Politics is most fundamentally about forging and maintaining community, about how we manage to craft a common destiny guided by shared values. Communities need a way to reconcile conflicts of interest among their members and to determine their group interest; they need to allocate power and to determine its just uses. Power may be used wisely or foolishly, rightly or cruelly, but it is always there; it cannot be wished away. Political science attends to the ways that social power is grasped, maintained, challenged, or justified. The contests over power and the values that it should be used to further give politics its drama and pathos. The effort to understand politics aims not only to describe and explain, but also to improve political life.

The Political Science major is structured to allow students either to participate in the established ways of studying politics or to develop their own focus. To this end, the department offers two routes to completing the major, each requiring nine courses. We invite students either to organize their major through the subfields that structure the discipline of political science (American politics, international relations, political theory, and comparative politics), or to develop individual concentrations reflecting 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 201-204, two electives of the student’s choice at the 200 or 300 level and the senior seminar (or an individual project) 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 203 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. All students must take at least one 300-level course and one research course to complete the major. (Most senior seminars are also research courses but, especially in political theory, not all are.) In addition, no more than two 100-level courses can count toward the major.

**Individual Concentration Route:** Alternatively, 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 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, four are electives at the 200 or 300 level, including one from 201-204, and one is a senior seminar or individual project. 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. All students must take at least one 300-level course and one research course to complete the major. (Most senior seminars are also research courses but, especially in political theory, not all are.) In addition, no more than two 100-level courses can count toward the major.

**ADVICEMENT**

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 will assist undecided students in finding an advisor. In all cases, students will be paired at 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 designed to address political topics from multiple subfield perspectives; many are seminars designed for first-year students. The 200-level courses are divided between our core courses and our electives. The core courses, numbered from 201-204, 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. The 200-level elective courses delve into political processes, problems and philosophies. 100-level and 200-level courses have no prerequisites. 300-level courses are more specialized and have prerequisites. 400-level courses are senior seminars offered for students in the major; senior seminars also are open to juniors and 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 or 1 for American politics; 2 or 6 for international relations; 3 or 7 for political theory; 4 or 5 for comparative politics; and 8 for non-subfield electives.

**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. It also depends which institution they are attending. If we have experience with it (Oxford, LSE) it is easier for us to approve.

**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 as many as two courses to count for major credit. In some circumstances, when a student spends a year abroad, we may consider three.

**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 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?**

...
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:

Yes, usually because of communications breakdown where 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 political theory, take a course in research and quantitative methods, such as PSCI 300 or, if it is not taught, ECON/POEC 253.

THE DEGREE WITH HONORS IN POLITICAL SCIENCE

To become a candidate for honors the student must (1) apply in the second semester of the junior year, (2) submit a research proposal acceptable to the department’s honors committee and for which an appropriate advisor is available, (3) have a record of academic excellence in Political Science. The last includes not only the student’s cumulative GPA in Political Science, generally 3.5 or above, but also demonstrated research and writing skills, evidenced by one or two examples of graded work submitted along with the thesis proposal. Along with the successful completion of a high-quality thesis, the degree with honors in Political Science requires enrollment in the year-long senior thesis seminar, in addition to the other nine (9) courses of the regular major requirements.

ADVANCED STUDY IN AMERICAN POLITICS

The Department of Political Science provides the opportunity for an unusually gifted student to engage in an entire year’s advanced research in American politics under singularly favorable conditions. Supported by income derived from an endowment fund, the student, designated the Sentinels of the Republic Scholar (after the name of the fund), receives a substantial research stipend to cover costs associated with the proposed project.

This unique research course (Political Science 481-W33-482) is designed to encourage the pursuit of excellence among the most talented Williams students of Political Science. Admission to it is awarded to the most distinguished candidate on the basis of demonstrated capacity for outstanding work and of the project’s promise for creative contributions to the understanding of American politics, political institutions and thought.

PSCI 118  (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, and contestation over basic citizenship rights. 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 by actively consulting political theory and empirical research in the social sciences. Our investigation will include class-time collaboration with a similarly structured undergraduate course being taught by a sociologist at the University of North Carolina and may include an optional weekend study trip.

Requirements/Evaluation:  active class participation, three 5-page essays, several short additional writing assignments, and class presentation

Prerequisites:  first-year students

Enrollment Limit:  19

Enrollment Preferences:  first-year students

Expected Class Size:  19

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 120  (S)  America and the World

Cross-listings:  PSCI 120  GBST 101  LEAD 120
Primary Cross-listing
This course will help students understand the US role in the world. US wealth and military power force its leaders to make choices that no other leaders in the world confront. Students will learn to evaluate the decisions that US leaders have made on a wide range of difficult foreign policy issues, including: rising Chinese power; Russian moves in Ukraine; nuclear proliferation to Iran; terrorist threats; humanitarian disasters in Syria and Libya; and long-term challenges like climate change. We will not only describe American involvement in various international issues but also seek to understand the reasons why the US perhaps should or should not be involved, and we will see why such careful reasoning only sometimes gains traction in actual US foreign policy debates. Finally, we will assess whether US foreign policy decisions are coherent - that is, whether the US can be said to follow a "grand strategy." By the end of the course, students will develop their ability to think about foreign policy issues, improving their ability to participate in public life as engaged citizens.

Class Format: lecture/discussion
Requirements/Evaluation: short papers, class participation, and final exam
Prerequisites: none
Enrollment Limit: 30
Enrollment Preferences: first-years and sophomores
Expected Class Size: 30
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 120 (D2) GBST 101 (D2) LEAD 120 (D2)
Attributes: PSCI International Relations Courses
Not offered current academic year

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.

Class Format: discussion
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:
PSCI 125 (D2) LEAD 125 (D2)

Fall 2019
PSCI 127  (S) America First? The Trump Era and the Future of World Politics

Cross-listings: LEAD 127  PSCI 127

Primary Cross-listing

"America First" was a slogan and a perspective on foreign policy adopted by isolationists like Charles Lindberg in the 1930's. In the aftermath of Pearl Harbor and the Second World War, a strong bipartisan consensus emerged around the principles of liberal international internationalism and "America First" perspectives were marginalized in American politics. However, with the election of Donald Trump, the American presidency is now in the hands of someone who proudly claims the America first mantle. This course provides a historical and theoretical context for understanding what is unique about President Trump’s approach to American foreign policy in the 21st century. Particular attention will be devoted to the contrast between the views of Trump and those of the American foreign policy establishment over issues such as NATO, nuclear proliferation, Russia, immigration, terrorism, free trade, and conflicts in the Middle East.

Requirements/Evaluation: two analytical essays, short response papers, and final group project

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 20

Enrollment Preferences: potential political science majors and leadership studies concentrators (foreign policy track)

Expected Class Size: 20

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 127 (D2) PSCI 127 (D2)

Attributes: PSCI International Relations Courses

Spring 2020

LEC Section: 01  M 7:00 pm - 9:40 pm  James McAllister, Chris Gibson

PSCI 132  (F) Contemporary Africana Social and Political Philosophy

Cross-listings: PSCI 132  AFR 132  AMST 132

Secondary Cross-listing

This introductory seminar investigates the relationship between three major schools of thought in contemporary Africana social and political philosophy, namely the African, Afro-American, and Afro-Caribbean intellectual traditions. We will discuss a range of thinkers including Aimé Césaire, Angela Y. Davis, Édouard Glissant, Lewis R. Gordon, Kwame Gyekye, Paget Henry, bell hooks, Charles W. Mills, Nkiru Nzegwu, Lucius Outlaw, Oyèrónke Oyewùmi, Tommie Shelby, and Sylvia Wynter. A primary goal of the course is to provide students with the intellectual resources to decipher problems central to philosophical discourse and to allow students an opportunity to apply what they learn to critical issues in current geopolitics.

Requirements/Evaluation: attendance and participation, two 5- to 7-page essays, and one 10-page final paper

Prerequisites: none; open to all

Enrollment Limit: 15

Enrollment Preferences: first- and second-year students

Expected Class Size: 12

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 132 (D2) AFR 132 (D2) AMST 132 (D2)

Attributes: AFR Core Electives  AMST Comp Studies in Race, Ethnicity, Diaspora  AMST Critical and Cultural Theory Electives  JLST Interdepartmental Electives  PSCI Political Theory Courses
PSCI 135 (S) Politics After the Apocalypse

Cross-listings: STS 135 PSCI 135

Primary Cross-listing

The zombies are coming! Climate change will destroy us! Bird-flu pandemic! To our horror and delight, reminders are everywhere that the end is near. Some of these projected apocalypses are alarmist, some fanciful...and others all too realistic. What shape will politics take after the apocalypse? What aspects of politics will endure the ravages of fire or pestilence? What new political realities might emerge on ground cleared by disaster? And what does it say about politics today that we are so eager to consume stories of states falling and bands of survivors scraping together a nasty, brutish and short existence? In this class, we reconsider what politics is and should be by contemplating accounts of its destruction and rebirth in television, film, literature, activism, social science, and critical theory. We will approach these sources as analogous to political theory’s classic thought experiment of the “state of nature” and social contract. We will explore family resemblances between apocalyptic narratives and key concepts in political theory: the state of exception, (post)millennialism, and anarchy. And we will consider what it suggests about our time that we are so eager to imagine ourselves at the beginning of the end.

Requirements/Evaluation: “close reading” assignment of 3-5 pages, two 5- to 7-page papers, one short story (12-20 pages and including an explanatory cover letter), and class participation

Prerequisites: first- or second-year students, or permission of instructor

Enrollment Limit: 20

Enrollment Preferences: first-year students

Expected Class Size: 20

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

Distributions: (D2)

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

STS 135 (D2) PSCI 135 (D2)

Attributes: PSCI Political Theory Courses

Spring 2020

SEM Section: 01 TR 11:20 am - 12:35 pm Laura D. Ephraim

PSCI 150 (F) Democracy and the State: A Comparative Study

Cross-listings: GBST 101 PSCI 150

Secondary Cross-listing

This introductory course examines major western political theories and ideologies, such as Liberalism and Marxism, and then examines their application in selected regional case studies. The social contract theories of Hobbes, Locke and Rousseau form the basis of the course.

Requirements/Evaluation: short papers, final exam

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 19

Enrollment Preferences: first-year students

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:

GBST 101 (D2) PSCI 150 (D2)

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 160 (S) Refugees in International Politics (DPE)
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. We investigate who refugees are, in international law and popular understanding; examine international and national laws distinguishing refugees from other categories of migrants, evaluate international organizations' roles in managing population displacement, and consider refugee camps in theory and example. In whose interest is the prevailing system? Who might change it, and how?

Requirements/Evaluation: eleven graded essays: five primary, five critique, and one statement
Prerequisites: none
Enrollment Limit: 10
Enrollment Preferences: first-year students
Expected Class Size: 10
Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option
Distributions: (D2) (DPE)

Difference, Power, and Equity Notes: Refugees are, by definition, those persecuted because of their political allegiance or membership in an ethnic, racial or religious group; having lost the protection that nationality should give them, they become de facto stateless. This course examines the way in which states oppress people and the question of why we privilege these categories of oppression.

Attributes: POEC International Political Economy Courses PSCI International Relations Courses

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 178  (F)  Music and Politics
Cross-listings: PSCI 178  MUS 178

Secondary Cross-listing
This course examines how musical sound and musical discourse change, enable, and inhibit citizen formation and the functioning of a well-ordered society. We will take a very wide definition of "politics," as music can have political meaning and effects far beyond national anthems and propaganda. For instance, musical sound is often read as a metaphor for political structures: eighteenth-century commenters pointed out that string quartets mirrored reasoned, democratic discourse, and twentieth-century critics made similar arguments about free jazz. Beliefs about music can serve as a barometer for a society's non-musical anxieties: Viennese fin-de-siècle critics worried that the sounds and stories of Strauss's operas were causing moral decline, an argument that should be familiar to anyone who reads criticism of American popular music. Finally, a pervasive strand of Romantic thought holds that (good) music, by its nature, is apolitical—what might it mean to deny social relevance to an entire field of human expression? We will read classic philosophical texts on art and politics by Schiller, Kant, Schopenhauer, Marx, Adorno, and others, and pair them with contextual studies of works of Western classical music from the last two hundred years and popular music of the last hundred years.

Class Format: tutorial
Requirements/Evaluation: Students will be expected to write a 5-7 page paper every other week, and submit written commend on their tutorial partner's paper in off weeks.
Prerequisites: none
Enrollment Limit: 10
Enrollment Preferences: first-year students
Expected Class Size: 8
Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option
Distributions: (D1)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:
PSCI 178 (D1) MUS 178 (D1)

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 201  (F)(S)  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?

Class Format: discussion

Requirements/Evaluation: depending on the section, some combination of response papers, short-to-medium papers, exams, 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: POEC Required Courses  PSCI American Politics Courses

Fall 2019
LEC Section: 01  MWF 11:00 am - 12:15 pm  Cathy M. Johnson

Spring 2020
LEC Section: 01  MWF 11:00 am - 12:15 pm  Nicole E. Mellow

PSCI 202  (F)(S)  World Politics: An Introduction to International Relations

"World politics is often taken to be an arena of human interaction unto itself, where the concepts which serve us well in understanding domestic politics and our everyday public lives -- democracy, law, morality, authority -- are displaced by their opposites -- rule by the strong, use of force, raison d'état, anarchy. In particular, the discipline of International Relations claims special responsibility for analyzing and explaining this arena. But is world politics really so different? We now live in a world in which resolutions of the United Nations Security Council carry the aura of law and authority; human rights are held up as universal moral standards; international treaties regularly restrain supposedly sovereign states in regulating their domestic economies; and the vast majority of wars are now 'civil' ones. This course is about politics at the world scale and the myriad ways in which scholars and practitioners interpret and explain it."

Requirements/Evaluation: some combination of short papers, midterm exam/paper, final exam, and class participation

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

Enrollment Limit: 30

Enrollment Preferences: first-year students and sophomores intending to major in Political Science

Expected Class Size: 30

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

Distributions: (D2)

Attributes: POEC Required Courses  PSCI International Relations Courses

Fall 2019
LEC Section: 01  MR 1:10 pm - 2:25 pm  James McAllister

Spring 2020
LEC Section: 01  MR 1:10 pm - 2:25 pm  Galen E Jackson

PSCI 203  (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, obligation, freedom, justice, equality, democracy, liberalism, capitalism, feminism, and violence, though the
emphases will vary from semester to semester.

Class Format: discussion

Requirements/Evaluation: two or three papers; some sections also have 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: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option
Distributions: (D2)
Attributes: LEAD Ethical Issues of Leadership PHIL Related Courses POEC Required Courses PSCI Political Theory Courses

Fall 2019
LEC Section: 01    MR 2:35 pm - 3:50 pm    Nimu  Njoya

Spring 2020
LEC Section: 01    TR 9:55 am - 11:10 am    Mark T. Reinhardt

PSCI 204  (F)(S)  Introduction to Comparative Politics: Nationalism, Religion, and State Power

Even in today's era of unprecedented interdependence between countries in the World, the old adage that most, if not all, politics is local remains valid
as ever. Why are some countries stable and orderly and others afflicted by crime, corruption and conflict? Why some countries remain under
authoritarian rule, when so many others have embraced democracy? How have some regions of the world managed to become rich and prosperous
while others remain poor? The field of comparative politics explores these and many other questions, which despite their profound impact on
international affairs, remain largely rooted in domestic politics. This course will provide an introduction to some of the most fundamental issues and key
methods in comparative politics. The topics covered will include the rise of the state and its role in the economy and society, the origins and impact of
political regimes and political institutions, such as systems of government and electoral systems, the role of political parties, interest groups and social
movements, and questions of identity, ethnic and religious conflict, political violence, civil war and revolution. As we cover these substantive issues, we
will also practice using the comparative method: how to systematically compare cases to increase our knowledge of a trait they share, or a trait on
which they differ. For both the substantive and methodological segments of the course, we will study and contrast select case studies of countries from
throughout the World.

Requirements/Evaluation: four 2-page essays and a final exam
Prerequisites: none
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: POEC Required Courses PSCI Comparative Politics Courses

Fall 2019
LEC Section: 01    TR 9:55 am - 11:10 am    George T. Crane
"Donald Trump, Hillary Clinton, Ted Cruz, Bernie Sanders. What do Americans want from their political leaders?". A common assumption is that those who do it well—whether in the presidency, the parties, social movements, organizations, or local communities—are just and legitimate agents of democratic change, and those most celebrated are those who have helped the country make progress toward its ideals. Yet to rest on this is too simple as it is, in part, an artifact of historical construction. Assessing leadership in the moment is complicated because leaders press against the bounds of political convention—as do ideologues, malcontents, and lunatics. Indeed, a central concern of the founders was that democracy would invite demagogues who would bring the nation to ruin. Complicating things further, the nature of democratic competition is such that those vying for power have incentive to portray the opposition’s leadership as dangerous. How do we distinguish desirable leadership from dangerous leadership? Can they be the same thing? Many who today are recognized as great leaders were, in their historical moment, branded dangerous. Others, whose ambitions and initiatives arguably undermined progress toward American ideals, were not recognized as dangerous at the time. In this tutorial, we will explore the concept of dangerous leadership in American history, from inside as well as outside of government. What constitutes dangerous leadership, and what makes a leader dangerous? Is it the person or the context? Who decides? How do we distinguish truly dangerous leadership from the perception of dangerous leadership? Does dangerous describe the means or the ends of leadership? Does it matter? Is leadership that privileges desirable ends, such as justice or security, at the expense of democratic means acceptable? Is democratic leadership in service of "dangerous" goals acceptable, and what are these goals?

Requirements/Evaluation: six 5-page essays; six 2-page response papers; and one final 5-page rewritten essay

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 10

Enrollment Preferences: Political Science majors 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:

LEAD 206 (D2) PSCI 206 (D2)

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

Not offered current academic year
Distributions: (D2) (WS)

Writing Skills Notes: Four 5-page papers, peer review, and a revision of 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 U.S. Political Economy + Public Policy Course  PSCI American Politics Courses

Fall 2019
SEM Section: 01  MR 2:35 pm - 3:50 pm  Cathy M. Johnson

PSCI 209  (F)  Poverty in America
Cross-listings: PSCI 209  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?

Class Format: discussion
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: 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 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: POEC U.S. Political Economy + Public Policy Course  PSCI American Politics Courses

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 212  (S)  From Tocqueville to Trump: Leadership and the Making of American Democracy  (DPE)
Cross-listings: PSCI 212  LEAD 205
Secondary Cross-listing
America's founders didn't mean to create a democracy. 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: bi-weekly short writing assignments, term paper, 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  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

Spring 2020
LEC Section: 01    TR 9:55 am - 11:10 am     Mason B. Williams

PSCI 213  (S)  Transitions to Democracy
Cross-listings: PSCI 213  GBST 211
Secondary Cross-listing
Under what circumstances do authoritarian regimes democratize and what is required to sustain the liberalization of the political system? This comparative course looks at a sample of societies characterized by strong ethnic, religious or racial cleavages.
Requirements/Evaluation: short papers, final exam
Prerequisites: none
Enrollment Limit: 19
Expected Class Size: 15
Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option
Distributions: (D2)
PSCI 214 (F) Racial and Ethnic Politics in America

Arguably, the dominant discourse in the election and presidency of Barack Obama and the battle to succeed him was about race. Race is connected to salient issues like immigration and police conduct; to politicians across the political spectrum, including Obama and Donald Trump; 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

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 215 (S) Race and Inequality in the American City

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)

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

LEAD 215 (D2) PSCI 215 (D2)

Attributes: LEAD Facets or Domains of Leadership  POEC U.S. Political Economy + Public Policy Course  PSCI American Politics Courses
PSCI 216  (F) American Constitutionalism I: Structures of Power

Cross-listings: LEAD 216  PSCI 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 conservative ascendency of the late twentieth century. 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 5- to 7-page essays, a final exam, and class participation

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 25

Enrollment Preferences: Political Science 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:
LEAD 216 (D2) PSCI 216 (D2)

Attributes: LEAD Facets or Domains of Leadership POEC U.S. Political Economy + Public Policy Course PSCI American Politics Courses

Not offered current academic year

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

Cross-listings: LEAD 217  PSCI 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.

Class Format: discussion

Requirements/Evaluation: three 5- to 7-page essays, a final exam, and class participation

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 25

Enrollment Preferences: Political Science 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:

LEAD 217 (D2) PSCI 217 (D2)

Attributes: LEAD Facets or Domains of Leadership POEC U.S. Political Economy + Public Policy Course PSCI American Politics Courses

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 218 (S) The American Presidency

Cross-listings: LEAD 218 PSCI 218

Primary Cross-listing

To study the presidency is to study human nature and personality, constitution and institution, strategy and contingency. This course will examine 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? How much do we attribute the shaping of politics to the agency of the individual in the office and to what extent are politics the result of structural, cultural, and institutional factors? Are the politics of the presidency different in foreign and domestic policy? How are national security concerns balanced with domestic priorities such as the protection of civil liberties? How is the office and purpose of the presidency affected by an economic order predicated on private capital? Exploration of these questions will lead us to examine topics such as presidential selection, the bases of presidential power, character and leadership issues, congressional-executive relations, the media, and emergency powers. Attention will focus largely on the modern presidency, though older historical examples will also be used to help us gain perspective on these problems.

Class Format: discussion

Requirements/Evaluation: one exam, two short to medium length papers, small group projects, and class participation

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 35

Enrollment Preferences: Political Science majors and Leadership studies concentrators

Expected Class Size: 35

Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes 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 POEC U.S. Political Economy + Public Policy Course PSCI American Politics Courses

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 219 (S) Women in National Politics

Cross-listings: INTR 219 WGSS 219 PSCI 219

Secondary Cross-listing

This tutorial focuses on the writings and memoirs of black women who have shaped national politics through civil rights and human rights movements in the 21st century. Women studied include: Fannie Lou Hamer, Barbara Jordan, Shirley Chisholm, Angela Davis, Ella Baker, Kathleen Cleaver.

Requirements/Evaluation: brief analytical papers and response papers for each week's readings

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 10

Enrollment Preferences: juniors and seniors, sophomores with permission of instructor

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 222 (S) Great Powers in the Middle East: The Continuing Battle over Oil, Trade Routes, and God

Cross-listings: PSCI 222  GBST 222  HIST 396  LEAD 222

Secondary Cross-listing

Perhaps more than any other region, the Middle East has been shaped by the involvement of external great powers. This course explores the motives, strategies, and impacts of this involvement. We begin by studying the Christian Crusades from the 11th through the 13th centuries. We then focus on the modern period, starting with French/British competition in the early- and mid-19th century; French/British/Russian competition from the late 19th century through the end of WWII; US/USSR competition during the cold war; the current competition among the US, Russia, and China; and the great power transition that is likely to unfold over the next 20 years, as the US role in the region declines and China's role expands. Through our readings and discussions, we will examine several themes: What motivates great powers to venture into the Middle East? How do they view the local populations and interact with them? What impacts do they have on the politics, economies, societies, and cultures of the region? What can contemporary leaders of great powers learn from this history, and how can their policies be adjusted to bring greater prosperity and peace to the region? In addition to gaining greater knowledge of the long and varied involvement of great powers in the Middle East, students will also gain experience applying the disciplinary insights of history, sociology, and political science to this complex region.

Requirements/Evaluation: Class participation, a mid-term exam, and two 6- to 8-page papers

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 25

Enrollment Preferences: Global Studies concentrators in the Middle Eastern studies track, Political Science majors in the International Relations concentration, History majors

Expected Class Size: 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 222 (D2) GBST 222 (D2) HIST 396 (D2) LEAD 222 (D2)

Attributes: GBST Middle Eastern Studies Electives  PSCI International Relations Courses

Spring 2020

LEC Section: 01  MR 2:35 pm - 3:50 pm  Bruce Rutherford

PSCI 223 (S) 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 determines the status of other actors, such as international organizations, heads of state, refugees, transnational religious institutions, and multinational corporations. International law is similar to domestic law, with one very crucial difference: it is not enforced by a centralized, sovereign state. In most other respects, it is the same: it protects the status quo, including the distribution of power among its members; it spells out legitimate and illegitimate ways of resolving conflicts of interest; it is biased toward the powerful; 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. And 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, the legitimation of order.

Requirements/Evaluation: three quizzes, two midterm exams, one 6-page paper, and one final exam

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 30

Enrollment Preferences: Political Science majors
Expected Class Size: 30
Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option
Distributions: (D2)
Attributes: JLST Interdepartmental Electives MAST Interdepartmental Electives POEC International Political Economy Courses PSCI International Relations Courses
Not offered current academic year

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: 19
Enrollment Preferences: Political Science majors

Fall 2019
SEM Section: 01  TF 1:10 pm - 2:25 pm  Michael D. MacDonald

PSCI 225  (F) International Security
Cross-listings: LEAD 225  PSCI 225
Primary Cross-listing
This course deals with basic questions about war and peace. What are the major causes of war? Why do leaders choose to use violence in the pursuit of political objectives? How does the threat of war shape international politics and diplomatic outcomes? How are wars fought? What are their consequences? And why do states sometimes seek to cooperate to achieve their objectives and other times settle disputes through force or the threat of force? To address these questions, this course covers a number of specific topics: the causes, conduct, and consequences of the two world wars; the origins, course, and end of the Cold War; the influence of nuclear weapons on international security; regional conflicts and rivalries; regime type and international conflict; alliances and patron-client relationships; diplomacy; crisis decision-making; asymmetric conflicts; and great power politics, grand strategy, and international order.

Requirements/Evaluation: class participation, one 6- to 8-page paper, midterm, final
Prerequisites: none
Enrollment Limit: 25
Enrollment Preferences: Political Science majors

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 Electives LEAD American Foreign Policy Leadership PSCI International Relations Courses
PSCI 227 (S) International Relations of the Middle East
This class will introduce students to the international political significance of the modern Middle East. The basic structure of the course combines political science concepts with a detailed survey of the region's diplomatic history. Specific topics will include the role of the great powers in the area's politics; the Arab-Israeli conflict; the geopolitical implications of the Persian Gulf's oil reserves; terrorism; the causes and impact of the Iranian Revolution; the rise of Islamist movements; nuclear proliferation; the causes and consequences of the Iraq War; the Arab Spring and the Syrian crisis; and future prospects for stability in the area. By the end of the course, students will have not only gained insight into these specific issues but, more importantly, will have developed an ability to think critically and analytically about the arguments and ideas relating to the international relations of the Middle East espoused by different scholars and policymakers.

Requirements/Evaluation: class participation, one 6- to 8-page paper, midterm, final
Prerequisites: none
Enrollment Limit: 25
Enrollment Preferences: Political Science majors with an International Relations concentration, History majors
Expected Class Size: 25
Grading: no pass/fail option, yes fifth course option
Distributions: (D2)
Attributes: PSCI International Relations Courses

Spring 2020
LEC Section: 01 MWF 11:00 am - 12:15 pm Galen E Jackson

PSCI 228 (S) International Organization
Tens of thousands of international organizations populate our world. IGOs, whose members are governments of sovereigns, range from the Nordic Association for Reindeer Research to the UN and NATO; NGOs, whose members are private groups and individuals, include the International Seaweed Association as well as the International Committee of the Red Cross. We will examine where they come from, what they do, and to whom they matter, and will examine their agency, efficiency, and accountability. We cover the history, structures and functions of international organizations using case studies.

Requirements/Evaluation: three short papers, a midterm exam, one longer paper on an assigned topic
Prerequisites: none, open to first-year students
Enrollment Limit: 30
Enrollment Preferences: Political Science Majors
Expected Class Size: 30
Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option
Distributions: (D2)
Attributes: PHLH Decision-Making by Institutions + Individuals POEC International Political Economy Courses PSCI International Relations Courses

Spring 2020
LEC Section: 01 TR 11:20 am - 12:35 pm Cheryl Shanks

PSCI 229 (F) Global Political Economy
Thirty years ago the production, distribution, consumption and accumulation of goods, services and capital were predominantly national, organized by nation-states and within national territories. Today they all are increasingly global in scope, and nation-states find themselves more and more the subjects than the masters of mobile transnational corporations, international trade tribunals, global currency markets and natural resources cartels. All
of these developments have direct and far-reaching effects on the power of states, the wealth of societies, and the life chances of billions of people around the world. This course offers a broad introduction to contemporary global capitalism, 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 a broad analysis of global trade, global finance, development, and migration, with special attention to subjects such as free trade, foreign aid, industrial policy, currency wars, and refugee crises. We conclude the course with a close look at current global financial instabilities and the implications for the future of global capitalism.

Class Format: discussion

Requirements/Evaluation: one 5-7 page paper, one 7-10 page paper, in-class debate, final exam

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 35

Enrollment Preferences: Political Science and Political Economy majors

Expected Class Size: 30

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

Distributions: (D2)

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

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 231  (S)  Ancient Political Thought

Cross-listings: PSCI 231  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:

PSCI 231  (D2) PHIL 231  (D2)

Attributes: PSCI Political Theory Courses

Spring 2020

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

PSCI 232  (F)  Modern Political Thought

Cross-listings: PHIL 232  PSCI 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.

**Class Format:** discussion

**Requirements/Evaluation:** four formal papers of 5-7 pages; brief informal writing tasks inside and outside of class

**Prerequisites:** none; open to all

**Enrollment Limit:** 19

**Enrollment Preferences:** Political Science majors

**Expected Class Size:** 19

**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 232 (D2) PSCI 232 (D2)

**Attributes:** PSCI Political Theory Courses

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 233 (F) Rastafari: Dread, Politics, Agency

**Cross-listings:** REL 261 AFR 299 PSCI 233

**Secondary Cross-listing**

The emergence of Rastafari in the twentieth century marked a distinct phase in the theory and practice of political agency. From its heretical roots in Jamaica, Garveyism, Ethiopianism, and Pan-Africanism, Rastafari has evolved from a Caribbean theological movement to an international political actor. This course investigates the political theory of Rastafari in order to develop intellectual resources for theorizing the concept of agency in contemporary Africana thought and political theory. We will analyze texts and audio-visual works on the political economy of late colonial Jamaica, core Rastafari thinking, political theology, the role of reggae music, the notion of agency, and the influence of Rastafari on global politics.

**Requirements/Evaluation:** attendance and participation, weekly reading e-response papers, two short essays, and a 12- to 15- page final paper

**Prerequisites:** none; open to all

**Enrollment Limit:** 15

**Enrollment Preferences:** Africana Studies concentrators and majors in Political Science and Religion

**Expected Class Size:** 12

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

**Distributions:** (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:
REL 261 (D2) AFR 299 (D2) PSCI 233 (D2)

**Attributes:** AFR Core Electives AMST Arts in Context Electives AMST Comp Studies in Race, Ethnicity, Diaspora AMST Critical and Cultural Theory Electives

Fall 2019

SEM Section: 01 TR 9:55 am - 11:10 am Neil Roberts

PSCI 234 (S) Political Romanticism

**Cross-listings:** ENGL 322 PSCI 234 COMP 329

**Secondary Cross-listing**

What is Romanticism, and how does it relate to the world-changing political upheavals that emerge along with it? Romantic literature emerged around the time of the French and Haitian Revolutions, and many Romantic authors were deeply sympathetic to the democratic principles of freedom and
equality that inspired such political uprisings. Yet many also questioned revolutionaries' attempts to realize such ideas by forcibly seizing control of governments. These authors became interested in art and literature as alternative means of bringing about social and political change. In so doing, they invented ideas about the political power of art that are still very much with us today. This seminar examines these ideas through readings of works of Romantic literature, philosophy, and art that brought them into the world, while also considering how arguments subsequently developed for and against political Romanticism inform today's heated debates about the relationship between art and politics. May include works by Kant, Wordsworth & Coleridge, C. Smith, P.B. Shelley, Géricault, Delacroix, Turner, Hazlitt, Hegel, Marx, C.L.R James, Carl Schmitt, Walter Benjamin, and Jacques Rancière.

Requirements/Evaluation: two papers, 6 and 8-10 pages in length, and general participation
Prerequisites: a 100-level ENGL course, or a score of 5 on the AP English Literature exam, or a score of 6 or 7 on the Higher Level IB English exam
Enrollment Limit: 25
Enrollment Preferences: English, Comparative Lit, German, Political Science 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:
ENGL 322 (D1) PSCI 234 (D2) COMP 329 (D1)
Attributes: ENGL Criticism Courses ENGL Literary Histories B

Spring 2020
SEM Section: 01 MW 7:00 pm - 8:15 pm Walter Johnston

PSCI 235 (S) Survival and Resistance: Environmental Political Theory
Cross-listings: ENVI 235 PSCI 235

Primary Cross-listing
Contemporary struggles to reverse environmental destruction and establish sustainable communities have prompted some political theorists to rethink longstanding assumptions about politics and its relationship to nature. Does the environment have "rights"? What, if anything, is the difference between an ecosystem and a political community? Is democracy dangerous to the planet's health? Are environmental protections compatible with political freedom? How is the domination or conquest of nature connected with domination and conquest within human societies? What does justice demand in an age of climate change? In this class, we will consider the promise and limits of political theory to illuminate present day environmental crises and foster movements to overcome them. We will engage classic texts that helped to establish political theory's traditional view of nature as a resource, as well as contemporary texts that offer alternative, ecological understandings of nature and its entwinements with politics. Class will be driven primarily by discussion. Students will have significant responsibility for setting the agenda for discussions through informal writing submitted prior to class. As a writing intensive course, 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: formal and informal writing assignments and class participation
Prerequisites: none
Enrollment Limit: 19
Enrollment Preferences: first-years and sophomores
Expected Class Size: 12
Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option
Distributions: (D2)
This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:
ENVI 235 (D2) PSCI 235 (D2)
Attributes: AMST Critical and Cultural Theory Electives ENVI Humanities, Arts + Social Science Electives PHIL Related Courses PSCI Political Theory Courses

Not offered current academic year
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 Friedrich Hayek, Milton Friedman, Ronald Coase, Arthur Okun, and Albert O. Hirschman. The third part surveys significant recent contributions relevant to the themes of the course, with applications to current public policy issues, including topics 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; economic nationalism and new trade theory; behavioral economics; 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: discussion

Requirements/Evaluation: eight short essays, several short homework assignments, and a final exam

Prerequisites: ECON 110 and 120 or equivalent; PSCI 201, 202, 203, or 204 (may be taken concurrently with POEC 250); open to non-majors

Enrollment Limit: 35

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

Expected Class Size: 35

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:

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

Writing Skills Notes: Students write at least eight 650-word graded reaction papers, across twelve weekly opportunities, during the semester. An instructor meets with each student after the first few weeks to go over their work and to discuss methods of composition.

Attributes: AMST Critical and Cultural Theory Electives POEC Required Courses

Fall 2019

LEC Section: 01 MR 2:35 pm - 3:50 pm Jon M. Bakija, James E. Mahon

PSCI 240 (S) Theories of Comparative Politics

This course deals with the concepts that organize much of the contemporary study of comparative politics. The course discusses the purposes of states, the origins of capitalism, the relationship of states to capitalism, the connection between identities, cultures, and states, and the definition and nature of power. The readings include Alexis de Tocqueville, Karl Marx, Max Weber, Karl Polanyi, Barrington Moore, Michel Foucault, and Edward Said.

Class Format: discussion

Requirements/Evaluation: three papers

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 19

Enrollment Preferences: Political Science majors

Expected Class Size: 19

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

Distributions: (D2)

Attributes: PSCI Comparative Politics Courses PSCI Political Theory Courses
PSCI 241 (S) Meritocracy

Cross-listings: PSCI 241 SOC 241

Primary Cross-listing

Although an infinitesimal number of Americans have degrees from Harvard or Yale Universities, 33% of the top decision makers in the second Obama administration did. So do eight of the country’s nine sitting Supreme Court Justices. 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 intellectually talented --- 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: two papers, take-home final exam, 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: yes pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D2)

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

PSCI 241 (D2) SOC 241 (D2)

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

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 242 (S) The Politics of Waste

Cross-listings: ENVI 241 PSCI 242

Primary Cross-listing

Waste is not just a fact of life, it is a political practice. To create and maintain political order requires devising collective means to pile up, bury, burn, or otherwise dispose of stuff deemed dirty or disorderly: waste management is regime management. In turn, our feelings of disgust for anything deemed waste shape political deliberation and action on environmental policy, immigration, food production, economic distribution, and much more. The very effort to define “waste” raises thorny political questions: What (or who) is disposable? Why do we find the visible presence of certain kinds of things or persons to be unbearably noxious? How should we respond to the fact that these unbearable beings persist in existing, despite our best efforts to eliminate them? What is our individual and collective responsibility for creating and disposing of waste? Serious inquiry into waste is rare in political theory and political science—perhaps understandably, given that the study of politics is shaped by the same taboos that shape politics. In this seminar we will openly discuss unmentionable topics and get our hands dirty (sometimes literally) examining the politics of waste. We will take notice of the erasure of waste in traditional political theory and work together to fill these gaps. To do so, we will draw on work in anthropology, critical theory, history, urban studies, and waste management science; representations of waste in popular culture; and experiences with waste in our lives. 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, Wed 4:45-8:30 pm*

Requirements/Evaluation: class attendance and 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)
This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:
ENVI 241 (D2) PSCI 242 (D2)
Attributes: PSCI Political Theory Courses

Spring 2020
SEM Section: 01  W 4:45 pm - 8:30 pm  Laura D. Ephraim

PSCI 243 (S) Politics of Africa
Cross-listings: AFR 256  PSCI 243
Primary Cross-listing
This course provides an introduction to the politics of contemporary Africa, emphasizing the diversity of African politics. It seeks to challenge the widespread image of African politics as universally and inexplicably lawless, violent, and anarchic. We begin by examining the colonization of Africa, nationalist movements, and patterns of rule in the first 30 years of independence. From there, we analyze the causes, achievements and limitations of the recent wave of political liberalization across Africa. We then consider patterns of economic development in Africa. Finally, we examine China's growing expansion into Africa and ask whether this is a new colonialism.
Class Format: lecture/discussion
Requirements/Evaluation: class discussion, four short papers and final exam
Prerequisites: none
Enrollment Limit: 35
Enrollment Preferences: sophomores, Political Science majors and Africana Studies concentrators
Expected Class Size: 30
Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option
Distributions: (D2)
This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:
AFR 256 (D2) PSCI 243 (D2)
Attributes: GBST African Studies Electives  POEC Comparative POEC/Public Policy Courses  PSCI Comparative Politics Courses
Not offered current academic year

PSCI 247 (S) Political Power in Contemporary China
The People's Republic of China presents us with two grand political narratives: socialism and democracy. In the Maoist era, a distinctive understanding of socialism, which claimed to be a more genuine democracy, brought hope and, ultimately, tragedy to hundreds of millions of people. In the post-Mao era, Chinese politics has been driven by the need to redefine socialism in the wake of the world-historic calamities of the Great Leap Forward and the Cultural Revolution and, more recently, the end of the Cold War. The state cannot simply give up the socialist myth because without it the rationale for Communist Party hegemony evaporates. But China's rulers cannot avoid political reform, both ideological and institutional, because to do so heightens the legitimacy crisis born of Maoist failures. Within this context has emerged the contemporary Chinese democracy movement which, in all of its complexity, looks to both socialist discourse and Western practice to create a new politics that checks tyrannical abuses of state power and engenders a civil society. What is Chinese democracy now? What are its prospects and what is its relationship to the ideas of socialism?
Class Format: discussion
Requirements/Evaluation: two short papers and a final exam
Prerequisites: none
Enrollment Limit: 35
Enrollment Preferences: Political Science and Asian Studies majors
Expected Class Size: 35
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; nationalism and national identity; war and state-building; American exceptionalism, religion, and foreign policy; the role of political and economic institutions; 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.

Attributes: AMST Comp Studies in Race, Ethnicity, Diaspora  POEC Comparative POEC/Public Policy Courses  PSCI American Politics Courses  PSCI Comparative Politics Courses

Fall 2019
TUT Section: T1  TF 2:35 pm - 3:50 pm  James E. Mahon

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: 35

Enrollment Preferences: sophomores and PSCI majors

Expected Class Size: 15

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

Distributions: (D2)

Attributes: PSCI Comparative Politics Courses
PSCI 257  (F)  Iran, Islam, and the Last Great Revolution

Cross-listings:  PSCI 257  ARAB 257

Primary Cross-listing

The title and inspiration for this course comes from Robin Wright's book The Last Great Revolution. Wright argues that the 1979 Revolution in Iran completes the promise of the Modern Era, "launched in the West" but "adopted by or adapted to all other parts of the world." The overthrow of 2500 years of monarchy "paved the way for using Islam to push for empowerment." It is this empowerment, of nations and of ordinary individuals, that stands as the signal quality of modernity. The notion that post revolutionary Iran offers an alternative path to modernity is hardly conventional wisdom in the United States or Europe, where images of men draped in religious passion and women in forbidding black chadors are as common as the belief that the 1979 Revolution set Iran spinning back thirteen centuries in time. If westerners do not view Iran as entirely anti-modern, then at best they see it as a country filled with "paradoxes" and "puzzles," one in which indie rock bands play underground, figuratively and literally beneath the feet of retrograde religious fanatics, or unveiled women attend all-night parties only to slip back into proper hejab the next morning. The class will ask you to consider why these assumptions exist, whether they are the symptoms of a western civilization "clashing" with the east, and if they are exclusive to the United States or Europe. Does there also exist an "orientalism in reverse," a negative gaze of Iranians towards the west and towards their fellow, "backwards" citizens?

Requirements/Evaluation:  first short essay, 5 pages (15%); second short essay, 5 pages (15%); research paper, 15-20 pages (30%); participation, including blogs, presentation, and precis (40%)

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 15

Enrollment Preferences: Political Science majors

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:

PSCI 257 (D2) ARAB 257 (D2)

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 260  (F)  Power, Feminist-Style  (DPE) (WS)

Cross-listings:  WGSS 260  PSCI 260

Secondary Cross-listing

This course examines one of the most important concepts in the analysis of sex and gender and efforts to envision sexual and gender justice—the concept of power—from multiple feminist perspectives. At the core of feminism lies the critique of inequitable power relations. Some feminists claim that power itself is the root of all evil and that a feminist world is one without power. Others portray the feminist agenda as one of taking power, or of reconstructing society by exercising a specifically feminist mode of power. In this course, we will look at feminist critiques of power, how feminists have employed notions of power developed outside of the arena of feminist thought, and efforts to develop specifically feminist ideas of power. Along the way, we will ask: Are some concepts of power more useful to feminism? Can certain forms of power be considered more feminist than others? How can feminist power be realized? Thinkers we will engage include Judith Butler, Audre Lorde, Catherine MacKinnon, Hannah Arendt, and Patricia Hill Collins.

Requirements/Evaluation:  eight short writing assignments (ranging from 250 words to 750 words), drafting and revision of a 10 pg final essay

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 19

Enrollment Preferences:  Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies majors

Expected Class Size: 19

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

Distributions:  (D2)  (DPE) (WS)
This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:
WGSS 260 (D2) PSCI 260 (D2)

**Writing Skills Notes:** This course aims to carefully unpack the writing process by focusing on particular elements of writing (summary, critical analysis) while also introducing students to tools they can use to improve their writing (freewriting). Short writing assignments like the proposal, outline, and abstract build on one another and culminate in a final essay that goes through the process of drafting and, after peer and teacher review, revision.

**Difference, Power, and Equity Notes:** This course requires students to focus on what power does and should look like from the perspective of difference, exploring the relationship between power and equity in the process. Students will reflect on and discuss the working of power in their own lives, why certain forms of power are more or less visible to particular groups, and how different ideas about power promote different interests in society at large.

**Attributes:** WGSS Theory Courses

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**Fall 2019**

**SEM Section:** 01  TF 1:10 pm - 2:25 pm  Greta F. Snyder

**PSCI 261  (S)  Gender and Conflict in International Relations**

**Cross-listings:** WGSS 262  PSCI 261

**Primary Cross-listing**

This course explores gender dynamics in modern conflicts from the perspective of civilian societies, state militaries and non-state armed groups. The course will look at gender roles, relations, and symbols, throughout different phases of conflict including the precursors to conflict, during a conflict, and finally in the aftermath of active conflict. We will examine contemporary security debates related to gender including violent extremism, women in the military, and post-conflict reconstruction. We also look at case studies from several regions including Uganda, El Salvador, Sierra Leone, and Northern Ireland. Gender, in this course, will be used as a lens to understand different identities in conflict and expectations for women, men, boys, and girls, as well as examine femininities and masculinities. The course will use literature from scholars in the field of gender and conflict but will also include literature on conflict that does not have a gender perspective, with the aim to encourage students to add their own gendered analysis or questioning of current theories of conflict in international relations.

**Requirements/Evaluation:** short writing assignments; some combination of take-home exams and in-class presentations; class participation

**Prerequisites:** none

**Enrollment Limit:** 18

**Enrollment Preferences:** potential and actual Political Science majors or Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies majors

**Expected Class Size:** 18

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

**Distributions:**  (D2)

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**Spring 2020**

**SEM Section:** 01  W 7:00 pm - 9:40 pm  Phoebe G. Donnelly

**PSCI 262  (F)  America and the Cold War**

**Cross-listings:** PSCI 262  HIST 261  LEAD 262

**Primary Cross-listing**

This course examines the rise and fall of the Cold War, focusing on four central issues. First, why did America and the Soviet Union become bitter rivals shortly after the defeat of Nazi Germany? Second, was one side primarily responsible for the length and intensity of the Cold War in Europe? Third, how did the Cold War in Europe lead to events in other areas of the world, such as Cuba and Vietnam? Finally, could the Cold War have been ended long before the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1989? Political scientists and historians continue to argue vigorously about the answers to all
these questions. We examine both traditional and revisionist explanations of the Cold War, as well as the new findings that have emerged from the partial opening of Soviet and Eastern European archives. The final section of the course examines how scholarly interpretations of the Cold War continue to influence how policymakers approach contemporary issues in American foreign policy.

**Class Format:** lecture/discussion

**Requirements/Evaluation:** one medium length paper, an in-class midterm and final exam, and a series of short assignments

**Prerequisites:** none; PSCI 202 is recommended but not required

**Enrollment Limit:** 19

**Enrollment Preferences:** Political Science majors and Leadership Studies concentrators

**Expected Class Size:** 19

**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 262 (D2) HIST 261 (D2) LEAD 262 (D2)

**Attributes:** LEAD American Foreign Policy Leadership  PSCI International Relations Courses

Not offered current academic year

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**PSCI 265  (S)  The International Politics of East Asia**

This course examines the political, economic, and cultural determinants of conflict and cooperation in East Asia. Throughout the semester, we will examine three distinct but inter-related aspects of international relations in East Asia: Security, economy, and culture by using some core concepts and theoretical arguments widely accepted in the study of international relations. We will engage some of the central questions and issues in the current debate on East Asia. Do East Asian countries seek security and prosperity in a way fundamentally different from the Western system? Is there a single best way to maintain regional order and cooperation across regions? Will a strong China inevitably claim its traditional place under the sun? Will Japan continue to live as a nation with enormous economic power but limited military means? What is the choice for South Korea between security alliance with the United States and national reconciliation with the North? What should be done to dissuade the authoritarian regime in North Korea from acquiring nuclear capabilities and lead it to different paths toward national survival? By the end of the semester, you will gain both a general perspective and substantive knowledge on East Asian international politics.

**Class Format:** discussion

**Requirements/Evaluation:** midterm exam, team debate, take-home final exam, class participation and other assignments

**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)

**Attributes:** POEC International Political Economy Courses  PSCI International Relations Courses

Spring 2020

LEC Section: 01    MR 2:35 pm - 3:50 pm    George T. Crane

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**PSCI 266  (S)  The United States and Latin America  (DPE)**

This course examines the most important political and diplomatic divide in the Western Hemisphere. The first half is a historical survey of U.S.-Latin American foreign relations from the early Spanish American independence movements through the end of the Cold War, with some emphasis on the latter. We consider how this history confirms or undermines influential views about U.S. foreign relations and about international relations generally. We also compare historical U.S. foreign policy toward the hemisphere to current policy globally. The second half covers the most important current issues in hemispheric relations: the rise of leftist governments in Latin America; the war on drugs; immigration and border security; and competition with China for influence. At the end we briefly reconsider current U.S. policies, in view of the economic and political evolution of Latin America, in historical perspective.
Class Format: more lecture in the first half, more discussion and several in-class debates in the second

Requirements/Evaluation: a map quiz, two short papers, a longer paper, and either another policy paper and a regular final exam, or a 10-page research paper and a short final exam

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 35

Enrollment Preferences: Political Science majors

Expected Class Size: 20

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

Distributions: (D2) (DPE)

Difference, Power, and Equity Notes: In the paper that considers the first part of the course, the students weigh to what extent U.S. policy toward Latin America was affected by the largely derogatory attitudes of U.S. diplomats toward Latin Americans. A unit in the second part of the course critically analyzes current U.S. immigration policy in this context.

Attributes: GBST Latin American Studies Electives LATS Countries of Origin + Transnationalism Elect LEAD American Foreign Policy Leadership PSCI International Relations Courses

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 268 (S) Israeli Politics

This is an introductory course on Israeli politics. Approaching questions historically, it discusses the evolution of Zionism before and after the founding of Israel, the immigration and assimilation of Jews from Arab states, and the changes in Israeli politics and society introduced by the acquisition of the West Bank and the ensuing occupation and settlements. The course also will address Israel's foreign policies, including its relationship with the USA, and the conflict with Palestinians.

Requirements/Evaluation: two papers and a final exam

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 Electives POEC Comparative POEC/Public Policy Courses PSCI Comparative Politics Courses

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 271 (F) Religion and the State

Cross-listings: REL 214 PSCI 271

Secondary Cross-listing

The First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution begins: “Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof.” What does “religion” mean in this formulation? Should “religion” be singled-out for exclusion from government? Are “religious” reasons ever legitimate reasons for laws, policies or popular political action? Should “religious” organizations be exempt from otherwise generally applicable laws? Is “religion” good or necessary for democratic societies? In this course we will respond to these and related questions through an investigation of “religion” as a concept in political theory. Particular attention will be given to the modern liberal tradition and its critics. Coverage will range from modern classics to innovative contemporary arguments. Classics may include John Locke's A Letter Concerning Toleration, selections from Jean-Jacques Rousseau's The Social Contract, James Madison's Memorial and Remonstrance Against Religious Assessments, Immanuel Kant's Religion Within the Boundaries of Mere Reason, John Stewart Mill's Three Essays On Religion, and John Dewey's A Common Faith. More recent arguments may come from John Rawls, Alasdair MacIntyre, Nicholas Wolterstorff, Martha Nussbaum, Jeffrey Stout, Winnifred Sullivan, Brian Leiter and Andrew Koppelman.

Requirements/Evaluation: class participation, two short papers, a midterm take-home exam, and a final take-home exam

Prerequisites: none
Enrollment Limit: 30

Enrollment Preferences: Religion majors, those interested in being Religion majors, and Political Science majors concentrating on Political Theory

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:

REL 214 (D2) PSCI 271 (D2)

Attributes: JLST Interdepartmental Electives

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 273 (F) Politics without Humans?

Cross-listings: ENVI 273 STS 273 PSCI 273

Primary Cross-listing

Are human beings the only beings who belong in politics? And is political involvement a unique or defining aspect of what it means to be human? Such questions are increasingly complex as the boundaries of "the human" become blurred by the rise of artificial intelligence, robotics, and brain implants: shifting attitudes towards both animal and human bodies; and the automation of economic and military decisions (buy! sell! attack! retreat!) that used to be the prerogative of human actors. How do visions of politics without humans and humans without politics impact our thinking about longstanding questions of freedom, power, and right? Can and should the link between humans and politics survive in an age in which "posthuman" or "transhuman" entities become central characters in the drama of politics? This class will consider these questions through readings, films and artifacts that bring political theory into conversation with science fiction, popular literature on the so-called "singularity" (the merger of humans with computers), science and technology studies, evolutionary anthropology, "new materialist" philosophy, and feminist theory.

Requirements/Evaluation: three 5- to 7-page papers, regular Glow posts, class participation

Prerequisites: please note that this is an introductory-level course with no prerequisites; first-year students and those with no background in political theory are welcome, as are more experienced students

Enrollment Limit: 25

Expected Class Size: 20

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

Distributions: (D2)

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

ENVI 273 (D2) STS 273 (D2) PSCI 273 (D2)

Attributes: AMST Critical and Cultural Theory Electives ENVI Environmental Policy PHIL Related Courses PSCI Political Theory Courses

Fall 2019

SEM Section: 01 TF 1:10 pm - 2:25 pm Laura D. Ephraim

PSCI 274 (S) Revolutions

Why do revolutions occur, or perhaps more to the point, why do they fail to occur? When do they end and what do they actually achieve? What, in other words, is so revolutionary about revolutions? This course considers whether and how revolutions differ from social movements, coups d'etats, and armed rebellions by looking at a broad range of uprisings, from the "colored revolutions" and liberating "springs" of recent years to the classical examples of the French, American, Mexican, Chinese, Cuban, and Iranian revolutions, as well as the challenging cases of Haiti and South Africa. This class seeks a subversive politics of its own. There is a certain, shiny allure to revolutions, particularly within political science. In a field committed to the dry study and explanation of social phenomena, revolutions are the sexy exception, the example of politics par excellence. Our goal ought to be to call the allure into question, to ask whether this is a merit of undeserved distinction, particularly given recent developments in Egypt and Syria, as well as the ongoing consequences of revolutions in Russia, Iran, China, many years after the fact, after the last triumphant regiment rolled through capital streets.

Requirements/Evaluation: first short essay, 3-5 pages (15%); second short essay, 3-5 pages (15%); final essay, 15-20 pages (20%); participation, (30%)
Not offered current academic year

PSCI 275  (S)  Paul the Apostle: Then and Now
Cross-listings:  PSCI 275  REL 275
Secondary Cross-listing

The Apostle Paul is the most important thinker in the history of Christianity. He wrote much of the New Testament and was the first to formulate and articulate the basic message of Christianity. In this course, we'll first explore Paul's thought in its original context, probing what his message would have meant for the inhabitants of the Roman Empire. Special attention will be paid to Paul's contribution to ancient debates about Judaism, conversion, and ethnic difference. In addition to examining the first contexts and meanings of his writings, we'll be especially interested in the legacy of Paul's thought on modern political thought in Europe and America in the 20th and 21st centuries. In this portion of the course, we'll see how Paul's influence has shaped current theories of citizenship and sovereignty, with or without the knowledge or consent of modern thinkers and societies. The course thus explores the original significance of Paul's thought as well as his hidden influence upon the political structures of secular modernity.

Requirements/Evaluation:  papers, participation
Prerequisites:  none
Enrollment Limit:  19
Enrollment Preferences:  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:
PSCI 275 (D2) REL 275 (D2)
Not offered current academic year

PSCI 278  (S)  The Politics of 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 addresses the politics of capitalism by examining the struggles between social groups that lead to variation in distributional outcomes and economic performance. The course concludes by investigating these struggles in light of contemporary challenges, in particular, transnational governance and technological change.

Requirements/Evaluation:  class participation, two short papers, take-home final exam
Prerequisites:  none
Enrollment Limit:  18
Enrollment Preferences:  potential and actual PSCI and POEC majors
Expected Class Size:  18
Grading:  no pass/fail option,  no fifth course option
Distributions:  (D2)
Attributes:  PSCI American Politics Courses  PSCI Comparative Politics Courses  PSCI Political Theory Courses
PSCI 283 (F) Dirty Politics: Regulating Hazardous Chemicals and Wastes

Cross-listings: ENVI 283  PSCI 283

Secondary Cross-listing

Since consumers were first introduced to the promise of “better living through chemistry,” society has had to wrestle with the impacts, often far removed in place and time, resulting from a rapid proliferation of hazardous chemicals and wastes. Policy responses, be they at the local, national or global scale, are often limited to reactionary efforts to counter releases into the environment, are constrained by the prevalent use of the technologies in question, and further bring to the fore key challenges of environmental justice and risk management. How then are we to regulate DDT without adversely affecting our fight against mosquito-borne malaria? How might we preserve the ozone layer while still maintaining the benefits of food preservation through refrigeration? How can we reap the benefits of the electronic age without condoning the steady flow of electronic waste affecting workers’ health and environments in developing countries? Emphasis will be placed on understanding the politics that bring about, and allow us to address, these problems. We will be examining in particular novel policy responses, including the US’ revised legislation on chemicals passed in 2016 and citizen science initiatives such as those that brought attention to the crisis of lead-contaminated water in Flint, MI.

Requirements/Evaluation: participation, several smaller assignments, and a final research project

Prerequisites: ENVI 101 or permission of instructor

Enrollment Limit: 19

Enrollment Preferences: Environmental Studies majors and concentrators, and Political Science majors

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:

ENVI 283 (D2) PSCI 283 (D2)

Attributes: AMST Space and Place Electives  ENVI Environmental Policy  EVST Social Science/Policy  PHLH Nutrition,Food Security+Environmental Health  POEC Comparative POEC/Public Policy Courses  PSCI Research Courses

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 285 (F) The Revolutionary Generation: Galaxy of Leaders

Cross-listings: PSCI 285 LEAD 285 HIST 354

Secondary Cross-listing

The American Revolution produced a galaxy of brilliant politicians, statesmen, and military leaders of extraordinary courage, intellect, creativity, and character: Washington, Hamilton, Jefferson, Madison, Adams. In this seminar, we will study their astounding accomplishments—a successful war of independence, a Constitution and Bill of Rights, enduring democratic political institutions, and a nascent party system. But mostly we will focus on their ideas, for they were thinking revolutionaries. We will examine in depth and in detail their superb writings, their letters and speeches as well as Madison and Hamilton’s Federalist essays. We will also read recent interpretations of the founding generation by Gordon Wood, Joseph Ellis, Bernard Bailyn, and others.

Requirements/Evaluation: three papers, several class presentations, and active participation in all discussions

Prerequisites: none; courses in Leadership Studies or Political Theory or early American History are very helpful for admission to this seminar

Enrollment Limit: 12

Enrollment Preferences: students with a background in Leadership Studies, American History or American Political Science

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:

PSCI 285 (D2) LEAD 285 (D2) HIST 354 (D2)
PSCI 286 (F) Russian Politics and Foreign Policy under Vladimir Putin

Cross-listings: PSCI 286 RUSS 286

In 1939, Winston Churchill has famously characterized Russia as a riddle wrapped in a mystery inside an enigma. In the 75 years that followed, Russian politics has continued to defy expectations and conventional explanations. The collapse of the Soviet Communist dictatorship in 1991 has caught most observers by surprise, and has led Russia on a path of political and economic liberalization of an unprecedented scope. But despite the initial optimism, these processes produced a political and economic system characterized by authoritarianism and crony capitalism. Why did Russia follow this particular trajectory? Why did Russia's political and economic transition fail to produce the intended results? What are the factors that gave rise to and sustained Vladimir Putin's system? Why did Putin's Russia adopt an aggressive posture toward its neighbors and the West? And as Russia once again faces extraordinary challenges--marked by the wars in Ukraine and Syria, the economic crisis and social tensions at home, and the looming issue of Vladimir Putin's succession in 2024--what lessons can we draw for the future? This course will explore the key perspectives on these issues. The first part of the course will provide a concise overview of Russia's historical background, the roots of the communist collapse, and the country's subsequent trajectory. The second part of the course will look into the rise of the Putin regime, its key pillars, and its contradictions. The third part of the course will survey the trajectory of Russia's foreign and security policy under Vladimir Putin. This segment will explore the defining events and processes that led to the decline in the relations between Russia and the West, ranging from the Iraq war and the colored revolutions in East Europe, to the annexation of Crimea and the Russian meddling in the US elections. It will also explore how the eroding domestic legitimacy of the Putin regime drives its aggressive behavior abroad.

Requirements/Evaluation: analytic paper (6-8 page), book review (8-10 page), final exam

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 24

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:
PSCI 286 (D2) RUSS 286 (D1)

Attributes: PSCI Comparative Politics Courses PSCI International Relations Courses

PSCI 291 (S) American Political Events

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 final 4-page 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)  
**Attributes:** PSCI American Politics Courses  
Not offered current academic year

**PSCI 292 (S) Threats to the Republic: Politics in Post-Obama America**

When Barack Obama’s successor assumes office in January 2017, they will be asked to govern an America that is out of sorts. Economic inequality on a level not seen in over a century. Terrorist attacks at home and abroad. Escalating racial violence in cities. Protests against cultural insensitivity on campuses. Social unrest over the definition of American morality and over who counts as an American. Ideological polarization that regularly brings the government to a standstill and periodically threatens financial ruin. Looming environmental catastrophes capable of provoking humanitarian crises.

To what extent do these calamities pose new, existential threats to the republic? And is there anything that can be done to stop or slow them? This course interrogates the many perils that pundits and activists tell us we should worry about in 21st century America. In examining these issues, we will seek not only to understand the contours of the potentially dramatic political changes that some say await us but also to put these issues into historical context so that we may draw lessons from the crises of the past. Ultimately, our goal is to determine how worried we should be—and what, precisely, we should be worried about—as a new era of American leadership begins.

**Class Format:** lecture  
**Requirements/Evaluation:** five 5-page essays, one presentation, and active class participation  
**Prerequisites:** none  
**Enrollment Limit:** 25  
**Enrollment Preferences:** first year and sophomores  
**Expected Class Size:** 25  
**Grading:** no pass/fail option, no fifth course option  
**Distributions:** (D2)  
**Attributes:** PSCI American Politics Courses  
Not offered current academic year

**PSCI 293 (F) Leadership and Political Change**

**Cross-listings:** LEAD 293  PSCI 293  
**Secondary Cross-listing**

This course will examine the foundations of effective political leadership --- both transformational and evolutionary. It will balance theory and practice, case studies and student exploration to better understand how political change and policy reform is enacted in a representative democracy. The course begins with a framework to evaluate leadership, transitions to examining the importance of vision in effecting political change, moves to an in-depth look at effective communicative strategies and mobilization techniques required to realize that change, and concludes with an assessment of the prospects for leadership in the current political landscape. We will cover presidential, congressional, and military leadership and include prominent guest speakers from the world of American politics.

**Class Format:** discussion  
**Requirements/Evaluation:** two 7- to 8-page analytic essays, one 12- to 15-page analytic essay, and class participation  
**Prerequisites:** none  
**Enrollment Limit:** 20  
**Enrollment Preferences:** LEAD concentrators and PSCI majors

Not offered current academic year
Expected Class Size: 20
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 293 (D2) PSCI 293 (D2)
Attributes: LEAD American Domestic Leadership LEAD Facets or Domains of Leadership PSCI American Politics Courses

Fall 2019
LEC Section: 01 TR 11:20 am - 12:35 pm Chris Gibson

PSCI 302 (S) Leadership in a Global World
Cross-listings: LEAD 302 PSCI 302

Secondary Cross-listing
The events and forces of the twenty-first century have fundamentally challenged our previous assumptions of how individuals relate to one another and how societal progress occurs—that is to say, of how leadership occurs in a global world. In this course we will explore different styles of leadership, followership, failure, and team-building. Over the course of the semester, we will consider topics ranging from teaching to politics, civil society to social media, all with an eye toward how individuals engage with the teams they seek to lead as well as how they engage in both short- and long-term thinking to avoid obstacles, mobilize support, and accomplish their goals. Since leadership is a phenomenon relevant to all individuals and all paths, the course will also include introspection and self-analysis of one's own capacities and weaknesses around the core questions and dilemmas of leadership.

Requirements/Evaluation: three 2-page memos, 5-page midterm essay, 25-page final paper, class presentation, and class participation
Prerequisites: none
Enrollment Limit: 19
Enrollment Preferences: Leadership Studies concentrators and potential concentrators
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:
LEAD 302 (D2) PSCI 302 (D2)
Attributes: LEAD American Domestic Leadership LEAD Facets or Domains of Leadership

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 303 (S) Authoritarian Politics

For most of history, human societies have been ruled by dictators of one sort or another. Despite repeated tides of democratization, over 40 percent of the countries in the world today and half its population are still ruled by non-democracies. The aim of this course is to provide a critical understanding of the dynamics of contemporary authoritarianism, the sources of its resilience, and its impact on global politics. First, the course will examine the key differences between democracy and autocracy, and among different types of autocracies. The second part will investigate the means by which contemporary autocracies stay in power. In addition to traditional tactics like repression, clientelism and propaganda, we will explore how autocracies adopted economic, nationalist and populist appeals, and nominally democratic institutions like parties, legislatures and elections, to sustain their rule. This segment will also explore the societies ruled by dictatorships, as well as the forces behind the waves of democratization and authoritarian resurgence. It will look at popular opinion and mobilization in autocracies, the sources of resistance, and the dynamics of protests and rebellions that sometimes topple these regimes. The third part of the course will focus on the international behavior and impact of autocracies. Are autocracies more likely to initiate domestic and international conflicts? Can they effectively integrate in the global economic currents and develop their countries? Or are all forms of authoritarianism doomed to eventually result in underdevelopment, corruption and cronyism? Can Western democracies establish and maintain workable relationships with authoritarian regimes and contain their worst tendencies? This segment will examine the accumulated evidence on these issues and discuss the potential future of authoritarianism in global politics.

Requirements/Evaluation: mid-term exam, term paper, class participation
PSCI 308  (F)  In Search of the American State

Ronald Reagan's pronouncement in 1981 that "government is not a solution to our problem, government is the problem" has defined American politics for more than three decades. Skepticism of government has deep roots and strong resonance throughout American political history, yet in many ways the American state has grown steadily larger and stronger. This course explores this conundrum by examining the American state, and its growth, in various arenas. We will assess traditional theories about the weak American state in light of arguments about the state as: regulator of family and "private" life, adjudicator of relations between racial and ethnic groups, manager of economic inequalities, insurer of security, and arbiter of the acceptable uses of violence and surveillance.

Requirements/Evaluation: several short papers on class readings and a longer, 15- to 20-page paper with oral presentation

Prerequisites: at least one class in American politics

PSCI 311  (F)  Congress

In an organization comprised of equals, how and why do some senators and representatives acquire more power and authority than others? How does Congress, often considered to be the most powerful assembly in the world, organize itself so that it can 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, several short papers, and a 20-page research paper

Prerequisites: PSCI 201 or permission of instructor
PSCI 312  (S)  American Political Thought

Cross-listings:  LEAD 312  PSCI 312

Primary Cross-listing

From democracy to liberty, equality to community, foundational ideas -- about what makes for good government, about what constitutes the good society, about what is necessary to lead a good life -- define the American political tradition and consume the American political imagination. Designed not only to uncover these (sometimes melodious, sometimes cacophonous) values but also to place current ideological debates about them in a broader developmental context, this tutorial will offer a topical tour of American political thinking from the birth of nationalism in the colonial period to the remaking of conservatism and liberalism in the early twenty-first century. Utilizing primary source material ranging from presidential speeches to party platforms, newspaper editorials to novels, we will seek to interrogate -- reconciling where possible, distinguishing where necessary, interpreting in all instances -- the disparate visions and assessments of the American political experience offered by politicians, artists, intellectuals, activists, and ordinary citizens over the course of more than two centuries. Our focus, then, is nothing less than the story of America -- as told by those who lived it.

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: none

Enrollment Limit: 10

Enrollment Preferences: Political Science majors and prospective majors

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:

LEAD 312 (D2) PSCI 312 (D2)

Attributes: AMST Critical and Cultural Theory Electives  LEAD Facets or Domains of Leadership  PHIL Related Courses  PSCI American Politics Courses  PSCI Political Theory Courses

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 313  (S)  Race, Culture, Incarceration

Cross-listings: AFR 322  INTR 322  AMST 322  PSCI 313

Secondary Cross-listing

This course explores racially-fashioned policing and incarceration from the Reconstruction era convict prison lease system to contemporary mass incarceration and "stop and frisk" policies of urban areas in the United States. Also explored will be political imprisonment in the United States.

Requirements/Evaluation: brief analytical papers and group presentations.

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 19

Expected Class Size: 19

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

Distributions: (D2)

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

AFR 322 (D2) INTR 322 (D2) AMST 322 (D2) PSCI 313 (D2)

Attributes: AMST Comp Studies in Race, Ethnicity, Diaspora  AMST Critical and Cultural Theory Electives  AMST Space and Place Electives  JLST Interdepartmental Electives

Spring 2020

SEM Section: 01  Cancelled

PSCI 314  (S)  How Change Happens in American Politics  (WS)
Cross-listings: LEAD 314  PSCI 314

Primary Cross-listing

Does the rise of Donald Trump signal something new in the U.S.? How unprecedented is the current political moment? What might we expect to come next? From the Founding to the present, the American political order has undergone incredible, cataclysmic and thoroughgoing transformations, yet it has also proven to be remarkably enduring. How can this be? Where do we find continuities and where upheavals? What accounts for the continuities, and what for the changes? What sorts of transformations have been possible, and who or what has made them possible? Finally, what are the costs of change (and of continuity)--and who pays them? The goal of this course is to assess American political change, or lack of, and to gain a sense of the role that individual leaders have played in driving change. We will examine when and how individuals and leadership have mattered vis-à-vis broader historical and contextual factors, including economic developments, demographic change, and constitutional and institutional parameters. After examining general models of change and of leadership, we will consider specific case studies, such as civil rights for African-Americans, gender equality, labor demands, social conservatism, and populism. We will consider some of the complicated legacies of change. 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.

Class Format: research seminar

Requirements/Evaluation: several short essays, weekly writing assignments, and a longer research paper with presentation

Prerequisites: previous course in American politics or American history

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 314 (D2) PSCI 314 (D2)

Attributes: LEAD Facets or Domains of Leadership  POEC U.S. Political Economy + Public Policy Course  PSCI American Politics Courses  PSCI Research Courses

Spring 2020

SEM Section: 01  MR 2:35 pm - 3:50 pm  Nicole E. Mellow

PSCI 315  (F)  Parties in American Politics

Political parties have played a central role in extending democracy and organizing power in the United States, yet their worth is a continuing subject of debate. Parties have been celebrated for linking citizens to their government and providing the coherency and unity needed to govern in a political system of separated powers. Yet they have also been disparaged for inflaming divisions among people and grid-locking the government. Critics of the two-party system have castigated the major parties for failing to offer citizens meaningful choices; the Republican and Democratic parties are likened to a choice between "tweedledee and tweedledum." This course will investigate this debate over parties by examining their nature and role in American political life, both past and present. How and why have the parties changed over time? Throughout the course, we will explore such questions as: What constitutes a party? For whom do they function? Why a two-party system, and what role do third parties play? Is partisanship good or bad for democracy? For governance? How does partisanship become tribalism or hyper-partisanship, and can this be prevented? We will seek answers to these questions both in seminar discussion and through substantial independent research projects.

Requirements/Evaluation: weekly writing assignments, two 5-page papers, one 15- to 20-page paper, class presentation, and class participation

Prerequisites: PSCI course at the 200 or 300 level or permission of instructor

Enrollment Limit: 14

Enrollment Preferences: Political Science majors

Expected Class Size: 14

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

Distributions: (D2)

Attributes: POEC U.S. Political Economy + Public Policy Course  PSCI American Politics Courses  PSCI Research Courses
PSCI 316  (S)  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 U.S. Political Economy + Public Policy Course  PSCI American Politics Courses  PSCI Research Courses

PSCI 317  (F)  Environmental Law
Cross-listings: PSCI 317  ENVI 307
Secondary Cross-listing
We rely on environmental laws to make human communities healthier and protect the natural world, while allowing for sustainable economic growth. Yet, despite 40 years of increasingly varied and complex legislation, balancing human needs and environmental quality has never been harder than it is today. Environmental Studies 307 analyzes the transformation of environmental law from fringe enterprise to fundamental feature of modern political, economic and social life. ENVI 307 also addresses the role of community activism in environmental law, from local battles over proposed industrial facilities to national campaigns for improved corporate citizenship. By the completion of the semester, students will understand both the successes and failures of modern environmental law and how these laws are being reinvented, through innovations like pollution credit trading and "green product" certification, to confront globalization, climate change and other emerging threats.

Requirements/Evaluation: several short writing assignments, a term research project, and active participation in class
Prerequisites: ENVI 101 or permission of instructor
Enrollment Limit: 25
Expected Class Size: 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 317 (D2) ENVI 307 (D2)
Attributes: AMST Space and Place Electives  ENVI Environmental Policy  EVST Social Science/Policy  MAST Interdepartmental Electives  POEC U.S. Political Economy + Public Policy Course

PSCI 318  (S)  Race, Public Opinion, and Campaigns
What is the role of race in American public opinion and voting? This question is at the center of American politics today, particularly during the presidency of Barack Obama and the 2016 presidential election. Some commentators argue that racial attitudes were at the center of opposition to Obama's candidacy and legislative agenda and are foremost on voters' minds in 2016. Others suggest that most Americans have moved "beyond race" and that racism explains little of modern-day partisan and electoral politics. We will explore what the empirical literature on race in political science says about this debate and others. Among other issues, we will consider the points of conflict and consensus among different racial groups, how Americans of different racial backgrounds think about other groups, and the implications of demographic change (including the growth of the Latino and Asian-American populations and the shrinking white share of the electorate) for future elections.

Class Format: seminar
Requirements/Evaluation: one 2-3 page paper, two 5-7 page papers, a 15-20 page (non-research) paper, and class participation
Prerequisites: none
Enrollment Limit: 19
Enrollment Preferences: Political Science majors
Expected Class Size: 12
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 319 (F)(S) Marine Policy
Cross-listings: ENVI 351 PSCI 319 MAST 351
Secondary Cross-listing
This seminar utilizes the interdisciplinary background of the other Williams-Mystic courses to examine national and international contemporary issues in our relationship with our ocean and marine environment. This seminar takes a topical approach to the study of ocean and coastal law and policy, examining climate change, fisheries, coastal zone management, admiralty law, marine biodiversity, ocean and coastal pollution, and ocean governance.
Class Format: discussions, guest lectures by active professionals, and includes coastal and near-shore field trips, and 10 days offshore
Requirements/Evaluation: an independent research paper, a presentation, and a final exam
Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option
Unit Notes: offered only at Mystic Seaport
Distributions: (D2)
This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:
ENVI 351 (D2) PSCI 319 (D2) MAST 351 (D2)
Attributes: ENVI Environmental Policy EXPE Experiential Education Courses POEC International Political Economy Courses

Fall 2019
LEC Section: 01 TBA Catherine Robinson Hall

Spring 2020
LEC Section: 01 TBA Catherine Robinson Hall

PSCI 320 (F) Heroes and Villains: Iconic Leadership and the Politics of Memory
Cross-listings: LEAD 320 PSCI 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 a 10-12 page paper examining the politics of memory for a leader of their choice.

Requirements/Evaluation: two short (5- to 6-page) essays and a 10- to 12-page research paper
Prerequisites: previous course in Leadership Studies, or Political Science, or permission of instructor
Enrollment Limit: 19
Enrollment Preferences: Leadership Studies concentrators, Political Science majors
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:
LEAD 320 (D2) PSCI 320 (D2)
Attributes: LEAD American Domestic Leadership LEAD Facets or Domains of Leadership PSCI Research Courses

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 the Trump administration, the Republican 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 International Political Economy Courses PSCI American Politics Courses PSCI Research Courses

PSCI 325 (S) International and Transitional Justice
Cross-listings: JLST 402 PSCI 325
Primary Cross-listing
Before the 1990s, the world saw only occasional, discrete war crimes trials after major-power cataclysms. In the last two decades, trials expanded dramatically in number, scope, and philosophy. Separate Ad Hoc Tribunals for crimes in Yugoslavia and those in Rwanda, in Sierra Leone and in Cambodia are giving way to a permanent International Criminal Court, which has begun to hand down indictments and refine its jurisdiction. The UN Security Council, alongside national governments, decides on legitimacy and punishment. At the same time, worries about residual impunity or the effect that punishment might have on societies' futures has led to the development of national and social courts, as well as national military tribunals, to complement those at the international level. Meanwhile, national activists look to international apologies and reparations for models of what to
Examples of internationalized transitional justice abound. This research seminar examines the intent, process, meaning and consequence of these new practices, particularly in terms of national constitutions, international law, and principles of justice.

Class Format: seminar

Requirements/Evaluation: four papers, longer final paper, class participation

Prerequisites: Political Science major or permission of instructor

Enrollment Limit: 14

Enrollment Preferences: Political Science majors concentrating in International Relations

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:
JLST 402 (D2) PSCI 325 (D2)

Attributes: PSCI International Relations Courses PSCI Research Courses

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 326  (S)  Security in Africa

Cross-listings: GBST 326 PSCI 326

Primary Cross-listing

Africa is the world's second largest and second most-populous continent. This course will explore this diverse region through the lens of human security which takes a broader understanding of security challenges and how they affect different individuals. We will begin by placing security challenges in Africa in the context of a colonial legacy and the changing nature of warfare. We will then examine specific security challenges including governance issues, gender relationships, and resource challenges, through the use of case studies. We will conclude by examining responses by the U.S. and UN to perceived security challenges in Africa.

Requirements/Evaluation: short blog posts; research paper sections throughout semester; final research paper (15-20 pages); class participation

Prerequisites: PSCI 202 or permission of instructor

Enrollment Limit: 14

Enrollment Preferences: Political Science majors

Expected Class Size: 14

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

Distributions: (D2)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:
GBST 326 (D2) PSCI 326 (D2)

Attributes: PSCI International Relations Courses PSCI Research Courses

Spring 2020

SEM Section: 01    TR 11:20 am - 12:35 pm     Phoebe G. Donnelly

PSCI 327  (S)  Leadership and Strategy

Cross-listings: LEAD 327 PSCI 327

Primary Cross-listing

This class is about the role of leaders and statecraft in international relations. In particular, this course examines the relationship between political and military objectives. The aim is to identify and analyze the principal structural and situational constraints--both foreign and domestic--that limit leaders' freedom of action, and which they must manage effectively to achieve their diplomatic and military goals. The course integrates theoretical perspectives related to a range of international security issues--including the causes of war, alliance politics, nuclear strategy, deterrence, coercion, reassurance, misperception, and credibility concerns--with illustrative case studies of decision-makers in action. The basic structure of the class is interdisciplinary; the goal of this approach is to utilize key conceptual arguments to gain greater leverage for the examination of major historical
decisions in national security policy. Students will be asked to analyze and evaluate the strategic choices we examine, as well as the process by which they were reached. The primary objective of the course is for students to improve dramatically their understanding of the role of leaders and strategic choice in international relations.

Class Format: seminar

Requirements/Evaluation: active class participation, two 6-8 page papers, and a final exam

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 15

Enrollment Preferences: Political Science Majors and Leadership Studies concentrators

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:

LEAD 327 (D2) PSCI 327 (D2)

Attributes: LEAD Facets or Domains of Leadership PSCI International Relations Courses

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 328 (F) Global Environmental Politics

Cross-listings: PSCI 328 ENVI 328

Secondary Cross-listing

This seminar draws on the last five decades of international efforts to regulate the environmental commons. The process of negotiating and implementing international environmental treaties will be a core focus of the course, yet emphasis will also be placed on emerging non-state means of addressing global environmental challenges. A variety of challenges faced in global environmental policymaking (compliance, participation by civil society and industry, incorporation of science, efficiency,) will be examined through the study of several international regimes, including on climate change, endangered species, biodiversity, biosafety and mercury pollution.

Requirements/Evaluation: participation; several shorter writing assignments; and a research paper to be completed in stages over the course of the semester

Prerequisites: ENVI 101 or permission of instructor

Enrollment Limit: 19

Enrollment Preferences: Environmental Studies majors, Environmental Studies concentrators, and Political Science majors

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 328 (D2) ENVI 328 (D2)

Attributes: ENVI Environmental Policy JLST Interdepartmental Electives MAST Interdepartmental Electives POEC International Political Economy Courses PSCI Research Courses

Not offered current academic year

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
**PSCI 332 (F) New York City Politics from the Blackout to Bloomberg (WS)**

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 332 (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 PSCI American Politics Courses PSCI Research Courses

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**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: 19

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: JLST Interdepartmental Electives PSCI Political Theory Courses

Spring 2020

LEC Section: 01    TF 1:10 pm - 2:25 pm     Nimu Njoya

PSCI 335  (F)  Racial Equity, Liberal Democracy, and Democratic Theory  (DPE)

In Ta-Nehisi Coates' best-selling book Between the World and Me, he says that in the wake of the non-indictment of former police officer Darren Wilson in the death of Michael Brown "I did not tell [my son] that it would be okay, because I have never believed it would be okay." With admissions like this, Coates stoked a long-standing debate about the prospects for racial equity in liberal democracies like the United States. In this course, we look at this debate, examining what black thinkers in particular have said about whether racial equity can be achieved in a liberal democracy founded on racial domination and why they come to the conclusions they do. Then, we examine what contemporary democratic theorists have had to say about how racial equity might be achieved and how they have sought to advance this goal through their writing. Can the strategies theorists propose and employ really aid in the advancement of racial equity? Which are more and less promising? We end by asking: Do anti-democratic means have to be employed to fully realize democracy? What anti-democratic means? Authors we will engage include Coates, bell hooks, Charles Mills, Melvin Rogers, Chris Lebron, Lawrie Balfour, and Danielle Allen.

Requirements/Evaluation: class facilitation, group reflections (three 4-page responses), book review (6-8 pages), final essay (12-14 pages)

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: none

Enrollment Preferences: Political Science majors

Expected Class Size: 20

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

Distributions: (D2)  (DPE)

Difference, Power, and Equity Notes: This class centers sociological and political theoretical questions about race inequity and equity in a liberal democratic society. It features black writers’ perspectives on inequity and equity. The course nurtures the skill of speaking across difference by requiring students to write responses as groups and encouraging deep student participation by making students class facilitators.

Attributes: PSCI Political Theory Courses

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 337  (S)  Visual Politics

Cross-listings: ARTH 337  PSCI 337

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 visuality 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, cognitive science, and STS. Possible authors include Arendt, Bal, Belting, Benjamin, Browne, Buck-Morss, Butler, Clark, Connolly, Crary, Deleuze, Fanon, Foucault, Freedberg, Garland-Thompson, Hobbes, Kittler, Machiavelli, Mercer, Mitchell, Mulvey, Plato, Rancière, Sartre, Virilio, Warburg, and Zeki.

Requirements/Evaluation: regular, engaged class participation, several Glow posts, and three 7- to 8-page papers

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

Enrollment Limit: 19

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: 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:

ARTH 337 (D1) PSCI 337 (D2)

Attributes: PSCI Political Theory Courses

Spring 2020

SEM Section: 01    W 7:00 pm - 9:40 pm     Mark T. Reinhardt

PSCI 339  (F)  Politics in Dark Times: Hannah Arendt  (WS)

Cross-listings: JWST 339  PSCI 339

Primary Cross-listing

Hannah Arendt (1906-75) bore witness to some of the darkest moments in the history of politics. Born a Jew in Germany, Arendt lived through--and reflected deeply on--two world wars, the rise of totalitarianism, and the detonation of the first atomic bomb. She narrowly escaped imprisonment by the Gestapo and internment in a refugee camp in Vichy France before fleeing to New York. Yet, in the face of these horrors, Arendt never lost her faith in political action as a way to express and renew what she called "love of the world." She wrote luminously about the darkness that comes when terror extinguishes politics and the shining, almost miraculous events of freedom through which politics is sometimes renewed. In this tutorial, we will investigate what Arendt's vision of politics stands to offer to those struggling to comprehend and transform the darkest aspects of the contemporary political world. Our time and Arendt's are similarly darkened by the shadows of racism, xenophobia, inequality, terror, the mass displacement of refugees, and the mass dissemination of lies. It may be tempting to conclude from these similarities--as some recent commentators have--that we are witnessing the return of "totalitarianism" as Arendt understood it. She would be the first to refuse to use inherited concepts as if they were keys to unlock the present. Her words and her example should impel us to reject shortcuts to authentic understanding, the "unending activity by which...we come to terms with and reconcile ourselves to reality." We will turn to Arendt as an interlocutor, not a guide, as we seek to reconcile ourselves to the contingency and specificity of past and present political realities. And we will search her works and our world for embers of hope that even seemingly inexorable political tragedies may yet be interrupted by assertions of freedom in political action.

Requirements/Evaluation: five 5-page papers; five 2-page responses; a final revision of a prior paper; participation

Prerequisites: a prior course in political theory, philosophy, or critical theory, or permission of the instructor

Enrollment Limit: 10

Enrollment Preferences: Political Theory concentrators, Political Science majors

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:

JWST 339 (D2) PSCI 339 (D2)

Writing Skills Notes: You will receive feedback from me and your tutorial partner on your five papers (each 5 pages long and spaced evenly through the semester). This feedback will inform the revision you submit at the end of the semester of a paper of your choosing. Students will receive from the instructor timely comments on their writing skills, with suggestions for improvement.

Attributes: JWST Elective Courses  PHIL Related Courses  PSCI Political Theory Courses
PSCI 340  (S) Why States Fail: Political Violence at the End of the 20th Century
This course considers the origins of political violence and state failure at the end of the 20th century. It seeks to address why there was a resurgence of political violence at the dawn of the 21st century. Toward that end, we begin by considering competing explanations of political violence (ethnicity, democratization, natural-resource endowments, and predatory elites). We then move on to the empirical section of the course in which we cover case studies of state failure in parts of Eastern Europe, Africa and the Middle East.

Class Format: discussion
Requirements/Evaluation: seminar participation, two oral presentations and a research paper
Prerequisites: one of the following: PSCI 201, 202, 203, 204, 229, 243, 250, 254 or the permission of instructor
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 Comparative POEC/Public Policy Courses PSCI Comparative Politics Courses PSCI Research Courses

PSCI 345  (S) Cosmology and Rulership in Ancient Chinese Political Thought
This class will involve students in close reading of, and exegetical writing about, core texts of ancient Chinese political thought. The purpose is to gain an understanding of a number of different perspectives on politics and leadership, especially Confucianism, Legalism and Taoism. 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: The Analects, Mencius, the Daodejing, Zhuangzi, and Han Feizi.

Class Format: discussion
Requirements/Evaluation: two 5-page papers and one 15-page paper
Prerequisites: none
Enrollment Limit: 19
Expected Class Size: 15
Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option
Distributions: (D2)
Attributes: GBST East Asian Studies Electives LEAD Facets or Domains of Leadership PSCI Comparative Politics Courses PSCI Political Theory Courses

PSCI 346  (S) Radical Theories of Political Struggle: Anti-Black Racism and the Obama Administration
Cross-listings: AFR 334  PSCI 346  INTR 334

Secondary Cross-listing
This seminar reviews contemporary theories of "anti-black racism"; their articulation or assimilation within current political movements and mobilizations; and the influence and impact such theories-expressed in and/or as activism-on social justice and civil rights. Critical race theory, Afro-pessimism, feminist/queer theory and the works of the incarcerated are studied. Theorists studied include: Frank Wilderson; Angela Davis; Derrick Bell; Cheryl Harris. Students write weekly mini-reflection papers on assigned readings and collectively make analytical presentations.

Requirements/Evaluation: 1 research paper (50%); 2 presentations with summaries (40%); active engagement in class discussions (10%); weekly student presentations consist of 15 minutes of analysis with written summaries and Q/A; 1st quarter of semester: thesis and outline; 2nd and 3rd quarters: 2-page summaries integrating assigned texts into research analysis; 4th quarter: edit final paper
Prerequisites: familiarity with one of the following: critical race theory; Africana/Black studies; feminist anti-racist political movements

Enrollment Limit: 15

Enrollment Preferences: students will be asked to submit a paragraph on their research interest relevant to the seminar

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:
AFR 334 (D2) PSCI 346 (D2) INTR 334 (D2)

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 347 (F) Law of the Sea

The United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea gathered into one place what most countries considered in 1982 to be scattered customary international law about piracy, transit through other countries’ territorial waters, jurisdiction over ships, and so forth. It also proposed a system for taxing firms that it licensed to exploit minerals on the high seas. This course explores the politics that arise from UNCLOS, first by engaging with the treaty’s content (and exclusions), second by examining the incentives it provides states and criminals, and third by assessing the way that geopolitical and environmental change create new opportunities and constraints for states, firms, international organizations, and activists.

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

Prerequisites: PSCI 202 or permission of instructor

Enrollment Limit: 18

Enrollment Preferences: Political Science majors, seniors

Expected Class Size: 12

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

Distributions: (D2)

Attributes: MAST Interdepartmental Electives PSCI International Relations Courses

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 348 (S) The Black Radical Tradition

Cross-listings: AFR 348 PSCI 348 LEAD 348

Secondary Cross-listing

The black radical tradition is a modern tradition of thought and action begun after transatlantic slavery’s advent. Contemporary social science and the humanities overwhelmingly portray it as a critique of black politics in the latter’s liberal, libertarian, and conservative forms. This tutorial unsettles that framing, first by situating the black radical tradition as a species of black politics, and second through expanding the boundaries of black politics beyond the United States. Central to the black radical tradition’s architecture are inquiries into the concepts of freedom, race, equality, rights, and humanism; meaning of “radical”; the national-transnational relationship; notions of leadership; status of global capitalism; the nexus of theory and praxis; and revolutionary politics. We begin with examinations of these central notions and debates, and then move to investigations of the political thought of four key late modern Afro-Caribbean and African-American thinkers within the tradition: Walter Rodney, Sylvia Wynter, Cedric Robinson, and Angela Davis.

Requirements/Evaluation: attendance; five 5-page essays, five 2-page critiques, and one 1-page essay for the final class

Prerequisites: none; open to all

Enrollment Limit: 10

Enrollment Preferences: Africana Studies concentrators, Leadership Studies concentrators, and Political Science majors

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:
AFR 348 (D2) PSCI 348 (D2) LEAD 348 (D2)
PSCI 349  (S) Cuba and the United States  (WS)
With the passing of the Castro brothers' regime on the horizon, we examine the long and deeply felt history of dependence and conflict between Cuba and its colossal neighbor to the north. It 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 orientation; social programs; political institutions; 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) (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.

PSCI 351  (S) The New Left and Neoliberalism in Latin America  (DPE)
Cross-listings: GBST 351  PSCI 351
Primary Cross-listing
Recent years have seen a resurgence of the political left in Latin America. This course seeks to understand the origins of this new left, the ideas and character of its protagonists, the neoliberal philosophy it opposes, and the arena of democratic politics it inhabits today. We first read polemics from both sides, before stepping back to consider Latin American political economy, including the twentieth-century left, from a more historical and analytical perspective. With this preparation, we then look more closely at major contemporary figures and movements in Venezuela, Bolivia, Ecuador, Brazil, and other countries. After considering explanations of the rise of the left and assessments of its performance in power, we end our common readings by asking what it might mean today to be on the left in Latin America—or anywhere—both in policy and political terms.
Class Format: discussion then seminar
Requirements/Evaluation: three short essays, a 1-page reflection paper, and a 12-page research proposal
Prerequisites: a course on Latin America and a course in Economics or permission of the instructor
Enrollment Limit: 15
Enrollment Preferences: Political Science majors
Expected Class Size: 15
Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option
Distributions: (D2) (DPE)
This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:
GBST 351 (D2) PSCI 351 (D2)
Difference, Power, and Equity Notes: The New Left in Latin America originated in efforts to remedy inequalities born of the Conquest, uneven capitalist development, and racial prejudice. Its neoliberal foes generally do not doubt the existence of these inequalities, but they question the proposition that the state could adequately address them. This course engages, contextualizes, and deepens the debate.

Attributes: GBST Latin American Studies Electives  POEC Comparative POEC/Public Policy Courses  PSCI Comparative Politics Courses  PSCI Research Courses

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 352 (F) Politics in Mexico  (DPE)

Cross-listings: GBST 352  PSCI 352

Primary Cross-listing

Geographical fate has decreed that the futures of Mexico and the United States will be tightly bound. Yet Mexico enters this future with a very different past, a distinctive political system, and mixed feelings about the U.S. This course has four parts differing in content and format. The first is historical and mostly lecture. It considers several themes, including the slow emergence of a stable national state and the interplay between politics and economic change. In the second section, we consider politics and cultural policies around Mexican national identity in the twentieth century; rapid urbanization, especially in the valley of Mexico; the impact of migration and the rapid development of the northern border region; and the conflict between an emerging civil society and political corruption. After a brief review of recent elections and other political events, we turn to a seminar-style discussion of student research projects.

Class Format: discussion then seminar

Requirements/Evaluation: map quiz, two short papers, and a 12- to 15-page research proposal

Prerequisites: some knowledge of Mexican history

Enrollment Limit: 15

Enrollment Preferences: Political Science majors and seniors

Expected Class Size: 14

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:

GBST 352 (D2)  PSCI 352 (D2)

Difference, Power, and Equity Notes: One unit of the course directly engages the tension between diversity and national identity in 20th century Mexico, while another critically analyzes the reception in Mexican national discourse of the experiences of discrimination suffered by migrants in the USA.

Attributes: GBST Latin American Studies Electives  LATS Countries of Origin + Transnationalism Elect  POEC Comparative POEC/Public Policy Courses  PSCI Comparative Politics Courses  PSCI Research Courses

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 354 (F) Nationalism in East Asia

Cross-listings: ASST 245  PSCI 354  HIST 318

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 debates in Japan about the possibility of a woman ascending the Chrysanthemum Throne, 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. 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: two 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:
ASST 245 (D2) PSCI 354 (D2) HIST 318 (D2)

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

Fall 2019
LEC Section: 01 MR 1:10 pm - 2:25 pm George T. Crane

PSCI 355 (S) American Realism: Kennan, Kissinger and the American Style of Foreign Policy

Cross-listings: LEAD 355 PSCI 355

Primary Cross-listing

George Kennan is widely considered to be the author of the containment strategy that ultimately won the Cold War. Henry Kissinger served as National Security Advisor and Secretary of State. In addition to their distinguished careers in government, both men have published well regarded and popular scholarship on various aspects of American foreign policy, international relations, and nuclear weapons. This tutorial will first examine the nature of their relationship to both Realist and Wilsonian perspectives on American foreign relations. We will then examine their experiences as strategists and policymakers during the most crucial moments of the Cold War. One of the key questions we will seek to answer is why Kennan and Kissinger disagreed on so many important issues, ranging from the Vietnam War to the role of nuclear weapons, despite their shared intellectual commitment to Realism. Finally, we will also examine some of the more recent biographies of both men, including John Lewis Gaddis's Pulitzer prize-winning George F. Kennan: An American Life and Niall Ferguson's Kissinger: 1923-1968: The Idealist.

Class Format: tutorial

Requirements/Evaluation: five 6-page papers, five 2-page response papers

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 10

Enrollment Preferences: Political Science majors, Leadership Studies concentrators (foreign policy track), and History majors.

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:
LEAD 355 (D2) PSCI 355 (D2)

Attributes: LEAD Facets or Domains of Leadership LEAD American Foreign Policy Leadership PSCI International Relations Courses

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 359 (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 revised and extended 10- to 12-page final essay

Prerequisites: prior coursework in political theory, cultural theory, philosophy or permission of instructor
PSCI 360 (S) 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 Donald Trump and the American alt-right, Britain's UKIP, France's National Front, Hungary's Fidesz and Jobbik, Poland's Law and Justice, and other smaller right-wing populist parties in Europe. We will also research both general (globalization, multiculturalism, neoliberalism, mass immigration, unemployment, political elitism) and specific (the expansion of the European Union, the 2007-09 global financial crisis, the European debt crisis, the Great Recession, the Syrian refugee crisis) causes of right-wing populism's growing appeal over the last decade.

Requirements/Evaluation: two 5- to 7-page essays; major final research paper; regular discussion questions; class participation
Prerequisites: PSCI 202, 204, or 229; or permission of instructor
Enrollment Limit: 16
Enrollment Preferences: Political Science majors
Expected Class Size: 15
Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option
Distributions: (D2)
Attributes: PSCI Comparative Politics Courses PSCI International Relations Courses PSCI Research Courses
Not offered current academic year

PSCI 363 (F) Protest Movements in Global Politics
Why do people protest? Why do some protest movements fizzle out while others turn into revolutions that topple regimes and change the course of history? Is non-violent protest more effective than armed resistance? Why does protest tend to spread internationally, producing waves of contention across neighboring states, such as the revolts that toppled communism in the late 1980s, the colored revolutions in East Europe in the 2000s, and the Arab Spring in 2011? Have protest movements grown into a force of their own in international politics, as protest movements like "Occupy Wall Street," "Yellow Vests," and others, proliferate across borders and attempt to reshape the politics of key countries and international organizations? This course will examine these puzzles by surveying core theories of mass contention and through case studies. Throughout the course, we will survey protest events and protest movements through an ethnographic, "street-level" view, drawing on first-hand accounts and audio-visual materials, as well as from a "high altitude," macro-level perspective, looking at the political, economic, social and technological forces that shape people's choices between obedience and revolt.

Requirements/Evaluation: analytic paper (6-8 pages), book review (8-10 pages), final exam
Prerequisites: none
Enrollment Limit: none
Enrollment Preferences: none
Expected Class Size: 16
Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option
Distributions: (D2)
Attributes: PSCI Comparative Politics Courses  PSCI International Relations Courses

Fall 2019
LEC Section: 01    TF 1:10 pm - 2:25 pm     Aleksandar Matovski

PSCI 367  (S)  The Politics of American National Security
Cross-listings: LEAD 367  PSCI 367
Primary Cross-listing

Liberal democracies face the challenge of establishing effective civil-military relations in order to protect and promote their cherished way of life while preserving civilian control of the armed forces. A lot is at stake in getting it right -- everything from national survival to the preservation of liberty. In the process, countries must decide on policies for the armed forces: should they be forced to adopt the values of the society they protect, and should the military be used to drive social change in the country? This course provides an extensive examination of American civil-military relations from the Founding era to the current day. The constitutional, legal, and theoretical frameworks for civil-military relations are explored to set the conditions for students to assess contemporary US grand strategy and the merits and consequences (including moral-ethical) of using military force to achieve political ends. The course concludes with a section on the future of American civil-military relations.

Requirements/Evaluation: three analytical essays (3500 words each) and class participation
Prerequisites: none
Enrollment Limit: 18
Enrollment Preferences: PSCI majors and LEAD concentrators
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:
LEAD 367 (D2) PSCI 367 (D2)
Attributes: LEAD Facets or Domains of Leadership  LEAD American Foreign Policy Leadership  PSCI International Relations Courses

Spring 2020
SEM Section: 01    MR 1:10 pm - 2:25 pm     Chris Gibson

PSCI 368  (S)  Identity Politics: Conflicts in Bosnia, Israel-Palestine, Northern Ireland, & South Africa

Identities have been either the stakes, or the guise taken by other kinds of conflicts, in Bosnia, Israel-Palestine, Northern Ireland, and South Africa for centuries. They have led to, or expressed, political divisions, clashing loyalties, and persistent and sometimes consuming violence. They also have produced attempts by both internal and external actors to resolve the issues. This research seminar will engage the origins of the conflicts and the role of identities in them, the role of disputes about sovereign power in creating and intensifying them, the strategies for reconciling them that are adopted domestically and internationally, the deals that have been struck or have not been struck to bring peace in these societies, and the outcomes of the various efforts in their contemporary politics. The course will begin by reading about both the general theoretical issues raised by conflicts in these "divided societies" and various responses to them. After familiarizing ourselves with what academic and policy literatures have to say about them, we then will read about the histories and contemporary politics in each society. With that as background, students will choose an aspect or aspects of these conflicts as a subject for their individual research.

Requirements/Evaluation: one 7- to 10-page paper and one 20- to 25-page research paper
Prerequisites: Political Science majors
Enrollment Limit: 15
Enrollment Preferences: Political Science majors or permission of instructor
Expected Class Size: 15
Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option
PSCI 369 (S) The Crisis of Leadership

Cross-listings: PSCI 369 LEAD 369

Secondary Cross-listing

It is now a commonplace that the liberal democracies of Europe and North America (and beyond) are facing a “crisis of leadership.” In country after country, champions of cosmopolitan values and moderate reform are struggling to build sufficient popular support for their programs. These failures have created space for a politics of populism, ethno-nationalism, and resentment—an “anti-leadership insurgency” which, paradoxically, has catapulted charismatic (their critics would say demagogic) leaders to the highest offices of some of the largest nations on earth. In this course, we will seek to understand the challenges liberal, cosmopolitan leadership has encountered in the 21st century and the reasons why populist, nationalist leadership has proven resurgent. We will begin by examining institutional constraints facing political leaders: globalization, sclerotic institutions, polarization, endemic racism, and a changing media environment. Then we will look at some important factors which shape how followers approach would-be leaders: inequality and economic precarity; identity and group consciousness; notions of membership, community, and hierarchy; and declining local institutions. Our primary questions will be these: Why is transformative leadership 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?

Requirements/Evaluation: class participation, regular response papers, research proposal, research paper; this is a research course; the primary written assignment will be a research paper which students will develop over the course of the semester

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 14

Enrollment Preferences: Political Science majors, Leadership Studies concentrators

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 369 (D2) LEAD 369 (D2)

Attributes: LEAD American Domestic Leadership

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 370 (F) The Political Thought of Frantz Fanon (WS)

Cross-listings: LEAD 360 PHIL 360 PSCI 370 AFR 360

Secondary Cross-listing

Martinican psychiatrist, philosopher, and revolutionary Frantz Fanon was among the leading critical theorists and Africana thinkers of the twentieth century. Fanon ushered in the decolonial turn in critical theory, a move calling on those both within and outside of Europe to challenge the coloniality of the age and to forge a new vision of politics in the postcolonial period. This course is an advanced seminar devoted to a comprehensive examination of Fanon's political thought. We will begin with an analysis of primary texts by Fanon and end by considering how Fanon has been interpreted by his contemporaries as well as activists and critical theorists writing today.

Requirements/Evaluation: attendance and participation, weekly online reading response papers, a class presentation, two 7-page essays, and one 20-page final research paper

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 19

Enrollment Preferences: Africana Studies concentrators, Leadership Studies concentrators, and Political Science majors

Expected Class Size: 10

Grading: no pass/fail option, yes fifth course option
Distributions: (D2) (WS)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:
LEAD 360 (D2) PHIL 360 (D2) PSCI 370 (D2) AFR 360 (D2)

Writing Skills Notes: Students write weekly online reading response papers, two 7-page essays, and one 20-page final research paper. Students receive written feedback from me throughout, meet with me 1-on-1 to discuss 7-page essays to then revise/re-submit and also receive written feedback before final submission. Students will receive from the instructor timely comments on their writing skills, with suggestions for improvement.

Attributes: AFR Core Electives AMST Comp Studies in Race, Ethnicity, Diaspora AMST Critical and Cultural Theory Electives PSCI Political Theory Courses

Fall 2019

SEM Section: 01 MR 1:10 pm - 2:25 pm Neil Roberts

PSCI 372 (S) CAPSTONE: Sylvia Wynter, Black Lives, and Struggle for the Human

Cross-listings: AFR 450 PSCI 372

Secondary Cross-listing

How do we judge the value of life? What is the significance of death and arbitrary threats to our existence? Why probe modern notions of black and blackness? What defines optimism, pessimism, enslavement, freedom, creativity, and being human? Do black lives matter? This capstone seminar will explore these and related questions through an examination of the life and work of Jamaican novelist, playwright, cultural critic, and philosopher Sylvia Wynter. Methodologically interdisciplinary, the course shall examine written and audiovisual texts that explore Wynter’s inquiries into the central seminar queries. We will study figures and movements for black lives whose geopolitics frame the milieu of Wynter’s work. Our examination of intellectuals and activists, with their explicit and implicit engagements with Wynter, shall facilitate assessing the possibilities, challenges, and visions of black living. We will also explore the current implications of Wynter’s thought for Africana political theory, Afro-futurism, social justice, human rights, and critiques of liberal humanism. In the latter half of the course, students will have the opportunity to design, conduct, and present their own final research projects.

Requirements/Evaluation: attendance and participation; a 7-page midterm essay; a literature review essay; and a final research project

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 15

Enrollment Preferences: Africana Studies concentrators and Political Science majors

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:
AFR 450 (D2) PSCI 372 (D2)

Attributes: PSCI Political Theory Courses

Spring 2020

SEM Section: 01 W 1:10 pm - 3:50 pm Neil Roberts

PSCI 375 (S) Modern Jewish Political Theory

Cross-listings: PSCI 375 JWST 492 REL 330

Secondary Cross-listing

By the late 19th century, Jews across Europe were faced with an urgent political problem. Amidst bourgeoning 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:

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

Attributes: JWST Capstone Course JWST Core Electives

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 397 (F) Independent Study: Political Science

Political Science independent study.

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

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

Distributions: (D2)

Fall 2019

IND Section: 01  TBA  James McAllister

PSCI 398 (S) Independent Study: Political Science

Political Science independent study.

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

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

Distributions: (D2)

Spring 2020

IND Section: 01  TBA  James McAllister

PSCI 410 (F) Senior Seminar: Interpretations of American Politics

American politics are in upheaval, and most Americans believe the country to be headed down "the wrong track." Yet assessments of what is at the heart of the country's problems vary. Critics on the left worry that the United States in 2016 elected a proto-fascist who will consolidate white nationalist power and corporate rule. Critics on the right worry that the U.S. has abandoned the Anglo-Protestant traditions that made it strong and has entered a period of moral decay and decline. What are we to make of these different assessments? What do left and right see when they survey the nation, and why is what they see so different? Any diagnosis of contemporary maladies is premised on a vision of what a healthy functioning republic looks like. Our task in the seminar is to uncover and interrogate those visions. We will do this by exploring different interpretations of American politics, each with its own story of narrative tensions and possible resolutions. We will then use our investigation of how different authors, and different traditions, understand the nation to help us assess contemporary politics and come to our own conclusions about what animates them.
PSCI 410 (S) Senior Seminar in American Politics: The Politics of Belonging

Although many people have described America as inclusive, political debates about belonging have often been contentious and hard-fought. This seminar will focus on the politics of belonging in America. What does it mean to be an American? If the U.S. is a nation of immigrants, why is immigration reform so difficult to achieve? Are legal citizenship and formal political rights sufficient for belonging? Or does full inclusion rest on the ability to exercise civil and social rights as well? Does income inequality threaten the political equality necessary for a strong democracy? As we examine the debates over inclusion, we will consider different views about the relationship among political, civil, and social rights as well as different interpretations of American identity, politics, and democracy.

Requirements/Evaluation: class participation, short weekly writing assignments, two short papers, a 20-page research paper and presentation

Prerequisites: at least one course in American politics

Enrollment Limit: 14

Enrollment Preferences: senior Political Science majors with American Politics concentration

Expected Class Size: 11

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

Distributions: (D2)

Attributes: AMST Space and Place Electives  PSCI American Politics Courses  PSCI Research Courses

Note: Not offered current academic year

PSCI 411 (F) Advanced Study in American Politics

A full year of independent study (481-482) under the direction of the Political Science faculty, to be awarded to the most distinguished candidate based upon competitive admissions. The candidate, designated the Sentinels of the Republic Scholar, receives a research stipend to cover costs associated with the proposed project. The Sentinels Scholar may submit her/his essay for consideration for honors in Political Science. Admission is awarded on the basis of demonstrated capacity for distinguished work and on the proposal’s promise for creative contributions to the understanding of topics on the federal system of government. Anyone with a prospective proposal should contact the department chair for guidance.

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

Distributions: (D2)

Note: Not offered current academic year

PSCI 420 (S) Senior Seminar in Human Rights in International Politics and Law

Cross-listings: JLST 403  PSCI 420

Primary Cross-listing

The idea that all humans have rights simply because they are human-independent of anything they might do or achieve-has transformed local and international politics, probably permanently. This concept's place in international politics, its strengths and limitations, depend on how people use it. Beginning with the 18th-century's transatlantic movement to abolish slavery, we will examine international movements and institutions that have affected what human rights mean, to whom, and where. Readings draw on philosophy, history, sociology, and international relations, but as a political
science class we emphasize politics. Who benefits from the idea of universal human rights? Who loses? How does this idea about individual value liberate and entrap? Does this idea ultimately reinforce American hegemony, or plant the seeds of a non-American order?

Requirements/Evaluation: three lead essays, three critique essays, and one final essay

Prerequisites: PSCI 202, senior standing, permission of instructor

Enrollment Limit: 18

Enrollment Preferences: PSCI majors, senior JLST concentrators; seniors

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:

JLST 403 (D2) PSCI 420 (D2)

Attributes: PSCI International Relations Courses

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 420 (F) Senior Seminar: The Nuclear Revolution

This is a course about the "long shadow" nuclear weapons cast over the international system. In its simplest terms, the class focuses on whether international politics still works essentially the same way in the nuclear age as it did prior to 1945 or if the world has truly experienced a nuclear "revolution" in the word's most basic sense. The course begins with an examination of the key events and theories that led ultimately to the development of the world's first nuclear weapons, including some basic technical concepts and the Manhattan Project. From there, the course covers a number of topics, both conceptual and historical, that bear directly on the question of how nuclear weapons shape international politics. Specifically, the course will cover the U.S. decision to drop the atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, as well as the Japanese response; the body of theory and concepts that underpin fundamental debates over nuclear strategy; the U.S.-Soviet nuclear rivalry; the influence of nuclear weapons in crises; how nuclear weapons shape alliance politics; whether nuclear weapons have political utility; nuclear accidents; nuclear technologies; the problem of nuclear proliferation and the nonproliferation regime; the importance of regional nuclear powers; and contemporary issues like the North Korean and Iranian nuclear questions.

Requirements/Evaluation: class participation, two 2- to 3-page response papers, a 20- to 25-page research paper

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)

Attributes: PSCI International Relations Courses

Fall 2019

SEM Section: 01 MR 1:10 pm - 2:25 pm Galen E Jackson

PSCI 420 (S) Humanitarianism as Ideology and Strategy

Since the mid-1980s, humanitarianism has been one dominant way that powerful countries, organizations and people have approached disaster elsewhere. Humanitarianism aims at immediate rescue, striving to keep 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, providing structural incentives for people to do more or less than they need to, and that it deepens and restructures inequality between subjects and objects. They contend also that it justifies the way of things. This course confronts humanitarianism through reading its defenders and critics, by looking at accounts by individuals and organizations, and by assessing its usefulness as an international political strategy from realist, liberal, materialist, and constructivist points of view.

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: 18

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

Expected Class Size: 8

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

Distributions: (D2)

Attributes: PSCI International Relations Courses

Spring 2020

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

PSCI 430  (S)  What Should Political Theory Be Now?

How can theorists best engage politics today? What political problems most demand or resist theorization—and is "theory" even the right genre for critical intellectual work on politics now? This course takes up such questions by considering how key recent or contemporary theorists have sketched the defining features of their political worlds. With each reading, our dual aim will be to confront pressing issues or controversies and to ask whether the works in question offer ways of thinking and writing that we should pursue ourselves. Topics may include neoliberalism and democracy; sovereignty and biopower; pluralism, individuality, and justice; technology and the specter of ecological catastrophe; the problem of evil in politics; white supremacy; and contemporary struggles over gender and sexuality. Readings will be drawn from such authors as Adorno, Allen, Arendt, Berlant, Brown, Butler, Connolly, Dean, Foucault, Galli, Honig, Latour, Moten, Rancière, Rawls, Sen, and Sexton.

Class Format: seminar

Requirements/Evaluation: based on class participation and the writing of 7 glow posts (about 1.5 pages) and one 15-page final paper

Prerequisites: juniors 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: concentrators in Political Theory, followed by other Political Science majors

Expected Class Size: 11

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

Distributions: (D2)

Attributes: AMST Critical and Cultural Theory Electives  PSCI Political Theory Courses

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 430  (F)  Senior Seminar: Critical Theory

This course takes a critical look at the nexus of money and political power in the United States and world politics, using the concept of "racket society" to guide our inquiry. The theory of "rackets" was first put forward by Frankfurt School theorists in the 1940s as a way of analyzing linkages among organized crime, cartels, monopolies, corporate interests, and political institutions. Their project, which we will recreate in this course, was to trace the effects of the adaptation of the legal system (and other state institutions) to the conglomeration of capital and the concentration of wealth in a few hands. The flow of money offers insights into these deeper trends. Course readings begin with the work of Max Horkheimer, Theodor Adorno, Franz Neumann, Friedrich Pollock, and Herbert Marcuse, paying special attention to their discussion of the anti-democratic effects of money on political institutions. We will also look carefully at their critique of legal frameworks that protect the wealthy while criminalizing the poor. Although these concerns were not exclusive to the Frankfurt School, the approach they took had some unique features. Having fled Nazi Germany and re-established their research institute in exile the United States, Horkheimer and his colleagues brought an outsider-insider perspective to the problem. Among our questions are the following: How did the intellectual heritage of the Frankfurt School and their experiences in Germany shape their analysis of racket society in 1940s America? Does the theory of rackets still have analytical power today? Given the massive expansion of the U.S. economy and the role of transnational capital in driving economic globalization in recent decades, what insights might the early Frankfurt School offer critics of anti-democratic tendencies in world politics today?

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
PSCI 440 (F) Senior Seminar in Comparative Politics: Political Development

The role of the United States in the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, and its adventures and misadventures in reconstituting order in those countries, have directed attention back to the dynamics, approaches, and debates in political development. This senior seminar in comparative politics critically examines the theories and problems of political development by focusing on three major topics in the sub-discipline: state formation, nationalism, and democratization. Drawing on both historical and contemporary cases, we consider the conditions that lead to strong and weak states, inclusive and exclusive nationalist mobilization, and democratic and autocratic government.

Class Format: seminar

Requirements/Evaluation: class participation; three short papers; ten weekly responses; and an oral exam covering two of the three topics

Prerequisites: PSCI 204 or permission of instructor

Enrollment Limit: 15

Enrollment Preferences: senior Political Science majors concentrating in Comparative Politics

Expected Class Size: 10

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

Distributions: (D2)

Attributes: PSCI Comparative Politics Courses

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 440 (F) Senior Seminar in Comparative Politics: The Syrian Maelstrom

This course deals with the civil war in Syria. It begins by investigating the nature of the Syrian society and the evolution of the Assad regime. It then discusses the challenges to the regime, both Islamist and democratic in the Arab Spring. With that as background, the course will examine the domestic, regional, religious, ethno-sectarian, and global dimensions of the civil war. It will consider the place of Syria in the Iranian-Saudi competition, the role played by neighboring states and actors, the position of the American and Russian governments, and the rise of ISIS.

Requirements/Evaluation: 25-page paper, oral presentation, and class participation

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 15

Enrollment Preferences: Political Science majors

Expected Class Size: 12

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

Distributions: (D2)

Attributes: PSCI Comparative Politics Courses

Not offered current academic year

PSCI 440 (F) Senior Seminar: Power, Identity, and Culture

This is a course about remembering. This is a class about how we learn to forget. Above all, it is about power—power close to the bone, power made sublime, how power is made and unmade. This course takes as its central thesis the claim that power, external and objective, is also internal and subjective, invisibly working to shape understandings of who we are even as it performs the visible rituals of bureaucratic regulation typically
associated with states and governments. To take this claim one step further, we'll hypothesize that immaterial and invisible forms of domination are power's most effective form even as they are the most difficult to measure and understand. Alternating between case and theory, looking at power both naked and sublime, we will examine the struggle by state and elite actors to shape subjectivities through culture and identity formation in order to secure quiescence and rule. Close attention will be paid to how socializing agents, including schools and educational systems, media and film, families and local communities, shape and reshape efforts to have ordinary citizens internalize what Stuart Hall describes as "the horizon of the taken-for-granted," those ruling ideas and beliefs that consist "of things that go without saying because--- they come without saying." The course is set up as a deliberate conversation between the works of Antonio Gramsci, Michel Foucault, Friedrich Nietzsche, and Stuart Hall, as well as their interlocutors and critics, most notably James C. Scott. The trajectory of this literature carries us from domination "thithy" centered in class and mediated by culture, to power completely de-centered from material forms of rule. Though each author is distinct, if heterodox, in his approach to the question of power, Gramsci, Foucault, Nietzsche, and Hall are bound together by the shared belief that power is relationship, between class and culture, culture and identity, state and society.

Requirements/Evaluation: essays and participation
Prerequisites: PSCI 204 Introduction to Comparative Politics
Enrollment Limit: 15
Enrollment Preferences: upper-class students, especially seniors
Expected Class Size: 15
Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option
Distributions: (D2)
Not offered current academic year

PSCI 440  (F) Challenges to Neoliberalism in the United States and Europe since the Financial Crisis
After emerging from the Cold War as the unrivaled model for capitalist societies, neoliberal capitalism has been subject to a series of challenges in the aftermath of the financial crisis of 2008-10. This seminar, after discussing briefly the institutions and logic of neoliberalism, will address recent challenges to it from both the left and the right in the United States and Europe. Specifically, the seminar will address the election of Donald Trump as president, the furor around Brexit in the United Kingdom and the authority of the European Union in Europe, and challenges to the hegemony of global finance and controversies around immigration in both the United States and Europe.

Requirements/Evaluation: in addition to participating in discussions about the readings, students are required to present to the class their written proposals for a research
Prerequisites: must be a senior Political Science major
Enrollment Limit: 15
Enrollment Preferences: Political Science majors specializing in the Comparative Politics subfield
Expected Class Size: 15
Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option
Distributions: (D2)
Attributes: PSCI Comparative Politics Courses

Fall 2019
SEM Section: 01   TF 2:35 pm - 3:50 pm   Michael D. MacDonald

PSCI 493  (F) Senior Thesis: Political Science
The senior major, having applied for and been accepted into the honors program during the second semester of the junior year, will devote the senior year to researching and writing a substantial and original work of scholarship, under the supervision of a faculty mentor to be assigned by the department. The final work will be submitted for evaluation by a committee made up of the faculty supervisor and two additional readers to be chosen by the department, in consultation with the supervisor. Thesis writers will not only work with their advisors but will participate in a weekly honors seminar supervised by a faculty member in political science. The seminar (which is one component of the 493-W31-494 designation and not a separate course) will provide a focused forum for the exchange of ideas among the honors students, who will regularly circulate sections of their theses-in-progress for peer review and critique. The faculty seminar leader's primary role is one of coordination and guidance.

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option
PSCI 494 (S) Senior Thesis: Political Science

The senior major, having applied for and been accepted into the honors program during the second semester of the junior year, will devote the senior year to researching and writing a substantial and original work of scholarship, under the supervision of a faculty mentor to be assigned by the department. The final work will be submitted for evaluation by a committee made up of the faculty supervisor and two additional readers to be chosen by the department, in consultation with the supervisor. Thesis writers will not only work with their advisors but will participate in a weekly honors seminar supervised by a faculty member in political science. The seminar (which is one component of the 493-W31-494 designation and not a separate course) will provide a focused forum for the exchange of ideas among the honors students, who will regularly circulate sections of their theses-in-progress for peer review and critique. The faculty seminar leader's primary role is one of coordination and guidance.

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

Distributions: (D2)

Spring 2020

HON Section: 01 TBA Mark T. Reinhardt

PSCI 495 (F) Individual Project: Political Science

With the permission of the department, open to those senior Political Science majors who are not candidates for honors, yet who wish to complete their degree requirements by doing research--rather than taking the Senior Seminar—in their subfield of specialization. The 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.

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

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

Distributions: (D2)

Fall 2019

IND Section: 01 TBA Mark T. Reinhardt

PSCI 496 (S) Individual Project: Political Science

With the permission of the department, open to those senior Political Science majors who are not candidates for honors, yet who wish to complete their degree requirements by doing research--rather than taking the Senior Seminar—in their subfield of specialization. The 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.

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

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

Distributions: (D2)

Spring 2020

IND Section: 01 TBA Mark T. Reinhardt

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 2019
IND Section: 01 TBA Mark T. Reinhardt

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 2020
IND Section: 01 TBA Mark T. Reinhardt

Winter Study --------------------------------------------

PSCI 11 (W) The East is Red? Socialism in Asia
Cross-listings: PSCI 11 ASST 12 HIST 12
Secondary Cross-listing
This course provides a historical and political overview of socialism in Asia from the 1910s to the present. It examines the spread and influence of Marxism in Asia, the policies of socialist states and movements in relation to decolonization, the Cold War, and the Sino-Soviet split, and the marriage between market reforms and ostensibly socialist governments in the present day. In addition to looking at the socialist governments of China, North Korea, Vietnam, and Cambodia, we will examine cases of "unsuccessful" socialist parties in Japan, Indonesia, and India. Class materials include memoirs of survival by non-state actors, the writings of socialist leaders (Mao Zedong, Ho Chi Minh, M.N. Roy, etc), and cultural constructions such as revolutionary theatre, songs, and contemporary films. Questions that will be addressed include: Why did Marxism, a Eurocentric theory of revolution intended for advanced capitalist societies, find such resonance in Asia? How was Marxism adapted for an Asian environment? Twenty-five years after the fall of communism, why have Asian socialist states remained in power? And in the scales of history, how should we judge the effects of socialism in Asia? Evaluation will be based on two in-class presentations and a final research paper. Attendance and participation will also be taken into account. We will meet three times a week for two-hour sessions. Adjunct Bio: John Knight has a Ph.D in East Asian History with a focus on Modern China. He graduated in 2017 from The Ohio State University. He has previously taught East Asian and World History at the Rhode Island School of Design, Ohio State University, Capital University, and Seton Hall.
Requirements/Evaluation: 10-page paper
Prerequisites: none
Enrollment Limit: 20
Enrollment Preferences: preference will be given to students majoring in Asian Studies, History, or Political Science
Grading: pass/fail only
Materials/Lab Fee: $15
This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:
PSCI 11 ASST 12 HIST 12

Winter 2020
LEC Section: 01 MWF 1:00 pm - 2:50 pm John M. Knight

PSCI 12 (W) First Amendment Law and Policy
Intensive examination of first amendment law and policy, providing twice the time and attention to expressive rights than a survey con law or civil liberties course. The most important decisions, opinions and dissents will be covered. The tension between expressive rights (speech, religion, assembly) and other civil liberties (equality, privacy, others) will be discussed as will the rationale for permitting or restricting speech involving falsity, obscenity, “fighting words,” hate speech, child pornography and depictions of violence, cruelty and sexual domination. Adjunct Instructor Bio: Lloyd Constantine has argued many constitutional law cases in SCOTUS and “inferior” federal courts. He has taught law school (Fordham) and both civil liberties and first amendment law and policy to undergraduates (SUNY). He taught this course during Williams 2019 Winter Study period.

Requirements/Evaluation: 10-page paper or 90-minute oral examination--the students' choice
Prerequisites: none, but if oversubscribed priority will be given to students who have taken constitutional law
Enrollment Limit: 30
Enrollment Preferences: students who have a background in or have taken constitutional law or civil liberties or plan to attend law school will be given priority
Grading: pass/fail only
Materials/Lab Fee: cost of books

Winter 2020
LEC Section: 01 Cancelled

PSCI 13 (W) American First & Int'l Democracy Promotion: Democracy Promotion in US Foreign Policy & Int'l Devt.
Beginning from modest, ad hoc efforts in the 1980s, international democracy promotion has evolved into an international norm and an influential subfield of international development assistance. Beyond rhetoric and high-level diplomacy, democracy promotion now encompasses technical advice and assistance to help build democratic institutions, support democratic actors, and encourage democratic development in other countries. The U.S. and other developed countries support ambitious programs to encourage democracy, good governance, and human rights, including efforts addressing elections, political parties, civil society, institutions of governance, and the rule of law. Funding and policy influence for these programs have grown dramatically over the past several decades. At the same time, the Trump Administration's "America First" approach has raised questions about U.S. leadership in this field. This course integrates theory with analysis of current policy and practice. Drawing on political science concepts and practical experience, we will analyze and critique the design, theory of change, and implementation of international democracy programs. We will address what democracy promotion is, how democracy programs work, and whether they are effective. We will consider current trends and new challenges, including closing political space, conflict, violent extremism, and manipulation through social media as well as the changing U.S. role in the world. The course will also familiarize students with career opportunities in human rights, international development, and foreign policy. As the basis for class discussion and presentations, we will read selected materials from recent books, journal articles, published reports, and project documents as well as review film excerpts and consult on-line sources. The class will meet twice a week for three hours. As a final paper, students will prepare project proposals in response to actual U.S. government RFPs. Adjunct Instructor Bio: Eric Bjornlund, Williams '80, is a lawyer and President of Democracy International. Over the past 30 years, he has designed, managed, evaluated and taught in democracy and governance programs in 70 countries. An adjunct professor at Georgetown University, he has also served as visiting scholar in Myanmar and guest lecturer at universities in the US and abroad. He is author of Beyond Free and Fair: Monitoring Elections and Building Democracy and holds a JD from Columbia and an MPA from Harvard. Xlist:

Requirements/Evaluation: written project proposal in response to actual US government request for proposals (RFP)
Prerequisites: none
Enrollment Limit: 30
Enrollment Preferences: based on a paragraph about why you are interested, taking account of seniority
Grading: pass/fail only
Materials/Lab Fee: $20 and cost of books

Winter 2020
LEC Section: 01 TR 10:00 am - 12:50 pm Eric C Bjornlund

PSCI 14 (W) The Best Athletes of All Time
Who are the greatest athletes of all time? This course will debate that question by focusing on individual female and male athletes and their greatest
accomplishments from a variety of sports, including, but not limited to, baseball, basketball, golf, tennis, football, soccer, rock climbing, track and field, and swimming. Readings will consist of journalistic accounts of athletes and, if applicable, their role as teammates. We will watch video clips of the athletes in class. No additional work outside of class, beyond the assigned reading, will be required.

**Requirements/Evaluation:** final project or presentation

**Prerequisites:** none

**Enrollment Limit:** 30

**Enrollment Preferences:** at the discretion of the instructor

**Grading:** pass/fail only

Winter 2020

LEC Section: 01    MW 1:00 pm - 3:50 pm     Galen E Jackson

**PSCI 15 (W) Introduction to Tap Dance**

**Cross-listings:** DANC 15  PSCI 15

**Primary Cross-listing**

This course introduces those with little or no experience in tap dance to the basic techniques and movement/rhythm vocabularies of this musical and quintessentially American style of dance. In twice-weekly studio sessions, students will gain facility with the fundamentals of tap technique, practice basic combinations, and experiment with improvisation. To develop a richer sense of the American cultural context from which tap grew--particularly its roots in African American movement and music traditions and its appropriation by Broadway and the film industry--we will discuss film and writing on the genre’s past and present in once-weekly classroom sessions. Students should expect to gain balance, rhythm, improvisational freedom, and confidence in public performance through practicing tap. Evaluation will be based on effort and improvement in studio sessions, participation in discussions, weekly journal reflections, and a final group performance of the shim sham, tap's so-called national anthem.

**Requirements/Evaluation:** final project or presentation

**Prerequisites:** none; course is only open to those will little or no tap experience

**Enrollment Limit:** 15

**Enrollment Preferences:** brief personal statements

**Grading:** pass/fail only

**Materials/Lab Fee:** approximately $50 for books

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

DANC 15  PSCI 15

Winter 2020

LEC Section: 01    MWF 1:00 pm - 3:50 pm     Laura D. Ephraim

**PSCI 16 (W) Speechwriting as Craft and Career**

**Cross-listings:** PSCI 16  LEAD 16

**Primary Cross-listing**

Whether your ideal is Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr., telling Americans "I have a dream" or Ronald Reagan ordering Mikhail Gorbachev to "tear down this wall!", speeches can change cultures or minds, move a nation or a single human heart. This writing-intensive course will introduce you to the history and importance of speechwriting and rhetoric, provide you with direct experience writing and delivering speeches, and introduce you to career possibilities in speechwriting and related fields. Our course materials, professional guests and class discussions will consider diverse rhetorical traditions within the U.S. and around the world. The modern profession of speechwriting involves much more than writing remarks for someone using a podium or teleprompter. It may include developing a TED Talk, producing a video, writing social media posts or ghostwriting op-eds and even memoirs (!). That's because speechwriters at their best are more than writers: They're trusted advisors on the art of persuasive communication, and of leadership more generally. Whether you want to develop your own public speaking skills or write for a politician, CEO, or cultural leader, this class will teach you about poetics, persuasion, and the pretty peculiar principles involved in writing words that another human being will be credited (or blamed) for—not to mention a sense of the career opportunities in politics, education, the arts and industry. The course will meet 3x/week for 2 hours at a time.
Work outside class—including readings, film viewings, writing assignments and associated research, rehearsal of speeches, etc.—will require another 20 hours per week. During the course all students will be expected to write and deliver multiple speeches. Adjunct Instructor Bio: Jim Reisch is Chief Communications Officer at Williams College.

Requirements/Evaluation: final project or presentation

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 15

Enrollment Preferences: at the discretion of the instructor

Grading: pass/fail only

Materials/Lab Fee: approximately $40 for books

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

PSCI 16 LEAD 16

Winter 2020

LEC Section: 01    MW 1:00 pm - 3:50 pm    Jim Reische

PSCI 17 (W) State Constitutions, State Courts, and Individual Rights

Cross-listings: PSCI 17 JLST 17

Primary Cross-listing

Most people are familiar with the idea that the federal constitution, as interpreted by the U.S. Supreme Court, can serve as an important (albeit controversial) tool for vindicating individual rights. Cases involving rights to same-sex marriage, abortion, and gun ownership are just a few recent examples of the U.S. Supreme Court and the federal constitution taking center stage in battles over individual rights. But there is another, equally important, source of individual rights that is sometimes overlooked and understudied: state constitutions. Each state has its own constitution, which may contain different rights and protections from those in the federal constitution, and its own courts, which interpret that constitution. In this class, we’ll take a look at the role of state constitutions and courts in protecting individual rights and influencing federal constitutional interpretation. From assessing the constitutionality of compelled sterilization to protecting citizens from unreasonable searches and seizures, we’ll examine the interplay between state and federal courts and constitutions. To do this, we’ll read the book 51 Imperfect Solutions: States and the Making of American Constitutional Law by Judge Jeffrey S. Sutton (class of 1983). As a final project, students will choose a legal issue, evaluate its chances of success under the federal constitution and their home state constitution (or state constitution of their choosing), develop a basic litigation strategy aimed at achieving their objectives, and present that evaluation and strategy to the class. Adjunct Instructor Bio: Erin Lagesen (class of 1991) is a judge on the Oregon Court of Appeals. At Williams, she double majored in Mathematics and English. Adjunct Instructor Bio: Susan Yorke (class of 2006) is an appellate attorney in San Francisco, and she also graduated from Williams with a double major in Mathematics and English.

Requirements/Evaluation: short paper and final project or presentation

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 12

Enrollment Preferences: preference will be given to juniors and seniors

Grading: pass/fail only

Materials/Lab Fee: approximately $30 for books

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

PSCI 17 JLST 17

Winter 2020

LEC Section: 01    TRF 1:00 pm - 2:50 pm    Susan Yorke, Erin C. Lagesen

PSCI 18 (W) Brexit: The Irish Factor

Ireland and the United Kingdom advanced their century old process of reconciliation when they joined the European Community in 1972. For a millennium Celtic Ireland had tried to sustain a separate political, cultural, and religious identity from England. Recent BREXIT negotiations designed to facilitate UK’s exit from the EU focused uncomfortable attention on the evolving but still painful reconciliation process begun in the early nineteenth
century. Ireland is adamant about maintaining the European connection; Northern Ireland, still part of the United Kingdom, cherishes the British connection but seeks to maintain economic and cultural ties to the Republic of Ireland. The course will feature six two hour lectures on the contours of Catholic and Celtic Ireland's relationship to the United Kingdom since 1801. Northern Ireland is central to this difficult but of late constructive dialogue. Students will be asked to identify a chapter in this difficult relationship as the focus for research supporting a ten page paper and a brief class presentation. All students will meet one on one with the instructor for at least one hour each week to define a topic, assess research materials, draft a paper, share impressions on their academic experience, and prepare a fifteen minute class presentation. Adjunct Instructor Bio: Mr. Brynn holds MA and Ph.D degrees in British History (Stanford) and M.Litt and Ph.D degrees in Irish Politics (Trinity College Dublin). During thirty years in the Foreign Service he was Ambassador/Chief of Mission in five African countries and Principal Deputy Secretary for African Affairs.

**Requirements/Evaluation:** short paper and final project or presentation

**Prerequisites:** none

**Enrollment Limit:** 15

**Enrollment Preferences:** preference will be given to students enrolled in their first and second academic year at Williams

**Grading:** pass/fail only

**Materials/Lab Fee:** $20

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**PSCI 19 (W) Law as a Tool for Social Justice**

The law may be deployed to achieve social justice in different ways: through the use of the judicial system, by the enactment of legislation, and at times through the ballot. While we will see the law work positively, we also will examine its limitations and failures due to societal, economic and human obstacles. The class will read 3 books in full and one in part, all of which relate compelling stories. We begin with *Devil in the Grove* (winner, 2013 Pulitzer Prize for non-fiction), which centers on a highly publicized 1949 Florida case involving 3 young black men who are defended against the charge of raping a white woman by Thurgood Marshall, then with the NAACP, at risk to his life. While we will encounter the brutal obstacles to obtaining justice in the deep South in 1949, the book also serves in part as a mini-biography of Marshall, and we will read about the great victories he achieves at the national level in the Supreme Ct. in cases involving voting, housing and education. Next is *Gideon's Trumpet*, a classic in the field of constitutional law by the renowned Anthony Lewis about winning the right of a pauper to be provided with legal counsel in all state felony cases. The book elegantly describes the structure of our Federal system, delineating the tension between the rights reserved to the states in the area of criminal law, and the umbrella of protection provided to individuals by the Bill of Rights. The third book is *Winning Marriage, The Inside Story of how Same-Sex Couples Took on the Politicians and Pundits - and Won* (2014) by Marc Solomon. The book narrates the incredibly successful effort by those in the LGBT community and their allies to win for same-sex couples the right to marry over a relatively short time. The book focuses on the gritty political battles at the state level, ultimately moving to the Federal stage. The class will read key segments of the book, and also will read the landmark Obergefell Supreme Ct. decision establishing the right of same-sex couples to marry. The final book is *JUST MERCY* by Bryan Stevenson (2014), a NYTNotable Book, which is a moving account of Bryan's experiences with the US criminal justice system. It is about his establishing the Equal Justice Initiative, which has worked to free wrongly convicted inmates on Death Row, children who have been unjustly sentenced to life without parole, mentally disabled persons who have received excessive sentences, and children who have been unjustly thrown into adult prisons. Not an abstract book, it deals with individual wrenching cases of injustice handled by the author. Adjunct Instructor Bio: Richard Pollet graduated from Williams College in 1969, cum laude, with Honors in Political Science and Columbia U. Law School J.D. in 1973. He has 40+ years practicing law, the last 26 as General Counsel of J. Walter Thompson (JWT). He retired in June 2013. Subsequently he has done some consulting for WPP, the parent company of JWT. He has taught this course several times.

**Class Format:** mornings

**Requirements/Evaluation:** 10 page paper

**Prerequisites:** none

**Enrollment Limit:** 8

**Enrollment Preferences:** seniors first, then juniors, sophomores and first-years

**Grading:** pass/fail only

**Materials/Lab Fee:** approximately $70 for books

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Winter 2020
PSCI 20 (W) "Real" World Problem Solving

Cross-listings: PSCI 20 LEAD 20

Primary Cross-listing

This course will introduce you to tools and techniques to solve problems for impact not in the classroom, but in the White House Situation Room, the corporate board room, and even a forward operating base. We will focus on how to define and structure policy or strategy problems, and then identify and test hypotheses for impact. We will explore the necessity of using pragmatic "mental models" to inform our analyses and decision making. Along the way, we will explore cognitive biases, implementation challenges, and techniques to manage them. The best recommendations only come to life through compelling communication. We will build these skills, therefore, through "real" life exercises. These will include drafting talking points for a "principal" (e.g., the President, Secretary of State, a CEO, or a Governor), preparing a policy or strategy memo, and developing a compelling PowerPoint briefing for a senior executive audience. Case studies will provide the foundation for many class discussions. The class will be "tri-sector"—open to examples from the private, government, and nonprofit sectors. Source material will include: Graham Allison and Philip Zelikow, The Essence of Decision: Explaining the Cuban Missile Crisis (2nd edition); Richard Haass, The Bureaucratic Entrepreneur: How to be Effective in Any Unruly Organization; Richard Neustadt and Ernest May, Thinking in Time: The Uses of History for Decision Makers; Michael Lewis, The Undoing Project: A Friendship that Changed Our Minds; select podcasts and journal articles; and three films "Thirteen Days," "Moneyball," and "The Big Short.

Assessment: class participation; final memo (5-8 pages) and class presentation on a real world issue.

Adjunct Instructor Bio: Drew Erdmann ’88 is Chief Operating Officer of the State of Missouri with responsibility for managing the ~50,000 employee, $28 billion enterprise. After receiving his PhD in American History, Drew's career included government service with the State Department, Defense Department in Iraq, and White House, and over a decade with the global consultancy McKinsey & Company where his experience spanned the retail, media, energy, aerospace & defense industries, and the public and nonprofit sectors.

Requirements/Evaluation: short paper and final project or presentation

Prerequisites: none

Enrollment Limit: 18

Enrollment Preferences: preference for juniors and sophomores; students will have to send brief memo explaining why they are interested in course, with their resume

Grading: pass/fail only

Materials/Lab Fee: $20 and cost of books

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

PSCI 20 LEAD 20

Winter 2020

LEC Section: 01 Cancelled

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. Students may find placements in government and nonprofit organizations in which their work involves significant involvement with public issues. 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 will work with each student to arrange a placement; such arrangements must be made in advance of the Winter Term. Students should first make their own contracts with an institution or agency. The instructors and members of the Political Science Department are available to help students find placements, if necessary. Each student’s fieldwork mentor shall send a confirmation letter to the instructor verifying the placement and describing the nature of the work to be performed. During the session, 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. A group meeting of all students will occur before winter study to prepare and after to discuss the experience.

Grading: pass/fail only

Materials/Lab Fee: cost of books
PSCI 22 (W) Learning Intervention for Teens
This course pairs Williams students with adolescents involved in the juvenile court system of Berkshire County. Judges assign teenagers (ages 13-17) to this program, an official Commonwealth of Massachusetts probation program. Our goal is to empower the teenagers through positive peer mentorship and allow them to take ownership of an independent project of the teen's choosing. The project and other program activities aim to cultivate initiative, creativity, focus, and skills in areas such as goal-setting and communication, which the teenagers can transfer to their school, work, and home lives. The course ends with a presentation in which each adolescent/Williams student pair formally presents its work to an audience that includes the employees of the juvenile court system, elected officials, chiefs of police, district attorneys, the teens' peers and families, and Williams faculty and community members. Williams students learn to mentor teenagers and gain insight into the juvenile justice system. Williams students are expected to attend trainings, meet with their teens three times a week, co-give a final presentation, and keep a weekly journal detailing their meetings. This is a student-led course, sponsored by Police Chief Mike Wynn and Professor Cheryl Shanks but entirely run by trained Williams students who have served as mentors in the past. Because Learning Intervention for Teens is an after-school program for the teens, this course meets Tuesday through Thursday from 306pm. In order to enroll in the course, when preregistering, all students must write a paragraph explaining why they believe they'd be a successful mentor in this program. Students should email their paragraphs to student coordinators Rebecca Tauber at ret5@williams.edu and Jamie Nichols jm2@williams.edu and cc: cshanks@williams.edu.

Class Format: afternoons
Requirements/Evaluation: journal and final reflection totaling 10-15 pages, final project with teenager
Prerequisites: none
Enrollment Limit: 10
Enrollment Preferences: by paragraph of interest
Grading: pass/fail only
Materials/Lab Fee: none
Attributes: EXPE Experiential Education Courses

PSCI 30 (W) Senior Essay: Political Science
Political Science senior essay.
Class Format: senior essay
Grading: pass/fail only

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
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

Winter 2020
IND Section: 01 TBA Mark T. Reinhardt

PSCI 33 (W) Advanced Study in American Politics
Class Format: independent study
Grading: pass/fail only

Winter 2020
IND Section: 01 TBA Mark T. Reinhardt

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

Winter 2020
IND Section: 01 TBA Mark T. Reinhardt