**COURSE OUTLINE OF RECORD**

**Number:** PSCI G150  
**TITLE:** Political Philosophy

**ORIGINATOR:** Margot Bowlby  
**EFF TERM:** Spring 2017

**DATE OF OUTLINE/REVIEW:** 04-10-2017  
**TOP NO:** 2207.00

**CROSS LISTED COURSE:** PHIL G150  
**CID:**

**SEMESTER UNITS:** 3.0  
**HRS LEC:** 54.0  
**HRS LAB:** 0.0  
**HRS OTHER:** 0.0  
**CONTACT HRS TOTAL:** 54.0  
**STUDY NON-CONTACT HRS RECOMMENDED:** 108.0

**CATALOG DESCRIPTION:**

This course introduces students to traditional philosophical issues concerning politics. Students will actively engage in an analysis of normative issues using historical insight as well as contemporary approaches. Among these issues are the nature of legitimate authority, political obligation, natural rights, equality and justice. The course emphasizes selections from the major works of such political philosophers as Plato, Aristotle, Hobbes, Locke, Rousseau, Marx and Mill.

**JUSTIFICATION FOR COURSE:**

**PREREQUISITES:**

**COREQUISITES:**

**ADVISORIES:**

**ASSIGNED DISCIPLINES:**

- Philosophy
- Political science

**MATERIAL FEE:** Yes [ ] No [X] Amount: $0.00

**CREDIT STATUS:** Noncredit [ ] Credit - Degree Applicable [X] Credit - Not Degree Applicable [ ]

**GRADING POLICY:** Pass/No Pass [X] Standard Letter [X] Not Graded [ ] Satisfactory Progress [ ]

**OPEN ENTRY/OPEN EXIT:** Yes [ ] No [X]

**TRANSFER STATUS:** CSU Transferable[ ] UC/CSU Transferable[X] Not Transferable[X]

**BASIC SKILLS STATUS:** Yes [ ] No [X]  
**LEVELS BELOW TRANSFER:** Not Applicable

**CALIFORNIA CLASSIFICATION CODES:** Y - Not Applicable

**NON CREDIT COURSE CATEGORY:** Y - Not applicable, Credit Course

**OCCUPATIONAL (SAM) CODE:** E

**REPEATABLE ACCORDING TO STATE GUIDELINES:** No [X] Yes [ ] NUMBER REPEATS:

**REQUIRED FOR DEGREE OR CERTIFICATE:** No [ ] Yes [X]

- Associate of Arts: Liberal Arts: Emphasis in Arts and Humanities(Associate in Arts)
- Associate of Arts: Liberal Arts: Emphasis in Social and Behavioral Sciences(Associate in Arts)
- POLITICAL SCIENCE(Associate in Arts for Transfer)
- Political Science(Associate in Arts)
- Political Science(Associate in Arts for Transfer)

**GE AND TRANSFER REQUIREMENTS MET:**

- IGETC Area 4: Social and Behavioral Sciences
  - 4H: Political Science, Government & Legal Institutions
- CSU GE Area C: Arts, Literature, Philosophy and Foreign Languages

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COURSE OBJECTIVES:
1. Analyze the role of government and the relationship between government and individuals.
2. Describe and critique the contributions of classic and contemporary political theorists.
3. Evaluate various approaches to such normative questions as the nature of legitimate authority, political obligation, natural rights, equality and justice.
4. Debate normative standards of political behavior and processes.
5. Apply normative standards of political behavior to specific case studies.

COURSE CONTENT:

LECTURE CONTENT:

Course Content Outline (with suggested readings)

A. Introduction to Political Philosophy and Thinking about the State
   1. Plato - The Allegory of the Cave
   2. Veil of Ignorance
   3. Plato - Crito
B. Justifying the State
   1. Aristotle's Politics (Books I & II)
   2. Niccolo'Machiavelli, The Prince
   3. Thomas Hobbes, Leviathan
C. Nature and Purpose of the State: Obligations to and from the State
   1. Adam Smith, The Wealth of Nations (excerpts)
4. Edmund Burke, *Reflections on the French Revolution*
5. Immanuel Kant, *Perpetual Peace*
6. John Stuart Mill, *Considerations on Representative Government*

D. Balancing Natural Rights, Human Nature, and the State
1. John Locke, *Second Treatise on Government* (excerpts); *Letter Concerning Toleration*
2. Jean-Jacques, Rousseau *Of the Social Contract*
3. David Hume, *Of the Original Contract; A Treatise of Human Nature*

E. Liberty & Justice
1. Plato, *Republic* Book I and II
2. John Stuart Mill, *On Liberty; The Subjection of Women*

F. Ruling the State: Authority, Power, and Equality
1. Robert Nozick, *Anarchy, State and Utopia*

**METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:**

A. Lecture:
B. Online:

**INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNIQUES:**

**COURSE ASSIGNMENTS:**

**Reading Assignments**

Objective quizzes or exams that identify key concepts such as the state and/or identify key elements of philosophical positions;
Short essay exams that examine key issues such as the relationship between the state and the individual;
Critical analysis/research papers that examine and critique philosophical positions as they pertain to current issues.

**Out-of-class Assignments**

Reading assignments within textbook and additional web sources;
Interactive discussions utilizing the Blackboard shell - discussion board - component;
Research pertaining to philosophical issues.

**Writing Assignments**

1) Written exams, essays and papers focused on evaluating and analyzing normative arguments;
2) Assignments, both in class and written, that will compare and contrast various arguments;
3) In-class discussions during which students will informally present their ideas.

**METHODS OF STUDENT EVALUATION:**

Midterm Exam
Final Exam
Short Quizzes
Written Assignments
Essay Examinations
Objective Examinations
Report
Projects (ind/group)
Problem Solving Exercises
Oral Presentations
Demonstration of Critical Thinking:

1. On written assignments and/or essay questions, students will demonstrate the ability to evaluate and analyze the theoretical positions concerning such issues as the relationship between man and the state, natural rights, justice and equality 2. On written assignments and/or essay questions, students will compare and contrast the theoretical positions of two or more philosophers concerning such issues as the relationship between man and the state, natural rights, justice and equality.

Required Writing, Problem Solving, Skills Demonstration:

1) Written exams, essays and papers focused on evaluating and analyzing normative arguments; 2) Assignments, both in class and written, that will compare and contrast various arguments; 3) In-class discussions during which students will informally present their ideas.

TEXTS, READINGS, AND RESOURCES:

TextBooks:


LIBRARY:

Adequate library resources include: Non-Print Materials

Comments:

Attachments:

[Attached Files]