



## MASTER COURSE OUTLINE

A. PSCI 1020 State and Local Government

B. COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is a study of the principal concepts, process, and institutions of state and local governments of the United States. Special emphasis will be placed on Minnesota government.

**MnTC (Goals 5/SS and 8/GP); (3 Cr – 3 lect, 0 lab)**

C. \*Core Theme: Ethical and Civic Responsibility \*\*Discipline Area (if MnTC): History and the Social and Behavioral Sciences

D. RIVERLAND INSTITUTIONAL LEARNING OUTCOMES:

This course addresses the following Riverland Institutional Learning Outcome(s):

- ILO 1: critical thinking (*Core Theme Goal 2*)
- ILO 2: awareness of the larger global community (*Core Theme Goal 7 or 8*)
- ILO 3: ethical, engaged citizenship (*Core Theme Goal 9 or Goal 10*)
- ILO 4: communication and collaboration (*Discipline Goal 1 and by any learning outcome(s) involving communication or collaboration*)

E. MAJOR CONTENT AREAS:

- Federalism
- The state constitution
- Legislative branch
- Executive branch
- Judicial branch
- State bureaucracy
- State rights and liberties
- Responsibilities of a state citizen
- Local government
- Finance
- Voting and elections
- Political parties
- Interest groups
- Education policy
- Criminal justice

F. GOAL TYPES, OBJECTIVES, AND OUTCOMES:

| <b><u>GOAL</u></b> | <b><u>OBJECTIVES</u></b><br>Students will be able to  | <b><u>OUTCOMES</u></b><br>The student will successfully   |
|--------------------|---|---|
| <u>MnTC 5b</u>     | examine social institutions and processes across a range of historical periods and cultures.                      | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. demonstrate knowledge of how government changes its function and methods or uses its power over time.</li> <li>2. demonstrate a knowledge of the relationships among various values, principles, institutions, and traditions, as well as the economic, political, legal, and social orders.</li> </ol> |
| <u>MnTC 5c</u>     | use and critique alternative explanatory systems or theories.   | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. identify various explanations for the major actors, issues, and motivation of governmental and nongovernmental actors.</li> </ol>   |
| <u>MnTC 5d</u>     | develop and communicate alternative explanations or solutions for contemporary social issues.                     | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. compare explanations and solutions of contemporary social issues to similar events in modern times.</li> <li>2. analyze political ideologies and explain how these lead to different goals and political conflict.</li> </ol>   |
| <u>MnTC 9b</u>     | understand and apply core concepts (e.g. politics, rights, and obligations, justice, liberty) to specific issues. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. analyze core concepts such as rights, obligations, justice, liberty, power, and (in)equality to specific issues.</li> </ol>   |
| <u>MnTC 9d</u>     | recognize the diversity of political motivations and interests of others.   | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. demonstrate a knowledge of the major actors, issues, and motivation in governmental and nongovernmental actors.</li> <li>2. analyze the diversity of political motives and interests of others.</li> </ol>  |
| <u>MnTC 9e</u>     | identify ways to exercise the rights and responsibilities of citizenship.   | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. identify the rights and responsibilities of citizenship.</li> <li>2. analyze the principles, institutions, and practices of democracy and the rights and responsibilities citizens possess in democratic societies.</li> </ol>  |
| <u>CS</u>          | demonstrate knowledge of the principal structures and institutions of government.                                 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. identify principal structures and institutions of government.</li> </ol>  |
| <u>CS</u>          | demonstrate mastery of basic concepts of the state constitution.  | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. identify the basic concepts of the state constitution.</li> </ol>   |
| <u>CS</u>          | demonstrate knowledge of how government functions.  | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. identify government functions regarding the division of power among the three branches.</li> </ol>  |
| <u>CS</u>          | demonstrate knowledge of how citizens can influence government action.  | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. identify different ways citizens can influence government.</li> <li>2. analyze the empirical and normative dimensions of political relationships.</li> </ol>  |

G. SPECIAL INFORMATION:

This course may require use of the Internet, the submission of electronically prepared documents and the use of a course management software program. Students who have a disability and need accommodations should contact Accessibility Services at the beginning of the semester. This information will be made available in alternative format, such as Braille, large print, or current media, upon request.

## H. COURSE CODING INFORMATION:

Course Code A/Class Maximum 48; Letter Grade

Revision date: 10/12/10; 09/01/16; 08/31/17; 04/02/24

AASC Approval date: 10/24/17; 04/16/24

\*These five MnTC Goals have been identified as Riverland Community College Core Themes. Every course in the Riverland Community College curriculum shall meet outcomes from one of these themes.

\*\*These five MnTC Goals have been identified as Riverland Community College Disciplines. Riverland's MnTC courses also shall meet outcomes from a Discipline Area.

NOTE: The Minnesota Transfer Curriculum "10 Goal Areas of Emphasis" are reflected in the five required discipline areas and five core themes noted in the Riverland Community College program of study guide and/or college catalog.

| <b>*Riverland Community College Core Themes</b> | <b>MnTC Goal Number</b> |
|---|-------------------------|
| Critical Thinking (CT)                          | 2                       |
| Human Diversity (HD)                            | 7                       |
| Global Perspective (GP)                         | 8                       |
| Ethical and Civic Responsibility (EC)           | 9                       |
| People and the Environment (PE)                 | 10                      |

| <b>**Riverland Community College Discipline Areas</b> | <b>MnTC Goal Number</b> |
|---|-------------------------|
| Communication (CM)                                    | 1                       |
| Natural Sciences (NS)                                 | 3                       |
| Mathematics/Logical Reasoning (MA)                    | 4                       |
| History and the Social & Behavioral Sciences (SS)     | 5                       |
| Humanities and Fine Arts (HU)                         | 6                       |