

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Please read the following descriptions and note your top three choices

The Evolution of the American Democracy:

This course will provide an analysis of American history from the perspectives of political thought & process, as well as the concurrent developments in economics and culture. The course begins amidst the turmoil of the early modern Scientific Revolution and the Protestant Reformation and traces the development of the sovereignty of the people from 16th century Europe to the controversial election of 2000.

The New South

This course is about the history, politics, culture and economics of the New South. Growing out of the ashes of the Civil War, the new south has evolved from poverty and institutionalized White supremacy through the end of World War II to a civil rights movement which has changed the South forever.

US Politics

This course examines the basic concepts involved in the study of politics. The four classic areas of Political Science are stressed: International Relations, US Politics, Comparative Government, and Political Theory and Methodology. Topics include nature of the state, purpose of government, justice, and the definition and use of power.

Contemporary Economic Issues

This course is a critical probe of selected contemporary national and international economic issues which will be explored, analyzed and evaluated within the context of pertinent socio-economic underpinnings and competing ideological perspectives. The issues will include Labor Market (livable wages, poverty, income distribution, immigration, healthcare, race and gender), Government Policies (taxation, welfare, fairness, and social safety nets), and International Trade (protectionism, free trade, international debt, and foreign direct investments).

U.S. Social Problems

The U.S. faces many challenging social problems, including crime, violence, unemployment, poverty, greed and discrimination. In this course, we will be studying some of these problems and their root causes and consequences. We will also examine some of the efforts/suggestions to address these problems.

Organizational Behavior

This course provides experiential study to explore the functioning of work group behavior. Specific interest areas covered include leadership, persuasion, organizational effectiveness, and other related topics that enhance the students' ability to manage people and projects in an organization.

Art and Diversity

Why have issues such as race, gender and class been historically excluded from the study of art history? Why is it important that histories of art reflect the kind of gender and racial diversity seen in present-day America? This course takes these questions as central ones to understanding how race, gender and class impact art.

Campus in Conflict: The Ethics of College Student Life

How do hundreds or thousands of students from all walks of life come together on a college campus to form a community? Not easily, that's how. This course takes a hands-on approach to the many ethical and social issues facing American college campuses today, from cheating and plagiarism to violence and campus shootings. Students will cover multiple case studies and real-life scenarios, including those right here on the NEC campus, and gain valuable skills in recognizing the complexity of issues and dealing with them in a thoughtful and critical manner.

Exiled Voices

This course will look at the community of voices exiled by incarceration, and it will attempt to bring students information regarding the community that is housed behind the walls. Fiction and social commentary by and about prisoners, as well as personal accounts and poetry form the core of this course. The aim: to provide realistic and compelling portraits of crime and punishment in America as embodied in our criminal justice system and experienced by offenders and victims on a daily basis. Providing a voice for the voiceless is a secondary theme of the course.