environmentalism will be central to the course. The class will also delve into the specific political systems and institutions of key members of the international community as well as consider contemporary American political issues.

Prerequisites: CPT reading score.

Meets MnTC Goal 5

**B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES:** 01/12/2004 - Present

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

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

1. analysis of the basic institutions of governance
2. application of broad political theory to specific contemporary issues
3. comparison of governmental institutions of the world community
4. connection between government and society
5. critical evaluation of the current domestic and international political environment
6. discussion of important political movements
7. discussion of political ideology
8. foundations of modern government and democracy
9. historical implications of political choices
10. importance of the public policy process
11. introductory research project applying class objectives to a specific region or political issue
12. thoughtful and researched political debate on designated topics

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

Goal 05 - Hist/Soc/Behav Sci

1. Examine social institutions and processes across a range of historical periods and cultures.
2. Use and critique alternative explanatory systems or theories.
3. 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