A. Course Description

Credits: 4

Prerequisites: WRIT 131 Writing I or equivalent, or have instructor's permission.

Lab Hours/ Weeks: Corequisites: None

Lecture Hours/ Week :

MnTC Goals: Goal LS - Upper Division Liberal Studies, Goal 05 - Hist/Soc/Behav Sci, Goal 09 - Ethical/Civic Resp

This course examines the theories, current trends and practical dimensions of how people organize to effect change. Topics include the nature of community organizing, cultural and historical models, issue identification, leadership development, approaches to social power, campaign planning and implementation, and the relationship of community organizing to other forms of social action. The class is participatory and includes intense interpersonal and reflective exercises designed to increase students organizing skills. Students will supplement classroom learning with a case study of a Metro area community organization.

B. Course Effective Dates: 08/24/2002 - 08/14/2010 08/15/2010 - Present

C. Outline of Major Content Areas:

See Course Description for major content areas.

D. Learning Outcomes (General)

1. Critically analyze the relationship between community organizing and other approaches to public participation at an upper division college level.
2. Evaluate both the practical and deeper value dimensions of various approaches to community organizing approaches at an upper division college level.
3. Understand the basic concepts of community organizing as a tradition and contemporary practice.
4. Write clearly, effectively and analytically at a level consistent with upper division college standards.

E. Learning Outcomes (MN Transfer Curriculum)

Goal LS - Upper Division Liberal Studies

None

Goal 05 - Hist/Soc/Behav Sci

1. Use and critique alternative explanatory systems or theories.
2. Develop and communicate alternative explanations or solutions for contemporary social issues.
3. Examine social institutions and processes across a range of historical periods and cultures.

Goal 09 - Ethical/Civic Resp

1. Understand and apply core concepts (e.g. politics, rights and obligations, justice, liberty) to specific issues.
2. Analyze and reflect on the ethical dimensions of legal, social, and scientific issues.
3. Identify ways to exercise the rights and responsibilities of citizenship.

G. Special Information
Community Engagement
Overlap: POL 311 Community Organizing and Social Action.