

POLITICAL SCIENCE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

POLS 101: AMERICAN GOVERNMENT (4)

The study of changing psychological, social, economic, and gender related issues that shape and transform the U.S. Federal Government in operation. The American myth of individualism, the cyber-generated sense of impatience and the attendant inability for deferred gratification, the Internet world of individuation and disaggregation, rising income gaps, increasing demographic diversity, limited upward social and economic mobility, atrophying social groups, educational inequality, and increasing activism on the part of women - how do these and other factors influence the structure, function, and interaction of the elements of the American political system, and the actions and responsibilities of the president, Congress, the courts, and the voters, some of them with shrill voices of dissent? Open to first year students. (A)

POLS 102: INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS (4)

An introductory course to familiarize students with major concepts and problems of the international political system. Open to first-year students. (I)

POLS 103: MODERN COMPARATIVE POLITICS (4)

The first part of this course examines the basic concepts used in comparative politics (e.g., political culture, political actors, political decision making, political performance, etc.). The second part of the course uses these concepts to analyze the politics of Britain, France, Germany, Russia, Japan, China, and Nigeria. No prerequisite. (I)

POLS 104: POLITICAL THEORY (4)

An examination of some of the political theories that have influenced Western civilization from Aristotle through Marx and into the present. This course will offer first-year students and sophomores an opportunity to practice their critical analysis and writing skills. Not recommended for juniors and seniors. (A or I)

POLS 105: POLITICAL MOVEMENTS (4)

The course traces the development of political movements in response to racial, class, sexual identity, gender, and species inequality in the context of U.S. politics and history. We will examine the animal rights movement, the lesbian and gay civil rights movement, the women's rights movement, the movement for equality of women and men of color, as well as the environmental rights movement. The course uses an interdisciplinary approach with emphasis on theories of political science and women's studies. Open to first-year students.

POLS 118: CONTROVERSIAL ISSUES IN AMERICAN POLITICS (4)

An in-depth examination of selected issues of controversy in American politics today—e.g., capital punishment, abortion, gun control, school violence, voucher system, electoral college, campaign finance, PACs, mass media, term limits, faith-based governmental initiatives, health policy, environmental policy, energy policy, and politics and morality. No prerequisite. Open to first-year students. (A)

POLS 125: AFRICAN AMERICAN WOMEN'S POLITICAL ACTIVISM (4)

This course explores African American women's political activism as a lens to transform knowledge about the American political system. How do race, gender, class and sexuality impact Black women's ability to benefit from citizenship and equal protection under the law? Topics will include Black women's grass roots activism, labor activism, feminism, protest politics, and judicial politics. Further, this course will examine how representations of Black women's bodies, sexuality, and reproductive behavior shape contemporary law and public policy. Open to first-year students. No prerequisite. Also listed as GWS 125.

POLS 131: INTRODUCTION TO FEMINIST POLITICAL THOUGHT (4)

Feminism refers to several movements aimed at establishing and defending equal political, economic, and social rights for women, lesbians, transgendered people, and people of color, among other groups of people commonly discriminated against. Feminist thought emerged from these feminist movements; it aims to understand inequality and oppression, providing critiques of sociopolitical power relations. Themes explored in this class will include discrimination, objectification, oppression, heterosexual domination, reproductive politics, male dominance, and sexual violence. Open to first-year students. No prerequisite. (I)

POLS 150: SPECIAL TOPIC - INTRODUCTION TO INTERNATIONAL STUDIES (4)

Also listed and described as INTL 120. Open to first-year students.

POLS 160: MODEL UNITED NATIONS (2)

Also listed and described as INTL 160. Open to first-year students.

POLS 197F: HERITAGE NOT HATE? THE CULTURE, GEOGRAPHY, AND POLITICS OF NATIONALISM AND HERITAGE (4)

Also listed and described as INTL 197F. Placement to be determined during the summer.

POLS 197F: FIRST-YEAR SEMINAR – HOW TO BE A PRESIDENT (4)

This course will examine just what goes on in a Presidential campaign, and in the first months of a Presidential term. Students will “adopt” either a Presidential or Vice Presidential candidate and take part in collaborative projects designed to capture the essence of trying to become President. These projects will include designing campaign materials, scheduling candidates in key “swing states,” counting Electoral College votes, and preparing for the first months of the new term. Whether or not you’d like to be President yourself someday, this course will help you to understand the men and women who do enter that unique arena. Placement to be determined during the summer.

POLS 197F: FIRST-YEAR SEMINAR – WAR AND PEACE: EXPLORING RELIGION AND ETHICS WITHIN GLOBAL CONFLICTS AND DEMOCRATIC MOVEMENTS (4)

Also listed and described as INTL 197F and REL 197F. Placement to be determined during the summer.

POLS 203: WOMEN AND THE LAW (4)

This course examines how women have been treated by wielders of the power of the law. Using constitutional and statutory case law, the course investigates women’s reproductive rights, sexuality and family law, equal employment, woman battering, pornography, hate speech, and sexual exploitation. Also listed as GWS 203. Open to first-year students. No prerequisite. (A)

POLS 206: CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM (4)

A study of the criminal justice system at work in the courtroom setting, emphasizing the relationship between substantive criminal law, criminal procedure, and the law of evidence. Prerequisite: POLS 101, POLS 102, POLS 103, or POLS 104, or permission of instructor. (A)

POLS 208: GENDER, ETHNICITY, CLASS (4)

Survey of the history, theories, and recent research integrating these key concepts for modern society; explores gender, ethnic, and class political participation, movement politics and empowerment; gender, ethnicity, and class policy and law. Also listed as GWS 208. Open to first-year students. Prerequisite: POLS 101, POLS 102, POLS 103, POLS 104 or WS 141, or permission of instructor. (A)

POLS 210: ETHNICITY, NATIONALISM, AND CONFLICT IN COMPARATIVE PERSPECTIVE (4)

From Turkey to Darfur to Spain to Chiapas, ethnic conflict represents the most common expression of large-scale political violence within and across states. This course explores themes and conceptual issues of identity, ethnicity, and nationalism from a comparative perspective. Examining case studies where ethnicity and nationalism variously fuel popular support of political regimes or genocide will contextualize the ways that these socio-political constructs create difference between groups. No prerequisite. Open to first-year students. (I)

POLS 212: SEXUAL POLITICS (4)

Also listed and described as GWS 212. (A)

POLS 213: THE POLITICS OF POVERTY (4)**POLS 213: GLOBALIZATION AND POVERTY (4)**

(Name change effective Fall 2007.) This course examines the extent of poverty and its impact on an individual's access to education, health care, legal justice, and other resources and opportunities; contemporary attitudes toward people who are poor; how these attitudes influence the nature of charity, welfare, and the lives of people who are poor; and how political elites view the problem of poverty and the solutions they propose. Also listed as GWS 213 Open to first-year students. (A)

POLS 214: THE MEDIA AND POLITICS (4)

What role do the media play in the process of governance - the so-called "fourth estate" of the print and broadcast media and now the "fifth estate" that includes internet world and blogosphere? How do they influence and are influenced by the government? How do they shape the beliefs and policies of elected and appointed government officials, citizen political socialization and ultimately elections, campaigns, and all that concerns the relationship between the government and its citizenry? Exploration of these and other issues through videos, movies, lectures, and discussions. Open to first-year students. (A)

POLS 215: POLITICAL PRINCIPLES AND CONCEPTS (4)

This course is designed to bring together some of the major principles and concepts of politics and government. The intent is to review, clarify, and synthesize ideas that have been presented in various introductory courses and to explore their relationships and importance in understanding politics. Prerequisite: POLS 101, POLS 102, POLS 103, or POLS 104, or permission of instructor. (A or I)

POLS 216: RESEARCH METHODS IN POLITICAL SCIENCE (4)

Study of the nature, requirements, and procedures in political science with emphasis on the applied skill in critical analysis of published scholarly works. Epistemological topics in concept formation, hypothesis generation, and theory construction. Corequisite: POLS 216L or permission of instructor.

POLS 216L: LABORATORY FOR RESEARCH METHODS IN POLITICAL SCIENCE (2)

Varieties of social science research: experiments, field experiments, sample surveys, and qualitative research with emphasis on data collection, organization and processing, statistical analysis, and research write-up. Corequisite: POLS 216 or permission of instructor.

POLS 217: POLITICS OF THE MIDDLE EAST (4)

The history and politics of the Middle East. Special emphasis given to the cultural background of various countries of the region as well as nationalism, the Arab-Israeli conflict, and the politics of oil. Prerequisite: POLS 101, POLS 102, POLS 103, or POLS 104, or permission of instructor. (I)

POLS 218: GLOBAL GAYZ- THE LESBIAN AND GAY MOVEMENT FOR CIVIL RIGHTS (4)

This course examines the global movement for lesbian and gay civil rights. It introduces students to an interdisciplinary body of research that focuses on contemporary sites of contention, especially the right of

lesbians and gays to define what counts as a marriage or family (i.e. civil marriage, adoption rights, insemination rights). Other topics include: the legal status of lesbians and gays around the globe, current criminal sanctions for being gay or lesbian, and existing protections against all forms of heterosexism. The political, historical, legal, and social dimensions of the struggle for civil rights will be addressed. No prerequisite. Also listed as GWS 218. Open to first-year students. (A or I)

POLS 219: LATIN AMERICAN POLITICS (4)

This course is designed to introduce the student to the most important issues in Latin American politics. It will be divided into two sections: the first will examine the roots of Latin American political theories; the second will explore through a series of country studies how Latin American political leaders have put these theories into practice. Prerequisite: POLS 101, POLS 102, POLS 103, or POLS 104, or permission of instructor. (I)

POLS 220: AFRICAN POLITICS (4)

This course introduces the student to the variety and complexity of African politics. The major emphases will be on economic and political development since independence. Issues such as dependence, economic stagnation, and political repression will be the main areas of inquiry. Prerequisite: POLS 101, POLS 102, POLS 103, or POLS 104, or permission of instructor. (I)

POLS 221: GLOBAL SYSTEMS (4)

POLS 221: GLOBALIZATION AND LOCAL RESPONSES

Also listed and described as INTL 220. Open to first-year students.

POLS 224: CANADIAN POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT (4)

An exploration of the character of Canadian politics and government with special emphasis on a comparison of Canadian and American political practices and institutions. Major components of the course will be Canadian political culture, the structures and operation of Canadian federalism, American— Canadian relations, and Anglophone/Francophone relationships in Canada. Prerequisite: POLS 101, POLS 102, POLS 103, or POLS 104, or permission of instructor. (I)

POLS 225: CONQUEST (4)

Students will analyze examples of forcible imposition of political power, from the ancient Romans to modern dictators. Making other people accept political authority is difficult, especially when power is seized. We will not focus on the military exploits of dictators or conquerors, but rather what happens when the fighting is over. How did Caesar conquer Gaul? How did Europeans conquer so much of the world in the 19th century? Can one person really rule a modern nation-state? Through lectures, class discussions and individual research, we will address these and related questions. Prerequisite: one 100-level POLS course or permission.

POLS 226: INTERNATIONAL LAW (4)

This course introduces the student to the basic concepts, both traditional and conjectural, of international law and its study. We will do this both by reading and discussing texts on politics and international legal relations, and by discussing current international political issues. Classes are a mix of lecture, discussion, and respectful debate. Prerequisite: POLS 101, POLS 102, POLS 103, or POLS 104, or permission of instructor.

POLS 229: BRITISH POLITICS (4)

This course explores the issues, actors, and dynamics that shape the politics of the United Kingdom. Specifically, it examines British political history and culture, the structures of British government, the policy-making process, voting patterns and political parties, the troubles in Northern Ireland, and Britain's role in the European Union. This is an ideal course for students spending a semester/year in London. Prerequisite: POLS 101, POLS 102, POLS 103, or POLS 104, or permission of instructor. (I)

POLS 233: BIG MAC WORLD ATTACK (4)

Are corporations taking over U.S. politics? Can democracy survive in a world dominated by corporations? This course seeks to answer these questions. First, it examines different models of business-government relations. Then, it explores the rise of corporate power and influence in the U.S. and the “conventional” ways in which corporations affect politics in America (e.g., lobbying, campaign contributions, etc.). The third section of the course investigates corporate control of political systems (e.g., Shell Oil in Nigeria), and it concludes with an assessment of reforms that address the political problems of “corporate ascendancy.” Prerequisite: POLS 102, POLS 102, POLS 103, or POLS 104. (A or I)

POLS 234: GLOBAL WARMING – ENVIRONMENTAL POLITICS AND POLICY (4)**POLS 234: ENVIRONMENTAL POLITICS AND POLICY (4)**

This course introduces environmental politics from a grassroots, state, and international perspective. We analyze social movements, policymaking, patterns of consumption, developmental imperatives, and political culture for their impact on the ecosystem at the local, national, and global levels of analysis. Among the key issues we examine are: the role of community, scientific, bureaucratic, international regime, and media and industry interests in shaping environmental discourse and policy. Close inspection of conditions such as car culture and fast food in the developed world, along with rising greenhouse gas emissions among some of the coal-power later-developing countries will help us understand the complexity of formulating uniform international environmental policy. Also listed as ES 234. Open to first-year students. (A or I)

POLS 235: FEEDING FRENZY – GLOBAL FOOD POLITICS, SECURITY, AND SUSTAINABILITY (4)

With worldwide food shortages producing record price hikes, riots, and outrage over farm subsidies for biofuel, food politics creeps into controversies over public health, the economy, government policy, the environment, and ethics. This course examines relations between the food industry and government at both the global and national level, as well as social movements surrounding slow food, eating local or organic, genetic diversity, vegetarianism, and genetically modified crops. Examining production and consumption of food in a global context, alongside the regulatory regimes that help structure the food industry and its market, provides a lens on the interconnectedness of hunger, the ecosystem, nutrition, science, policymaking, and inequality. Also listed as ES 235. Open to first-year students. (A or I)

POLS 240: POLITICS OF THE EUROPEAN UNION (4)

This course explores the primary issues, actors, and dynamics that shape the politics of the European Union. Specifically, it examines the history of European integration, theories of integration, the structure of the EU, the Union’s decision-making process, and the challenges faced by the Union. Prerequisite: POLS 101, POLS 102, POLS 103, or POLS 104. (I)

POLS 247: PARTIES, ELECTIONS, AND POLITICAL BEHAVIOR (4)

Political activities and behavior of individuals and groups in regard to electoral processes. Emphasis on the American experience but includes comparisons with other systems. Prerequisite: POLS 101, POLS 102, POLS 103, or POLS 104, or permission of instructor. (A)

POLS 248: LESBIAN/QUEER POLITICS (4)**POLS 248: STONEWALL AND AFTER: THE POLITICS OF POSITIVE TRANSFORMATION (4)**

Study of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender movement for political, legal, and economic justice and equality. The course examines policy issues (marriage, parenting), heterosexist ideology, interest group politics, and contemporary political thought. Prerequisite: POLS 101, POLS 102, POLS 103, POLS 104 or WS 141, or permission of instructor. Open to first-year students. (A)

POLS 250: SPECIAL TOPIC - CONQUEST (4)

Since the days of the ancient empires, violent extensions of political and military power have occurred. How do countries get "taken over"? What happens after an invasion? How do political or military coups work? (Why do they always go for the radio station first?) Once power is seized, how is it extended and/or made permanent? How does "nation-building" fit into this? This course will examine the real-life application of the theories and principles of the art of politics by some of its most pragmatic and ruthless practitioners. It will analyze both internal power grabs (by dictators, for example) and external conquests, with examples from history and the modern world.

POLS 250: SPECIAL TOPIC - ETHNICITY, NATIONALISM AND CONFLICT (4)

From Turkey to Darfur to Spain to Chiapas, ethnic conflict represents the most common expression of large-scale political violence within and across states. This course explores themes and conceptual issues of identity, ethnicity and nationalism from a comparative perspective. Examining case studies where ethnicity and nationalism variously fuel popular support of political regimes or genocide will contextualize the ways that these socio-political constructs create difference between groups.

POLS 250: SPECIAL TOPIC – INTEREST GROUPS AND LOBBYING (4)

In this course, we address the following issues: Where, if any, do interest groups belong in the founders' design of democratic governance? Were they conceived as a necessary component of American government? Are they necessary today? How did they develop? What are their functions? What kinds of interest groups are there? What is the interaction between the traditional and social media? And their bearing on interest groups? What is their role in elections? What is their role in public policy formation, both domestic and foreign? Open to first-year students.

POLS 250: SPECIAL TOPIC – INTRO TO GLOBAL PUBLIC HEALTH (4)

This course explores the issues, challenges, programs, and policies in global health. Students will learn about the complex array of biological, economic, and cultural factors considered in the promotion of health and prevention of illness. Material introduced includes determinants of unequal health outcomes, global health governance structures, environmental health, and the relationship between disease and security.

POLS 250: SPECIAL TOPIC – LATIN AMERICAN POLITICS (4)

This course is designed to introduce the student to the most important issues in Latin American politics. It will be divided into three sections. In the first, we will examine the roots of Latin American politics by looking at the history of some major Latin American state. Second, we will discuss some general features of the region. Third, we will see how Latin American leaders have acted recently, through a series of country studies.

POLS 250: SPECIAL TOPIC - LEADERSHIP IN AFRICA (4)

Since the struggle for independence from the European colonizers, African politics has assigned a huge role to charismatic leaders. Kenyatta in Kenya, Senghor in Senegal, Nkrumah in Ghana, Mugabe in Zimbabwe, and other leaders have become almost synonymous with the countries they led. This course examines the particular challenges of leadership in Africa and uses the experience of individual leaders to reveal such important African political realities as disunity, ineffective governance, repression, and an uneven experience with democracy. Prerequisite: POLS 101, POLS 102, POLS 103, or POLS 104, or permission of instructor.

POLS 250: SPECIAL TOPIC – LEADERSHIP IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES (4)

This course focuses on the role of national leaders, elected and unelected, right wing and left wing, civilian and military, male and female, successful and unsuccessful in the politics of selected countries in Latin America, Africa, and South Asia. Drawing on the literature on national leadership and using numerous case studies, the course will take an inductive approach to transnational and perennial issues in Latin America, including

dependence, economic development, political institutionalization, and social change. Prerequisite: POLS 101, POLS 102, POLS 103, or POLS 104, or permission. (I)

POLS 250: SPECIAL TOPIC - LEADERSHIP IN LATIN AMERICA (4)

This course focuses on the role of national leaders, elected and unelected, right wing and left wing, civilian and military, male and female, successful and unsuccessful in the politics of Latin America. Drawing on the literature on national leadership, and using numerous case studies, the course will take an inductive approach to transnational and perennial issues in Latin America, including dependence, economic development, political institutionalization, and social change.

POLS 250: SPECIAL TOPIC - MAKING PUBLIC POLICY (4)

How do the promises of politicians turn into reality? If a new president wants a different foreign policy, how does this happen? If a new state governor wants to redirect money from prisons to schools (or vice versa), what happens after the governor signs the directive? This course examines the work of bureaucrats who turn dreams (including nightmares) into the rules and regulations we live with every day. We'll look at both federal and state bureaucracies, analyzing how agenda are set, how decisions are made, and how they are implemented. We'll also include the role of interest groups, professional bureaucrats, political appointees, and the general public. Prerequisite: POLS 101, POLS 102, POLS 103, or POLS 104, or permission. (A or I)

POLS 250: SPECIAL TOPIC - PHILOSOPHY OF LAW (4)

Do we have a moral obligation to obey the law? We examine Locke's famous "Yes" answer. We critique principles such as that ignorance of law is no excuse, and that there is no crime without an overt act plus a guilty mind. We assess justifications for Good Samaritan laws, death penalty laws, drug laws, negligence laws, and Patriot Act laws. Also listed as PHIL 250. Open to first-year students.

POLS 250: SPECIAL TOPIC - POLITICS AND FILM (4)

This course explores the interplay between politics and film. It begins with a discussion of what makes a film political and with an examination of "purely political" films. We consider the politics of filmmaking. Specifically, we investigate how the political agenda of filmmakers influences their portrayal of people and events in both documentaries and commercial films. The third and fourth parts of the course explore the ways in which film represents power politics and the politics of identity, respectively. (A or I)

POLS 250: SPECIAL TOPIC - POLITICS AND LITERATURE (4)

An examination of the sometimes obvious, sometimes well-hidden political references in literature. We'll address topics ranging from Chicken Little running to see the King to the politics of Hell in Dante's *Inferno*. Texts will include both selections from traditional Western literature and from world literature. Prerequisite: POLS 101, POLS 102, POLS 103, POLS 104, WS 141, or permission of instructor. (A or I)

POLS 250: SPECIAL TOPIC - POLITICS OF FRANCE (4)

This course provides an in-depth examination of French politics. It explores the French political context (e.g., history, geography, and political culture); France's primary political actors (e.g., voters, political elites, political parties, and interest groups); France's political framework and policy-making process; and France's role in the European Union. Special attention is given to the role of women in politics. This course is ideal for students spending a semester/year in Paris. Prerequisite: POLS 101, POLS 102, POLS 103, POLS 104, or permission of instructor. (I)

POLS 254: SOCIAL AND POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY (4)

Also listed and described as PHIL 254.

POLS 255: STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT (4)

Structure and functions of state governments in the federal system. Cooperation and conflict between levels of government. Problems of constitutional law, of decision making and administration, of political power and resources. Viability of state government today and proposals for reform. Prerequisite: POLS 101, POLS 102, POLS 103, or POLS 104, or permission of instructor. (A)

POLS 256: CONGRESS AND THE PRESIDENCY (4)

In this course we examine the relationship between the legislative and executive branches of government at the national level. Topics of study include, among others, how laws are made in a hyper-partisan era, the constitutional powers and historical development of Congress and the Presidency, the legislature's role in overseeing the executive branch, how the recent rise in partisan politics within national institutions has affected congressional-presidential relations, as well as the influence of lobbies on legislative and executive branches of government. Prerequisite: POLS 101, POLS 102, POLS 103, or POLS 104, or permission. (A)

POLS 257: THE AMERICAN PRESIDENCY (4)

Study of the presidency in history and in the Constitution, of the institutional presidency, of presidential power, leadership, and accountability. Consideration of presidential character, "the President as King," and the "impossible presidency." The use, abuse, and constraints upon presidential power are stressed. Prerequisite: POLS 101, POLS 102, POLS 103, or POLS 104, or permission of instructor. (A)

POLS 258: UNITED STATES CONGRESS (4)

Study of the recruitment, election, and socialization of legislators; the legislative process and structure; interest groups and other agencies of demands and their interaction with legislators; the executive branch and its relationship with the legislature; and the U.S. Congress as a policy-making agency. Prerequisite: POLS 101, POLS 102, POLS 103, or POLS 104, or permission of instructor. (A)

POLS 259: INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL ECONOMY (4)

Also listed and described as ECON 259. Prerequisite: ECON 158. (I)

POLS 262: GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS IN AFRICA (4)

This course is designed to introduce the student to the most important issues in sub-Saharan African politics, both current and perennial. It will be divided into four sections. In the first, students will examine the global context of African politics to identify the most significant obstacles to African prosperity. The second section will cover representative African Independence movements. The third section will examine the continent's experience with democratic governance, while the fourth section will examine diverging economic paths in Africa. Prerequisite: any 100-level POLS course or permission. Offered Term 2. (I) (GLO, MOD)

POLS 268: POLITICAL SOCIALIZATION (4)**POLS 268: POLITICAL SOCIALIZATION OF CHILDREN (4)**

The idea of government and politics rests on: (1) its foundation of philosophical principles; (2) its formal institutions erected to facilitate realization of these principles; and (3) a number of elected and appointed governmental officials to implement policies designed to observe the principles of governance and execute them according to the laws. How do children come to learn, if they do, about the idea of government and politics: the principles, institutions, and the incumbents? Do they internalize or reject the notion that "all people, women and men, are created equal?" How about their attitudes and beliefs about the structure of government and the politicians in it? What explains the lack of uniformity of their learning process and learned outcome? What visible and not-so-visible factors—family, peer group, school, media, and the like—may influence the different ways in which children receive the cues and clues about government and politics? Why is it that some children conform to the influencing agencies and others do not? What about the role of their social, economic, and religious environment as possible sources of influence? How about the personal attributes of the

children themselves such as their gender, age, cognitive abilities, and the emotive profile? What are the consequences of all this for the viability of government, its stability and continuity? Open to first-year students. (A or I)

POLS 290: INDEPENDENT STUDY (2 or 4)

Independent study conducted below the advanced level. Application must be made with faculty prior to registration.

POLS 302: COMPARATIVE URBANISM (4)

Also listed and described as INTL 302. Prerequisite: POLS 101, POLS 102, POLS 103, or POLS 104, or permission.

POLS 303: CONTEMPORARY EUROPEAN POLITICS (4)

This seminar examines contemporary issues in European politics. Special attention is given to political issues in the United Kingdom, France, Germany, and Italy. The issues vary depending upon events in Western Europe, but such topics as European integration and ethnic nationalism are representative. Prerequisite: POLS 101, POLS 102, POLS 103, or POLS 104, or permission of instructor. (I)

POLS 304: GEOPOLITICS (4)

Also listed and described as INTL 303. Open to first-year students with permission.

POLS 308: WOMEN AND POLITICS (4)

This course begins with a discussion of the gendering of politics. This segment explores whether gender bias was built into the foundation of American and European politics. The second part of the course attempts to explain the variations in the number of female politicians in the U.S. and Europe. Specifically, it examines the political factors (e.g., electoral systems, political parties, public policies, etc.) that help or hinder women's entry into the public sphere. The third segment of the course focuses on the cross-national variations in women's political participation (e.g., women as voters, activists, candidates, and elected officials). Particular attention is given to the impact female politicians have on public policy. Prerequisite: POLS 101, POLS 102, POLS 103, or POLS 104. Also cross listed with WS 308. (A or I)

POLS 310: SEMINAR IN AMERICAN GOVERNMENT (4)

A study of the American national government, including the philosophical foundation; the making of the U.S. Constitution; public opinion, voting, and elections; parties and interest groups; the presidency; the Congress; and the Supreme Court. Prerequisite: POLS 101, POLS 102, POLS 103, or POLS 104, or permission of instructor. (A)

POLS 311: CONTROVERSIAL ISSUES IN AMERICAN POLITICS (4)

An in-depth analysis of the political, legal, economic, social, and ethical aspects of selected issues of controversy in American politics today [e.g. senate filibuster (unanimous consent), legislative-judicial conflict, religion and politics, electoral college, abortion, gun control, capital punishment]. Prerequisite: POLS 101 or permission. (A)

POLS 314: FRENCH POLITICS (4)

This course provides an in-depth examination of French politics. It explores the French political context (e.g., history, geography, and political culture); France's primary political actors (e.g., voters, political elites, political parties, and interest groups); France's political framework and policy-making process; and France's role in the European Union. Special attention is given to the role of women in politics. This course is ideal for students spending a semester/year in Paris. Prerequisite: POLS 101, POLS 102, POLS 103, POLS 104, or permission of instructor. (I)

POLS 315: ANGER, TERRORISM, AND REVOLUTION (4)

Investigation of some of the causes of revolutions and political violence. Prerequisite: POLS 101, POLS 102, POLS 103, or POLS 104, or permission of instructor. (I)

POLS 332: CURRENTS OF MARXIST THOUGHT (4)

Also listed and described as INTL 332. Open to first-year students with permission.

POLS 334: SEMINAR IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS (4)

Study of major problems in international politics in the contemporary world. The examination of problems of international security and conflict resolution in the nuclear age, of the use of force in international relations, of uneven economic development around the world, and of the global environmental crisis. Prerequisite: POLS 101, POLS 102, POLS 103, or POLS 104, or permission of instructor. (I)

POLS 337: SEMINAR IN U.S. FOREIGN POLICY (4)

A seminar that examines the content and conduct of U.S. foreign policy in different regional contexts. For example, U.S. policy in Latin America and the Middle East. Prerequisite: POLS 101, POLS 102, POLS 103, or POLS 104, or permission of instructor. (A or I)

POLS 338: NATIONAL SECURITY POLICY (4)

In-depth study of the concept of national security and the instruments used to pursue national security as a policy. For example, the relationship of arms control and national security and the use of containment in pursuit of national security. Prerequisite: POLS 101, POLS 102, POLS 103, or POLS 104, or permission of instructor. (A or I)

POLS 340: ELECTIONS AND VOTING (4)

Study of history of elections, the place of elections in the theory of democracy; various influences on the outcome of elections such as campaigns, campaign finance, party politics, candidates and their policies and images, issues, the nature of times, media, the voter profile as a function of political, psychological, social, and economic factors and the institutional factors such as primaries, the Electoral College, and laws governing the election process. Prerequisite: POLS 101. Open to first-year students with permission.

POLS 345: AMERICAN VOTING BEHAVIOR (4)

Study of psychological, social, and economic influences affecting current American voting behavior. Consideration is given to suggested reforms in existing voting procedures. Prerequisite: POLS 101, POLS 102, POLS 103, or POLS 104, or permission of instructor. (A)

POLS 350: SPECIAL TOPIC – 2016 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION (4)

Do the numerous Republican candidates vying at this time disadvantage the party's chance? Should Hillary Clinton be the only candidate from the Democratic Party? How does the increasing population diversity influence the election? Do the financing of the election and the technological sophistication further "elitize" the process of selecting a 187 president? Should the Electoral College be abolished? What kind of reforms are desirable? No prerequisites.

POLS 350: SPECIAL TOPIC - FEMINIST PERSPECTIVES ON ENVIRONMENTALISM (4)

Students will examine women's relationships with earth, non-human animals and nature, and other human animals. The course explores the connections between the mastery of women and the mastery of nature, the origins of feminist perspectives on environmentalism and their relation to the science of ecology and to other branches of feminist thought. Students will explore issues such as biological diversity, industrial and animal agriculture, biotechnology, war and violence, spirituality, development, sustainability, environmental health

issues, environmental racism, and activism. Critiques of modern science, technology and political systems as well as solutions will be included. Also listed as GWS 350. Open to first-year students with permission.

POLS 350: SPECIAL TOPIC – CHINESE POLITICS, CULTURE AND SOCIETY (4)

This course introduces students to the issues and challenges of reform in the People's Republic of China. No prior background in Asian history, culture or politics is expected. We will focus on the reform era Chinese political system and its model of development, moving from there to relations between state and society. The course will expose students to relevant concepts and points of contention in Chinese politics and society, including gender inequality, ethnic discord, nationalism, explosive economic growth and urbanization.

POLS 350: SPECIAL TOPIC - MARXIST THEORY (4)

In this seminar we examine work in both classic and contemporary structuralism. The roots of Marxist theory will be explored through our readings of Marx, Engels, Trotsky, Lenin, Luxemburg, Gramsci, Adorno, Benjamin, and DeBord before we move to contemporary neo-Marist work located within the fields of geography, urban studies, international relations, gender studies, development and globalization studies, and environmental studies. Does Marxism still hold out legitimate possibility as a political project or is it only useful now as a critique of global neo-liberalism? Open to first-year students with permission. (A or I)

POLS 350: SPECIAL TOPIC - POLITICS THROUGH FILM IN THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA (4)

This course introduces Chinese politics through a series of feature films of the Maoist era to the current "Sixth Generation" filmmaker productions. Taking several films as key texts, we'll explore issues of national, cultural, and gender identities, the relationship between art and ideology, censorship, the politics of film production, and the significance of internationally marketed films for state projections of China's "soft power." By comparing how films produced at different times revise history, depict state-society relations or take positions in the debates of the time in which they were produced, we'll situate these narrative accounts in Chinese politics of the recent past and present.

POLS 350: SPECIAL TOPIC - POST-COLONIAL STUDIES (4)

This seminar engages the rich and heterogeneous theoretical and analytic tradition of post-colonial studies within the social sciences and the humanities. Post-colonial studies emerged in the 20th century as a disparate school of critique examining how colonial regimes of power, economy, and knowledge continue to haunt much of the developing world. In this course, we will examine the works of key intellectuals such as Fanon, Said, Achebe, Hall, Gilroy, Spivak, Bhabha, and many others. We will also discuss the many intersections of post-colonial studies with other theoretical traditions including Marxism, feminism, environmental thought, and post-structuralism. Also listed as INTL 350.

POLS 350: SPECIAL TOPIC – POST STRUCTURAL AND POST COLONIAL THEORY (4)

This course is as an upper level introduction to the wide range of critique within post structural and postcolonial thought. We will pay particular attention to the following themes and concepts present within these traditions: Exile, hybridity, mimicry, binaries, metanarrative, hyperreality, difference, Orientalism, representation, power/knowledge/subject, resistance, domination, imperialism, and many others. Authors examined include Derrida, Foucault, Baudrillard, Lyotard, Said, Bhaba, Roy, Gilroy, Hall, Spivak, and many others. Also listed as INTL 350.

POLS 350: SPECIAL TOPIC – PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION OF 2012 (4)

The general outline of this course is essentially same as that of POLS 345 which seeks to study all presidential elections and the voting behavior except that in this course we seek to set apart the Obama reelection of 2012 and study the factors that serve to explain what exactly happened and its historical meaning against the constellation of past presidential elections. We will have the 2012 National Election Studies data from the

University of Michigan just released nationwide and the members of the class can test the truth and falsity of many claims and interpretations about this particular election. Open to first-year students with permission.

POLS 350: SPECIAL TOPIC - SEMINAR IN COMPARATIVE POLITICS (4)

This seminar begins by studying the major theories and approaches associated with comparative politics. It then seeks to answer some questions that are frequently raised by comparative analysis. For example, why are poor countries poor and rich countries rich? What makes a democracy? How can we explain political violence? What is a social movement? Finally, it explores the future of comparative politics by examining the recent challenges posed by globalization. Prerequisite: POLS 101, POLS 102, POLS 103, or POLS 104, or permission of instructor. (I)

POLS 350: SPECIAL TOPIC - U.S. GLOBAL STRATEGY (4)

What does it mean to be a “superpower”? Whether or not the United States is still a superpower is open to discussion. But it is undeniable that the United States has interests and aspirations in virtually every corner of the world, from the southern border to the South China Sea. Is it possible to develop a single set of goals and methods that will permit the U.S. to pursue its interests and fulfill its aspirations? This course will examine some of the prevailing theories of global strategy, then analyze U.S. global interests, taking a regional approach. The goals will be to learn “How to be a Superpower” and to permit students to conclude whether or not the U.S. ought to be a superpower. Prerequisite: POLS 101, POLS 102, POLS 103, POLS 104 or permission of instructor. (A or I)

POLS 360: REEL POLITICS - FILM IN CHINA (4)

This course introduces Chinese politics through a series of feature films of the Maoist era to the current “Sixth Generation” filmmaker productions. Taking several films as key texts, we’ll explore issues of national, cultural, and gender identities, the relationship between art and ideology, censorship, the politics of film production, and the significance of internationally marketed films for state projections of China’s “soft power.” By comparing how films produced at different times revise history, depict state-society relations, or take positions in the debates of the time in which they were produced, we’ll situate these narrative accounts in Chinese politics of the recent past and present. Prerequisite: POLS 101, POLS 102, POLS 103, or POLS 104, or permission.

POLS 363: CONSTITUTIONAL LAW (4)

The roles of courts and judges in the development of public policy through constitutional law. How judicial power is used to restrain governmental power on the one hand, and to stimulate social change on the other. Substantive emphasis upon congressional and presidential power, federalism, and the elimination of discrimination based upon race and sex. Prerequisite: POLS 101, POLS 102, POLS 103, or POLS 104, or permission of instructor. (A)

POLS 364: CIVIL LIBERTIES LAW (4)

Comparative study of the ways in which the English and the Americans treat problems of civil liberties, particularly freedom of expression, due process of law, and the right of citizens to know what their government is doing. Prerequisite: POLS 101, POLS 102, POLS 103, or POLS 104, or permission of instructor. (A)

POLS 390: INDEPENDENT STUDY (2 or 4)

Independent study conducted at the advanced level. Application must be made with faculty prior to registration.

POLS 399: INTERNSHIP (4)

Application must be made with faculty prior to registration.

POLS 450: DEPARTMENTAL SCHOLAR PROGRAM (4)

Designated for senior honors majors only, the invited departmental scholar may undertake one of the following: jointly designing a course and/or teaching it with a faculty supervisor of her choice; assisting the faculty

supervisor with a research project that bears relevance to her area of interest; or proposing an extension of her honors thesis by engaging in specialized readings. This program is by invitation only.

POLS 480: SENIOR THESIS (4)

A research paper based upon an inquiry into a specific problem in the field of politics. Research begins during Term 1 and is completed during Short Term. Application must be made with faculty prior to registration.

POLS 480: SENIOR THESIS/THESIS SEMINAR (4)

Students will write a research paper based upon an inquiry into a specific problem in the field of politics. Research begins during Term 1 and is completed during Short Term. Application must be made with faculty prior to registration. Students have the option of enrolling in a thesis seminar, to be co-directed by members of two different departments.

POLS 490: SENIOR HONORS THESIS (4, 4)

Offered to qualified political science majors. Research begins during first term, continues through Short Term, and is completed during second term. GPA requirements: 3.33 in political science and 3.00 overall. Application must be made with faculty prior to registration.