

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is designed to develop leaders with grassroots orientation and a deep sense of service to the people, particularly to the least, the last and the lost in our society and a leader who is committed to the task of social transformation rooted in our Filipino spirituality. It is aimed at integrating theory and practice towards transformative politics, servant leadership and spiritual governance that would allow for greater people's participation in politics and governance. As a graduate study, it also aims to build the students' capabilities for theoretical studies and empirical research to make the programs more intellectually robust and more firmly grounded in documented experiences of the people through Phenomenological Research. While it is focused on developing leaders for social transformation, it is also the objective of the Course, in the process, to develop communities or staging areas throughout the country for developing Transformational Politics and Transformational Political leadership.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Basic Subjects (12 units)

Philosophy of Commitment to Total Human Development (PCTHD) 3 units

A reflective and critical assessment of experiences in human development work as a person, as a member of a family, as a member or leader in a community viewed from several perspectives - oriental values, Christian social teachings, the philosophy of ASI's founder seen in the context of emerging trends today.

Socio-Cultural Analysis (SCAN) 3 units

Use the sociological concepts and theories, both contemporary and classical, to demonstrate interrelationships between personality, society and culture. SCAN will also include analysis, critical study and the historical development of social issues and social theories from value perspective and from the standpoint of 2/3 majority of the poor and the marginalized in Asia.

Since this is an analytical course, students should be able to look at some phenomena such as the political activities of social classes, racial and ethnic groups, genders, generations, elites, masses, religious and other groups; how social forces shape policies that determine the economic, political and socio-cultural development of a country; and how technology and globalization affects all spheres of human life.

Research Methods and Phenomenology 3 units

This is a survey of the different scientific research methods, both quantitative and qualitative, with emphasis on how to theorize from experience using the Phenomenological approach therefore expounding on existential phenomenological principles on which a specific human approach in research is based. Various approaches in phenomenology will be shared and discussed; corollary approaches rooted in one's culture will also be presented.

This course is designed to lead the students to phenomenological research from research problem formulation to report writing.

Community Economics 3 units

This course will orient the students on how economic analysis taken from the daily life experiences of people becomes the basis for understanding the economic situation of the country and how public policy is developed and formulated. The principles and concept of Sustainable local Economic Development will also be presented.

Major Fields (21 units)

Political Sociology and History of Political Thought 3 units

This course presents to the students Political sociology from the perspectives of three theories: social class theory, elite theory and pluralist theory from which they should be able to analyze the political situation they are coming from and develop an understanding from the perspective of that reality. It will also look at different general approaches to relations between politics and society advanced by Marx, Weber and Durkheim.

This course will also present the historical context in which certain ideas about ethics and politics developed. History of political ideas, and specifically a history of Philippine politics in the context of social developments in the country.

Sociology of Power and Understanding Government Bureaucracy 3 units

This course is designed to look at the sociological and political scientific theorization of power within the different social systems; politics from different ideological persuasions. It is also designed to provide a broader understanding of authority and influence within the context of Filipino culture and how this is practiced in government and politics.

Social Movements, Socio-Political Organizations and Civil Society 3 units

This course is a discussion on the role of social movements, socio-political organizations and civil society groups into the whole discourse of political sociology. An in-depth treatment and analysis of the case of the civil society groups and the use of new technology will be thoroughly looked into as emerging new modalities of people participation in politics and governance.

Leadership Forms and Processes in Governance and Politics 3 units

This course will delve into the different types and forms of leadership as exemplified by classical and contemporary leaders in their times and within their contexts in the realm of politics and governance. It is also aimed at orienting the students to leadership values that ASI is promoting in its desire to participate in social transformation.

Religion, Culture and Politics 3 units

This is a course discussion on the role of religion and culture in Philippine governance and politics. It will expound on the separation of Church and State in the Philippine Constitution.

Christian Social Teachings and Caritas in Veritate in Leadership, Politics and Governance 3 units

This course is designed to explicitly dissect the different aspects and sectoral concerns of society and viewing them from the perspectives of the Christian Social Teachings of the Church.

Legal Philosophy 3 units

This course will deal basically on the relationships between law, power and authority which is a foundational precept of politics and how LAW is both a tool of social peace and stability as well as social change.

Cognates (3 units only - choose one)

Project Planning and Management

3 units

This course deals with the study of project conceptualization, project cycle, monitoring and evaluation. It also includes the study of management of small enterprises. The student will be exposed to actual feasibility study and project proposal writing

Community-Based Information System

3 units

This course is designed to develop the capacity of leaders in politics and governance by providing them with a diagnostic tool for mapping, assessing, monitoring and tracking poverty in order to respond to the identified needs of each family in the barangay, municipal and provincial levels. It followed the principle that "what you cannot measure, you cannot manage."

Political Technocracy

3 units

This course is about political environment scanning and mapping

Research Requirement

Thesis Writing / Phenomenology of Transformational Politics and Governance

6 units

This course is what we call theorizing from experience. Students will be required to write about particular experience in politics and governance as a member of society or as a leader and what new learnings are provided by the experience on transformative politics and governance. In the formulation of the paper the values, vision and mission of ASI as laid down in the PCTHD class must be emphasized.

Note: The courses will be delivered by modules, a certificate of attendance and participation will be issued so that those who are attending individual modules and who decide to take the full MS Course later will be given credits for attending the modules.

MODE OF PROGRAM DELIVERY

Diverting from the traditional paradigm of passive transfer of knowledge, this course shall utilize a variety of methods that will make learning fun and

more interesting for those who will enroll. It will be student-centered, active, empowering and aimed at higher levels of learning outcomes - there will be symposia, fora, roundtable discussions, interactive sessions through the internet, etc. While classroom learning will not be the main methodology, students will be encouraged to allocate more time for serious reading and research work to prepare for modular classes. Distance learning modalities will also be introduced in order to allow for interaction utilizing information technology which is playing a more and more important role in our everyday lives, and is being used increasingly in teaching and learning. More opportunities to have actual exposure in the field of politics and governance shall also be given special attention.

REQUIREMENTS FOR ADMISSION

Applicants to this graduate program should have a general average rating of 85% in the undergraduate degree.

1. the appropriate undergraduate degree
2. at least 2-3 years experience in politics and governance, human and social development
3. leadership potential
4. capacity for independent study
5. documents to be submitted:
 - formal letter of application
 - two copies ASI Form No. 6 (Application Form)
 - Official transcript of record: Original Copy with Special Order (S.O.)
 - Honorable dismissal from the last school attended
 - two (2) letters of recommendation from the agency or organization the applicant is connected with
 - autobiography
 - 2 passport-sized ID picture
6. must undergo an interview with the Section Head
7. must pass the entrance examination



ASIAN SOCIAL INSTITUTE

An Asian Social Science Graduate School of Transformative Praxis towards Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation (JPIC)



Master of Science in Sociology with Specialization in Transformational Politics

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