HIBBING COMMUNITY COLLEGE
COURSE OUTLINE

COURSE NUMBER & TITLE: PSCI 1500 - Alternative Spring Break
CREDITS: 3 (3 Lec /0 Lab)
PREREQUISITES: Student must be at least 18 years of age to participate on the trip. Students must participate in off-campus service projects and the class may include out-of-state travel. All students must show proof of health insurance, sign release forms, and sign a substance-free agreement. There will be a minimum fee of $50.00 for expenses associated with this class. This fee will be paid at registration for the class.

CATALOG DESCRIPTION:
Alternative Spring Break will examine the relationships between social issues and civic action responsibility through both classroom studies and hands-on service experiences. The course is a designated service-learning course, combining theory and practice to examine the civic and ethical responsibilities of a democratic society. The course requires participation in lab experiences at local, regional, and/or national sites. Students may repeat class one time for elective credit. MNTC goal areas: (5)History and the Social and Behavioral Sciences and (9)Ethic and Civic Responsibility.

OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS:
I. Community service, volunteerism, and Service-Learning
   A. Introduction
   B. History
   C. Defining democratic citizenship
   D. Civic responsibility and values
   E. Social action today
II. Group dynamics
   A. Ethics
   B. Roles
   C. Personality traits
   D. Team dynamics
   E. Effective communication
III. Service site community
   A. Geographical information
   B. Culture
   C. History
   D. Social elements
   E. Community needs/issues
   F. Community resources

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IV. Reflection
   A. Journaling
   B. Reflective reading and writing
   C. Discussions and debates
   D. Papers and projects

V. Personal and professional growth
   A. Philosophy of service
   B. Leadership skills
   C. Ethic/civic development
   D. Communication skills
   E. Professional/career development

COURSE GOALS/OBJECTIVES/OUTCOMES:
Students will
1. document the history of social change and movements in the United States.
2. distinguish between community service, volunteerism, and service-learning.
3. define, explore, and evaluate their worldview.
4. identify an effective team’s communication styles, roles, and dynamics.
5. demonstrate effective communication techniques.
6. apply their personal communication style and roles in group interactions.
7. apply their knowledge of their personal communication style and roles in group interactions to working within a group.
8. research an unfamiliar culture and community.
9. identify and develop sensitivity to an unfamiliar community, its issues, and their underlying dynamics.
10. compare and contrast social issues that affect the local community and beyond.
11. evaluate their commitment to service and citizenship.
12. identify personal values, beliefs, strengths, limitations, and goals.
13. identify and evaluate a social need/issue, its magnitude, and nature.
14. identify the impact of gender, race, age, ethnicity, and socio-economic status in society.
15. apply knowledge of unique social situations and societal problems to providing meaningful service to a community.
16. identify through reflection the feelings, reactions, and learning which occurred during the service experience.
17. demonstrate critical/analytical thinking, written expression, and effective oral communication through journaling, discussions, and writing exercises.

MNTC GOALS AND COMPETENCIES MET:
History and the Social and Behavioral Sciences
Ethics and Civic Responsibility

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HCC COMPETENCIES MET:
Communicating Clearly & Effectively
Thinking Creatively and Critically

STUDENT CONTRIBUTIONS:
The student is expected to attend class regularly, exhibit appropriate behavior, and represent Hibbing Community College in a positive manner while performing service. Students are expected to read all material and complete assignments on a timely basis, contribute to discussions, and complete the service requirements. Unless an emergency arises, students are expected to participate in and complete the spring break trip. If such an emergency does arise, students are responsible for completing an alternative service project. Students must complete all service hours and service projects to complete the course and receive credit.

STUDENT ASSESSMENT SHALL TAKE PLACE USING INSTRUMENTS SELECTED/DEVELOPED BY THE COURSE INSTRUCTOR.

SPECIAL INFORMATION: (SPECIAL FEES, DIRECTIVES ON HAZARDOUS MATERIALS):
HCC Code of Conduct and participating service partners’ regulations apply to this course/experience. Please see your student handbooks for more information.

All students must adhere to program policies. This includes a “zero-tolerance” policy on drug and alcohol use while on the break trip. Failure to abide by these rules will result in immediate dismissal from the trip, the student’s return to Hibbing at their own expense, and failure in the course.

Students must show proof of health insurance by providing their health insurance information to be photocopied and sign a release and confidentiality agreement before participating in the break trip.

A program fee will apply. This amount may vary depending upon costs associated with the break site. A portion of this fee may be returned to the student to assist with expenses associated with the course.

AASC APPROVAL DATE:  February 16, 2012

REVIEW DATE:  February 2017