INSTITUTIONAL SYLLABUS

(Check One)

_____ New Course (OR)      Date of Last Review _____
_____ Substantive Change in Existing Course

I. Course Title:
Ancient Political Theory

II. Course Number:
Phil. / Govt. 466

III. Credit Hours:
Three (3)

IV. Prerequisites:
None

V. Catalog Description:
This course is of interest to history/government students who want a better understanding of ancient philosophy and its relationship to political thought.

VI. Curricular Relationships:
This course is part of the Government emphasis for History Majors and required course under the Pre-Law curriculum available to History/Government majors.

VII. Course Objectives:
Students will:
- Identify the major genres of ancient philosophic thought (essentially, the period of Thales through Machiavelli, inclusive) and distinguish the major philosophers of each genre;
- Examine opposing views presented by the ancient philosophers and discuss and/or defend the views posed;
- Recognize and interpret the interrelation of the various genres of ancient philosophy and their philosophers;
- Relate the various philosophies discussed to modern issues / life issues;
- Explain and/or defend their responses to thought-provoking questions on ancient philosophy extending the application of class materials to the construction of well-organized and scholarly essays; and,
- Compose a significant and scholarly research paper that relates a topic or topics and a philosopher or philosophers from the class to a relevant topic in the modern era, or that compares, contrasts, and/or criticizes a topic or topics and a philosopher or philosophers from the class.

VIII. Content Outline:

The course shall be apportioned into the number of units deemed necessary by the instructor to adequately cover a fundamental overview of ancient philosophic thought. At a minimum, the course should address a majority of the following philosophers and their various genres of thought:

Pre-Socratic Philosophers
Plato
Aristotle
St. Augustine
St. Thomas Aquinas
Machiavelli

IX. Course Procedures:

The course will adhere to standards of academic performance as set by the History, Government, and Philosophy Department for a 400 level class. There will be a minimum of two examinations per semester. Examinations will strive to enhance student learning through the application of class discussions, lectures, and readings to the construction of well-organized and scholarly essay questions. Additionally, students shall draft a scholarly and technically exacting research paper on a topic relevant to class and that is consistent with the course objectives. The instructor may apply necessary discretion with regard to topic choice and citation style. Students are expected to attend class and be prepared to discuss the material assigned (this may or may not be directly assessed, at the discretion of the instructor). Interactive learning opportunities should be encouraged.

Grading Scale:

Students will be graded on a standard 4.0 scale with the instructor having discretion as to the apportionment of the overall grade per assignment. All essays will be graded using the HGP Rubric as guide.

See grading scale below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Exemplary</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Above Average</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grade</td>
<td>Description</td>
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<td>-------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Average</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Below Average</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Unacceptable</td>
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X. Required/Recommended Readings:

Either a textbook or reader(s) or an electronic data equivalent that adequately addresses ancient political philosophy and the related philosophers, such as:


XI Any Issues Unique to this Course:

N/A

XII Additional Issues of the Department's Choosing:

N/A