American Politics

19638  60001  Field Seminar in American Democracy          Christina Wolbrecht   T   3:30-6:15p
This is the "core" seminar in American politics, designed to provide a survey of the most important literature in the field. The seminar is intended to present the student with a broad, eclectic view of the current state of the literature in American politics. The readings attempt to provide a sampling of classic and recent theory and substance in the hope of suggesting where scholars stand, and where they seem to be headed, with respect to some major topics in the American subfield.

19639  60039  Voting Behavior in the United States           Geoffrey Layman       M   6:30-9:15p
The electoral behavior of American citizens has been a preoccupation of political scientists for nearly 70 years. In this course, we will tackle the considerable literature on American voting behavior by focusing on the central theoretical and methodological issues in electoral behavior research, the major conceptual models of vote choice and voter participation, the role of parties, groups, and candidates in shaping voting behavior, theories of and evidence on electoral change, and normative and empirical perspectives on the connection between elections and public policy. The goal of the course will be to make students not only sophisticated consumers of voting behavior research, but also skilled producers of it. We will spend time in class discussing practical and methodological issues in voting behavior research and working with survey data on American political attitudes and behavior. Each student will produce an original research paper on electoral behavior in the U.S. or abroad.

International Relations

19640  60205  International Political Economy              Alexandra Guisinger   R   12:30-3:15p
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.
Comparative Religion

19641  60237  Repression and Dissent  Patrick Regan  R  3:30-6:15p

Much of the process in getting from a political or social grievance to a civil war involves the interplay of opposition demands and government responses. We will think of this in terms of repression and dissent. The seminar will explore the relationship between the demands made by opposition and the responses by the state, and critically how one might shape the other. We will push into some new areas, particularly the role of claims-making, or the idea that undergirds observed behaviors. States have ideas that they are protecting and opposition groups have ideas that they are trying to achieve. Most of the literature on repression and dissent focuses on behaviors and avoids the underlying ideas. We’ll do both. We will emphasize literature on political repression, mobilization, claims-making, and escalation to civil war.

Comparative Politics

19642  60448  The State*  Victoria Hui  T  6:30-9:15p

This seminar puts the state at the center of political analysis. What drives state formation: war, trade or ideas? Is the state formation paradigm Eurocentric and so inapplicable to non-European contexts, especially the developing world? Does war make or weaken states? How should we understand the state at the intersection of domestic and international politics? Are state autonomy and state capacity mutually complimentary or contradictory? Why do states fail and how can failed states rebuild?

*Also counts toward International Relations.

19643  60461  Religion and Comparative Politics  Guillermo Trejo  M  3:30-6:15p

Religion has been one of the most powerful driving forces of politics throughout human history. This seminar course invites you to explore the relationship between religion and politics across countries and religious traditions. The course analyzes the impact of religion on macro-political structures, meso-level political organizations and micro-individual policy preferences. In the first part we assess the impact of religion on the formation of the three most important macro-institutions of modern societies: States, nations and political regimes. We explore how different configurations of state-church relations have impacted processes of state formation and nation building and whether religion has any impact on the development of democratic regimes. In the second part we explore the impact of religion on the creation of some of the most important meso-level organizations in the contemporary world: Political parties, interest groups, social movements, armed rebel groups and terrorist groups. We will try to understand the conditions that lead religious actors to create the networks that facilitate collective action and why these networks sometimes provide the organizational infrastructure and cultural frames for peaceful collective action but others for violent action. In the third part we analyze whether and why religion can shape individual political and policy preferences – vote choice and preferences for economic redistribution. While two-thirds of the readings deal with Christianity (Catholicism, Protestantism and Evangelicalism), mostly in Latin America, Western and Central Europe, and the U.S., the rest of the readings deal with Islam and Hinduism in North Africa, the Middle East, and India. Readings will draw from social and political theory, comparative politics, sociology, and economics and from different approaches, including formal, quantitative and qualitative analyses.
**Political Theory**

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<th>Course Code</th>
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<tr>
<td>19644 60462</td>
<td>Party System Institutionalization, Decay and Collapse</td>
<td>Scott Mainwaring</td>
<td>W</td>
<td>3:30-6:15p</td>
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<tr>
<td>19645 60610</td>
<td>Hegel Political Philosophy: A close reading of Hegel’s &quot;Philosophy of History&quot; and &quot;Philosophy of Right,&quot; along with some early political writings plus commentaries by prominent Hegel interpreters and critics (e.g., Alexandre Kojève, Theodor Adorno, and Karl Loewith).</td>
<td>Dana Villa</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>3:30-6:15p</td>
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<tr>
<td>20160 60628</td>
<td>Machiavelli's Political Thought</td>
<td>Catherine Zuckert</td>
<td>MW</td>
<td>2:00-3:15p</td>
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<td>19647 60665</td>
<td>Rousseau, Kant, and Wollstonecraft</td>
<td>Eileen Botting</td>
<td>TR</td>
<td>11:00a-12:15p</td>
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This course will examine the building, decay, and collapse of political parties and party systems, as well as the consequences of these processes. In 1942, the well known political scientist E. E. Schattschneider famously wrote that “Political parties created modern democracy and modern democracy is unthinkable save in terms of the parties.” When we survey the world’s democratic and semi-democratic polities, however, outside of the advanced industrial democracies, many have weak parties and inchoate party systems. In many countries, once powerful parties have disappeared. In other third and fourth wave democracies, solid parties underpin solid democracies, just as Schattschneider expected. What accounts for successful party building and for the institutionalization of a party system? What accounts for the collapse of major parties and even entire party systems? Why do parties remain weak in some democracies and semi-democracies? How does the institutionalization of parties under authoritarian rule affect the political regime? These are some of the questions we will grapple with.

Hegel's Political Philosophy: A close reading of Hegel’s "Philosophy of History" and "Philosophy of Right," along with some early political writings plus commentaries by prominent Hegel interpreters and critics (e.g., Alexandre Kojève, Theodor Adorno, and Karl Loewith).

"Machiavellian" politics are usually understood to be manipulative and self-interested, if not simply evil. Yet Machiavelli himself was a loyal officer of the Florentine Republic. How did he get his reputation? What sort of politics did he actually recommend? We will read his two most comprehensive works, The Prince and his Discourses on Livy, in an attempt to find out.

This graduate seminar in political theory covers the major political writings of Rousseau, Kant, and Wollstonecraft, including Rousseau’s first and second Discourses and Social Contract, Kant’s Groundwork for the Metaphysics of Morals and political essays, and Wollstonecraft’s A Vindication of the Rights of Woman. We will trace how these three political philosophers contributed to the development of core concepts and arguments in modern political thought, concerning dignity, autonomy, respect, human rights, education, popular sovereignty, and peace. We will also engage contemporary scholarly debates on the significance of their writings for liberal, democratic, and feminist political theory in the present.
This course examines the increasing politicization of science, and the escalation of the enrollment of science in political controversies over the past century. Starting out with brief characterizations of major political theories such as liberalism, communitarianism, republicanism and neoliberalism, we then turn to the origins of the widespread conviction that science was inherently ‘apolitical’ rooted in the 1930s-50s in the philosophy, sociology and history of science, and in popular culture. The purported resonance of science with democratic structures is also considered. Political controversies over Nazi science, Soviet science, atomic war and Cold war science are surveyed, followed by more recent controversies over the so-called ‘Science Wars’, assertions of a right-wing ‘War on Science’, the treatment of expertise, Foucault, feminism, and actor-network theory. The economics of science movement is treated as a further politicization of science. We then turn from theory to description of modern incidents of the relationship of science to politics, beginning with surveys of the history of science policy, controversies over biotechnology, tobacco, global warming, intellectual property, the pharmaceuticals industry, and attempts by international agencies and NGOs to regulate the international diffusion of science. No prerequisites in politics or economics are required.

Constitutional Studies

At a time of progressive institutional decay, American constitutional theorists are asking whether the nation’s governmental problems manifest innate incapacities of political liberalism. Although the criticism and rejection of liberalism – by communitarians, religious conservatives, and leftists of various stripes – has long been commonplace, no writer of the past century has attacked both liberal institutions and the liberal ethos with the ferocity, and few with the insights, of the German legal philosopher, Carl Schmitt. This seminar will explore Schmitt’s probing historical and legal critique of the limits of liberal constitutionalism and Schmitt’s moral condemnation of modern society, showing the connection between these strands of Schmitt’s thought. Special attention will be given to Schmitt’s emphasis on prudential leadership at the expense of representative democracy. Special emphasis will also be given to Schmitt’s relation to Catholicism. We shall ask whether a radical critique of liberal modernity like Schmitt’s makes sense only from a religious perspective. We shall ask whether the rejection of modernity in the name of religion poses a serious risk of far-right politics of the kind that led Schmitt to join the Nazi party in 1933. Though Schmitt’s politics resulted in his neglect by American scholars for a generation after World War II, the nation’s institutional difficulties have revived interest in his thought, and some liberal scholars separate Smith’s diagnosis of liberalism’s ills from the prescription he chose in 1933. We offer this seminar in recognition of the spreading call for the reform of American institutions and in the belief that reform should be preceded by confronting liberalism’s strongest critics. Our hope is that this seminar will be one in a series of such confrontations.
Methods

15966  60830 Qualitative Research Methods       Gary Goertz       W       6:30-9:15p
This course surveys some of the key issues in qualitative methods and research design. Major sections of the course deal with causal complexity, necessary and sufficient conditions, concepts, case study methodology, case selection, within-case causal inference, and philosophy of causation. Students will do 8-10 page projects on (1) causal complexity, (2) concepts, (3) case selection or case studies. These papers require the student to examine the issue in some particular area of application, and put together the three papers can form most of a research design or dissertation prospectus.

14253  60833 Math for Political Scientists     Gary Hollibaugh    TR     11:00a-12:15p
In order to understand quantitative and game theoretic work in political science, it is necessary to have a basic understanding of a few mathematical concepts. Topics covered in this course include probability, set theory, logic, matrix algebra, logarithms, exponents, calculus, and frequently used distributions. Learning math is like learning a language, so this course emphasizes short problem sets for each class as well as larger projects designed to pull together disparate skill sets.

60837 Maximum Likelihood Estimation and Limited Dependent Variables
Gary Hollibaugh     R       6:30p-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.
The Political Science Department’s Proseminar introduces first-year Ph.D. students to the discipline and practice of Political Science. This course is organized around three main questions: (1) What is the history, philosophical grounds, and current landscape of the discipline and of its diverse research methods or approaches?, (2) How do political scientists identify research topics and develop theories?, and (3) What are the main tools political scientists use to answer their research questions? The primary goal of the class is to introduce students to the best practices of quantitative and qualitative research they will need to employ in their own field as well as to the concepts, tools, and approaches they must understand as members of this discipline. To this end, students will be exposed to, and begin to learn to use, a variety of theoretical and empirical approaches during the semester. By the end of the semester, students should have developed the skills to allow them to identify productive research questions and the proper methods to analyze these questions.

Non-substantive

A workshop for dissertation writers. Each participant shares some of his or her writing with the group and critiques the writing of others.