

Fall 2007 Graduate Courses

POLS 60001 Field Seminar in American Democracy

Mon 6:00-8:30

David Campbell

This course serves as an abbreviated survey of the field of American politics. The empirical and theoretical literature on American politics is literally voluminous, covering a wide range of institutions and behaviors with a degree of detail, level of methodological rigor, and theoretical richness in many ways unparalleled elsewhere in political science (for good and for ill). While no one course could encompass the breadth and depth of this field, this course was designed with three goals in mind: (1) To acquaint students with (some of) the major subfields in American politics. (2) To expose students to models of political science scholarship, how political scientists think about, formulate, and execute empirical research. (3) To put these questions and answers in the context of our understanding and evaluation of American democracy.

POLS 60215 Sustainable Development

Tue 3:30-6:00

Barbara Connolly

Sustainable Development has become an enormously popular concept among policymakers concerned with economic development and with environmental protection, yet the words mean very different things to different people. This very ambiguity has enabled sustainable development to become a politically popular goal, but also signals great unresolved controversies in its implementation. In this course, we tackle those controversies directly, asking questions about what development and sustainability really entail, and considering how sustainable development might be achieved in specific regional settings and particular issue areas. The course is designed for students with an interest in economic development, international political economy, and environmental politics.

POLS 60217 01 – Theories of International Relations

Sebastian Rosato

Wed 6:00-8:30

This course provides an overview of some of the major international relations theories. The first half of the course is devoted to exploring the three major approaches to the study of international politics (realism, liberalism, and constructivism) with a particular emphasis on identifying and criticizing their central assumptions and causal logics. The focus in the second half of the course is on using these theories to understand the contemporary international system.

POLS 60226 International Security

Wed 3:00-5:30

Keir Lieber

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.

POLS 60404 Comparative Constitutional Law

Thurs 3:00-5:30

Donald Kommers

This seminar examines several issues of American constitutional law in the light of the constitutional jurisprudence of Germany and Canada. (A few cases from the European Court of Human Rights and the South African Constitutional Court will also be included.) The main reading includes selected cases on the right to life (abortion, death penalty, and assisted suicide), freedom of speech (defamation, hate speech, and pornography), freedom of religion, equal protection (mainly gender classifications), political representation (apportionment and party finance restrictions), and social and economic rights. The seminar also examines the merits of the debate -- on and off the Supreme Court -- over the propriety or relevance of foreign judicial decisions in the interpretation of the U. S. Constitution. Each member of the seminar will be asked to write and present a paper assessing or evaluating an American Supreme Court decision in the light of the comparable foreign jurisprudence or on some other relevant topic approved by the instructor.

***** CANCELLED *****

POLS 60440 Comparative Political Representation

Tue 3:30-6:00

Frances Hagopian

Political representation — politicians standing for and acting on behalf of citizens — profoundly affects the effectiveness and quality of democracy. Students of comparative politics have conceptualized and measured representation largely in terms of responsiveness and accountability, and they have addressed the normative debate about representation — whether politicians should do what citizens want or what is in their best interest — as a principal-agent problem.

This course reviews the principal-agent metaphor and the responsiveness-accountability debate, and then moves beyond it in two principal ways. First, it leaves open the question of whether interests are well defined and organized by political parties or exist independently from them by broadening the range of possible representational arrangements that are considered to include corporatist institutions and extra-party organizations and movements as well as non-electoral institutions of accountability. Second, it broadens the notion of representation beyond program and policy outcomes to include other linkages between parties and their group and individual constituents such as clientelism and constituency service. The course will focus on characterizing different systems of political representation and evaluating competing approaches explaining the origins and evolution of different ways of organizing political interests. It will be explicitly comparative and cross-regional.

POLS 60616 Nature and Modern Democracy

Wed 3:30-6:00

Walter Nicgorski

From 1951 to 1953, the University of Chicago press published three sets of the Walgreen Lectures dealing with the intellectual basis of various 20th-century challenges to democracy. These three books - Yves Simon's *Philosophy of Democratic Government*, Leo Strauss' *Natural Right and History*, and Eric Voegelin's *The New Science of Politics* - have functioned to outline three highly influential and overlapping approaches to defining the crisis of modern democracy and to restoring viable democratic foundations. This seminar-style course focuses on the reading and discussion of these books. Special attention is given to the concepts of history, science, nature, modernity, and democracy itself as they appear in these works and in related writings.

POLS 60635 Virtue and Politics

Mon 12:15-2:45

Mary Keys

This course examines the interrelationship between ethics and politics through the conceptual lens of the virtues and vices. Each semester in which this course is offered the focus will be on a particular virtue or set of virtues as well as on specific classic texts and contemporary works in political theory and related disciplines such as philosophy, theology, literature, and history. Students will be expected to participate regularly and well in seminar discussions, to give at least one oral presentation, and to write a final paper.

POLS 60636 Heidegger and Politics

Mon 3:30-6:00

Dana Villa

The seminar will be devoted to a close reading of Heidegger's major works of the 1920s and 1930s--including "Being and Time," "An Introduction to Metaphysics," "The Origin of the Work of Art" and the Nietzsche lectures--as well as some later (post-"turn") writings (such as the "Letter on Humanism"). We will also investigate Heidegger's impact on some of his more illustrious students and/or colleagues, including Herbert Marcuse, Hannah Arendt, Leo Strauss and Hans-Georg Gadamer.

POLS 60831 Graduate Methods

Tues 6:00-8:30

Bumba Mukherjee

This course will cover five main areas in quantitative methodology that is currently used by political scientists: (1) estimators for time series, cross-sectional (TSCS) and panel data, (2) time-series models, (3) event history analysis (duration models), (4) some limited dependent variable models and (5) an introduction to applied Bayesian statistics. More specifically, for analysis of TSCS and panel data, we will examine topics that include fixed and random-effects models, GLS-based approaches to panel and pooled data, random coefficient models and dynamic models with lagged dependent variables. For time-series analysis, we will study stationary, unit roots, ARMA and integrated processes, error correction models and ARCH/GARCH models. In the area of event history analysis, we will focus on parametric duration models and

the Cox proportional hazard model. For limited dependent variable models, we will take a close look at the Heckman selection model, and Logit for BTSCS data. Finally, we end the course with a brief introduction to Applied Bayesian Statistics where we will study Bayesian Analysis of the one and two parameter normal model. Requirements include 3-4 assignments, take-home exams and a research paper.

POLS 60841 Survey Research Methods

Mon 3:00-5:30

Debra Javeline

This course is designed for graduate students who plan to conduct surveys themselves or to be active consumers of survey data by using the results of surveys as evidence in their research. No prior knowledge or experience is expected. Topics addressed include types of surveys, pilot work, populations and samples, measurement, question wording, question order, response categories, item non-response, the psychology of survey response, sensitive questions, response rates, data entry and cleaning, codebook construction, and data analysis.

POLS 63800 Proseminar

Thur 6:30-9:00

Benjamin Radcliff

This is a required course for all first-year graduate students in the Department of Political Science. It is what is commonly called a "scope and methods" course; that is, a course designed to survey the great variety of themes and approaches in political science and to guide you through the fundamental debates about what political science is or should be. This course is also about democracy because the best way to teach about methods is to apply them to an interesting topic, and democracy is a topic of central interest to almost all of us these days. There is abundant literature that demonstrates the relevance of our course themes to democracy. Therefore, in the process of learning about the scope and methods of political science, this course will also familiarize you with some key ideas about what democracy is, what it could be, how it is changing, what causes it, and how we measure it.