



MASTER COURSE OUTLINE

A. PSCI 1040 Topics in Modern Politics and Government

B. COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is designed to focus on current issues in modern American government and politics. Topics will include United States national government, constitutional theory, major governmental institutions and the national political culture and practice. **MnTC (Goals 5/SS and 9/EC); (1 Cr - 1 lect, 0 lab)**

C. *MnTC Discipline : History and the Social and Behavioral Sciences

**Core Theme: Ethics and Civic Responsibility

D. MAJOR CONTENT AREAS:

- U.S. Government institutions
- Constitutional theory
- Current events
- Foreign policy
- Domestic policy
- National political practices and culture.
- Media

E. GOAL TYPE, OBJECTIVES, AND OUTCOMES:

<u>GOAL</u>	<u>OBJECTIVES</u> Students will be able to	<u>OUTCOMES</u> The student will successfully
<u>MnTC</u> <u>Goal 5b</u>	examine social institutions and processes across a range of historical periods and cultures.	1. demonstrate knowledge of how government changes its function and methods or uses its power over time.
<u>MnTC</u> <u>Goal 5c</u>	use and critique alternative explanatory systems or theories.	1. suggest varied explanations for the major actors, issues, and motivation of governmental and nongovernmental actors.

<u>MnTC Goal 5d</u>	develop and communicate alternative explanations or solutions for contemporary social issues.	1. compare explanations and solutions of contemporary social issues to similar events in modern times.
<u>MnTC Goal 9b</u>	understand and apply core concepts (e.g. politics, rights, and obligations, justice, liberty) to specific issues.	1. analyze current political issues using core concepts such as politics, rights, obligations, justice and liberty.
<u>MnTC Goal 9d</u>	recognize the diversity of political motivations and interests of others.	1. demonstrate a knowledge of the major actors, issues, and motivation of governmental and nongovernmental actors.
<u>MnTC Goal 9e</u>	identify ways to exercise the rights and responsibilities of citizenship.	1. demonstrate knowledge of the general and specific differences between rights and responsibilities of citizenship.
<u>CS</u>	demonstrate knowledge of the principal structures and institutions of government.	1. identify the purpose, function, and structure of the major branches of government.
<u>CS</u>	demonstrate mastery of basic concepts of the constitution.	1. identify key concepts imbedded in the constitution such as republicanism, representation, rule of law, separation of powers, social contract, natural rights, and federalism.
<u>CS</u>	demonstrate knowledge of how government functions.	1. identify how government functions especially in regards to the division of power among the three branches.

F. 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 the instructor or the Student Success Center 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.

G. COURSE CODING INFORMATION: Course Code A/Class Maximum 42; Letter Grade.

Revision date:

AASC Approval date: 11/16/21

*Riverland Community College Disciplines	MnTC Goal Number
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

**Riverland Community College Core Themes	MnTC Goal Number
Critical Thinking (CT)	2

Human Diversity (HD)	7
Global Perspective (GP)	8
Ethical and Civic Responsibility (EC)	9
People and the Environment (PE)	10

*These five MnTC Goals have been identified as Riverland Community College Disciplines.

** These five MnTC Goals have been identified as Riverland Community College Core Themes.

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.

Riverland