

**Political Science Graduate Program
Class Schedule - Spring 2016**

American Politics

updated 1.5.2016

No classes offered for Spring 2016

International Relations

- 60205 International Political Economy** **Amitava Dutt** **W** **3:30-6:15p**
This seminar explores the interaction between politics and economics in the international system, with an emphasis on the theoretical development of the subfield of international political economy. We will investigate the balance between cooperation and conflict, the effect of international institutions on economic relations, and the mutual impact of domestic and international politics. Substantive topics include the international trade system, the international monetary and financial systems, the role of the global economy in economic development, and the impact of economic globalization on domestic societies. Throughout the course, we will consider how well models developed in other fields of political science or economics can be applied to international political economy. We also will attempt to identify the "state of the art" in the study of international political economy. This course serves as a basis for future research in the fields of international political economy, international relations, and comparative political economy. It also prepares students for the international political economy component of the international relations comprehensive exam. Students are expected to participate in all class sessions, to write several short papers, and to write and present a research design at the end of the course.
- 60226 International Security** **Dan Lindley** **M** **3:30-6:15p**
This seminar offers an introduction to the field of international security studies. We will survey the dominant and emerging theories of international conflict, and analyze various efforts to use these theories to understand important substantive areas of international politics.
- 60239 Global Politics and Human Rights** **Tanisha Fazal** **T** **12:30-3:15pm**
This class will focus on emerging debates on the roles of nongovernmental organizations, human rights, and international law in global politics. We will begin with a discussion of what, or who, comprises the international community. We will then move onto three major units, on: the origins and development of international human rights laws and norms; recent debates amongst international lawyers regarding the utility of current international law – particularly as it pertains to human rights – in global politics; and, the sometimes controversial role of nongovernmental organizations in promoting human rights norms internationally.

Comparative Politics

- 60405 Comparative Political Parties and Party Systems** **Sean McGraw** **M** **6:30-9:15p**

This course will focus on comparative parties and party systems. The major purpose is to acquaint students with some of the most important theoretical and comparative literature on one of the major themes in political science. The course will draw on readings from Europe, Latin America, and the United States, but the issues covered are relevant to other regions of the world as well. The focus is more on raising comparative and theoretical issues than on specifics concerning particular parties or party systems. The course begins with a discussion of the relationship between parties and party systems and democracy and then moves on to examining the three leading theoretical approaches to the analysis of how party systems form and change. In particular, we will discuss authors who emphasize social cleavages, political conflicts and processes, and electoral systems as factors shaping party systems. The course also analyzes spatial models of party competition. Next, there will be an analysis of parties rather than party systems. A fundamental question is the way parties function internally. To what extent can parties be seen as rational actors as opposed to organizations with logics that may not follow the normal dictates of rationality? More broadly, what shapes how parties compete and function? Finally, the course will look at the distinctive nature of contemporary parties and party systems and the changing nature of political parties and the failures of representation in many contemporary party systems.

60456 Logic of Political Violence

Guillermo Trejo

W

6:30-9:15p

The purpose of this seminar course is to understand the logic and dynamics of state repression and insurgent collective action. We will explore the transformation of social movements (seeking social justice) and criminal organizations (seeking profits) into armed insurgencies. Our focus is on the state: Failed states may be a privileged terrain for the emergence of criminal organizations and for rebel and terrorist groups, but repressive states in authoritarian regimes and electoral autocracies may also contribute to the transformation of peaceful dissent into violence. Based on the work of Hobbes, Weber, Tilly, Olson, and Bates the course first introduces the role of the state and its primary responsibilities (e.g., taxation, security, and border controls) and analyzes the conditions under which state actors fail to fulfill their role or inflict violence on their own population. In the second part, we analyze why states repress their own citizens and the conditions under which state violence may lead to the escalation of peaceful protest into armed rebellion. In the third section, we focus on the opportunities that state failure may open for the privatization of violence and assess the transformation of criminal networks into insurgent groups and the rise of paramilitary groups. The course covers material from different theoretical and methodological persuasions. We will read game-theoretic research, as well as large-N statistical analyses, comparative case studies, ethnographies, and studies that combine different approaches. Geographically, the course covers cases from Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America, and the Middle East. This seminar is intended for graduate students across the social sciences.

Constitutional Studies

60606 Federalist & Anti-Federalist Debate*

Michael Zuckert

W

6:30-9:15p

This seminar will study the most important texts in the ratification debate over the Constitution in 1787-88. The focus will not be historical, however, but on the debate as a conflict of two kinds of political sciences, or of two versions of democratic theory. To that end, we will begin the course by looking at some current examples of democratic theory to set up some categories for discussing this earlier debate. We will also compare the institutional analysis of The Federalists and the Anti-Federalists to some of the main conclusions of current political science. ***Also counts toward Political Theory**

LAW73303 Modern Constitutional Theory (CROSS LIST)

Richard Garnett

T

9:20-11:00a

(Contact Julie Logue to enroll) Explores the major theories and themes that inform the debate about how to interpret the United States Constitution.

LAW73449 Comparative Constitutional Law (CROSS LIST)

Don Kommers

MWF

4:00-5:30p

(*Contact Julie Logue to enroll*) This course approaches Comparative Constitutional Law from a qualitative perspective. The aims are to consider certain constitutional issues that really matter, to try to understand them better, and to explore their potential strengths and weaknesses. If this is the goal, it is not about how many jurisdictions one picks for this comparative venture; it is about how much one can learn from those which are selected. In other words, it is not so much about the quantity of comparisons as it is about having a topic deserving to be compared on account of its worth and relevance. Of course, the US Constitution will be the permanent point of reference for the several comparisons. The topics to be analyzed will include federalism, judicial review, and some fundamental rights. Both the perspective of the lawyer and of the political theorist will be kept in mind. The course will have a regular exam, not a paper. Laptops, cellphones, or other electronic devices may not be used during class time. The course will meet from March 21 to April 22 (may change). The required reading materials that will be included in the syllabus will cover the totality of the topics to be examined. The students will be expected to read one required material (typically, a short article or a case) for each one of the seminars. Other than that, the syllabus will include further, optional readings.

LAW70307 The Freedom of Speech (CROSS LIST) Randy Kozel MW 3:45-5:00p

(*Contact Julie Logue to enroll*) Examines First Amendment precedents and doctrines, and also those associated with other speech-protecting legal texts. Questions to be considered include: How, and why, do we define and protect the Freedom of Speech? What are the benefits, and what are the costs, of free speech? When is the regulation or censorship of expression justified? Are courts and legislators ever justified in assigning greater value to some messages and forms of expression than to others, or in silencing some speakers in order to amplify the voice of others? Does the government have a role to play in creating the conditions necessary for the freedom of speech to flourish, or is the freedom of speech best considered as a constraint on government? Is the freedom of speech primarily an individual right or a structural feature of constitutional government?

Political Theory

60669 Thucydides Sue Collins R 6:30-9:15p

That Thucydides' War of the Peloponnesians and Athenians remains a seminal text of Political Theory and International Relations testifies to its bold claim to be "an everlasting possession." The inquiry Thucydides undertook over two centuries ago into the fundamental causes of war and human action and the greatest aims of nations and states earned him the title of the first "scientific" historian. Through a close study of his great work, then, we will seek to understand what kind of science it constitutes and what truths it purports to discover. We will take up such central questions of political life as freedom and empire; the causes of war; the relation of speech and deed; the nature of regimes; the foundation of peace and political order. In the course of our study of the war in which an oligarchic Sparta eventually prevailed over the great empire of democratic Athens, we will consider also how in the flux of history, there may yet be the possibility of a wisdom that is continuous with human beings—that exists, Thucydides states, "in accord with what is human." Our overarching goal will be to achieve, as far as possible in a single semester, the unparalleled clarity regarding political life and human affairs for which Thucydides himself is justly celebrated.

Methods

60810 Quantitative Methods 1 Gary Hollibaugh TR 3:30-4:45p

This course provides an introduction to quantitative research methods in political science. After a brief discussion of the basics of statistical analysis and hypothesis testing, the first part of the course will focus on ordinary least squares (OLS) regression, its assumptions, and its extensions. In the second part of the course, we will focus on widely-used methods that are appropriate when the assumptions of OLS are violated, and especially on limited dependent variable models. We will try to strike a balance between theory and mathematics on the one hand and the practical application and interpretation of statistics on the other hand. We will discuss the theoretical rationale behind and mathematical underpinnings of various statistical methods, how to apply those methods to real political questions, and how to conduct and interpret analyses using a standard statistical package.

60835 Field Research Methods **Jaimie Bleck** **T** **6:30-9:15p**
This course introduces students to a range of methodological approaches to generate and gather original data. The course will highlight "best practices" in research design and implementation, but it will also address the logistical constraints and trade-offs that graduate students face while conducting fieldwork. Over the course of the semester, all students will develop multiple strategies to build and evaluate their own research questions.

60837 Maximum Likelihood Estimation and Limited Dependent Variables **Kiyong Chang** **R** **6:30-9:15p**
This course presents an overview of some regression-based methods widely used in political science today. The emphasis of the course is on models where the traditional assumptions of ordinary least-squares regression are violated, primarily in a cross-sectional context and because the dependent variable is non-continuous. The course will focus on maximum likelihood estimation of models of various kinds of limited-dependent and qualitative response variables. Specific topics covered will include binary response models, ordered response models, multinomial response models, event count models, duration models, censored/truncated regression models, and selection models. Throughout, we will focus on understanding the theoretical underpinnings of the various models and developing and evaluating applications of them to substantive problems in political science. Students will be asked to do data analysis exercises, to evaluate published research relying on quantitative techniques, and to do a research project on a topic of their own choosing.

60880 Applied Game Theory **Gary Hollibaugh** **TR** **5:05-6:20p**
Applied Game Theory will introduce you to the systematic study of social, political and economic interactions, where the optimal course of one person's action, depends on the options and preferences of other people involved in the interaction. You will learn how to model strategic situations in the language of mathematics, and how to make equilibrium predictions. We will cover four basic equilibrium concepts: Nash, Subgame Perfect Nash, Bayesian Nash and Perfect Bayesian Nash equilibrium. Each week will study different political applications of game theoretic models.

Non-Substantive

98701 The Academic Career **Christina Wolbrecht** **TBD** **TBD**
This class is designed to prepare Ph.D. students for success in finding a tenure-track position in academia.

98702 Dissertation Workshop **Michael Zuckert** **TBD** **TBD**
A workshop for dissertation writers. Each participant shares some of his or her writing with the group and critiques the writing of others.

98703 Comparative Politics Dissertation Workshop **Scott Mainwaring** **W** **3:30-6:15p**
This course is a dissertation workshop for PhD students in comparative politics. We will read and comment on drafts of each other's dissertation chapters and dissertation proposals. Each participant will share some of his or her writing with the group and offer suggestions on the writing of the other participants.

Political Science Graduate Students also may enroll in the following course.

30071 Gay Rights & the Constitution **Sot Barber** **TR** **11:00a-12:15p**

(Contact Prof. Barber for permission to enroll, contact Julie Logue for class override, register for Directed Readings POLS66900 (letter grade) or 66903 (pass/fail) with Prof. Barber) . This course will review decisions of the U.S. Supreme court regarding the constitutional rights of homosexuals. It will assess the Court's decisions in light of (1) background theories of constitutional interpretation; (2) the principles of the American Founding; and (3) present day moral arguments for and against gay rights. Readings will consist of Supreme Court cases, selections from the Ratification debate and the philosophic writings that influenced the Founding, and the writings of present-day moral philosophers on both sides of the issues. Grades will be based on mid-term and final exams, with an optional term paper for one quarter of the course grade.