UNIVERSITY OF THE FRASER VALLEY

OFFICIAL UNDERGRADUATE COURSE OUTLINE (page 1)

COURSE IMPLEMENTATION DATE:	March 1994
COURSE REVISED IMPLEMENTATION DATE:	September 2010
COURSE TO BE REVIEWED: *(four years after UPAC approval)*	May 2014 *(month, year)*

OFFICIAL UNDERGRADUATE COURSE OUTLINE INFORMATION

Students are advised to keep course outlines in personal files for future use.

Shaded headings are subject to change at the discretion of the department – see course syllabus available from instructor

POSC 311	**Philosophy & Political Science**	**3**
COURSE NAME/NUMBER	FACULTY/DEPARTMENT	UFV CREDITS

Power, Knowledge, and Order: Early Western Political Thought

COURSE DESCRIPTIVE TITLE

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:

This course covers the history of Western political thought from Classical Greece through the Italian Renaissance. The course will focus on the writings of Plato, Aristotle, Cicero, Augustine, Aquinas, and Macchiavelli. It provides a good overview for students in History, English, and other disciplines, as well as Political Science.

Note: This course is offered as POSC 311 and PHIL 371. Students may take only one of these for credit.

PREREQUISITES: One of POSC 120, POSC 270, PHIL 110, PHIL 210, or 45 university-level credits.
COREQUISITES:
PRE or COREQUISITES:

SYNONYMOUS COURSE(S):
(a) Replaces:
(b) Cross-listed with: **PHIL 371**
(c) Cannot take: **PHIL 371** for further credit.

SERVICE COURSE TO: *(department/program)*

TOTAL HOURS PER TERM: **45**

STRUCTURE OF HOURS:

Lectures:	**25**	Hrs
Seminar:	**20**	Hrs
Laboratory:		Hrs
Field experience:		Hrs
Student directed learning:		Hrs
Other (specify):		Hrs

TRAINING DAY-BASED INSTRUCTION:
Length of course: **N/A**
Hours per day: **N/A**

OTHER:
Maximum enrolment: 25
Expected frequency of course offerings: Once every year.
(every semester, annually, every other year, etc.)

WILL TRANSFER CREDIT BE REQUESTED? (lower-level courses only)	☐ Yes	☒ No
WILL TRANSFER CREDIT BE REQUESTED? (upper-level requested by department)	☐ Yes	☒ No
TRANSFER CREDIT EXISTS IN BCCAT TRANSFER GUIDE:	☐ Yes	☒ No

Course designer(s): **Scott Fast**

Department Head:	**Hamish Telford**	Date approved:	**April 2010**
Supporting area consultation (Pre-UPAC)		Date of meeting:	**April 30, 2010**
Curriculum Committee chair:	**John Carroll**	Date approved:	**May 7, 2010**
Dean/Associate VP:	**Jacqueline Nolte**	Date approved:	**May 7, 2010**
Undergraduate Program Advisory Committee (UPAC) approval		Date of meeting:	**May 21, 2010**

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:
1. Demonstrate understanding of key historical texts.
2. Read independently and interpret political theories.
3. Apply the tradition of Western political thought to an interpretation of their own lives and times.

METHODS: *(Guest lecturers, presentations, online instruction, field trips, etc.)*

Lectures, seminars, assigned readings, essays, written and oral feedback on essays.

METHODS OF OBTAINING PRIOR LEARNING ASSESSMENT RECOGNITION (PLAR):

☒ Examination(s) ☐ Portfolio assessment ☐ Interview(s)

☐ Other (specify):

☐ PLAR cannot be awarded for this course for the following reason(s):

TEXTBOOKS, REFERENCES, MATERIALS: *[Textbook selection varies by instructor. Examples for this course might be:]*

Plato, Gorgias
Machiavelli, The Prince
St. Thomas Aquinas, On Kingship
Porter (Ed.), Classics in Political Philosophy
George Klosko, History of Political Theory: An Introduction. Volume I

SUPPLIES / MATERIALS:

STUDENT EVALUATION: *[An example of student evaluation for this course might be:]*

Essay #1	30%
Essay #2	30%
Essay #3	30%
Class Participation	10%

COURSE CONTENT: *[Course content varies by instructor. An example of course content might be:]*

I. Power and Knowledge: The Greeks

1. a) Introduction to the course
   b) Introduction to the Greeks
      - the oral tradition
      - heroic paradigms of action
      - knowledge: techne and paideia
      - arete and paideia
      - the Greek polis and public space
2. Socrates, Plato and Knowledge
   - recapitulation and the Homeric consciousness
   - the Platonic dialogue
   - the Socratic dialogue
   - the separation of the known and the knower
   - knowledge and the emergence of "self"
3. Socrates' Conversation with Gorgias
   - true education vs. rhetoric
   - freedom, manipulation, and tyranny
   - knowledge and opinion
4. The Conversation with Polis
   - sin and knowledge
   - Socratic geometry
   - warm and benefit

- the Socratic method

Course content continued:

5. The Conversation with Kallicles
   - hedonism vs. morality
   - the futility of philosophy
   - morality, knowledge, and the material context
6. Knowledge, Politics, and Tragedy
   - Socrates vs. Kallicles?
   - Kallicles & Thrasymakos
   - the value of philosophy?
7. Art, Philosophy, and the Political Task
   - the ruling art
   - the philosophical and political status of non-discursive symbolic forms
   - knowledge and dialectic: Plato's contradiction
8. Aristotle on Politics
   - Aristotle and Plato
   - Polis and household
   - classification of regimes
   - preservation of regimes

II. Rome: From Pagan Republic to Christian Empire

9. Cicero & Aquinas
   - extent of the empire
   - Rome and Greek civilization - Cicero's education
   - Stoicism et al.
   - Natural law
   - Republicanism
   - Voluntarism and Republican Liberty
   - The City of God and the City of Man
   - The Fall of Rome and the Manorial Organization of Society
   - The Church symbolic order and political order

III. Political Thought in the Christian Middle Ages

10. Thomas Aquinas
    - classical Greek thought and Christian thought
    - Medieval organicism
    - Medieval natural law
    - Justice and kingship
    - Aquinas and Aristotle
    - Medieval rationalism
11. Machiavelli: The Reality of Power
12. Machiavelli: Reflections and Details
    - realism and morality
    - morality as knowledge vs. morality as rules

IV. The Protestant Reformation: Institutions and Knowledge

13. Martin Luther
    - the heterogeneity of the Protestant reaction
    - commerce, nation-state and church government
    - private morality and public space
    - voluntarism
    - the appearance of the individual
14. Review