

POLITICAL SCIENCE (Div II)

Chair: Professor Nicole Mellow

- Da'Von A. Boyd, Gaius Charles Bolin Fellow in Political Science
- George T. Crane, Edward S. Greenbaum 1910 Professor in Political Science
- Justin Crowe, Chair of Leadership Studies and Professor of Political Science; affiliated with: Political Science, Leadership Studies
- Laura D. Ephraim, Associate Professor of Political Science; on leave Fall 2023
- Galen E. Jackson, Assistant Professor of Political Science
- Joy A. James, Ebenezer Fitch Professor of Humanities; affiliated with: Humanities, Political Science; on leave Spring 2024
- Cathy M. Johnson, James Phinney Baxter III Professor of Political Science; on leave Fall 2023
- Michael D. MacDonald, Frederick L. Schuman Professor of International Relations
- James E. Mahon, Woodrow Wilson Professor of Political Science
- James McAllister, Fred Greene Third Century Professor of Political Science; affiliated with: Political Science, Leadership Studies
- Nicole E. Mellow, Chair and Ephraim Williams Professor of Political Science; affiliated with: Political Science, Leadership Studies
- Natasha Murtaza, Visiting Assistant Professor of Political Science
- Nimu Njoya, Lecturer in Political Science
- Darel E. Paul, Professor of Political Science, Chair of Political Economy Program; affiliated with: Political Science, Political Economy
- Mark T. Reinhardt, Class of 1956 Professor of American Civilization; affiliated with: Political Science, American Studies; on leave 2023-2024
- Neil Roberts, Associate Dean of the Faculty, John B. McCoy and John T. McCoy Professor of Africana Studies and Faculty Affiliate in Political Science and Religion; affiliated with: Dean of the Faculty's Office, Africana Studies, Religion, Political Science
- Sidney A. Rothstein, Assistant Professor of Political Science; on leave 2023-2024
- Cheryl Shanks, Professor of Political Science; on leave Fall 2023
- Matthew Tokeshi, Assistant Professor of Political Science
- Mason B. Williams, Associate Professor of Leadership Studies and Political Science; affiliated with: Leadership Studies, Political Science

Political science is interested in the question of power—how it is created, exercised, justified, and challenged to engage in problem solving, facilitate citizen action, and participate in world-making. Political scientists study democracy, war, group conflicts, law, rights, wealth distribution, and authority, as well as the individuals, institutions, and social forces that shape them. As a social science, the study of politics considers both the dynamics and ethics of power, which in turn involves conceptions of community, identity, justice, and citizenship. The effort to understand politics aims not only to describe and explain, but also to improve collective life. To this end, the Political Science Department strives to cultivate in its students the habits and skills of clear thought, rigorous analysis, and effective argumentation in writing and speech.

The Political Science major requires nine courses. Traditionally, students organize their major through the subfields that structure the discipline of political science (American politics, international relations, political theory, and comparative politics). Occasionally, students propose and develop individual concentrations that reflect their particular interests, regardless of subfields.

MAJOR

Subfield Concentration Route: Upon declaring a major, students choose one subfield: American politics, international relations, political theory, or comparative politics. The subfield concentration draws at least four (4) of the nine courses from one subfield including the appropriate core course from 110-140, two electives of the student's choice at the 200 or 300 level and the senior seminar in the student's subfield. Students selecting political theory as their subfield concentration must take Political Science 231 or Political Science 232 as one of their four subfield courses, in addition to taking Political Science 130 and prior to taking Political Science 430. With permission of the department chair, students may take a senior seminar in a different subfield, providing they take a third elective in the subfield of concentration. In addition, students must take courses in two subfields outside the subfield of concentration to satisfy the breadth requirement (all methods courses also count toward the breadth requirement). The faculty advisor must approve the student plan. Students must take at least one 300-level course and one 300- or 400-level research (R) course to complete the major.

(Many senior seminars are also research courses but, especially in political theory, not all are.) In addition, no more than two 100-level elective courses (courses outside of the 110-140 core courses) can count toward the major.

Individual Concentration Route: In rare circumstances, students may devise a concentration of their own. In this event, the student prepares a curricular plan in consultation with a faculty advisor, explaining the nature of the concentration, why it cannot be accommodated in the traditional subfield structure, and the courses the student will take. The individual concentration also requires nine (9) courses, with at least five (5) thematically linked courses constituting the concentration. Of these five courses, one is from the 110-140 core courses, three are electives at the 200 or 300 level, and one is a senior seminar. In addition, students pursuing an individual concentration must take at least two other courses that illustrate breadth in political science. To complete the requirement, the student has their choice of any two other courses within the Political Science Department. The faculty advisor and the department chair must approve the student plan. Students must take at least one 300-level course and one 300- or 400-level research course to complete the major. (Many senior seminars are also research courses but, especially in political theory, not all are.) In addition, no more than two 100-level elective courses (courses outside of the 110-140 core courses) can count toward the major.

ADVISEMENT

When a student chooses to major in Political Science (usually at the end of the sophomore year), they may register with any Political Science faculty member. The registering faculty member will ask for preferences for a permanent faculty advisor and an effort will be made to match students with their preferred advisor though this cannot be guaranteed. In all cases, students will be paired by the beginning of junior year with an advisor who will continue with them through graduation.

COURSE NUMBERING

The course numbering used by the Political Science Department reflects the format and specialization of a course. The 100-level courses are divided between our core courses and electives. The core courses, numbered from 110-140, serve as introductions both to the substance of politics and the subfields organizing the study of politics. The introductory subfield course must be completed before the senior year and preferably before junior year. The 100-level electives are designed to address political topics from multiple subfield perspectives; many are seminars designed for first-year students. The 200-level courses are electives that delve into political processes, problems, and philosophies, typically within one of the four subfields though occasionally in ways that cut across subfields. 100-level and 200-level courses have no prerequisites. 300-level courses are more specialized seminars and have prerequisites. 400-level courses are senior seminars offered for students in the major; senior seminars also are open to juniors and to non-majors if space permits. In general, the main subfield of non-core courses can be read from the middle digit of the course number: 0, 1 or 5 for American politics; 2 or 6 for international relations; 3 or 7 for political theory; 4 or 8 for comparative politics. Because the relevant course number may not be available, and as some courses may not fit the subfields or may fit multiple subfields, please check the "attributes" entry to confirm how the course is categorized by the department.

WINTER STUDY PROJECT

The department welcomes relevant WSP 99 proposals that can make important contributions to the student's understanding of public affairs and politics. Majors, seniors, and students without previous WSP 99 experience have preference.

THE JUNIOR YEAR ABROAD

A major in Political Science can be readily and usefully combined with study off-campus. Generally, only one course taken per semester abroad in a program approved by the College may be counted toward the requirements for a degree in Political Science.

FAQ

Students **MUST** contact departments/programs **BEFORE** assuming study away credit will be granted toward the major or concentration.

Can your department or program typically pre-approve courses for major/concentration credit?

Yes, in many cases, though students should be sure to contact the department.

What criteria will typically be used/required to determine whether a student may receive major/concentration credit for a course taken while on study away?

Course title and description, though sometimes a syllabus may be needed. How much we need may depend on our familiarity with the institution or program.

Does your department/program place restrictions on the number of major/concentration credits that a student might earn through study away?

Yes. Typically we allow not more than one course per semester, or two per year, to count for major credit.

Does your department/program place restrictions on the types of courses that can be awarded credit towards your major?

No, although this depends on the course. If, after considering description and institution, we feel it is not rigorous enough, we will not count it.

Are there specific major requirements that cannot be fulfilled while on study away?

Yes. We do not allow the senior seminar requirement, nor the research requirement, to be fulfilled by study abroad.

Are there specific major requirements in your department/program that students should be particularly aware of when weighing study away options? (Some examples might include a required course that is always taught in one semester, laboratory requirements.)

No. One such required course (either Ancient or Modern Political Thought for those specializing in political theory within the major) can be fulfilled by an appropriate study abroad course.

Give examples in which students thought or assumed that courses taken away would count toward the major or concentration and then learned they wouldn't:

When issues arise that's almost always because the student did not keep department adequately informed of evolving plans.

PREPARATION FOR GRADUATE STUDY

The Department recommends that students contemplating graduate school, especially if they plan to study fields outside of political theory, take a course in research methods, such as PSCI 493, and/or a class in quantitative methods, such as POEC 253.

THE DEGREE WITH HONORS IN POLITICAL SCIENCE

To become a candidate for honors, the student must apply in the second semester of their junior year for PSCI 493(F), the Senior Thesis Research Design Seminar, by (1) submitting a "statement of interest and qualifications" and (2) having a record of academic excellence in Political Science, generally a major GPA of 3.5 or above. Accepted students who write a successful thesis research proposal in PSCI 493 will then be invited to continue on to PSCI 494(S), Senior Thesis Research and Writing Workshop. Also required for these students is participation in the senior thesis winter study course (PSCI 31). The fall and spring semester senior thesis courses are in addition to the required nine (9) courses for the major. Additional details can be found at the department website.

PSCI 110 (F)(S) Introduction to American Politics: Power, Politics, and Democracy in America

Begun as an experiment over 200 years ago, the United States has grown into a polity that is simultaneously praised and condemned, critiqued and mythologized, modeled by others and remodeled itself. This course introduces students to the dynamics and tensions that have animated the American political order and that have nurtured these conflicting assessments. Topics include the founding of the American system and the primary documents (the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, and the Federalist Papers), the primary institutions of national government then and now (Congress, the presidency, and the Supreme Court), and the politics of policy-making in the United States. We study structures, processes, key events, and primary actors that have shaped American political development. In investigating these topics, we explore questions such as these: How is power allocated? What produces political change? Is there a trade-off between democratic accountability and effective governance? How are tensions between liberty and equality resolved? Do the institutions produce good policies, and how do we define what is good?

Requirements/Evaluation: depending on the section, some combination of response papers, short-to-medium papers, multimedia projects (podcasts, videos), exams, discussion groups, and class participation

Prerequisites: this is an introductory course, open to first-year students and sophomores; juniors and seniors may enroll only with the permission of instructor and under special circumstances

Enrollment Limit: 30

Enrollment Preferences: first-years and sophomores

Expected Class Size: 30

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

Attributes: JLST Interdepartmental Electives POEC Required Courses PSCI American Politics Courses

Fall 2024

LEC Section: 01 MR 1:10 pm - 2:25 pm Justin Crowe

Spring 2025

LEC Section: 01 TF 1:10 pm - 2:25 pm Matthew Tokeshi

PSCI 120 (F)(S) Introduction to International Relations: World Politics

This course provides an overview of the central theories, concepts and debates in international relations. Students evaluate competing answers to

central questions in the field: What are the implications of an anarchic political structure for order and justice in world politics? What are the primary causes of international war and conflict? Are there necessary conditions for peace and stability? What role do moral and legal considerations play in world politics? How has globalization changed the way that the international system operates?

Requirements/Evaluation: Depending on the semester and instructor, some combination of essays, a midterm paper, one or two short response papers, a group project and presentations, a podcast, and an in-person final exam.

Prerequisites: This is an introductory course, open to first-year students and sophomores; juniors and seniors may enroll only with the permission of instructor and under special circumstances.

Enrollment Limit: 25

Enrollment Preferences: first-year students and sophomores

Expected Class Size: 25

Grading: no pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Unit Notes: International relations subfield

Distributions: (D2)

Attributes: PSCI International Relations Courses

Fall 2024

LEC Section: 01 TF 1:10 pm - 2:25 pm James McAllister

LEC Section: 02 TF 2:35 pm - 3:50 pm James McAllister

Spring 2025

LEC Section: 01 TR 8:30 am - 9:45 am Cheryl Shanks

PSCI 130 (F)(S) Introduction to Political Theory

Is politics war by other means? Is it merely a practical way to meet our needs? Or is it, rather, the activity through which citizens pursue justice and the good life? And what is justice? How can it be established and secured? Where does it apply? To whom? What are the powers and obligations of citizenship? Who decides? On what basis? Political theory addresses questions such as these as it investigates the fundamental problems of how people can, do, and ought to live together. The questions have sparked controversy since the origins of political thinking; the answers remain controversial now. This course addresses the controversies, drawing examples from struggles over such matters as racism, colonialism, revolution, political founding, economic order, and the politics of sex and gender, while focusing on major works of ancient, modern, and contemporary theory by such authors as Plato, Aristotle, Machiavelli, Hobbes, Rousseau, Mill, Marx, Nietzsche, Beauvoir, Arendt, Fanon, Rawls, Foucault, and Young. Themes may include power, authority, freedom, justice, equality, democracy, neoliberalism, feminism, and violence, though the emphases will vary from semester to semester.

Requirements/Evaluation: Three papers, class participation, and occasional informal writing/Glow posts. The spring 2025 sections may include a podcast option and a final exam.

Prerequisites: none; this is an introductory course, open to all, including first-year students

Enrollment Limit: 25

Enrollment Preferences: first-years and sophomores

Expected Class Size: 25

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

Attributes: LEAD Ethical Issues of Leadership PHIL Related Courses PSCI Political Theory Courses

Fall 2024

SEM Section: 01 MW 11:00 am - 12:15 pm Laura D. Ephraim

Spring 2025

SEM Section: 01 TR 8:30 am - 9:45 am Mark T. Reinhardt

SEM Section: 02 TR 9:55 am - 11:10 am Mark T. Reinhardt

PSCI 140 (F) Introduction to Comparative Politics

The comparative study of politics looks mainly at what goes on *inside* countries, the domestic dynamics of power, institutions, and identities. This class considers analytic concepts central to the study of politics generally--the state, legitimacy, democracy, authoritarianism, clientelism, nationalism--to comprehend political processes and transformations in various parts of the world. Themes include: Where does political power come from? Does economic development drive political change, or the other way around? What is democracy, how does it arise, and how might it fail? How does international war leave its mark on domestic politics? How do religion and politics interact? Materials include classic texts, recent theoretical works, journalism, commentary, fiction, and a variety of sources related to current events in Ukraine and elsewhere.

Class Format: directed discussion

Requirements/Evaluation: Three 3-page papers, a short interpretive exercise, and a final exam

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 30

Enrollment Preferences: first-years and sophomores

Expected Class Size: 25

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

Attributes: PSCI Comparative Politics Courses

Fall 2024

LEC Section: 01 MW 11:00 am - 12:15 pm James E. Mahon

PSCI 146 (S) The world of wealth and work: An introduction to the politics of capitalism (DPE)

From the Googleplex to derelict factories in Ohio, from our personal lives to the halls of high politics, from the sugar fields of Brazil to the corner offices of Wall Street, we are all navigating the same system: capitalism. This course will give students a map. Drawing on political science and political economy, we will ask fundamental questions about capitalism: Why are some parts of the world so much richer than others? Is sustainable economic growth possible? Why do some jobs pay more than others? Why do some things cost money but other things are free? What is the relationship between economic exploitation and race, gender, and other identities? Why are we working all the time? Can a democratic society have a capitalist economy? Students will explore these questions and engage themes central to the study of capitalism, including financialization, intersectionality, racial order, neoliberalism, class, contradiction, and accumulation. The course is designed for first-year students, especially those who have taken one or fewer political science courses.

Requirements/Evaluation: Class participation; regular reading responses; two short papers; two presentations; final exam

Prerequisites: None

Enrollment Limit: 30

Enrollment Preferences: First-years and sophomores

Expected Class Size: 25

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2) (DPE)

Difference, Power, and Equity Notes: This course revolves around relationships of power in capitalism. We explore how those relationships interact with questions of difference and norms of equity.

Attributes: PSCI Comparative Politics Courses

Spring 2025

LEC Section: 01 MWF 11:00 am - 12:15 pm Sidney A. Rothstein

PSCI 155 (F) Visionaries, Pragmatists, and Demagogues: An Introduction to Leadership Studies

Cross-listings: LEAD 155

Secondary Cross-listing

This course introduces students to the major issues in the study of leadership, a central concept in the study of politics. The first part of the course will examine key theoretical problems that have occupied political thinkers from Plato and Confucius to Machiavelli and the American framers: What makes a leader successful? What kinds of regimes best serve to encourage good leaders and to constrain bad ones? What is the relationship between leadership and morality-can the ends justify the means? What functions does leadership fill, and what challenges do leaders face, in modern democratic states? The second half of the course will look at leaders in action, charting the efforts of politicians, intellectuals, and grassroots activists to shape the worlds in which they live. Case studies will include antislavery politics and the American Civil War; the global crises of the 1930s and 1940s; and the social movements of the 1960s and 1970s. In addition to active class participation, students will be expected to write a 5-page proposal for a research paper on a leader of their choice, a 10-page research paper, an in-class midterm exam, and a cumulative, in-class final exam.

Requirements/Evaluation: active class participation, 5-page research proposal, 10-page research paper, in-class midterm exam, and a cumulative in-class final exam

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 25

Enrollment Preferences: first-year students and sophomores

Expected Class Size: 25

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Unit Notes: subfield open in Political Science major

Distributions: (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

LEAD 155(D2) PSCI 155(D2)

Attributes: LEAD American Domestic Leadership

Fall 2024

SEM Section: 01 TF 2:35 pm - 3:50 pm Mason B. Williams

PSCI 158 (F) Power to the People?

Popular unrest. The resurgence of authoritarian styles and practices in politics. Democratic collapse. Political tumult around the globe in recent decades has put elites, and others, on edge as young democracies have collapsed and longer standing ones appear to be stumbling. In the United States, basic stability and democratic expansion have been accompanied by increasing citizen distrust of institutions, growing social divisions, contestation over basic citizenship rights, and political violence. The pandemic, related economic distress, social protests and insurrection have only sharpened the precarious state of U.S. democracy. Acute observers have long seen the U.S. as a harbinger of the promise and peril of modern democracies. What is the fate of democracy in the U.S.? What does that portend, if anything, for other democracies, or for the general principle of popular sovereignty--the idea that the people govern themselves? We investigate these and related questions, primarily through active, project-based group research activities, guided by political theory and empirical research in the social sciences. Our investigation will include substantial class-time collaboration with a similarly structured undergraduate course taught by a sociologist at Johns Hopkins University and may include an optional weekend research trip.

Requirements/Evaluation: active class participation, three 4-page essays, multiple group assignments, and class presentations

Prerequisites: first-year students

Enrollment Limit: 14

Enrollment Preferences: first-year students

Expected Class Size: 14

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

Attributes: EXPE Experiential Education Courses PSCI American Politics Courses

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 160 (F) Refugees in International Politics (DPE) (WS)

Globally, refugees seem to create, and be caught up in, chronic crisis. This course evaluates how this can be--how a crisis can be chronic, and for whom this chronic crisis is a solution. We investigate who refugees are, in international law and popular understanding; read refugee stories; examine international and national laws distinguishing refugees from other categories of migrants; evaluate international organizations' roles in managing population displacement; look at the way that images convey stereotypes and direct a type of aid; consider refugee camps in theory and example; and reflect on what exclusion, integration, and assimilation mean to newcomers and host populations. In whose interest is the prevailing system? Who might change it, and how?

Requirements/Evaluation: Ten essays: five lead, five response. The first two weeks' essay grades will be unrecorded.

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 10

Enrollment Preferences: first-year students, to be selected randomly from list of those enrolled.

Expected Class Size: 10

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2) (DPE) (WS)

Writing Skills Notes: In addition to writing every week, students will have a chance work on specific skills cumulatively.

Difference, Power, and Equity Notes: This course examines the way in which home states categorize people and oppress some, producing refugees; the way that host states categorize people and oppress some, using immigration to shore up the prevailing ethnic hierarchy; and why we worry about some of these categories of oppression more than others.

Attributes: PSCI International Relations Courses

Fall 2024

TUT Section: T1 TBA Cheryl Shanks

PSCI 208 (F) Wealth in America (WS)

The pursuit of wealth is an important feature of American political identity, captured by the ideas of the American dream and the Protestant work ethic. The accumulation of wealth has been lauded as both a worthy individual activity and a vital component of the nation's public interest. Yet inequality in wealth may conflict with the political equality necessary for democratic governance and public trust, leading to concerns that we are sacrificing community, fairness, and opportunity for the benefit of a small portion of the population. This course focuses on questions about the public value of wealth and its accumulation, which have become more pressing now that the richest one percent of Americans own about 40 percent of privately held wealth. Some readings will be historical, particularly those focusing on American political thought and the politics of the Gilded Age. Most readings will focus on contemporary political debates about the accumulation, concentration, and redistribution of wealth.

Requirements/Evaluation: four 5-page papers and a final 10-page paper that is a revision and extension of a short paper

Prerequisites: none; not suitable for first-year students

Enrollment Limit: 19

Enrollment Preferences: Political Science majors with concentration in American politics and Political Economy majors

Expected Class Size: 19

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Unit Notes: American concentration

Distributions: (D2) (WS)

Writing Skills Notes: Four 5-page papers, peer review, and a revision or extension of one of these papers into a 10-page paper at the end of the semester. Students will receive from the instructor timely comments on their writing skills, with suggestions for improvement.

Attributes: POEC Depth PSCI American Politics Courses

Fall 2024

SEM Section: 01 MR 2:35 pm - 3:50 pm Cathy M. Johnson

PSCI 209 (F) Poverty in America

Cross-listings: WGSS 209

Primary Cross-listing

Although some protest that the U.S. is heading toward European-style socialism, social welfare programs in the U.S. differ in important ways from those in other wealthy and democratic nations. This course focuses on the adoption and development of policies to address poverty and inequality in the U.S. The issues we will explore include: What is poverty, and how do Americans perceive its dangers to individuals as well as the political community? What economic, historical, and sociological theories have been advanced to explain poverty? Why has the U.S. adopted some approaches to reduce poverty but not others? What enduring political conflicts have shaped the U.S. welfare state?

Requirements/Evaluation: class participation, two or three short papers, and a final paper

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 25

Enrollment Preferences: Political Science, Political Economy, and Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies majors and concentrators in Public Health

Expected Class Size: 20

Grading: yes pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

PSCI 209(D2) WGSS 209(D2)

Attributes: PHLH Decision-Making by Institutions + Individuals PHLH Social Determinants of Health POEC U.S. Political Economy + Public Policy Course PSCI American Politics Courses

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 211 (S) Do the People Govern? U.S. Public Opinion and Mass Political Behavior

America's founding documents explicitly state that the will of the people is the authority upon which our government rests. But do the people actually govern, and should they? Pessimists point out that most Americans know very little about politics and lack coherent political views, are easily manipulated by media and campaigns, and are frequently ignored by public officials anyway. Optimists counter that, even if individuals are often ignorant and/or confused about politics, in the aggregate, the public sends a coherent signal to public officials, who usually carry out the public's general wishes. In addition to engaging this debate about what the public thinks about politics, we will also explore how people behave in the political realm. What are the forces that shape whether citizens pay attention to politics, vote, work on campaigns, protest, or engage in other types of political action? How do resource gaps tied to inequalities in society (such as race, class, and gender) influence political behavior? And how do institutions such as the media and campaigns encourage or discourage it?

Requirements/Evaluation: class participation, one to two short papers (5-7 pages), one medium paper (8-12 pages), an oral presentation, and a final exam

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 25

Enrollment Preferences: Political Science majors

Expected Class Size: 20

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

Attributes: PSCI American Politics Courses

Spring 2025

LEC Section: 01 MR 2:35 pm - 3:50 pm Matthew Tokeshi

PSCI 212 (S) From Tocqueville to Trump: Leadership and the Making of American Democracy (DPE)

Cross-listings: LEAD 205

Secondary Cross-listing

America's founders didn't mean to create a democracy as we would now understand the term. But since the Revolution, leaders have been fighting to make real for all Americans the promise of government of, by, and for the people. In this course, we will look at how leaders have marshaled ideas, social movements, and technological changes to expand the scope of American democracy--and the reasons they have sometimes failed. We will examine how founders such as Benjamin Franklin and James Madison envisioned the relation between the people and the government; how workers, African Americans, and women fought to participate in American politics; and how globalization, polarization, and inequality are straining American democracy and political leadership in the 21st century. We will examine leadership to better understand American democracy--and vice versa. We will ask: What explains why some leaders have succeeded where others have failed? Have some periods of American democratic politics been more amenable to particular kinds of leadership than others? What makes American political leadership distinctive in international comparison? Who, exactly, has been permitted to participate in American politics, and on what terms? How has the relation between the governors and the governed changed over time, and what factors and events have shaped those relations? How has America's democratic experiment compared with (and interacted with) democracy elsewhere in the world? Is America really a democracy at all?

Requirements/Evaluation: 5-page document analysis, 10-page review essay, midterm and final in-class exams

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 25

Enrollment Preferences: Leadership Studies concentrators and Political Science majors

Expected Class Size: 25

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2) (DPE)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

PSCI 212(D2) LEAD 205(D2)

Difference, Power, and Equity Notes: Using conceptual tools drawn from political science and history, it offers students a deep understanding of the roots of contemporary issues of difference, power, and equity in American public life as well as a better sense of how and why power relations and modes of inclusion/exclusion are subject to change.

Attributes: LEAD American Domestic Leadership LEAD Facets or Domains of Leadership PSCI American Politics Courses

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 213 (F) Mass Media and American Politics

According to recent estimates, the average American spends 11 hours per day consuming media--that is, watching television and movies, reading print sources, listening to music, radio, and podcasts, and scrolling social media. How does all of that media consumption influence the American political system? Scholars, practitioners, and observers of American politics have debated whether the net effect is positive or negative. Critics argue that today's media is shallow and uninformative, a vector of misinformation, and a promoter of extremism and violence. Some defenders argue that the media is a convenient scapegoat for problems that are endemic to human societies, while others claim that it actually facilitates political action aimed at addressing long-ignored injustices. In addition to addressing this important question about the health of American democracy, students will learn how the traditional media and social media influences Americans' political attitudes and behaviors. Among the topics we will discuss are the incentives, norms, and practices of news-making organizations; how politicians try to sway the public during campaigns; how the media covers campaigns; and how the media influences Americans' racial attitudes.

Requirements/Evaluation: two short (4-5 page) papers, one non-written assignment roughly equivalent to a 8-12 page paper in terms of workload, a final exam, and class participation

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 25

Enrollment Preferences: Political science majors

Expected Class Size: 15

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

Attributes: PSCI American Politics Courses

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 214 (S) Racial and Ethnic Politics in America

Cross-listings: AAS 214

Primary Cross-listing

Arguably, the dominant discourse in American politics today is about race. Race is connected to salient issues like immigration and police conduct; to politicians across the political spectrum; and (some argue) to virtually everything in American politics, including fundamental concepts that have no manifest racial content, like partisanship and the size and scope of government. We will evaluate the role of race as it relates to public opinion, political behavior, campaigns, political institutions, and public policy debates, with special attention devoted to the nature of racial attitudes. Most of the course will focus on the historical and contemporary relations between whites and African Americans, but we will also explore topics involving other pan-ethnic communities, particularly Latinos and Asian Americans.

Requirements/Evaluation: class participation, one to two short papers (5-7 pages), one medium paper (8-12 pages), an oral presentation, and a final exam

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 25

Enrollment Preferences: poli sci majors first, seniors second, juniors third, sophomores fourth

Expected Class Size: 15

Grading: no pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

PSCI 214(D2) AAS 214(D2)

Attributes: AAS Non-Core Electives PSCI American Politics Courses

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 215 (S) Race and Inequality in the American City (DPE)

Cross-listings: LEAD 215

Primary Cross-listing

In the past half-century, American cities have gotten both much richer and much poorer. The making of "luxury cities" has gone hand-in-hand with persistent, concentrated poverty, extreme racial segregation, mass incarceration, and failing public services-social problems borne primarily by people of color. This course will examine the political underpinnings of inequality in American cities, with particular attention to the racialization of inequality. Among the topics we will cover are: the structures of urban political power; housing and employment discrimination; the War on Crime and the War on Drugs (and their consequence, mass incarceration); education; and gentrification. We will ask: How have city leaders and social movements engaged with urban problems? How have they tried to make cities more decent, just, and sustainable? Under what circumstances has positive leadership produced beneficial outcomes, and in what circumstances has it produced perverse outcomes? We will engage primarily with political science, but also with scholarship in other disciplines, including sociology, history, geography, and legal studies, all of which share an interest in the questions we will be exploring. Students will leave this course with a deeper understanding of contemporary urban problems, a knowledge of the political structures within which those problems are embedded, and a better sense of the challenges and opportunities leaders face in contemporary urban America.

Requirements/Evaluation: class participation; several short essays and a longer paper with presentation

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 25

Enrollment Preferences: Political Science majors and Leadership Studies concentrators

Expected Class Size: 25

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2) (DPE)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

LEAD 215(D2) PSCI 215(D2)

Difference, Power, and Equity Notes: Deploying historical and social-scientific analysis, this course seeks to help students understand the historical roots and political underpinnings of unequal access to social goods in American cities, with particular attention to the racialization of inequality, compound deprivation, and unearned advantage.

Attributes: GBST Urbanizing World LEAD Facets or Domains of Leadership POEC Depth PSCI American Politics Courses

Spring 2025

SEM Section: 01 TF 2:35 pm - 3:50 pm Mason B. Williams

PSCI 216 (S) American Constitutionalism I: Structures of Power

Cross-listings: LEAD 216

Primary Cross-listing

How has the American Constitution been debated and understood over time? What is the relationship between constitutional and political change? This course examines the historical development of American constitutional law and politics from the Founding to the present. Our focus is on structures of power -- the limits on congressional lawmaking, growth of presidential authority, establishment of judicial review, conflicts among the three branches of the federal government, and boundaries between the federal and state and local governments. The specific disputes under these rubrics range from secession to impeachment, gun control to child labor, waging war to spurring commerce; the historical periods to be covered include the Marshall and Taney Court years, the Civil War and Reconstruction, the Progressive Era, the New Deal, the Warren Court, and the contemporary conservative ascendancy. Readings are drawn from Supreme Court opinions, presidential addresses, congressional debates and statutes, political party platforms, key tracts of American political thought, and secondary scholarship on constitutional development. Throughout the semester, our goal will be less to remember elaborate doctrinal rules and multi-part constitutional "tests" than to understand the changing nature of, and changing relationship between, constitutional power and constitutional meaning in American history.

Class Format: discussion

Requirements/Evaluation: three essays (3-4 pages, 5-6 pages, 7-8 pages), a two-part final exam, and class participation

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 25

Enrollment Preferences: Political Science majors

Expected Class Size: 18

Grading: no pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

LEAD 216(D2) PSCI 216(D2)

Attributes: JLST Interdepartmental Electives LEAD Facets or Domains of Leadership POEC Depth PSCI American Politics Courses

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 217 (S) American Constitutionalism II: Rights and Liberties

Cross-listings: LEAD 217

Primary Cross-listing

How has the American Constitution been debated and understood over time? What is the relationship between constitutional and political change? This course examines the historical development of American constitutional law and politics from the Founding to the present. Our focus is on rights and liberties -- freedom of speech and religion, property, criminal process, autonomy and privacy, and equality. The specific disputes under these rubrics range from abortion to affirmative action, hate speech to capital punishment, school prayer to same-sex marriage; the historical periods to be covered include the early republic, the ante-bellum era, the Civil War and Reconstruction, World Wars I and II, the Warren Court, and contemporary America. Readings are drawn from Supreme Court opinions, presidential addresses, congressional debates and statutes, political party platforms, key tracts of American political thought, and secondary scholarship on constitutional development. Throughout the semester, our goal will be less to remember elaborate doctrinal rules and multi-part constitutional "tests" than to understand the changing nature of, and changing relationship between, constitutional rights and constitutional meaning in American history.

Requirements/Evaluation: three essays (3-4 pages, 5-6 pages, 7-8 pages), a two-part final exam, and class participation

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 25

Enrollment Preferences: Political Science majors

Expected Class Size: 18

Grading: no pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

PSCI 217(D2) LEAD 217(D2)

Attributes: JLST Interdepartmental Electives LEAD Facets or Domains of Leadership POEC Depth PSCI American Politics Courses

Spring 2025

LEC Section: 01 MWF 11:00 am - 12:15 pm Justin Crowe

PSCI 218 (S) The American Presidency

Cross-listings: LEAD 218

Primary Cross-listing

Impeachments. Investigations. Polarization. Did Donald Trump's tenure fundamentally alter the institution of the presidency? Or are its most significant features enduring? To study the presidency is to study human nature and individual personality, but also constitution and institution, rules and norms, bureaucracy and administration, strategy and contingency. This course examines the problems and paradoxes that attend the exercise of the most powerful political office in the world's oldest democracy: Can an executive office be constructed with sufficient energy to govern and also be democratically accountable? What are the limits on presidential power and what are the expectations of presidential performance? How much do we attribute the shaping of politics and policy outcomes to the agency of the individual in the office and to what extent are they the result of underlying structural, cultural, and institutional factors? How is the office and purpose of the presidency affected by an economic order predicated on private capital? By the character of the occupant? To answer these questions, we examine topics such as presidential selection; the bases of presidential power; character and leadership; inter-branch interactions; party, social movement, and interest group relations; and media interactions. Attention will focus largely on the modern, twentieth and twenty-first century, presidency, though older historical examples will also be used to help us gain perspective on how the presidency has changed over time and what the implications are for democratic governance.

Class Format: The course will feature both seminar discussion and several small group research projects.

Requirements/Evaluation: three 5 to 7-page papers, small group projects, oral presentations, and class participation involving weekly writing

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 25

Enrollment Preferences: Political Science majors and Leadership studies concentrators

Expected Class Size: 25

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

LEAD 218(D2) PSCI 218(D2)

Attributes: LEAD American Domestic Leadership LEAD Facets or Domains of Leadership PSCI American Politics Courses

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 221 (F) Cold War Intellectuals: Civil Rights, Writers and the CIA (DPE)

Cross-listings: LEAD 220 / INTR 220 / AMST 201 / AFR 224

Secondary Cross-listing

This weekly tutorial has alternating primary and secondary writers (5pages/2pages). In weekly one-hour sessions, students read their work aloud followed by dialogue and critique. Primary papers are due to respondent/professor 48hrs before the tutorial meets; response papers are emailed to the professor 2hours before the weekly tutorial meets. Readings include: *We Charge Genocide*; Williams J. Maxwell, *F. B. Eyes: How J. Edgar Hoover's Ghostreaders Framed African American Literature*; Chalmers Johnson, *Blowback: The Costs and Consequences of American Empire*; Hugh Wilford, *The Mighty Wurlitzer: How the CIA Played America*; "Part III Supervision and Control of the CIA," *Rockefeller Commission Report*; *Malcolm X Speaks*; Sam Greenlee, *The Spook Who Sat By the Door*; and, *The Murder of Fred Hampton*. The tutorial is open to all students.

Requirements/Evaluation: Attend all classes; submit completed papers 24hours before seminar meets.

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 10

Enrollment Preferences: Juniors and Seniors.

Expected Class Size: 10

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2) (DPE)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

LEAD 220(D2) INTR 220(D2) AMST 201(D2) PSCI 221(D2) AFR 224(D2)

Difference, Power, and Equity Notes: This tutorial examines the Cold War between the US and the USSR and attempts to use intellectuals to shape and promote the objectives of powerful state entities. The power struggle between the two "superpowers" impacted cultural production and authors. Some of those authors influenced or enlisted into the Cold War sought equity and equality for their communities and eventually fought against the very political powers that employed them.

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 222 (F) International Relations in the Cyber Age

This is a class about international politics in the age of cyberweapons. At a general level, it focuses on a set of core conceptual questions: How has the advent of cyberweapons changed how international politics works? Are cyberweapons that target critical infrastructure similar to nuclear weapons, or is that comparison fundamentally flawed? Do concerns about information security alter states' most basic political calculations? How can we expect cyberweapons to shape the future of warfare, intelligence, and security competition? How effective are strategies like cross-domain deterrence? Should the world try to regulate the use of these technologies and, if so, how exactly? The course begins with several sessions that provide a technical overview of key information security concepts and an examination of some prominent hacks. In addition, the beginning of the course will include several classes on the theoretical implications of the advent of the cyber age, as well as a brief historical overview of information security in the post-World War II period. From there, the course will cover a number of important topics and case studies, such as Stuxnet, NotPetya, cyber espionage, intellectual property theft, threats to critical infrastructure, misinformation, propaganda, election interference, the potential implications of quantum computing, and the prospects for the establishment of an international cyber arms control regime. In general, the course will focus on competition between some of the world's premier cyber powers, such as China, Iran, Israel, North Korea, Russia, and the United States.

Requirements/Evaluation: Class participation; Two analytical essays, 6-7 pages in length; Final exam

Prerequisites: None

Enrollment Limit: 25

Enrollment Preferences: Political Science majors, IR subfield

Expected Class Size: 20

Grading: no pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

Attributes: PSCI International Relations Courses

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 223 (F) International Law

International law embodies the rules that govern the society of states. It spells out who can be a sovereign state and how to become one, what states can do, what they cannot do, and who can punish transgressions. It also creates status for other actors, such as international organizations, soldiers, national liberation movements, refugees, terrorists, transnational air and sea shipping companies, and multinational corporations. International law is similar to domestic law, with one very crucial difference: it is not enforced by a centralized, sovereign state. There is no world government. In most other respects, it is the same: it protects the status quo, maintaining the unequal distribution of power among its members; it spells out legitimate and illegitimate ways of resolving conflicts of interest; it is biased toward the powerful and legitimates their interests; it tells its members how to act to coordinate their interests and minimize direct conflict; some of it is purely aspirational, some of it necessary for survival. Like domestic law, it is enforced only some of the time, and then against the weak more than the strong. Yet, law is still where we look for justice and, perhaps, for power to be tamed.

Requirements/Evaluation: Weekly quizzes, Glow posts, two papers on assigned topics, two group projects (video, audio, or paper)

Prerequisites: None, although those who have not taken introduction to international relations at Williams will be required to review one lecture ppt,

then pass a basic quiz based on it by the end of the first week.

Enrollment Limit: 25

Enrollment Preferences: Political Science majors

Expected Class Size: 25

Grading: no pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Unit Notes: International relations subfield

Distributions: (D2)

Attributes: JLST Interdepartmental Electives PSCI International Relations Courses

Fall 2024

LEC Section: 01 TF 1:10 pm - 2:25 pm Cheryl Shanks

PSCI 224 (F) Neo-liberalism: What Is It and Why Does It Matter?

We live in the era of neo-liberalism. But what does this mean? This course will focus on neo-liberalism in comparative perspective, looking mainly at the US and Europe. It will consider how neo-liberalism is defined, the role of states in making and maintaining neo-liberalism, the centrality of markets to neo-liberal conceptions, and the kinds of politics that produced and are produced by neo-liberalism. Economically, the course will look at the institutional configuration of neo-liberalism, changes in economies, growing inequality, the financial crises, and prevalence of debt. Politically, the course will address changes in the role of government, what governments do and do not do, the growing influence of financial interests, the role of identities in mobilizing support for and legitimating governments, and the impact of these developments on the status of citizenship and democracy.

Requirements/Evaluation: three papers: one 3-page, one 5-page, and one 10-page paper

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 20

Enrollment Preferences: Political Science majors

Expected Class Size: 20

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

Attributes: POEC Depth PSCI Comparative Politics Courses PSCI International Relations Courses

Fall 2024

SEM Section: 01 TR 9:55 am - 11:10 am Michael D. MacDonald

PSCI 225 (S) International Security

Cross-listings: LEAD 225

Primary Cross-listing

This is a course about war and peace. It deals with some of the most foundational questions that concern scholars of security studies: What accounts for great power conflict and cooperation? Is intense security competition between major states inevitable, or can they get along, provided their main interests are protected? Does the structure of the international system necessarily cause conflict? Do particularly aggressive states? Can wars occur "by accident"? When and why do states choose to use military force? What role does statecraft play in matters of war and peace? How do nuclear weapons affect great power politics? The course will consider these questions from an interdisciplinary perspective that combines political science concepts with an historical approach to the evidence. The bulk of the course deals with the major events in the history of great power politics, such as the causes and conduct of World War I and World War II; the origins and course of the Cold War; the nuclear revolution; and the post-Cold War period. The course concludes with an examination of a number of major contemporary policy debates in security studies.

Requirements/Evaluation: class participation, two 6- to 8-page papers, final

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 25

Enrollment Preferences: Political Science majors

Expected Class Size: 20

Grading: no pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

LEAD 225(D2) PSCI 225(D2)

Attributes: GBST Borders, Exiles + Diaspora Studies LEAD American Foreign Policy Leadership PSCI International Relations Courses

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 226 (S) Nuclear Weapons and World Politics

Cross-listings: LEAD 226

Primary Cross-listing

This is a course about international politics in the nuclear age. The class will address a combination of conceptual, empirical, and policy questions, such as: Have nuclear weapons had a "revolutionary" effect on world politics, such that, fundamentally, international relations no longer works in more or less the same way that it did before the advent of nuclear weapons in 1945? Do nuclear weapons have an essentially stabilizing or destabilizing effect? How, if at all, do nuclear weapons affect how political disputes run their course? How significant of a threat are concerns like nuclear proliferation, nuclear terrorism, and nuclear accidents? How does a state's nuclear posture affect basic political outcomes? Is it possible to return to a world without nuclear weapons? The course will focus on these questions using an interdisciplinary perspective that leverages political science concepts, historical case studies, and contemporary policy debates to generate core insights. It will not only survey the history of the nuclear age--and of individual countries' nuclear development--but also grapple with important contemporary policy dilemmas in the nuclear realm.

Requirements/Evaluation: class participation; two 6-8 page papers; short in-class presentations; final exam

Prerequisites: PSCI 202 or a significant amount of other PSCI coursework

Enrollment Limit: 25

Enrollment Preferences: Preference to students majoring in political science, particularly in the international relations subfield, and/or doing a concentration in leadership studies

Expected Class Size: 20-25

Grading: no pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

PSCI 226(D2) LEAD 226(D2)

Attributes: PSCI International Relations Courses

Spring 2025

LEC Section: 01 M 7:00 pm - 9:40 pm James McAllister, Galen E Jackson

PSCI 227 (F) International Relations of the Middle East

Cross-listings: LEAD 227

Primary Cross-listing

This is a course about the Middle East in international politics. The structure of the course combines political science concepts with a detailed survey of the region's diplomatic history. The basic format of the course will be to combine brief lectures--either posted on the class website beforehand or given at the start of each class--with an in-depth discussion of each class session's topic. The goal of these discussions is to generate debates over the conceptual, historical, and policy significance of the subjects that we cover. Specifically, the first section of the course will cover the emergence of the Persian Gulf as an area of strategic importance in international politics; U.S. policy toward Saudi Arabia and Iran after World War II; the origins of the Arab-Israeli dispute; the June 1967 and October 1973 Middle East conflicts; Egyptian-Israeli peace; the Iranian Revolution and the Iran-Iraq War; the 1991 Persian Gulf War and its consequences; and the rise of Al Qaeda, Hezbollah, and Hamas. The second part of the course focuses on the Iraq War and its consequences; the rise of ISIS; the Arab Spring; Turkey's changing foreign relations; and the war in Syria. The last section of the course covers contemporary policy challenges confronting the Middle East.

Requirements/Evaluation: class participation, two 6- to 8-page papers, final

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 25

Enrollment Preferences: Political Science majors with an International Relations concentration, History majors

Expected Class Size: 20-25

Grading: no pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

LEAD 227(D2) PSCI 227(D2)

Attributes: GBST Middle Eastern Studies PSCI International Relations Courses

Fall 2024

LEC Section: 01 TR 11:20 am - 12:35 pm Galen E Jackson

PSCI 228 (S) International Organization

Tens of thousands of international organizations populate our world. IGOs, whose members are sovereign states, range from the Nordic Association for Reindeer Research to NATO and the UN; INGOs, whose members are private groups and individuals, include the International Seaweed Association as well as Doctors Without Borders and Human Rights Watch. We will investigate theories about where they come from, what they do, and to whom they matter, and explore controversies surrounding their agency, legitimacy, efficiency, and accountability. We cover the history, structures and functions of international organizations using case studies.

Requirements/Evaluation: two short papers, a presentation, one longer paper, one group project.

Prerequisites: none, but the introduction to international politics (202) is strongly recommended. If you have not taken that, you will need to go through a four-hour online tutorial I have set up by the end of our first week. Open to first-year students

Enrollment Limit: 25

Enrollment Preferences: Political Science majors, Political Economy majors, Public Health concentrators

Expected Class Size: 25

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

Attributes: PHLH Decision-Making by Institutions + Individuals POEC Depth PSCI International Relations Courses

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 229 (S) Global Political Economy

This course offers a broad introduction to the contemporary global political economy, emphasizing the inherent and inseparable intertwining of politics and economics, power and wealth, the state and the market. The core of the course is made up of analyses of global trade, global finance, natural resources, and migration, with special attention to subjects such as free trade, currency wars, and border walls. Four class debates will focus general concepts on a specific topic: the global implications of the Russo-Ukrainian War. We conclude the course with a look toward the future of global capitalism and of the liberal world order.

Requirements/Evaluation: two 2000-2500 word papers, in-class debate, final exam, class participation

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 35

Enrollment Preferences: Political Science and Political Economy majors and prospective majors

Expected Class Size: 30

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

Attributes: ENVI Environmental Policy GBST Economic Development Studies MAST Interdepartmental Electives POEC International Political Economy Courses PSCI International Relations Courses

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 231 (F) Ancient Political Thought

Cross-listings: PHIL 231

Primary Cross-listing

The core activity of this seminar is the careful reading and sustained discussion of selected works by Plato and Aristotle, but we will also engage such other thinkers as Epictetus and Augustine, and, from a political and theoretical point of view, selections from the Hebrew Bible and New Testament. Among the questions that we will address: What is justice? How can it be known and pursued? How is political power generated and exercised? What are the social and ethical prerequisites--and consequences--of democracy? Must the freedom or fulfillment of some people require the subordination of others? Does freedom require leading (or avoiding) a political life? What distinguishes that kind of life from others? What does it mean to be "philosophical" or to think "theoretically" about politics? Although we will attempt to engage the readings on their own terms, we will also ask how the vast differences between the ancient world and our own undercut or enhance the texts' ability to illuminate the dilemmas of political life for us.

Class Format: discussion

Requirements/Evaluation: three 7- to 8-page papers

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 25

Enrollment Preferences: Political Science majors

Expected Class Size: 18

Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

PHIL 231(D2) PSCI 231(D2)

Attributes: PSCI Political Theory Courses

Fall 2024

LEC Section: 01 MR 2:35 pm - 3:50 pm Nimu Njoya

PSCI 232 (S) Modern Political Thought

Cross-listings: PHIL 232

Primary Cross-listing

This course is a chronological survey of major works of political theory from the 16th to the 20th century. In discussions and writing, we will explore the diverse visions of modernity and of politics offered by such thinkers as Machiavelli, Hobbes, Locke, Rousseau, Marx, Mill, and Freud. They help us ask: What is freedom? Who is equal? Who should rule? With what limits and justifications? What form of government best serves the people? Who are the people, anyway? And on what grounds can we justify confidence in our provisional answers to such questions? Class will be primarily driven by discussion, often preceded by brief lectures. Attention to the writing process and developing an authorial voice will be a recurrent focus of our work inside and outside the classroom.

Requirements/Evaluation: three papers of 4-6 pages; class participation; brief informal writing tasks inside and outside of class meetings

Prerequisites: none; open to all

Enrollment Limit: 25

Enrollment Preferences: Political Theory concentrators, then Political Science majors

Expected Class Size: 25

Grading: yes pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

PHIL 232(D2) PSCI 232(D2)

Attributes: PSCI Political Theory Courses

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 234 (S) Freedom

We all want to be free--at least most of us say we do. The desire for political freedom is as old as the ancient world and as new as today's movements and liberation struggles. But what do we mean when we claim to want freedom? What institutions and social conditions make political freedom possible? For instance, do the claims of individual freedom conflict with those of community? With equality? With authority? Does freedom make us happy? Is it what we *really* want? And if it is, will we find it by engaging or turning away from politics? This course confronts these questions through readings drawn from a variety of classic and contemporary sources, including works of fiction, autobiography, journalism, law, philosophy and political theory, and social science. Our discussions will address such topics as activism and stoicism; equality and economic freedom; sexual freedom and gender politics; freedom of speech and religion; citizenship, migration, and cosmopolitanism; racism and colonialism; mass incarceration; and the uses and limits of state power. This course is part of a joint program between Williams' Center for Learning in Action and the Berkshire County Jail in Pittsfield, MA. The class will be composed equally of nine Williams students and nine inmates and will be held at the jail. An important goal of the course is to encourage students from different backgrounds to think together about issues of common human concern. Transportation will be provided by the college. *Please note the atypical class hours, T. 4:45-8:30 pm*

Requirements/Evaluation: Class attendance and active participation, short essays, and a final paper.

Prerequisites: Not open to first-year students.

Enrollment Limit: 9

Enrollment Preferences: Final selection will be made on the basis of statements of interest solicited after pre-registration, and interviews with the instructor.

Expected Class Size: 9

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

Attributes: JLST Interdepartmental Electives PSCI Political Theory Courses

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 236 (S) Feminist Legal Theory (DPE)

Cross-listings: WGSS 236

Primary Cross-listing

What can a critical analysis of gender and sexuality bring to the study of law, constitutions, legal interpretation, and the task of judging? Well-known contributions by feminist theorists include the conceptualization and critique of anti-discrimination frameworks, the legal analysis of intersecting systems of social subordination (particularly gender, race, class, sexuality, disability), and the theorization of "new" categories of rights (e.g. sexuate rights). Accompanying these interventions in the legal field is a deep and sustained inquiry into the subject of law: Who can appear before the law as the proper bearer of civil and human rights? What kinds of violations and deprivations can be recognized as harms in need of redress? Who gets to make these judgments, and according to what rules? While our examples will be drawn mainly from family law, the regulation of sex/reproduction, and workplace discrimination, the main task of this course will be to deepen our understanding of how the subject of law is constituted. Illustrative cases to aid our inquiry will be drawn primarily from the USA and Canada, with additional examples from India, South Africa, and possibly European law. Theorists we read will represent many kinds of feminist work that intersect with the legal field, including academic studies in political theory, philosophy, and cultural theory, along with contributions from community organizers engaged in anti-violence work and social justice advocacy.

Requirements/Evaluation: One oral presentation; three 6-8 page papers; regular class participation.

Prerequisites: None.

Enrollment Limit: 25

Enrollment Preferences: Preference will be given to PSCI and WGSS majors and JLST concentrators.

Expected Class Size: 25

Grading: yes pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2) (DPE)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

WGSS 236(D2) PSCI 236(D2)

Difference, Power, and Equity Notes: The course analyzes the relationship between the legal system and social distributions of power, focusing on

the way that inequalities based on gender, race, class and other forms of social stratification either enhance or limit individuals' access to legal protection and legal remedies.

Attributes: JLST Interdepartmental Electives PSCI Political Theory Courses

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 238 (F) Economic Liberalism and Its Critics

Cross-listings: POEC 250 / ECON 299

Secondary Cross-listing

Economic liberalism holds that society is better off if people enjoy economic freedom. Its critics point to what they believe this position ignores or what it wrongly assumes, and hence, how it would make bad policy. This course explores the relationship between politics and economics by surveying influential works of political economy. Its first part examines major thinkers in relation to the historical development of capitalism in Western Europe and the United States: the classical liberalism of Adam Smith, Karl Marx's revolutionary socialism, and the reformist ideas of John Maynard Keynes. The second part considers mid-20th-century writers who revise and critique economic liberalism from a variety of perspectives, including Joseph Schumpeter, Friedrich Hayek, Milton Friedman, Ronald Coase, Arthur Okun, and Albert O. Hirschman. The third part surveys significant topics relevant to the themes of the course, with applications to current public policy issues, such as: power relations and autonomy in the workplace; asymmetric information and social insurance; economic inequality and distributive justice; equality of opportunity; the economics of health care; positional goods and the moral foundations of capitalism; social media and addiction; economic nationalism; behavioral economics; climate change and intergenerational equity; finance and financial crises; and rent-seeking. The combination of the historical focus of the early part of the course with discussion of modern policy issues and debates in the latter part of the course permits you to appreciate the ongoing dialogue between classical and contemporary views of political economy.

Class Format: This course uses a flipped classroom approach. Before each class meeting, students watch a lecture video, and (at least six times) write an essay relating to the assigned reading and video. In-person class time is devoted primarily to Socratic discussion.

Requirements/Evaluation: six short essays and a final exam

Prerequisites: ECON 110 and 120 or equivalent; PSCI 110 (formerly PSCI 201; may be taken concurrently with POEC 250); open to non-majors

Enrollment Limit: 30

Enrollment Preferences: Political Economy majors and sophomores intending a Political Economy major

Expected Class Size: 25

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

POEC 250(D2) PSCI 238(D2) ECON 299(D2)

Attributes: AMST Critical and Cultural Theory Electives POEC Required Courses

Fall 2024

SEM Section: 01 MR 2:35 pm - 3:50 pm James E. Mahon, William M. Gentry

PSCI 240 (S) Political Theory and Comparative Politics

We live in a society that takes liberalism and capitalism for granted, as the norm that naturally centers collective life. This course draws on foundational thinkers in political theory and comparative politics to explore that premise. To that end, the course will discuss the origins, logic, and meaning of liberalism and capitalism and the relationships between them. Asking whether liberal thought, to borrow the famous joke about economists, assumes the can openers of liberalism and capitalism, taking as given that which is constructed historically, the course will look at leading theories about the role states play in constituting and maintaining capitalist economies, the definition and nature of power in liberal societies, and, more recently, the connection between identities, politics, classes, and states. The readings include Alexis de Tocqueville, Karl Marx, Max Weber, Karl Polanyi, Barrington Moore, Robert Putnam, Michel Foucault, and Edward Said.

Class Format: discussion

Requirements/Evaluation: three papers

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 19

Enrollment Preferences: Political Science & Political Economy majors

Expected Class Size: 15

Grading: no pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

Attributes: PSCI Comparative Politics Courses PSCI Political Theory Courses

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 241 (S) Meritocracy

Cross-listings: SOC 241

Primary Cross-listing

Although fewer than 1% of Americans have a degree from the country's top 30 colleges and universities, 39% of Fortune 500 CEOs, 41% of federal judges, 44% of the writing and editorial staff at the *New York Times*, 64% of Davos attendees, and 100% of Supreme Court justices do. Is this a positive sign that the United States is governed by its most talented and capable members who have risen through hard work and equal opportunity? Or a negative one pointing to the power of a corrupt and self-selecting elite? This course explores the theme of meritocracy--rule by the intelligent--in comparative perspective. We will look at both old and new arguments regarding the proper role and definition of merit in political society as well as take the measure of meritocracy in present-day Singapore, France, and the United States. The course concludes with a focus on the current debate over American meritocracy and inequality.

Requirements/Evaluation: one short paper, one long paper, take-home final exam, discussion questions, class participation

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 19

Enrollment Preferences: Political Science and Sociology majors, first-years and sophomores intending a Political Science or Sociology major

Expected Class Size: 19

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

SOC 241(D2) PSCI 241(D2)

Attributes: POEC Depth PSCI American Politics Courses PSCI Comparative Politics Courses

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 245 (S) South African Politics

The course deals with South African politics since the end of apartheid. The readings will address the politics, policies, and composition of the African National Congress (ANC), the growth of black economic elites and the black middle class, the persistence of poverty and extreme inequality, expanding corruption, and why the ANC continues to prevail politically and electorally in spite of on-going poverty and worsening inequality, governmental failures, and corruption. It will pay particular attention to the ANC and corruption, and it will address why, thus far, the ANC has won national elections handily amidst growing dissatisfaction with overt and pervasive official corruption and misgovernment and the role racial solidarities and memories play in sustaining the ANC in office.

Requirements/Evaluation: Two 10-12 page papers and class participation.

Prerequisites: None.

Enrollment Limit: 25

Enrollment Preferences: Political Science, Global Studies, and Africana Studies majors and prospective majors.

Expected Class Size: 15

Grading: no pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

Attributes: GBST African Studies

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 246 (F) Introduction to Capitalism

Must we choose between "socialism or barbarism?" A century after Rosa Luxemburg's challenge, it is clear that socialism did not win. Does this mean that we have descended to barbarism? Tracing the path of capitalist development in the rich democracies suggests a range of responses. Some states have developed robust institutions that provide for citizens' basic needs and check the power of business; others leave the poor threatened by starvation and workers exposed to exploitation. How and why has capitalism evolved in different forms in different countries? This course introduces students to capitalism by examining the struggles between social groups that lead to variation in distributional outcomes and economic performance. Students will develop a conceptual toolkit to study the politics of capitalism based in the economic history of the rich democracies (Europe, United States) in the twentieth century. The second half of the course challenges students to apply this toolkit to the twenty-first century, focusing on attempts to transition from industrial manufacturing to services. We engage pressing questions around technological innovation, populism, financialization, and globalization.

Requirements/Evaluation: Class participation, two presentations, three essays.

Prerequisites: None.

Enrollment Limit: 25

Enrollment Preferences: Potential and actual PSCI and POEC majors.

Expected Class Size: 25

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

Attributes: POEC Comparative POEC/Public Policy Courses PSCI Comparative Politics Courses

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 247 (S) Political Power in Contemporary China

Cross-listings: ASIA 249

Primary Cross-listing

The People's Republic of China has experienced rapid and extensive economic, social and cultural transformation over the past forty years. Its political system, however, is little changed. The Communist Party still monopolizes power and works hard to suppress organized opposition. Political dissent has taken various forms since 1979 but the regime has found ways to repress and divert it. Yet, in spite of the state's efforts, opposition and dissent continue to bubble to the surface. The course will review the political development of the PRC since 1949 and, then, focus on the dynamics of political contention and regime persistence since the Tiananmen Crisis of 1989.

Requirements/Evaluation: 2-3 short papers and a final exam

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 25

Enrollment Preferences: Political Science and Asian Studies majors

Expected Class Size: 25

Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

PSCI 247(D2) ASIA 249(D2)

Attributes: GBST East Asian Studies POEC Depth PSCI Comparative Politics Courses

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 248 (F) The USA in Comparative Perspective (WS)

Politics in the USA is often considered unique and incomparable, and US political science separates the study of American politics from comparative politics. This course overcomes this divide, considering politics and society in the United States comparatively, from a variety of viewpoints and by authors foreign and American, historical and contemporary. Important topics include: the colonial experience and independence; race relations and the African diaspora; national identity and authoritarian populist nationalism; war and state-building; American exceptionalism, religion, and foreign policy; criminal justice; and the origins and shape of the welfare state. (As the list suggests, the most common comparisons are with Latin America and

Western Europe, but several of our authors look beyond these regions.)

Class Format: a lecture in the first week; then ten weeks of tutorial; then a discussion class in the final week

Requirements/Evaluation: five 5- to 6-page papers, five 1- to 2-page responses, and one 1-page essay for the final class

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 10

Enrollment Preferences: sophomores and students who have been denied enrollment in the course previously

Expected Class Size: 10

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2) (WS)

Writing Skills Notes: Assignments are graded and returned weekly. After each student has written one long paper and one response, professor meets with them individually to discuss the composition and presentation of each genre. For the final class, students bring a one-page response written in "E-prime," English without the verb "to be."

Attributes: AMST Comp Studies in Race, Ethnicity, Diaspora PSCI American Politics Courses PSCI Comparative Politics Courses

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 250 (F) Political Psychology

This course will examine the role of psychology in politics. The goal is to develop a rich understanding of the foundations of public opinion and political behavior. We will examine the role of social identities, partisan affiliation, concrete interests, values, issues, and ideology in shaping opinion and behavior, as well as the role of external forces such as campaigns, the media, and political elites. Along the way, we will consider a number of longstanding questions in the study of politics, such as: is the public rational? What are the root causes of racism? How does racism influence political choices? Why do people identify with political parties? Why do people vote or engage in other types of political action? How does the mass media and campaigns influence public opinion?

Requirements/Evaluation: class participation, 1-2 short papers (5-7 pages), 1 medium paper (8-12 pages), an oral presentation, and a final exam

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 25

Enrollment Preferences: If the course over-enrolls, please give first enrollment preference to political science majors, followed by political economy majors.

Expected Class Size: 20

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

Attributes: PSCI American Politics Courses

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 251 (S) Thinking and Acting Politically in the Long Civil Rights Movement

Cross-listings: AFR 258

Primary Cross-listing

In this course, students will explore the various theories of political action that animated the Long Civil Rights Movement. Students will examine how these theories helped frame the political ideals, ideologies, and behaviors of multiple sects of the Black Freedom struggle. By analyzing the political thought of thinkers like Ella Baker, Amzie Moore, Pauli Murray, Florynce Kennedy, Fannie Lou Hamer, Robert F. Williams, and Martin Luther King, Jr.--among others, students will appreciate how their experiences influenced their approach to politics in diverse ways. Subsequently, students will evaluate the theories' arguments and political actions while determining which frameworks should motivate contemporary political organizing. By challenging the charismatic leader model of teaching and learning Civil Rights politics, students will understand the Civil Rights Movement as a grassroots movement buoyed by the political activities and energies of ordinary Black citizens. Moreover, they will develop a broader understanding of the mechanics of grassroots organizing and mobilize their studies appropriately to argue persuasively how ordinary people should contest injustice by considering tactics, mobilization strategies, political visions and ideologies, and strategic dilemmas. Consequently, they will not view Civil Rights history and theory as an episode of the past but as a force that continues to shape our political imaginations.

Requirements/Evaluation: several short papers, class participation involving weekly writing, group projects, oral presentations

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 25

Enrollment Preferences: Political Science majors and prospective majors, Africana Majors

Expected Class Size: 25

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

PSCI 251(D2) AFR 258(D2)

Attributes: AFR Core Electives AFR Theories, Methods, and Poetics PSCI American Politics Courses PSCI Political Theory Courses

Spring 2025

SEM Section: 01 MW 7:00 pm - 8:15 pm Da'Von A. Boyd

PSCI 252 (F) Campaigns and Elections

The 2022 midterm elections are happening in November. Though midterm elections historically generate less involvement than presidential elections, much is at stake in the upcoming midterms, as control of Congress and statehouses will likely determine what, if anything, President Biden achieves in the remainder of his term. This course will examine how we conduct the most fundamental of democratic processes in the United States: the people's choice of their representatives. We will examine factors that shape election outcomes such as the state of the economy, issues, partisanship, ideology, social identities with a special focus on race, interest groups, media, and the candidates themselves. A central question we will consider throughout the course is how "democratic" the conduct of campaigns actually is. For instance, does the citizenry have the motivation and capacity to hold public officials accountable? How do resource gaps tied to inequality in society (such as race and class) influence who votes and for whom? Do the mass media and political elites inform or manipulate the public? How closely do candidates resemble the constituencies they represent, and does it matter? We will apply our learning on many of these topics to the ongoing 2022 midterm elections.

Requirements/Evaluation: class participation, 1-2 short papers (5-7 pages), 1 medium paper (8-12 pages), an oral presentation, and a final exam

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 25

Enrollment Preferences: poli sci majors

Expected Class Size: 20

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

Attributes: POEC U.S. Political Economy + Public Policy Course PSCI American Politics Courses

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 253 (S) The Tragedy of Venezuela

The recent history of Venezuela offers a window into many of the most important political and economic issues faced by people in developing countries. Why does an abundance of oil seem to solve some problems while often leading to perverse economic and political outcomes? How can democracy be made to work better for ordinary people? What does it mean for a government to be truly sovereign? How does corruption grow and what can we do about it? When should we leave important decisions to technocratic experts? What does it mean today to be progressive? The course first briefly reviews Venezuelan post-Independence history, with an emphasis on the post-1958 democratic settlement. It then explores more deeply the reasons for the breakdown of this settlement, the rise of Hugo Chavez, and the decay of the "21st Century Socialist" regime under Chavez and Maduro. Materials include biographies, documentary films, short videos, economic data, and news reports.

Class Format: discussion

Requirements/Evaluation: a map quiz and four short papers

Prerequisites: a course in comparative politics and a course in economics, or permission of the instructor

Enrollment Limit: 25

Enrollment Preferences: sophomores and PSCI majors

Expected Class Size: 15

Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

Attributes: GBST Latin American Studies POEC Comparative POEC/Public Policy Courses

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 255 (F) Comparative Politics of South Asia

South Asia is home to around 2 billion people (over 24% of the world), making it the most populous and densely populated region in the world. The region is also one of the poorest in the world and lags in human development. Ethnic, linguistic, and religious diversity is offset by common cultural traditions and practices that serve to unite the people of the Indian Subcontinent. The course introduces students to the comparative politics of South Asia, highlighting the complexities and potential of the region. Every week we explore a different component of South Asian politics. The course covers the creation of the states of modern South Asia, partition and independence, democratization, electoral politics and political parties, economic and social development, ethnic identity and conflict, and the contemporary regional challenges of democratic backsliding and climate change.

Requirements/Evaluation: three 5-7 page papers or one research paper; presentation; class participation

Prerequisites: no pre-requisites

Enrollment Limit: 25

Enrollment Preferences: preference given to political science majors

Expected Class Size: 20

Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

Attributes: GBST South + Southeast Asia Studies PSCI Comparative Politics Courses

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 256 (S) Electoral Politics in the Developing World

Electoral politics in the developing world often differs from democratic politics in Western Europe and the U.S. Electoral volatility, decrepit state institutions, weak parties, clientelism, and electoral violence in developing democracies complicate foundational theories on representation and accountability. The course surveys the electoral politics of low and middle-income democracies in the developing world, investigating its similarities and differences with the historical and contemporary politics of developed democracies. It examines work on electoral systems, formal and informal institutions, bureaucratic politics, political parties, party systems, clientelism, ethnic politics, and political violence. We will draw on case studies from Latin America, Africa, South Asia, Southeast Asia, and the Middle East to analyze the effectiveness of these theories. Assignments focus on crafting solutions to contemporary political challenges in the developing world.

Requirements/Evaluation: one to two papers, midterm, group policy brief, presentation

Prerequisites: no prerequisites

Enrollment Limit: 25

Enrollment Preferences: preference given to political science majors

Expected Class Size: 25

Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

Attributes: PSCI Comparative Politics Courses

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 259 (S) George Orwell: Capitalism, Socialism and Totalitarianism

It is hard to overstate the enduring influence of George Orwell on political discourse in the 20th century and beyond. Before his death in 1950 at the young age of forty six, Orwell produced a stunningly large and diverse body of work in the fields of journalism, literature, and political commentary. Much of this work was inspired by his own experiences as a police officer in Burma, several years working and traveling with destitute workers in England and France, as well as his experiences fighting against fascism during the Spanish Civil War in the late 1930s. While a fairly obscure and struggling author for much of his life, Orwell achieved worldwide fame after the Second World War with the publication of *Animal Farm* (1945) and

1984 (1949). This tutorial has two main objectives. First, it will introduce students to Orwell's most important books and essays in the context of a turbulent political era marked by the Great Depression, the rise of totalitarianism, world war, and the emerging Cold War. Second, the tutorial will examine the past and ongoing uses and abuses of Orwell's legacy by scholars and analysts on both the political left and the right. As Louis Menand argues, "almost everything in the popular understanding of Orwell is a distortion of what he really thought and the kind of writer he was." The course will conclude by examining what Orwell's thought contributes to a consideration of current issues ranging from the emergence of cancel culture to the possibilities of democratic socialism in the 21st century.

Requirements/Evaluation: 4 lead essays of 5-6 pages and 4 response essays of 2 pages.

Prerequisites: At least one introductory political science course.

Enrollment Limit: 10

Enrollment Preferences: Declared and prospective political science majors.

Expected Class Size: 10

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Unit Notes: This course could also be listed in other subfields.

Distributions: (D2)

Attributes: PSCI International Relations Courses

Spring 2025

TUT Section: T1 TR 8:30 am - 9:45 am James McAllister

PSCI 261 (F) The Arab-Israeli Conflict (WS)

This tutorial will cover the Arab-Israeli dispute--from both historical and political science perspectives--from the rise of the Zionist movement in the late nineteenth century to the present day. It will examine the various explanations that scholars have offered for why the conflict has persisted for so long, how it has evolved over time, the role that outside powers have played in shaping it, and how its perpetuation (or settlement) is likely to impact Middle East politics in the future. More specifically, the class will examine the origins of the Zionist movement; the role that the First World War played in shaping the dispute; the period of the British mandate; the rise of Palestinian nationalism; the Second World War and the creation of the state of Israel; the 1948, 1956, 1967, and 1973 Arab-Israeli wars; Israel's 1982 invasion of Lebanon and its consequences; the promise and ultimate collapse of the Oslo peace process during the 1990s and early 2000s; the rise of groups such as Hamas, Hezbollah, and Palestinian Islamic Jihad; the rightward shift in Israeli politics since 2000; the intensification of Israeli-Iranian antagonism and its implications; the shift in Israel's relations with the Sunni Arab world that has occurred in recent years; and the future of the conflict.

Requirements/Evaluation: Biweekly response papers; Biweekly critiques of partner's response papers; Class participation; Final analytical essay

Prerequisites: None

Enrollment Limit: 10

Enrollment Preferences: Political Science Majors

Expected Class Size: 10

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2) (WS)

Writing Skills Notes: This class will require students either to write a paper or critique their partner's paper on a weekly basis. Students will also be required to redraft their papers--based on feedback from both their partner and the instructor--with the goal of improving their ability to make compelling arguments in writing.

Attributes: PSCI International Relations Courses

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 268 (S) The Israeli-Palestinian Conflict

This is an introductory course on the conflict between Israelis and Palestinians. Approaching the issue historically, the course begins by addressing the development of Zionism as a movement, the arrival of Zionists in Mandate Palestine, the pursuit by Zionists of statehood and the in-gathering of Jews, and the responses of neighboring Arab states and local Palestinians to these processes. Drawing on the writings of both Zionists and Palestinians, the course will examine debates among both, how Palestinians responded to the growing presence of Zionists, and how Zionists

conceived of Palestinians and Palestinian nationalism (both secular and religious) before, during, and after the foundation of the state of Israel. After dealing with the pre-history of the state and the nakba, the course will address recent Israeli settlement policies on the West Bank, the controversies surrounding the Oslo Agreement, and the contemporary situations in the West Bank and Gaza. Finally, the course will address contemporary controversies about the prospects and feasibility of the "one-state" and "two-state" "solutions" to the Palestinian issue, and the implications of resolving, or not resolving, the Palestinian issue to the mutual satisfaction of Israelis and Palestinians.

Requirements/Evaluation: two papers totaling 20 pages and final examination

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 19

Enrollment Preferences: Political Science majors

Expected Class Size: 19

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

Attributes: GBST Middle Eastern Studies PSCI Comparative Politics Courses

Spring 2025

SEM Section: 01 TR 9:55 am - 11:10 am Michael D. MacDonald

PSCI 280 (S) Silicon Valley: Digital Transformation and Democracy (WS)

Nearly every country in the world seeks to drive economic growth by promoting digital technologies. The universal model is Silicon Valley. In this tutorial, students will examine the origins of the Silicon Valley model and other countries' attempts to emulate it. Departing from "just so" stories of technological determinism, we take up the lens of comparative political economy to investigate the politics that allowed US tech firms to shape economic policy to meet their interests. It is no accident that tech became a symbol for economic growth in the 1970s, precisely when it also began to build powerful alliances in Washington. After investigating the origins of the Silicon Valley model, we trace attempts to adopt it in Europe and Asia, which highlight the model's political contingencies and some of the more salient conflicts over the tech sector. We focus on the ways in which the Silicon Valley model can threaten social welfare through economic inequality and precarious employment, and engage a variety of perspectives, including workplace ethnography, to examine these threats, as well as potential regulatory responses. The course concludes by considering what policies could be appropriate for supporting, while also regulating, the tech sector in the twenty-first century.

Requirements/Evaluation: Five 5-page papers; five 2-page responses; participation

Prerequisites: One introductory course in political science and/or permission of the instructor.

Enrollment Limit: 10

Enrollment Preferences: Preference will be given to sophomores and juniors majoring in PSCI and POEC.

Expected Class Size: 10

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2) (WS)

Writing Skills Notes: Students will write essays each week. In addition, students will read each others' work and engage in structured critique.

Attributes: POEC Comparative POEC/Public Policy Courses PSCI Comparative Politics Courses

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 290 (F) How Change Happens in American Politics (WS)

Cross-listings: LEAD 290

Primary Cross-listing

An unprecedented assault on the U.S. Capitol, the rise of white nationalism, a pandemic, economic volatility, racial reckoning, the overturning of *Roe v. Wade*, and rapidly evolving environmental crises -- American politics in the last four years has been tumultuous. What might we expect to come next? From the Founding to the present, the American political order has undergone cataclysmic and thoroughgoing transformations, yet it has also proven to be remarkably stable and enduring. How can this be? Where do we find continuities and where upheavals? Who or what has been responsible for the continuities, and who or what for the changes? What sorts of transformations have been possible, and why -- what marriage of individual action and contextual factors have created political change in the past and in the present? Finally, what are the costs of change (and of

continuity) -- and who pays them? In this tutorial, we assess American political change, or lack of, to gain a sense of the role that political leaders have played in driving change. We examine when and how individuals and leadership have mattered vis-à-vis broader historical and contextual factors, including war, economic developments, demographic change, and constitutional and institutional practices. We consider general models of change, as well as specific case studies, including civil rights and social justice for racial and ethnic groups, gender equality and family relations, and reactionary or traditionalist politics. Finally, we will look at arguments that America has been "exceptional" -- or, unlike other countries -- as well as critiques of these arguments to help us gain an understanding of future prospects for political transformation.

Requirements/Evaluation: participation in weekly meetings as well as 4 lead essays (5-6 pages) and 4 critiques (2 pages)

Prerequisites: one prior course in political science

Enrollment Limit: 10

Enrollment Preferences: Declared and prospective Political Science majors and Leadership Studies concentrators

Expected Class Size: 10

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2) (WS)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

LEAD 290(D2) PSCI 290(D2)

Writing Skills Notes: Extensive written feedback will be provided on tutorial essays and critiques. Additionally, the tutorial sessions will include attention to the quality of the written argument in the paper that is the focus of each session. At the end of the semester, students will be required to revise one of the tutorial papers incorporating the feedback, oral and written, provided by their tutorial partner and the instructor.

Attributes: LEAD Facets or Domains of Leadership POEC Depth PSCI American Politics Courses

Fall 2024

TUT Section: T1 TR 8:30 am - 9:45 am Nicole E. Mellow

PSCI 291 (S) American Political Events (WS)

Scandals. Wars and assassinations. Contested elections, Supreme Court decisions, and constitutional amendments. As large as they loom in our daily experience and our historical memory, these sorts of events--concrete, discrete things that happen in and around the political world--are often underestimated as catalysts of political change. Indeed, in the study of American political development, we often look to complex processes and underlying causes as explanations for how and why ideas, institutions, and policies both emerge and evolve. Yet for all our focus on long-term and subtle causal mechanisms, events often serve as political turning points in ways that vary over time, last for extended periods of time, and are not always entirely predictable at the time. Beginning from the presumption that change often has proximate as well as latent causes, this tutorial focuses on events as critical junctures in American politics. Our concern with these events is not with why they happened as or when they did but, rather, with how they altered the American political order once they did--with how they caused shifts in political alignments, created demands for political action, or resulted in a reordering of political values. Over the course of the semester, we will look at ten different types of events, ranging from those that seem bigger than government and politics (economic collapse) to those that are the daily grist of government and politics (speeches), in each instance juxtaposing two different occurrences of a particular category of event. In so doing, we will seek to use controversial and consequential moments in American politics as a window into deeper questions about political change and the narratives we tell about it.

Requirements/Evaluation: five 5-to 7-page essays, five 2- to 3-page critiques, and a recorded oral final reflection

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 10

Enrollment Preferences: first-years and sophomores considering a major in Political Science

Expected Class Size: 10

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2) (WS)

Writing Skills Notes: Weekly writing with extensive attention to feedback, revision, and improvement.

Attributes: PSCI American Politics Courses

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 305 (F) Environmental Political Thought (WS)

Cross-listings: STS 305

Primary Cross-listing

In the face of planetary crisis, it is as difficult as it is crucial to find the time and calm "to think what we are doing" (Hannah Arendt's famous line). This course aims to hold space for that thinking; to collaboratively find the presence of mind to take the measure of the doings that caused, and that may redress, the awful reality of earth's degradation. To do so, we will read, discuss, and write about some of the most significant book-length works of environmental political thought published in the last five years. These books conceptualize and intervene into the politics of phenomena such as climate change, species depletion, toxic pollution and (a special interest of the instructor) waste by applying--and sometimes reinventing--approaches from political theory, political economy, science & technology studies, philosophy, and critical theory. They consider the enmeshment of environmental problems with racism, colonialism, economic inequality, and speciesism, among other modalities of power, and weigh the promise of political action and organization to reconstitute relationships among earth's human and more-than-human elements. By interpreting, evaluating, applying and extending the arguments of these books in discussion and writing, students will be challenged to scrutinize their preconceptions and develop, support and articulate original arguments about politics and the environment.

Requirements/Evaluation: Four mini-essays of 2-3 pages each; one final paper of 7-10 pages that incorporates substantially revised material from at least one mini-essay; class participation

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 19

Enrollment Preferences: Political theory concentrators, Political Science majors

Expected Class Size: 19

Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D2) (WS)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

PSCI 305(D2) STS 305(D2)

Writing Skills Notes: Students will discuss and fine-tune their writing processes in class and office hours. Students will be given written feedback on mini-essays, with particular attention to developing a sense of voice and purpose in written argumentation. This feedback will support their revision of at least one mini-essay as part of writing the final paper.

Attributes: PSCI Political Theory Courses

Fall 2024

SEM Section: 01 W 7:00 pm - 9:40 pm Laura D. Ephraim

PSCI 307 (F) American National Identity and State Power (WS)

Debates over American national identity, or what it means to be an American, have intensified in recent years, with a resurgent white Christian nationalism challenging progressive aspirations for a multiracial, environmentally sustainable, liberal democracy. At the same time, Republicans and Democrats fight over the scope and limits of government power on policies ranging from taxation and spending, to abortion, immigration, healthcare, policing, gun ownership, and voting rights. Are these conflicts related, and if so, how? Does how Americans define themselves as a nation inform the shape of the American state and the types of policies it creates? Or is it the reverse? Does the state and its policies make the nation, as many scholars claim? This tutorial investigates the relationship between state and nation over time in the United States. We will explore conflicts over how "the people" are defined in different moments, and we will examine how these conflicts connect to the exercise of state power in areas including territorial expansion, census taking, public health, immigration, social welfare, and policing.

Requirements/Evaluation: Five 5- to 7-page essays, five 2- to 3-page critiques, and a revised and extended 10- to 12-page final essay

Prerequisites: At least one political science class or permission of instructor.

Enrollment Limit: 10

Enrollment Preferences: Political science majors

Expected Class Size: 10

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2) (WS)

Writing Skills Notes: Extensive written feedback will be provided on tutorial essays and critiques. Additionally, the tutorial sessions will include attention to the quality of the written argument in the paper that is the focus of each session. At the end of the semester, students will be required to revise one of the tutorial papers incorporating the feedback, oral and written, provided by their tutorial partner and the instructor.

Attributes: PSCI American Politics Courses

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 310 (F) New York City Politics: The Urban Crisis to the Pandemic (WS)

Cross-listings: LEAD 332

Primary Cross-listing

This course examines New York City's political history from the 1970s to the present—a period during which the city underwent staggering economic and social changes. In the mid-1970s, New York was a poster child of urban crisis, plagued by arson and housing abandonment, crime, the loss of residents and jobs, and failing public services. By the early 21st century, the city had largely met these challenges and was once again one of the most diverse and economically vital places on earth—but also one marked by profound inequality. This course will examine how New Yorkers have contested core issues of capitalism and democracy—how those contests have played out as the city itself has changed and how they have shaped contemporary New York. Broad themes will include the city's role as a showcase for neoliberalism, neoconservatism, technocratic centrism, and progressivism; the politics of race, immigration, and belonging; the relation of city, state, and national governments; and the sources of contemporary forms of inequality. Specific topics will include policing, school reform, and gentrification. As the primary assignment in the course, students will design, research, and write a 20-page paper on a topic of their choice.

Requirements/Evaluation: active class participation, 2-page preliminary proposal, 10-page research proposal, 2-page peer feedback, 18- to 20-page research paper

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 14

Enrollment Preferences: Political Science majors and Leadership Studies concentrators

Expected Class Size: 14

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2) (WS)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

LEAD 332(D2) PSCI 310(D2)

Writing Skills Notes: Students will develop their research papers over the course of the semester, receiving from the instructor at each stage of the process timely comments on their writing skills, with suggestions for improvement. Feedback will take the form of written comments, class workshops, and one-on-one meetings with the professor.

Attributes: LEAD American Domestic Leadership LEAD Facets or Domains of Leadership POEC Depth POEC Skills PSCI American Politics Courses PSCI Research Courses

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 311 (F) Congress

Cross-listings: LEAD 311

Primary Cross-listing

Even before the pandemic, scholars, pundits, and the public thought Congress was in a state of crisis. Riven by polarized partisanship and gridlock, the most powerful assembly in the world seemed incapable of representing citizens and addressing problems. This seminar focuses on how Congress organizes itself to act as a collective body. In an organization comprised of equals, how and why do some senators and representatives acquire more power and authority than others? How does Congress act as an institution and not just a platform for 535 individuals? Why does Congress not act, especially when the U.S. confronts so many pressing problems, and how do legislators justify inaction? In what ways does this institution promote or hinder the legitimacy, responsiveness, and responsibility expected of a democratic governing institution?

Requirements/Evaluation: class participation, two short papers, and a final research paper

Prerequisites: PSCI 201 or permission of instructor

Enrollment Limit: 14

Enrollment Preferences: Political Science majors with American Politics concentration and Leadership Studies concentrators

Expected Class Size: 10

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

PSCI 311(D2) LEAD 311(D2)

Attributes: POEC U.S. Political Economy + Public Policy Course PSCI American Politics Courses PSCI Research Courses

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 315 (S) Parties in American Politics

Cross-listings: LEAD 315

Primary Cross-listing

Is the American party system what's wrong with American politics? It has been said that parties are essential to democracy, and in the U.S., political parties have played a central role in extending democracy, protecting rights, and organizing power. But their worth is a continuing subject of debate. Although parties have been celebrated for linking citizens to their government and providing the unity needed to govern in a political system of separated powers, they have also been disparaged for inflaming divisions among people and grid-locking the government. Other critics take aim at the two-party system with the claim that the major parties fail to offer meaningful choices to citizens. This course will investigate this debate over parties by examining their nature and role in American political life, both past and present. Throughout the course, we will explore such questions as: What constitutes a party? For whom do they function? How and why have they changed over time? Why a two-party system, and what role do third parties play? Is partisanship good or bad for democracy? For governance? What is the relationship between parties and presidents? How does partisanship become tribalism or polarization, and can this be prevented? We will explore answers to these questions through seminar discussion, analytic essays, and independent research culminating in the writing of a longer (15 to 20 page) research paper.

Requirements/Evaluation: In addition to active seminar participation, students will be responsible for writing two shorter (5-7 page) papers and a longer research paper (15-20 pages).

Prerequisites: prior political science course at the 200 or 300 level

Enrollment Limit: 14

Enrollment Preferences: Political Science majors

Expected Class Size: 14

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

PSCI 315(D2) LEAD 315(D2)

Attributes: POEC Depth POEC Skills PSCI American Politics Courses PSCI Research Courses

Spring 2025

SEM Section: 01 MWF 11:00 am - 12:15 pm Nicole E. Mellow

PSCI 316 (F) Policy Making Process

Politics as usual. It's a phenomenon we all love to hate. But what does it mean? When government policy is decided by politics, does that mean the policy is necessarily bad? Can we get rid of politics in policy making or improve on it somehow? What would "politics as unusual" look like anyway? This class examines the policy making process with particular emphasis on the United States: How do issues get defined as problems worthy of government attention? What kinds of alternatives are considered as solutions to these problems? Why do we end up with some policies but not others? Do certain kinds of processes yield better policies than others? How should we decide what constitutes a good policy?

Requirements/Evaluation: several short papers, research paper, class participation

Prerequisites: one course in PSCI or permission of instructor

Enrollment Limit: 14

Enrollment Preferences: Political Science and Political Economy majors, and students with an interest in public policy

Expected Class Size: 14

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

Attributes: POEC Depth POEC Skills PSCI American Politics Courses PSCI Research Courses

Fall 2024

SEM Section: 01 TR 11:20 am - 12:35 pm Cathy M. Johnson

PSCI 319 (F)(S) Marine Policy (DPE) (WS)

Cross-listings: ENVI 351 / CAOS 351

Secondary Cross-listing

Coastal communities are home to nearly 40% of the U.S. population, but occupy only a small percentage of our country's total land area. Intense population density, critical transportation infrastructure, significant economic productivity, and rich cultural and historic value mark our coastal regions as nationally significant. But, coastal and ocean-based climate-induced impacts such as sea level rise, ocean warming and acidification pose extraordinary challenges to our coastal communities, and are not borne equally by all communities. This seminar considers our relationship with our ocean and coastal environments and the foundational role our oceans and coasts play in our Nation's environmental and economic sustainability as well as ocean and coastal climate resiliency. Through the lens of coastal and ocean governance and policy-making, we critically examine conflict of use issues relative to climate change, climate justice, coastal zone management, fisheries, ocean and coastal pollution and marine biodiversity.

Class Format: This class is taught only at Williams-Mystic in Mystic, Connecticut and includes coastal and near-shore interdisciplinary field seminars, and 10 days offshore.

Requirements/Evaluation: Weekly Readings; Class Participation; Small and large group strategy exercises (written and oral); Written Research Project: issues paper and draft research paper; Final Research Project: multiple formats available

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 23

Enrollment Preferences: must be enrolled at Williams-Mystic in Mystic, Connecticut

Expected Class Size: 22

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Unit Notes: must be enrolled at Williams-Mystic in Mystic, Connecticut

Distributions: (D2) (DPE) (WS)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

PSCI 319(D2) ENVI 351(D2) CAOS 351(D2)

Writing Skills Notes: Each student will write one 3-5 page research issues paper and one 8-10 page draft research paper as well as a final project with written components equaling 5-8 pages. Each submission receives written feedback from the professor, including research guidance, input on grammar, structure, language, analysis. Students also receive verbal feedback in individual conferences to discuss research paper organization, analysis, structure and grammar as well as final project input.

Difference, Power, and Equity Notes: Coastal and ocean policy issues relating to climate change, coastal zone management, fisheries, ocean pollution and marine biodiversity impact environmental and climate justice. Students examine coastal governance while considering the disproportionate burdens on underrepresented populations in U.S. coastal communities caused by climate change and coastal policies. Students analyze multi-disciplinary evidence and work to strengthen their integrative, analytical, writing, and advocacy skills.

Attributes: ENVI Environmental Policy EXPE Experiential Education Courses POEC Depth

Fall 2024

SEM Section: 01 F 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Spring 2025

SEM Section: 01 F 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

PSCI 320 (F) Heroes and Villains: Iconic Leadership and the Politics of Memory (WS)

Cross-listings: LEAD 320

Secondary Cross-listing

Americans have been arguing intensely in recent years about how we should remember the leaders from our nation's past. Does Thomas Jefferson's statue belong on a university campus? Should college dorms be named for John C. Calhoun and Woodrow Wilson? Should Harriet Tubman's portrait replace Andrew Jackson's on the \$20 bill? In this course we will look at how people in the United States and elsewhere have used their leaders' images to hash out larger political issues of national identity, purpose, and membership. Why has historical commemoration gotten so contentious--or has it always been contentious? What's really at stake when we depict our leaders? How (if at all) should we reconcile contemporary morality with historical context in assessing the leaders from our past? To address these questions, we will study portrayals of some of the most famous leaders in American history--including Alexander Hamilton, Abraham Lincoln, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Our sources will include political speeches, literature, film, and journalism as well as monuments and museum exhibits; though our examples will be drawn mostly from the United States, our conceptual framework will be transnational. As a final assignment, students will write an 18-20 page research paper on a topic of their choice related to the core themes of the course.

Requirements/Evaluation: Seminar participation, research proposal, peer workshop, research paper, in-class research presentation

Prerequisites: previous course in Leadership Studies, or Political Science, or permission of instructor

Enrollment Limit: 14

Enrollment Preferences: Leadership Studies concentrators, Political Science majors

Expected Class Size: 14

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2) (WS)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

LEAD 320(D2) PSCI 320(D2)

Writing Skills Notes: Students will receive consistent and ongoing feedback as they develop, propose, and complete a substantial research paper. Feedback will take the form primarily of written comments from the instructor, in-class workshoping, and peer feedback.

Attributes: LEAD American Domestic Leadership LEAD Facets or Domains of Leadership PSCI Research Courses

Fall 2024

SEM Section: 01 TF 1:10 pm - 2:25 pm Mason B. Williams

PSCI 321 (F) Immigration Politics in the U.S.

The U.S. Census Bureau estimates that non-Hispanic whites will no longer be the majority racial group in the U.S. by 2044. This demographic change is fueled by past and current immigration, and the politics surrounding American immigration policy have intensified as a result. Donald Trump's rise to the presidency was fueled in part by his pledge to build a wall between the U.S. and Mexico. Meanwhile, efforts to reform the nation's immigration laws have been stuck in gridlock for years. How did we get to this point and what does the future hold? Why is immigration policy so contentious? What is at stake, and what do different groups believe to be at stake? To answer these questions, we will examine immigration from a multidisciplinary lens, but with special attention to immigration politics and policy. We will examine the history of immigration to the U.S. and the policies that have shaped it; recent developments in electoral and protest politics; the policy initiatives of recent presidential administrations, Congress, and state and local governments; and the incorporation of immigrants into U.S. society and politics, past and present.

Requirements/Evaluation: one 2- to 3-page paper; one 5- to 7-page paper; one oral presentation; one 15- to 20-page research paper; and class participation

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 14

Enrollment Preferences: Political Science majors

Expected Class Size: 14

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

Attributes: POEC U.S. Political Economy + Public Policy Course PSCI American Politics Courses PSCI Research Courses

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 323 (S) Law and Politics of the Sea

Cross-listings: CAOS 323

Primary Cross-listing

Can international law save the seas? That is one current bet. The sea law regime centers on the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), which gathers into one place what most countries consider to be scattered ancient laws about piracy, transit through other countries' territorial waters, fishing, jurisdiction over ships, and so forth. It also creates ocean zones, with rules for each, and a system for taxing firms that it licensed to exploit minerals on the high seas, and sharing the proceeds with developing countries. It seeks to mitigate conflicts among countries and companies as they energetically compete to exploit the seas. In 2023, UNCLOS launched a follow-on treaty, the Agreement on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ), which adds areas in the high seas that all nations commit to protect. This course explores the politics and practices that arise from UNCLOS and BBNJ. We engage with the agreements' history, content, and exclusions, examine the incentives they provides states and criminals, and assess the way that geopolitical and climate collapse create new opportunities and constraints for states, firms, international organizations, and activists. Topics include piracy, naval officers' guidelines, conflict in the South China Sea, bonded labor, refugee quarantine on islands, marine genetic resources, Arctic transit, and ocean pollution. This is a way to understand major deals regarding the oceans; it is also a way to understand what it means to consider an international legal agreement a solution to something.

Requirements/Evaluation: Three 6-page papers, longer final paper, class participation including weekly writing

Prerequisites: Introduction to International Relations, and/or International Law, or permission of instructor

Enrollment Limit: 18

Enrollment Preferences: Political science majors, Marine Studies majors, seniors

Expected Class Size: 12

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

CAOS 323(D2) PSCI 323(D2)

Attributes: PSCI International Relations Courses

Spring 2025

SEM Section: 01 TR 11:20 am - 12:35 pm Cheryl Shanks

PSCI 326 (S) The Cyber Revolution (WS)

This is a course about how the advent of digital technologies, and especially those related to cybersecurity, have reshaped international politics, as well as how they might affect the world order in the future. At its most basic level, it addresses a question that is of fundamental importance to both scholars and policymakers alike: Have cyberweapons and digital technologies revolutionized the way that international politics works, in a manner similar to the impact that nuclear weapons have had on the international system since 1945? Specifically, the course will focus on what is known as the "theory of the cyber revolution"; threats to critical infrastructure; the most significant cyberattacks that have occurred to date, namely, the US-Israeli Stuxnet attack on Iran's nuclear facilities in 2006-2010 and Russia's NotPetya attack on Ukraine in 2017; zero-day markets; information warfare and its effects on, respectively, authoritarian and democratic political systems; and the role that critical information technologies--such as advanced semiconductors, quantum computing, and artificial intelligence systems--might play in the evolution of international security competition in future decades.

Requirements/Evaluation: Biweekly analytical essays, biweekly critiques, final paper, class participation

Prerequisites: PSCI 120

Enrollment Limit: 10

Enrollment Preferences: Preference given to PSCI majors, especially those concentrating in the international relations subfield

Expected Class Size: 10

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2) (WS)

Writing Skills Notes: Students will be writing biweekly analytical essays, biweekly critiques of their partner's work, and a final paper. Moreover, they will be providing peer review of one another's work throughout the semester.

Attributes: PSCI International Relations Courses

Spring 2025

TUT Section: T1 TBA Galen E Jackson

PSCI 329 Politics of the Powerless

American politics is often unequal, and well-organized advantaged interests tend to triumph. What do disadvantaged interests do in light of these power dynamics? Give up? Compromise? Struggle on? Why do relatively powerless interests sometimes win in American politics? Is it because they have an exceptional leader? A phenomenal strategy? Fortuitous events? This course examines the political dynamics of disputes in which disadvantaged interests push for major change. We will study past campaigns and then research and discuss contemporary reform efforts.

Requirements/Evaluation: class discussion, two short papers, and research paper

Prerequisites: one course in Political Science or permission of instructor

Enrollment Limit: 14

Enrollment Preferences: Political Science majors with interest in American politics

Expected Class Size: 14

Grading:

Distributions: (D2)

Attributes: PSCI American Politics Courses PSCI Research Courses

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 332 (S) The Body as Property (DPE)

From an ethical standpoint, human bodies are fundamentally different from objects that can be owned, acquired, and exchanged. Yet history furnishes us with countless examples of laws, administrative rules, and social conventions that treat the human body as a form of property. The institution of slavery is a particularly egregious example. But there are other examples of treating the body as property that seem more ambiguous, or even benign: the employment contract in which bodily services are offered in exchange for payment; the feminist slogan "my body, my choice"; or even the every-day transfer of bodily properties into creative projects that then become part of the things people own --- chairs, tables, houses, music, art, and intellectual property. If it is not itself a form of property, how can we explain the use of the human body to acquire possessions, create wealth, and mediate the exchange of other kinds of property? These and other tensions between the concept of property and that of humanity will be the focus of this course. How is property defined, and how far should law go to erode or reinforce distinctions between property and humanity? Course readings focus on Locke, Hegel, Marx, and critical perspectives from feminist theory, critical theory, and critical legal studies (Cheryl Harris, Alexander Kluge, Oskar Negt, Carole Pateman, Rosalind Petchesky, and Dorothy Roberts, among others).

Requirements/Evaluation: five 5- to 7-page essays, five 2- to 3-page critiques, and a 2-3-page final reflection essay.

Prerequisites: prior coursework in political theory, cultural theory, philosophy, or permission of instructor

Enrollment Limit: 10

Enrollment Preferences: Political Science majors (priority given to those concentrating in Political Theory); Justice & Law Studies concentrators (priority given to those with extensive JLST coursework).

Expected Class Size: 10

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2) (DPE)

Difference, Power, and Equity Notes: The course fulfills the Difference, Power, and Equity (DPE) requirement by examining how, in the context of legally-sanctioned power relations, bodily differences are constructed, monetized, and used to generate wealth. Race, class, and gender inequalities are central to the analysis.

Attributes: JLST Interdepartmental Electives PSCI Political Theory Courses

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 334 (S) Theorizing Global Justice

While economic exchanges, cultural convergence, and technological innovations have brought people in different parts of the world closer together than ever before, globalization has also amplified differences in material wealth and social inequalities. Ill health, inadequate sanitation, and lack of access to safe drinking water are increasingly common. Yet, more than ever before, the means exist in affluent regions of the world to alleviate the worst forms of suffering and enhance the well-being of the poorest people. How are we to understand this contradiction as a matter of justice? What is the relationship between justice and equality, and what do we owe one another in a deeply divided world? Course readings will engage your thinking on the central debates in moral philosophy, normative approaches to international political economy, and grassroots efforts to secure justice for women and other severely disadvantaged groups. Key theorists include Amartya Sen, Martha Nussbaum, John Rawls, Thomas Pogge, Nancy Fraser, Paul Farmer, Vandana Shiva, Majid Rahnema, and Enrique Dussel.

Class Format: discussion

Requirements/Evaluation: oral presentation, weekly blog posts, and three papers (3 pages, 7 pages and 8-10 pages)

Prerequisites: at least one course in political theory or philosophy or permission of instructor

Enrollment Limit: 16

Enrollment Preferences: Political Science majors and concentrators in Political Theory

Expected Class Size: 14

Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

Attributes: GBST Borders, Exiles + Diaspora Studies JLST Interdepartmental Electives PHIL Related Courses PSCI Political Theory Courses

Spring 2025

SEM Section: 01 MR 1:10 pm - 2:25 pm Nimu Njoya

PSCI 337 (S) Visual Politics

Cross-listings: ARTH 337 / AMST 370

Primary Cross-listing

Even casual observers know that appearances matter politically and that the saturation of politics by visual technologies, media, and images has reached unprecedented levels. Yet the visual dimensions of political life are at best peripheral topics in contemporary political science and political theory. This seminar explores how our understanding of politics and political theory might change if visibility were made central to our inquiries. Treating the visual as a site of power and struggle, order and change, we will examine not only how political institutions and conflicts shape what images people see and how they make sense of them but also how the political field itself is visually constructed. Through these explorations, which will consider a wide variety of visual artifacts and practices (from 17th century paintings to the optical systems of military drones and contemporary forms of surveillance), we will also take up fundamental theoretical questions about the place of the senses in political life. Readings may include excerpts from ancient and modern theorists, but our primary focus will be contemporary and will bring political theory into conversation with other fields, particularly art history and visual studies but also film and media studies, psychoanalysis, neuroscience, and STS. Possible authors include Arendt, Bal, Belting, Benjamin, Browne, Buck-Morss, Butler, Campt, Clark, Crary, Debord, Deleuze, Fanon, Foucault, Freedberg, Hobbes, Kittler, Mercer, Mitchell, Mulvey, Plato, Rancière, Scott, Sexton, Starr, Virilio, Warburg, and Zeki.

Requirements/Evaluation: regular, engaged class participation, several Glow posts, and *either* three 7- to 8-page papers *or* on short and one much longer paper.

Prerequisites: at least one prior course in political theory, cultural theory, visual studies, or art history; or permission of instructor

Enrollment Limit: 16

Enrollment Preferences: Political Science and Art History majors (including students in the grad program); then qualified students from all disciplines welcome, space permitting

Expected Class Size: 16

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

ARTH 337(D1) AMST 370(D2) PSCI 337(D2)

Attributes: PSCI Political Theory Courses

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 344 (S) Palestinian Nationalism

Palestinian Nationalism: This tutorial will cover the history, bases of support, objectives, and accomplishments and failures of Palestinian nationalism over the past century. It will address how the Palestinian nation has been defined, who has defined it, what factions and classes have controlled its organizations, and the reasons why it has failed to achieve its goals. The tutorial will address the evolution of Palestinian nationalism historically and thematically, employing both primary and secondary sources. The readings will consist mostly of Palestinian authors, with an emphasis on documents, histories, and political analyses. Two questions will anchor the tutorial: how is the nation defined and what, if any, class interests are folded into various definitions?

Requirements/Evaluation: Read the assigned materials, write a 5-page paper every other week, and comment on the student's partner's paper in the other weeks.

Prerequisites: Political Science Majors and students with background in Middle East

Enrollment Limit: 10

Enrollment Preferences: Political Nationalism

Expected Class Size: 10

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 345 (F) The Meaning of Life and Politics in Ancient Chinese Thought

Cross-listings: ASIA 345

Primary Cross-listing

How can we live a good life? What standards should we use to judge how political power is constituted and used? This class will involve students in close reading of, and exegetical writing about, core texts of ancient Chinese philosophy in English translation. The purpose is to gain an understanding of a number of different perspectives on life and politics, especially Confucianism, Legalism and Daoism. While the primary focus will be on the meaning of the texts in the context of their own times, contemporary applications of core concepts will also be considered. The class will begin with background readings, since no prior work in Chinese philosophy or history is assumed. Then the class will read significant portions of the following canonical works: *Yijing*, *Analects*, *Mencius*, *Daodejing*, *Zhuangzi*, and *Han Feizi*.

Requirements/Evaluation: two 5-page papers and one 15-page paper

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 20

Enrollment Preferences: preference to seniors but all are welcome.

Expected Class Size: 15

Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

ASIA 345(D2) PSCI 345(D2)

Attributes: GBST East Asian Studies LEAD Facets or Domains of Leadership PSCI Comparative Politics Courses PSCI Political Theory Courses

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 349 (S) Cuba and the United States (DPE) (WS)

We examine the long and deeply felt history of dependence and conflict between Cuba and its colossal neighbor to the north. The course begins with the political economy of the colony, then covers the Cuba- US relationship from José Martí and 1898 through the Cold War to the present, emphasizing the revolutionary period. Tutorial topics include: sovereignty and the Platt Amendment; culture and politics; race and national identity;

policies on gender and sexual identity; the institutions of "popular power"; the post-Soviet "Special Period"; the evolution of the Cuban exile community in the US; and the fraught agenda of reform and generational transition. Materials include journalism, official publications, biographies, travel accounts, polemics, policy statements of the US government, and a wide range of academic works.

Class Format: a lecture in the first week; then ten weeks of tutorial; then a discussion class in the final week

Requirements/Evaluation: five 5- to 6-page papers, five 1- to 2-page responses, and one 1-page essay for the final class

Prerequisites: any course on Latin America or permission of instructor

Enrollment Limit: 10

Enrollment Preferences: Political Science majors

Expected Class Size: 10

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2) (DPE) (WS)

Writing Skills Notes: Assignments are graded and returned weekly. After each student has written one long paper and one response, the professor meets with them individually to discuss the composition and presentation of each genre. For the final class, students write a one-page paper in E' (E-prime), English without the verb "to be."

Difference, Power, and Equity Notes: Among other topics, the course describes an independence war fought by insurgents dedicated to color-blind citizenship (even as the "civilized world" embraced scientific racism); neo-colonialism under the Platt Amendment and after; race and the Revolution; gender and the changing treatment of sexual identity under the Revolution; and the categorical power differences that arise when only one political party is permitted to organize.

Attributes: AMST Comp Studies in Race, Ethnicity, Diaspora AMST Space and Place Electives GBST Latin American Studies LATS Countries of Origin + Transnationalism Elect PSCI Comparative Politics Courses

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 353 (S) What is Democracy?

This is a research course that will investigate the meaning of democracy through readings and a research paper. The readings will begin with claims that democracy consists of government by elites, that the democratic component consists of elections that amount to choosing between rival slates of elites, and that agreements among elites set the boundaries for permissible democratic decision making. To examine this claim, the readings will address two fundamental issues. First, it will consider the the terms of American foreign policy after the Cold War, how it sets these, and continuities and discontinuities between the Clinton and Bush administrations. Where did Democratic and Republican foreign policy elites agree and disagree and what happened to proposals that were outside the elite consensus? Second, the course will consider the prelude and official responses to the 2008-11 financial crisis. What policies paved the way for and resolved the crisis, how were they reached, and who participated in formulating them? In other words, to what extent and in what respects were these fundamental turning points made "democratically"? Having done preliminary reading on these two issues, students will conduct in-depth research into aspects of one of these questions and write a research paper.

Requirements/Evaluation: One 5 page paper, 25 page research paper, presentation of paper to class, and class participation.

Prerequisites: Instructors permission.

Enrollment Limit: 14

Enrollment Preferences: Political Science majors or prospective majors, sophomores, juniors, and seniors, and permission of instructor.

Expected Class Size: 14

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

Attributes: POEC Depth POEC Skills PSCI American Politics Courses PSCI Comparative Politics Courses PSCI International Relations Courses PSCI Research Courses

Spring 2025

SEM Section: 01 TR 11:20 am - 12:35 pm Michael D. MacDonald

PSCI 354 (F) Nationalism in East Asia

Cross-listings: HIST 318 / ASIA 354

Primary Cross-listing

Nationalism is a major political issue in contemporary East Asia. From anti-Japanese demonstrations in China, to tensions on the Korea peninsula, to competitive elections in Taiwan, to controversies in Japan about how history is portrayed in high school textbooks, national identity is hotly debated and politically mobilized all across the region. This course begins with an examination of the general phenomena of nationalism and national identity and their historical development in East Asia. It then considers how nationalism is manifest in the contemporary politics and foreign relations of China, Japan, South Korea, North Korea and Taiwan.

Requirements/Evaluation: 2-3 short papers; final exam

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 25

Enrollment Preferences: in the following order, seniors, juniors, sophomores, then first-years

Expected Class Size: 25

Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

PSCI 354(D2) HIST 318(D2) ASIA 354(D2)

Attributes: GBST East Asian Studies HIST Group B Electives - Asia PSCI Comparative Politics Courses

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 356 (S) Democratization in India and Pakistan

Cross-listings: GBST 357 / ASIA 356

Primary Cross-listing

Democratization has had both successes and failures in postcolonial South Asia. The region is home to the world's largest democracy in India, often cited as an unlikely and puzzling success story. At the same time, periods of democratic rule in Pakistan and Bangladesh are broken up by military interference, Sri Lanka's democracy is plagued by ethnic conflict, and Afghanistan has been unable to sustain democracy due to weak state institutions. What explains this diverse and uneven pattern of democracy in South Asia? The course delves into theories on political parties, ethnic politics, electoral institutions, civil-military relations, political violence, state-building, inter-state conflict, and civil wars to understand the variation in regime type in the region. It covers domestic and international factors that lead to democratization and democratic backsliding. We will focus on the role of political parties in democratization; the emergence of political dynasties; changes in the characteristics of the political elite; investigate claims of democratic deepening; and examine the effect of inter-state wars, land disputes, and insurgencies on democratic stability in the region.

Requirements/Evaluation: three 5 to 7-page papers or one research paper; presentation; class participation

Prerequisites: previous course in political science or permission of the instructor

Enrollment Limit: 16

Enrollment Preferences: preference given to political science majors

Expected Class Size: 14

Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

GBST 357(D2) PSCI 356(D2) ASIA 356(D2)

Attributes: GBST South + Southeast Asia Studies PSCI Comparative Politics Courses

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 357 (S) Senior Seminar: Leadership and the Anxieties of Democracy (WS)

Cross-listings: LEAD 425

Secondary Cross-listing

This course, the senior capstone for Leadership Studies, examines the challenges and opportunities facing political leaders in contemporary liberal democracies. We will begin by seeking to place our current moment in the longer arc of history, examining the distinctive institutional and structural

constraints facing contemporary political leaders and examining in detail previous eras in which the American political system has come under great pressure. Then, we will look at some important factors that shape how followers approach would-be leaders: inequality and economic precarity; identity and group consciousness; notions of membership, community, and hierarchy; and fraying institutions. While the course will focus primarily on the United States, our conceptual framework will be global. Our primary questions will be these: Why does transformative leadership seem so difficult today? How does political leadership in the 21st century differ from leadership in earlier eras? What conditions are necessary to sustain effective leadership in the contemporary world? As a final assignment, students will craft an 18-20-page research paper on a topic of their choice related to the themes of the course.

Requirements/Evaluation: Seminar participation, research proposal, peer workshop, research paper, in-class research presentation

Prerequisites: LEAD 155 or permission of the instructor

Enrollment Limit: 14

Enrollment Preferences: Open to Leadership Studies concentrators or with the permission of the instructor; preference given to Political Science majors

Expected Class Size: 14

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2) (WS)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

LEAD 425(D2) PSCI 357(D2)

Writing Skills Notes: Students receive iterative feedback on their research projects: Their initial proposals receive substantive feedback from fellow students as well as substantive and stylistic feedback from the professor looking toward a formal proposal; and their formal proposals receive extensive comments from both the professor and a student colleague looking toward the final paper. The students will submit writing for feedback the third week of March, the third week of April, and the third week of May.

Attributes: LEAD Facets or Domains of Leadership POEC Depth POEC Skills PSCI American Politics Courses PSCI Research Courses

Spring 2025

SEM Section: 01 W 1:10 pm - 3:50 pm Mason B. Williams

PSCI 360 (F) Right-Wing Populism

After the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989, the political scientist Francis Fukuyama famously declared "the end of history". From now on only liberal democracy, free market capitalism, and global integration had a future. Everything else -- including political ideology, nationalism, conservative religion, and sovereignty -- was consigned to the ash heap. Thirty years later the future looks seriously derailed. A right-wing populism marked by Brexit, Trump, Le Pen, and a host of 'far-right' political movements in the very heartland of democratic globalizing capitalism has shaken liberal certainties. This course is an investigation into contemporary right-wing populism in Europe and North America in its social, economic, and political context. We will discuss theories of right-wing populism's appeal from both left and right perspectives. We will also investigate specific cases of right-wing populism including France's National Rally and Eric Zemmour, the Netherlands' Geert Wilders, Sweden's Sweden Democrats, Hungary's Fidesz, Poland's Law and Justice Party, and America's Trumpism and QAnon. We will also reflect on important electoral tests of right-wing populism in 2024, especially the US presidential election and (perhaps) the UK general election.

Requirements/Evaluation: two short papers; one research proposal; every-class discussion questions; class participation.

Prerequisites: one course in comparative or American politics; or permission of instructor

Enrollment Limit: 18

Enrollment Preferences: Political Science majors

Expected Class Size: 16

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

Attributes: PSCI Comparative Politics Courses PSCI Research Courses

Fall 2024

SEM Section: 01 MR 2:35 pm - 3:50 pm Darel E. Paul

PSCI 361 (S) Black Political Thought

Cross-listings: AFR 364

Primary Cross-listing

This seminar will introduce students to the study of Black Political Thought as a set of critical normative and diagnostic gestures that help theorize the Black experience. By thrusting students into the "problem space" of Black Political Thought, students will examine the historical and structural conditions, normative arguments, theories of action, ideological conflicts, and conceptual evolutions that help define African American political imagination. Students will take up the central philosophical questions that shaped the tradition from the early nineteenth century to the present by engaging historical thinkers like Anna Julia Cooper, W.E.B. DuBois, Frantz Fanon, Ida B. Wells-Barnett, and Ella Baker and contemporary theorists like Saidiya Hartman, Charles Mills, bell hooks, and Frank Wilderson--among others. Guided by a Black diasporic consciousness, students will explore the canon's structural and ideological accounts of slavery, colonialism, patriarchy, racial capitalism, Jim Crow, and state violence and, subsequently, critique and imagine visions of Black liberation. With a theoretical grounding in the "Black radical tradition," students will leave this course with the conceptual resources and philosophical tools needed to realize political theory's potential as an instrument they can employ in their daily lives to normatively and diagnostically evaluate political, economic, cultural, and social institutions.

Requirements/Evaluation: Weekly discussion questions; two (1-2 pages) short reading responses; and three essay-style writing assignments, including one short (3-4 pages), one medium (5-6 pages), and one longer (10-12 pages)

Prerequisites: at least one prior course in political theory or permission of the instructor

Enrollment Limit: 16

Enrollment Preferences: political theory concentrators, Political Science majors, Africana majors

Expected Class Size: 16

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

PSCI 361(D2) AFR 364(D2)

Attributes: AFR Core Electives AFR Theories, Methods, and Poetics PSCI Political Theory Courses

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 375 (S) Modern Jewish Political Theory

Cross-listings: REL 330 / JWST 492

Secondary Cross-listing

By the late 19th century, Jews across Europe were faced with an urgent political problem. Amidst burgeoning national self-consciousness throughout the continent, despite the liberatory promises of the Enlightenment, Jews remained a vulnerable, segregated, and stigmatized minority population. Jews had to decide where to pin their hopes. Should they ally themselves with the liberals or the communists? Should they embrace nationalism or cosmopolitanism? Should they, perhaps, abandon Europe altogether and re-constitute themselves elsewhere? If so, should they focus their efforts on relocation to the historical land of Israel? Or could they go anywhere? Wherever they might go, should they aspire to build a modern Jewish nation-state, a semi-autonomous Jewish community, or some other arrangement? Should this coincide with the cultivation of a distinctively Jewish modern language? If so, should it be Hebrew or Yiddish? In this course we will assess various answers to these questions proffered by Jewish political thinkers in the modern period. We will pay particular attention to the construction of "Jews" and "Judaism" in these arguments. And we will ask persistently: what constitutes a "Jewish justification" for a political claim in modern Jewish political theory? Coverage will include: Jewish liberalism, political Zionism, Yiddishist autonomism, messianic quietism, and other views. We will read mostly primary sources, including texts by: Hermann Cohen, Theodore Herzl, Chaim Zhitlowsky, Franz Rosenzweig, Leo Strauss, Hannah Arendt, and many others.

Requirements/Evaluation: six short (1-2 pages) response papers; two 6- to 8-page papers, each analyzing a different view in depth; a final 18- to 20-page paper that incorporates the two previously submitted 6-8 page papers, but also compares the two views and adjudicates between them

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 19

Enrollment Preferences: Religion majors, Jewish Studies concentrators, and Political Science students on the "Theory" track

Expected Class Size: 18

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

REL 330(D2) PSCI 375(D2) JWST 492(D2)

Attributes: JWST Capstone Course JWST Core Electives

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 376 (S) The Impact of Black Panther Party Intellectuals on Political Theory (DPE) (WS)

Cross-listings: INTR 320 / LEAD 319 / AMST 308

Secondary Cross-listing

This seminar examines the historical and contemporary impact of the Black Panther Party--and key allies such as Angela Davis--on political theory. Texts include: narratives from 1966-2016; memoirs; political critiques; theoretical analyses; interviews; speeches; government documents. The seminar will examine: original source materials; academic/popular interpretations and representations of the BPP; hagiography; iconography; political rebellion, political theory. Readings: *Liberation, Imagination and the Black Panther Party*; *Soledad Brother: The Prison Writings of George Jackson*; *Mao's Little Red Book*; *The Communist Manifesto*; *Still Black, Still Strong*; *Imprisoned Intellectuals*; *Comrade Sisters: Women in the Black Panther Party*.

Requirements/Evaluation: Requirements: students attend each seminar class and come prepared to discuss the readings; participate in discussions; present a collective analysis with Q/A for the seminar; submit a mid-term paper and a final paper or a group project.

Prerequisites: None.

Enrollment Limit: 19

Enrollment Preferences: Juniors and Seniors with previous courses taken in Africana Studies, American Studies, Political Science, Philosophy.

Expected Class Size: 19

Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D2) (DPE) (WS)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

INTR 320(D2) LEAD 319(D2) PSCI 376(D2) AMST 308(D2)

Writing Skills Notes: An analytical outline of collective presentation; a mid-term paper and a final paper.

Difference, Power, and Equity Notes: The course focuses on African Americans and political resistance to racism and capitalism, as well as support for impoverished, under-resourced communities grappling with police violence.

Attributes: AFR Core Electives AMST Critical and Cultural Theory Electives PHIL Contemporary Value Theory Courses PSCI Political Theory Courses

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 378 (F) Origins of the State

When and how did the state come into existence as a form of political organization? This course explores theories of state origins that refer back to an invented past or are simply located in "once upon a time." We will ask how political myths and philosophical speculation on human "prehistory" draw boundaries between past and present, as well as between self and other. Paying attention to common oppositions such as nature/civilization, primitive/advanced, anarchy/social order, feminine/masculine, ruler/ruled and stasis/progress, we will investigate how these antagonisms work together to create the idea of the state that still dominates political imagination today. Course readings touch briefly on social contract theories (Locke, Hobbes, Rousseau, Kant) before turning to the core material for our exploration: alternative narratives of the origins of the state based on ancient Greek and Roman mythology and the political projects of modern-day socialists (Marx, Engels, Bebel, and more recent writers). How did it come to be that the socialist imagination comingled ancient myths with modern ethnological studies of non-European peoples--studies written largely from a colonialist standpoint? Must the figures of "woman" and "native" be continually pressed into the service of state theory, even in a supposedly alternative account? More broadly, how do socialist theories relate to other well-known theories of the state, e.g. as a monopoly on the legitimate use of violence (Weber), a form of colonization of lands and peoples (postcolonial studies and Critical Indigenous Theory), and a patriarchal institution controlling productive and reproductive labor (feminist theory)? (Please note that this is not a history course. It is a study of political myth-making and the concept of the state in political theory.)

Requirements/Evaluation: oral presentation and three papers (3 pages, 5 pages and 12-15 pages)

Prerequisites: Not open to first-year students.

Enrollment Limit: 16

Enrollment Preferences: Political Science majors and concentrators in Political Theory

Expected Class Size: 16

Grading: no pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

Attributes: PSCI Political Theory Courses

Fall 2024

SEM Section: 01 TF 2:35 pm - 3:50 pm Nimu Njoya

PSCI 379 (F) Cuba, US, Africa, and Resistance to Black Enslavement, 1791-1991 (DPE)

Cross-listings: AMST 400 / AFR 372 / GBST 400 / INTR 400

Secondary Cross-listing

This seminar focuses on the entwined histories of liberation movements against racism, enslavement, and imperialism in the US, Cuba and Africa. Readings include: Hugh Thomas, *Cuba: A History*, Che Guevara: *The Motorcycle Diaries*; Walter Rodney, *How Europe Underdeveloped Africa*; Laird Bergad, *The Comparative Histories of Slavery in Brazil, Cuba, and the United States*; Thomas Sankara, *Women's Liberation and the African Freedom Struggle*; Nelson Mandela and Fidel Castro, *How Far We Slaves Have Come!* Students will read and analyze texts, screen documentaries, collectively compile a comprehensive bibliography, and present group analyses. The seminar is open to all students; however, priority is given to seniors majoring in American Studies.

Requirements/Evaluation: Reading and analysis of texts, collective compilation of a comprehensive bibliography, presentation of group analyses; two brief papers due at midterm and the end of the semester

Prerequisites: None

Enrollment Limit: 12

Enrollment Preferences: Seniors majoring in American Studies

Expected Class Size: 12

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2) (DPE)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

AMST 400(D2) AFR 372(D2) GBST 400(D2) INTR 400(D2) PSCI 379(D2)

Difference, Power, and Equity Notes: This course addresses international, anti-colonial solidarity between Blacks in the US, Cuba, Africa. It tracks the evolution of "racial capitalism," noting intersections between enslavers in the US and Cuba, and accumulation of wealth through the Atlantic slave trade. Students will analyze the powers of the enslaved, tracing history, political economies, culture, violence, and dispossession, to emphasize resistance to human bondage and successful and compromised revolutions in Cuba and the US.

Attributes: AMST 400-level Senior Seminars

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 380 (S) Sex Marriage Family

Cross-listings: SOC 390

Primary Cross-listing

Something has happened to America over the past fifteen years. Large minorities of young adults, especially young men, are now celibate. Cohabitation has skyrocketed but marriage is disappearing, and the country's birth rate is at an all-time low. Not surprisingly, loneliness has become epidemic. A similar story can be told for most other developed countries. The implications for political polarization, economic growth, social insurance programs, public health, military defence, even national survival are grim. What is the cause of this loss of faith in the future? Can public policy reverse these trends? This course is an investigation into relations between the sexes in the developed world, the fate of children and the family, and

government attempts to shape them. The course investigates family models in historical and comparative context; the family and the welfare state; the economics of sex, gender, marriage, and class inequality; the dramatic value and behavioral changes of Gen Z around sex, cohabitation, and parenthood; and state policies to encourage partnership/marriage and childbearing.

Requirements/Evaluation: Two short papers, research paper proposal, every-class discussion questions, class participation.

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 18

Enrollment Preferences: Political Economy, Political Science, and Sociology majors and prospective majors

Expected Class Size: 16

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

PSCI 380(D2) SOC 390(D2)

Attributes: POEC Depth POEC Skills PSCI American Politics Courses PSCI Comparative Politics Courses PSCI Research Courses

Spring 2025

SEM Section: 01 TF 2:35 pm - 3:50 pm Darel E. Paul

PSCI 381 (S) The Conservative Welfare State

Conservatives in the United States are traditionally hostile to state power in general and the welfare state in particular. In much of the rest of the world, however, conservatives harbor no hatred of the state and, when in power, have constructed robust systems of social welfare to support conservative values. This course offers an analysis of the conservative welfare state with particular interest in public policies around social insurance, employment, the family, and immigration. The course traces the conservative welfare state's development from its origins in late nineteenth and early twentieth century corporatism, through the rise of Christian Democracy and the consolidation of conservative welfare regimes in continental Europe after World War Two, to its contemporary challenges from secularism, feminism, and neoliberalism. The course also investigates divergent conservative models in East Asia and Latin America as well as new 'illiberal' welfare states in contemporary Hungary and Poland. It concludes with a discussion of the prospects of right-populist politics in the United States.

Requirements/Evaluation: Two short papers, research paper proposal, every-class discussion questions, class participation.

Prerequisites: One course in Political Science

Enrollment Limit: 19

Enrollment Preferences: Juniors and seniors majoring in Political Science or Political Economy

Expected Class Size: 15

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

Attributes: POEC Depth POEC Skills PSCI Comparative Politics Courses PSCI Research Courses

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 387 (S) The Firm

The rise of gigantic tech firms--Google, Apple, Facebook, Amazon--has sparked widespread worries about the role of business power in capitalist democracy. Are these firms monopolies? How can they be better regulated? Should they be? This course studies the politics of business by centering analysis on the firm. From the perspective of the workplace, we investigate the firm as an arena of power, where workers and managers meet each other in continuous contests for control. From the perspective of the public sphere, we investigate the firm as an actor whose power maps uneasily onto the channels of democratic representation. Approaching the firm as both arena and actor in a number of capitalist democracies, we will compare the politics of business across different sectors, but will focus especially on tech and finance.

Requirements/Evaluation: Class participation; two 5- to 7-page essays; one presentation; one final essay.

Prerequisites: One introductory course in political science or economics, and/or permission of the instructor.

Enrollment Limit: 15

Enrollment Preferences: Preference will be given to sophomores and juniors majoring in PSCI and POEC.

Expected Class Size: 15

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

Attributes: POEC Comparative POEC/Public Policy Courses PSCI Comparative Politics Courses

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 398 (S) Independent Study: Political Science

Political Science independent study.

Requirements/Evaluation: Evaluation is based on independent work undertaken by the student with approval of the instructor.

Prerequisites: open to junior and senior majors with permission of the department chair

Enrollment Limit: na

Enrollment Preferences: PSCI Majors.

Expected Class Size: na

Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 413 (S) Senior Seminar in American Politics: Polarized America

With red states and blue states, partisan divisions in Congress, and even disputes about wearing masks to protect against the coronavirus, few question the fact of a polarized America. But what is the polarization about and what caused it? Is it manufactured by a political elite using the rules of the game to maintain power while ignoring the concerns of the people? Is it a capitalist strategy to divide the public in order to advance the interests of the wealthy corporate elite? Does it reflect a polity divided by racial and ethnic tensions with different visions of the nation's past and future? Does it reflect increased inequality in a fast-changing global economy? How can a government of separated institutions operate and come to collective decisions given this discord? Can the framers' vision of deliberative, representative government meet the challenges of a polarized polity?

Requirements/Evaluation: class participation, weekly writing assignments, two short papers, final project

Prerequisites: At least one course in American politics

Enrollment Limit: 16

Enrollment Preferences: Seniors majoring in political science with concentration in American politics

Expected Class Size: 12

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

Attributes: PSCI American Politics Courses

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 415 (S) Senior Seminar: The Rites of American Politics

Custom and tradition abound in American politics. As adherents of a political creed, we recite the Pledge of Allegiance before school and sing the Star-Spangled Banner before football. As wielders of political agency, we fashion signs to convey maxims with wit and devise chants to imbue marches with force. As skeptics of political officeholders, we observe the familiar patterns of grandstanding when legislators interrogate witnesses at committee hearings and the distinctive cadence of interruption when judges question advocates at oral arguments. As members of a political community, we fill out forms to pay into the coffers of governmental programs and wait in lines to secure the documents that confer governmental benefits. From the patriotic to the participatory, the performative to the pedestrian, our political acts -- shared with and repeated by others across our great national expanse each and every day -- are always more textured, more illuminating, and more consequential than we could possibly realize in the moment. But what, exactly, do they mean? And how, precisely, do they matter? Proceeding from the idea that these sorts of ubiquitous cultural practices are fundamentally and constitutively relevant for our politics, that they both reflect and instigate fissures and junctions in the political order, this course focuses, quasi-anthropologically, on the choreography of American politics -- the narrative mythology, visual symbolism, ceremonial rituals, linguistic tropes, and behavioral habits that sustain America as a polity and shape Americans as a people. Our interest is in the rites that attend not

only to our own citizenship but also to our very consciousness as political beings; our purpose is equally to identify, to interpret, and to investigate them.

Requirements/Evaluation: two 3-4 page essays, one 6-8 page mini research paper, an experiential project, a final portfolio of revised work accompanied by a 2-3 page reflection, and class participation

Prerequisites: senior standing in Political Science or permission of the instructor

Enrollment Limit: 16

Enrollment Preferences: senior Political Science majors concentrating in American politics

Expected Class Size: 16

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

Attributes: PSCI American Politics Courses

Spring 2025

SEM Section: 01 TR 9:55 am - 11:10 am Justin Crowe

PSCI 420 (F) Senior Seminar: The Nuclear Revolution

Cross-listings: LEAD 330

Primary Cross-listing

This is a course about international politics in the nuclear age. In broad terms, it focuses on a very basic question: Does international politics still work essentially the same way as it did in the prenuclear era, or has it undergone a "revolution," in the most fundamental sense of the word? The structure of the course combines political science concepts and historical case studies, with the goal of generating in-depth classroom debates over key conceptual, historical, and policy questions. The basic format of the course will be to combine very brief lectures with detailed class discussions of each session's topic. The course will begin--by focusing on the Manhattan Project--with a brief technical overview of nuclear physics, nuclear technologies, and the design and effects of nuclear weapons. The course will then examine the following subjects: the dropping of the atomic bombs on Japan; theories of the nuclear revolution; the early Cold War period; the development and implications of thermonuclear weapons; the Berlin and Cuban missile crises; nuclear accidents; nuclear terrorism and illicit nuclear networks; the future of nuclear energy; regional nuclear programs; preventive strikes on nuclear facilities; nuclear proliferation; and contemporary policy debates.

Requirements/Evaluation: class participation, three 8- to 10-page papers

Prerequisites: PSCI 202

Enrollment Limit: 15

Enrollment Preferences: Political Science major seniors with an International Relations concentration

Expected Class Size: 15

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

LEAD 330(D2) PSCI 420(D2)

Attributes: PSCI International Relations Courses

Fall 2024

SEM Section: 01 Cancelled

PSCI 421 (F) Senior Seminar: The Liberal Project in International Relations

The most powerful actors in global politics are liberal ones, and a liberal project around democratic states, international law and organizations, and free trade dominates the global agenda. This course is an investigation into this global liberal project, engaging both theory and practice. We will discuss signature liberal theorists both classic and current as well as some of their most notable critics. We will also attend to empirical evaluations of signature liberal efforts around democratization, development, and human rights. The course ends with a discussion of the successes and failures of

the European Union as the principal embodiment of the liberal project today.

Requirements/Evaluation: 1-3 papers of 5-7 pages, short oral presentations, daily discussion questions, 12-15 page final paper, class participation

Prerequisites: senior Political Science major or permission of instructor

Enrollment Limit: 16

Enrollment Preferences: senior Political Science majors concentrating in International Relations

Expected Class Size: 16

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

Attributes: PSCI International Relations Courses

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 423 (S) Senior Seminar: Humanitarianism (DPE)

Since the mid-1980s, humanitarianism has been one dominant attitude that powerful and privileged countries, organizations and people have adopted with regard to poverty or disaster elsewhere. Humanitarianism aims at rescue, striving to keep marginal people alive until some solution can be found. It aims not to address crises' causes nor to assist with solutions--which it considers political--just to keep human bodies alive. Critics contend that humanitarianism produces harm, provides structural incentives for people to do more or less than they need to, and deepens inequality between actors and targets. They contend that it legitimates a view of the status quo, in which such terrible things are bound to happen without real cause. This course confronts humanitarianism as an ideology through reading its defenders and critics, and as a political strategy assessing its usefulness, to whom.

Class Format: three students start class discussion every day; one reads a short (4-page) essay and two read shorter (two-page) essays

Requirements/Evaluation: three longer essays, six shorter essays, constructive participation

Prerequisites: PSCI 202 and at least one elective in international relations

Enrollment Limit: 16

Enrollment Preferences: Political science seniors then juniors; other seniors, then juniors

Expected Class Size: 16

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2) (DPE)

Difference, Power, and Equity Notes: This course asks students to investigate the way that assumptions about superiority, and "helping practices" adopting those assumptions, can either reinforce or undermine unequal social and political outcomes and categories. We evaluate liberal and postcolonial (structural violence) models of international aid.

Attributes: PSCI International Relations Courses

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 426 (F) The Arab-Israeli Conflict (WS)

The Arab-Israeli dispute receives more attention than arguably any other ongoing conflict in international politics, and for very good reason. The fact that it has lasted as long as it has--well over a century--been characterized by a remarkable (and depressing) degree of intensity; involved competing nationalisms, as well as different religions, cultures, and ethnicities; centered on territorial claims over land that is of special significance; and been connected to a number of important geopolitical questions, including ones involving great power competition, has made it a major focus of scholars of the Middle East, international relations analysts, and, of course, the general public. The issue is also of special interest, for a variety of reasons, in American political discourse. This seminar will examine the conflict in depth, beginning with its origins in the late nineteenth century, and ending with how it might run its course in the future. Specifically, the course will begin with an overview of the dispute's history and most salient aspects.

Thereafter, it will cover Zionism and the Palestinian nationalist cause; the creation of the state of Israel and the 1948-1949 Arab-Israeli war; the June 1967 war; the debate, and controversy, over the "Israel lobby" in the United States; the October 1973 war and its aftermath; the road to the 1979 Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty; the arguably underappreciated role that nuclear weapons have played in the conflict; the rise and collapse of the Oslo peace process in the 1990s, as well as the outbreak of the Second Intifada in 2000; and the future of the dispute.

Requirements/Evaluation: class participation, three critical analytical essays, peer critiques/exchanges, final paper

Prerequisites: PSCI 120 and at least one other PSCI course from the international relations subfield

Enrollment Limit: 19

Enrollment Preferences: Political science majors, especially seniors, will be given priority for enrollment.

Expected Class Size: 19

Grading: no pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D2) (WS)

Writing Skills Notes: Students will need to do a large amount of analytical writing in this course, as well as critique and edit one another's papers. There will also be a component of the class that involves doing writing workshops.

Fall 2024

SEM Section: 01 W 1:10 pm - 3:50 pm Galen E Jackson

PSCI 431 Senior Seminar in Political Theory: Rethinking the Political

What is politics? The question, an important part of political theory at least since Socrates, has taken on renewed significance in recent years, as theorists have sought to rethink the political in response to twentieth century dictatorships and world wars; feminist, queer, anti-racist, post- and decolonial struggles; the transformations wrought by neoliberal globalization; the emergence of "algorithmic governance"; the recent resurgence of populist nationalism; and deepening recognition of climate crises. This seminar engages some of the major attempts at rethinking produced in the 20th and 21st centuries, particularly at those that, characterizing liberalism as masking structures of subordination and elements of conflict in political life, undervaluing the importance of citizen action and public space, or being ill-suited to altered technological and ecological conditions, seek to rework or move beyond it. In addition to those who argue for an expanded and emancipatory conception of politics, we will consider arguments against politics as primary path to improvement or focus of commitment. Authors read may include Schmitt, Strauss, Rawls, Arendt, Wolin, Rancière, Brown, Connolly, Hartman, Sharpe, Moten, Wynter, Sexton, Edelman, Muñoz, Coulthard, Simpson, Lazzarato, Haraway, Latour.

Requirements/Evaluation: Regular, engaged class participation; short Glow posts; one 6-8 page paper; one 10-12 page paper

Prerequisites: Junior or senior standing and two or more theory courses or consent of instructor. Non-majors with theory interests and backgrounds are welcome

Enrollment Limit: 15

Enrollment Preferences: Juniors and seniors concentrating in political theory

Expected Class Size: 11

Grading:

Distributions: (D2)

Attributes: PSCI Political Theory Courses

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 432 (S) Senior Seminar: Critical Theory

This seminar focuses on the political thought of Herbert Marcuse, investigating the influences of leftist social movements of the 1960s on his critical theory. Marcuse famously supported the aims of student activism, feminism, black liberation movements and Third World anti-colonialism during that period, publicly affirming their efforts to integrate ethical idealism with concrete concerns for the economic wellbeing and political freedom of oppressed groups. Drawing on Freud, and challenged by his philosophical exchanges with Angela Davis, Marcuse came to the view that these movements were addressing not only material deprivations such as poverty and structural oppression, but also the effects of social alienation and a damaged psychic life. He saw these movements as successfully bridging the longstanding tension between the ideal elements of our humanity and the physical conditions for human existence (a tension represented in philosophy by the contrast between Kant and Marx). Yet he stopped short of identifying new social movements with the Marxist notion of a revolutionary class. Why this hesitation? Was his caution warranted? To provide a broader context for Marcuse's critical theory, we will read a selection of his writings alongside related texts by Kant, Marx, Freud, and Davis. Looking at but also beyond his political solidarity with the emancipatory movements of the 1960s, we will then consider how Marcuse's work can be placed in conversation with more recent critical theory, including ideas emerging from the Occupy Wall Street movement and feminist approaches to aesthetics and psychoanalytic theory.

Requirements/Evaluation: regular class participation, short (1 pg) response papers, and drafts leading up to a 15-page final essay

Prerequisites: junior or senior standing required; in addition, prior coursework in political theory, cultural theory, philosophy, or permission of instructor

Enrollment Limit: 12

Enrollment Preferences: Senior Political Science majors with concentration in Political Theory, then other Political Science majors

Expected Class Size: 12

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

Attributes: PSCI Political Theory Courses

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 433 (S) Senior Seminar: Dignity

Cross-listings: JLST 433

Primary Cross-listing

Discredited over the centuries by skeptics of many ideological persuasions, dignity has nevertheless remained central to the vocabulary of political protest movements from the left and the right. In the post-WWII period, dignity has also served as the grounding principle for international human rights conventions and national constitutions. But what is the meaning of dignity? Does dignity belong specifically to the human species, or is it equally the property of all living beings? If everybody, or perhaps everything, has its own dignity, what could the concept possibly add to our understanding of social relations, political processes, and legal judgments? Course readings will be as wide-ranging as the concept is broad. Some of our touchstones will be: Kant's moral philosophy, writings from the nineteenth-century abolitionist movement, Marxist theories of the dignity of labor, international human rights conventions, and court cases from Germany, Namibia, South Africa and the United States.

Requirements/Evaluation: Regular class participation, short (1 pg) response papers, and drafts leading up to a 15-page final essay.

Prerequisites: Junior or senior standing required; in addition, JLST concentration or prior coursework in political theory/cultural theory/philosophy.

Enrollment Limit: 12

Enrollment Preferences: Senior political science majors with concentration in political theory; JLST concentrators.

Expected Class Size: 12

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Unit Notes: Justice & Law Studies Senior Seminar

Distributions: (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

JLST 433(D2) PSCI 433(D2)

Attributes: PSCI Political Theory Courses

Spring 2025

SEM Section: 01 TF 2:35 pm - 3:50 pm Nimu Njoya

PSCI 440 (F) Settler Colonialism: What is it and what does it do?

What is "settler colonialism" and what does it do? We hear the term often, and it carries connotations -- usually of illegitimacy. But knowing that something is, or is supposed to be, bad does not tell us what it is. It does not tell us either whether or when a society that originated in what is called settler colonialism can outgrow its origins or whether it is forever defined by them. This course will consist of two parts. First, it will read several theoretical works on settler colonialism, identifying several key issues, and then will read a long account of the rise and fall of settler colonialism in Algeria. We will consider what settler colonialism is, what forms it comes in, and how it differs from other forms of colonialism, what prompts it, whether settlers, who usually are meant to be loyal to their colonial patrons remain loyal and when they shift to rebellion, and the nature of the colonial power (which is not always a state). We will also consider the impact and responses of the prior populations. Do they choose to co-exist, co-operate, resist? And what does the imposition of settler colonialism do to their loyalties and collective identities? Do they retain their old identities or form new ones, and do the distinct groups that are amalgamated into the 'colonized' by natives become united or maintain earlier differences? Does their resistance build on their experiences with colonialism or does it revert to previous ways? And why does resistance almost always take the form of nationalism? The second part of the course will consist of a 25-page research paper on one aspect or another of the issue of settler colonialism. We will work together on how to define and refine a topic and how to pursue it. Students also will present the core of their paper to the class.

Requirements/Evaluation: Research paper, assigned readings, participation in class discussions, and presentation of research paper.

Prerequisites: 2 courses in comparative politics or permission of instructor.

Enrollment Limit: 15

Enrollment Preferences: Political Science majors specializing in the Comparative Politics subfield

Expected Class Size: 15

Grading: no pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

Attributes: PSCI Comparative Politics Courses

Fall 2024

SEM Section: 01 TR 11:20 am - 12:35 pm Michael D. MacDonald

PSCI 442 (F) Senior Seminar: Authoritarian Regimes

Authoritarian regimes are plentiful in the world today. Some appear durable and resilient; they are not simply transient political failures awaiting a breakthrough to democracy. This course will consider the history and contemporary experience of authoritarian regimes, beginning with political philosophical analyses of classical theorists such as Montesquieu, Moore, and Arendt. Attention then turns to how post-World War II authoritarianism has been understood from a variety of perspectives, including: the "transitions to democracy" approach; analysis of problems of authoritarian control and authoritarian power-sharing; and examination of "authoritarian resilience," among others.

Requirements/Evaluation: 3 papers of 5-7 pages, discussion leadership, oral report on an authoritarian regime of student's choice, class participation.

Prerequisites: Political science major or permission of instructor

Enrollment Limit: 16

Enrollment Preferences: Senior comparative politics concentrators; other political science senior majors; other political science majors; permission of instructor.

Expected Class Size: 12

Grading: yes pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

Attributes: PSCI Comparative Politics Courses

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 493 (F) Senior Thesis Research Design Seminar

Reserved for and required of those students accepted into the honors program during the second semester of their junior year, the fall semester Senior Thesis Research Design Seminar is intended to serve three purposes for aspiring senior thesis writers. First, through a variety of readings and discussions (including, perhaps, with the assigned scholars themselves), it aims to introduce students to the challenges of original scholarly research and expose them to the range of ways political scientists approach those challenges. Second, through a series of regular exercises and assignments, it seeks to stimulate critical thinking about fundamental questions of research design (crafting a question, performing a literature review, selecting appropriate methodological tools, evaluating data sources) and hone an array of practical skills -- whether quantitative, archival, interpretive, or ethnographic -- involved in political science research. Third, through ongoing, self-guided reading on students' individual topics as well as feedback from both the seminar leader and other seminar participants on their written work about that topic, it endeavors to guide students to frame a viable and meaningful research project. At the conclusion of the seminar, each student will submit a substantial and rigorous 12 page research proposal, with an annotated bibliography, for a roughly 35 page "article-length" thesis to be completed during Winter Study and the spring semester. Those whose proposals are accepted by a committee of faculty chosen by the department will continue on as thesis students, under the supervision of an advisor to be assigned by the department, for the remainder of the academic year; those whose proposals are not accepted may complete an abridged version of their project as an independent study in Winter Study but will not continue in the honors program in the spring semester.

Requirements/Evaluation: short daily assignments, four 4 page exercises, a 12 page research proposal (with an annotated bibliography), and active class participation (including peer review)

Prerequisites: departmental approval during junior spring

Enrollment Limit: 12

Enrollment Preferences: permission of the department

Expected Class Size: 8

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

Fall 2024

HON Section: 01 MWF 10:00 am - 10:50 am Justin Crowe

PSCI 494 (S) Senior Thesis Research and Writing Workshop

Reserved for and required of those students invited to continue in the honors program following the department's approval of their research proposal at the end of the fall semester seminar, the spring semester Senior Thesis Research and Writing Workshop provides a focused forum for the exchange of ideas among thesis writers, who will regularly circulate excerpts of their work-in-progress for peer review and critique. During this time, students will work primarily with their assigned faculty advisor, with the workshop leader's primary role becoming one of coordination, troubleshooting, and general guidance. Near the end of the semester, students will receive feedback on their complete draft from their advisor and two additional faculty readers selected by the workshop leader; following revisions, the final work--a roughly 35 page piece of original scholarship--will be submitted to and evaluated by a committee of faculty chosen by the department for the awarding of honors as well as presented publicly to the departmental community at an end-of-year collective symposium.

Requirements/Evaluation: a roughly 35 page piece of original scholarly work that will be submitted to an advisor and faculty readers and then revised in accordance with their feedback, peer review of other thesis writers' work-in-progress, public presentation at an end-of-year collective symposium

Prerequisites: PSCI 493 and departmental approval at the conclusion of that course

Enrollment Limit: 12

Enrollment Preferences: permission of the department

Expected Class Size: 8

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

Spring 2025

HON Section: 01 MWF 10:00 am - 10:50 am Justin Crowe

PSCI 495 (F) Individual Project: Political Science

With the permission of the department, open to senior Political Science majors. This research course extends over one semester and the winter study period. The research results must be presented to the faculty supervisor for evaluation in the form of an extended essay.

Requirements/Evaluation: Completion of a substantial independent project, which shall form the basis of evaluation.

Prerequisites: two elective courses in the major's subfield specialization

Enrollment Limit: 1

Enrollment Preferences: senior majors

Expected Class Size: 1

Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

Fall 2024

IND Section: 01 MWF 9:00 am - 9:50 am Nicole E. Mellow

PSCI 496 (S) Individual Project: Political Science

With the permission of the department, open to senior Political Science majors. This research course extends over one semester and the winter study

period. The research results must be presented to the faculty supervisor for evaluation in the form of an extended essay.

Requirements/Evaluation: Completion of a substantial independent project, which shall form the basis of evaluation.

Prerequisites: two elective courses in the major's subfield specialization

Enrollment Limit: 1

Enrollment Preferences: senior majors

Expected Class Size: 1

Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

Spring 2025

IND Section: 01 MWF 9:00 am - 9:50 am Nicole E. Mellow

PSCI 497 (F) Independent Study: Political Science

Political Science independent study.

Prerequisites: open to senior Political Science majors with permission of the department chair

Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

Fall 2024

IND Section: 01 MWF 9:00 am - 9:50 am Nicole E. Mellow

PSCI 498 (S) Independent Study: Political Science

Political Science independent study.

Prerequisites: open to senior Political Science majors with permission of the department chair

Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

Spring 2025

IND Section: 01 MWF 9:00 am - 9:50 am Nicole E. Mellow

Winter Study -----

PSCI 14 (W) JA SelCom: A Case Study in Selection Processes

As a member of SelCom (SElection COMmittee), you will become a cohort with current members of JAAB (the Junior Advisor Advisory Board) to select the next class of JAs. You will participate in every step of the JA application evaluation process -- reading written applications, conducting interviews, discussing applicants with SelCom, and deciding on the final makeup of next year's JA class. Every SelCom member will complete anti-bias training at the beginning of Winter Study; working through biases to make thoughtful evaluations is crucial to this process. This is a fantastic opportunity for students who want to take on a leadership role that requires critical thinking and collaboration. Your input will help to shape the entry system, the JA role, and the very essence of the Williams community in the coming school year. The SelCom schedule is roughly as follows (subject to change). SelCom will likely meet 4-5 days per week. Week 1: SelCom members will undergo anti-bias training and then spend the first week conducting interviews with applicants and cleaning transcripts to ensure readability. Week 2-3: The committee will discuss applications with identifying information blinded to help mitigate bias in the selection process. Week 3-4: SelCom will revisit applications with consideration given to the personal identity of each applicant. The committee will then extend offers to a select number of candidates. Members may reconvene at some point in the spring semester (after the initial round of JA offers have been accepted or rejected) to determine which applicants on the waitlist should receive offers. If you are interested in serving on SelCom during winter study, you must fill out this application form by **October 29 at 11:59pm**:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSefDaCz1P2OhKnKBqIArAv8GPxdQXEQ_QfWAWAJigayF95prQ/viewform. JAAB will decide which

applicants will serve on SelCom and inform all applicants of their application status by the end of the day on Monday, November 3. SelCom applicants who are not selected to serve on SelCom will have until November 12 (winter study registration deadline) to enroll in another winter study course.

Requirements/Evaluation: Attendance and active participation

Prerequisites: Anyone wanting to register for the SelCom Winter Study class needs to fill out the application form.

Enrollment Limit: 25

Enrollment Preferences: Open to students who are in the classes of 2025, 2024.5, 2024, 2023.5, and 2023 AND who are not applying for the JA role for the 2023-2024 academic year.

Expected Class Size: NA

Grading: pass/fail only

Attributes: EXPE Experiential Education Courses

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 21 (W) Fieldwork in Public Affairs and Private Non-Profits

This course is a participant-observation experience in which students work full-time for a governmental or nongovernmental (including voluntary, activist, and grassroots) organization or for a political campaign. Examples include: town government offices; state or federal administrative offices (e.g., environmental agencies, housing authorities); interest groups that lobby government (e.g., ACLU, NRA); nonprofit organizations such as service providers or think tanks (e.g., Habitat for Humanity, Cato Institute); and grassroots, activist or community development organizations (e.g., Greenpeace or neighborhood associations). The instructors and members of the Political Science Department are available to help students find placements. Students can also email clia@williams.edu for the most up-to-date information. Students should then make their own contracts with the institution or agency. The student's fieldwork mentor should send a confirmation letter to the instructor verifying the placement and describing the nature of the work to be performed. Interested students should reach out to Paula Consolini at pconsoli@williams.edu by October 30th. A group meeting of all students will occur before winter study to prepare and after to discuss the experience. During winter study, students are responsible for keeping a journal of their experiences and observations. Additionally, students write final papers summarizing and reflecting upon the experience in light of assigned readings. Every year, course instructors arrange for some distinct sections of this course to provide specialized fieldwork opportunities in the area for small groups of students.

Requirements/Evaluation: A 10-page paper or comparable creative work such as a program or project design, video, webpage, or set of infographics.

Prerequisites: Interested students must complete the course interest form located at <https://forms.gle/iXyDxFTd27Z9FkiMA> or email CLIA Director Paula Consolini at clia@williams.edu before the Winter Study Course registration deadline.

Enrollment Limit: 25

Enrollment Preferences: Political science majors

Expected Class Size: NA

Grading: pass/fail only

Unit Notes: Paula Consolini will co-teach.

Attributes: EXPE Experiential Education Courses STUX Winter Study Student Exploration

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 22 (W) LIFT: Learning Intervention for Teens

This mentorship-based course pairs Williams students with teenagers involved in the Berkshire County juvenile justice system, usually due to truancy. LIFT is an official Commonwealth of Massachusetts probation diversion program. Sponsored by Pittsfield Chief of Police Mike Wynn '93 and Professor Cheryl Shanks, the course is entirely run on a day-by-day basis by Williams students who have served as mentors in the past. Williams students provide positive mentorship, helping the teens to envision, construct, and present an independent project of the teen's choosing. Past topics have ranged from teen parenting to who is the best point guard, from the history of the quesadilla to the biological process by which the horned lizard shoots blood from its eyes. The project and other course activities aim to cultivate initiative, creativity, focus, and skills in areas such as goal-setting, research, and communication, and to show teens that school can empower them, and not just be another form of incarceration. The course culminates with a presentation in which each mentor/mentee pair formally presents their work to an audience that includes judges and probation officers in the juvenile court system, state elected officials, chiefs of police, district attorneys, the teens' peers and families, and faculty and community members. Williams students are expected to attend trainings, meet with their teens three times a week, co-facilitate a final presentation, and contribute to a common log

detailing their meetings. Because LIFT is an after-school program, this course meets Tuesday through Thursday from 3:30-5:30pm. Williams students will additionally meet Mondays from 4:00 to 5:00 pm. Absences cannot be accommodated: the teens cannot be let down. Williams students will undergo training as well as a criminal background check prior to the start. To apply, please fill out this form: <https://forms.gle/iWvi5fsuVPFLdpJE9> Also register on PeopleSoft. The student leaders, Aliza Cotton and Michael LesStrang, will select the applicants, with some advice from the dean's office and course sponsors, and Professor Shanks will inform those who registered whether they were accepted.

Class Format: The group meets as a whole; additionally, pairs meet separately. At times this is in a classroom, at other times, the library or makerspace or studio.

Requirements/Evaluation: Successful mentorship throughout the term, contribution to the mentors' log, and final joint presentation.

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 10

Enrollment Preferences: Students will be evaluated based on a statement of application.

Expected Class Size: 10

Grading: pass/fail only

Unit Notes: Mike Wynn just retired as the Chief of the Pittsfield Police Department. He graduated from Williams in 1993.

Attributes: EXPE Experiential Education Courses

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 30 (W) Senior Essay: Political Science

Political Science senior essay.

Class Format: senior essay

Grading: pass/fail only

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 31 (W) Senior Thesis: Political Science

To be taken by students registered for Political Science 493-494.

Class Format: thesis

Grading: pass/fail only

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 32 (W) Individual Project: Political Science

To be taken by students registered for Political Science 495 or 496.

Class Format: independent study

Grading: pass/fail only

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 33 (W) Advanced Study in American Politics

Class Format: independent study

Grading: pass/fail only

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 99 (W) Independent Study: Political Science

Open to upperclass students. Students interested in doing an independent project (99) during Winter Study must make prior arrangements with a faculty sponsor. The student and professor then complete the independent study proposal form available online. The deadline is typically in late September. Proposals are reviewed by the pertinent department and the Winter Study Committee. Students will be notified if their proposal is

approved prior to the Winter Study registration period.

Class Format: independent study

Grading: pass/fail only

Not offered current academic year