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<th>CRN</th>
<th>POLS</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
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<td>18886</td>
<td>60015</td>
<td>Political Parties and Interest Groups</td>
<td>Christina Wolbrecht</td>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>3:00-5:30 pm</td>
<td>DeBartolo 149</td>
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<td>18887</td>
<td>60213</td>
<td>Global Politics and Peacebuilding</td>
<td>Robert Johansen</td>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>3:30-6:00 pm</td>
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<td>15782</td>
<td>60217</td>
<td>Theories of International Relations</td>
<td>Sebastian Rosato</td>
<td>Thu</td>
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<td>19446</td>
<td>60404</td>
<td>Comparative Constitutional Law</td>
<td>Donald Kommers</td>
<td>Thu</td>
<td>3:30-6:30 pm</td>
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In the United States, as in most democracies, political parties and interest groups are central mediating institutions linking citizens and the political decision makers who govern them. In an effort to understand the role of political parties and interest organizations in the American political system, we will examine issues of historical development, membership, organization, tactics, competition, and representation, among others. While the primary focus is the American case, the questions and concepts addressed in this course are applicable to other democratic systems.

Students examine the global politics of peacebuilding, particularly the ways and means of upholding international human rights, preventing armed conflict, and enhancing the international community’s capacities for peacebuilding. Study compares some peace research methods and findings and with those of political realism in focusing on: (1) the utility of international human rights standards for preventing war crimes, genocide, crimes against humanity, and crimes against the peace; (2) the role of international norms and institutions in preventing war and conducting peacebuilding; (3) the prospects for enhancing multilateral efforts, particularly by the United Nations system and transnational nongovernmental organizations of civil society, to conduct peacebuilding and to promote structural change aimed at reducing political violence and increasing respect for human rights; and (4) the role of layered identities as they affect the exercise of sovereignty and compliance with norms of peace and human rights.

This graduate seminar provides an overview of some of the major theories of international relations. The first half of the course is devoted to exploring 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.

Comparative constitutional law will focus primarily on the United States and Germany. Where important and relevant, however, constitutional cases from Canada, Africa, and the European Court of Human Rights, particularly as they relate to free speech, church-state relations, and right-to-life issues, will also be discussed. Three reasons explain the seminar’s particular focus on Germany during the spring semester. First, Germany’s Basic Law (i.e., its Constitution) and its Federal Constitutional Court (FCC) have replaced the U.S. Constitution and Supreme Court as the leading models of constitutional governance around the world. Second, and relatedly, other leading constitutional courts, from Eastern Europe to Asia, have been heavily influenced by the FCC’s constitutional case law. Finally, the instructor is revising The Constitutional Jurisprudence of the Federal Republic of Germany (2nd ed., 1997), this time with a coauthor and would like to share with the seminar several new and updated chapters currently in preparation. The seminar’s limited geographical focus during the semester also allows the class to spend more time on various contextual factors, e.g., the political system, judicial organization, legal culture, and constitutional history, that may illuminate the work-product of the German and American courts. The seminar will be limited to 12 students. Course materials will consist of The Constitutional Jurisprudence of the Federal Republic of Germany (2nd ed.) and distributed materials consisting of revised and updated chapters of Constitutional Jurisprudence along with full English translations of selected FCC decisions handed down since 1997. A major seminar paper, which members of the seminar will present toward the end of the semester, will be required in lieu of a final examination.
This course reviews the current boom in research in political science on civil wars and civil conflict. Topics will include the causes of civil wars, the organization of rebel forces, the conduct of civil wars, the duration of civil wars, the termination of civil wars and the consequences of civil wars. We may also briefly review some recent work on ethnic riots and the genocides as well.

This course will focus on some basic questions about political regimes. What explains why democracies and dictatorships survive or fall? The major purpose is to acquaint you with some of the most important theoretical and comparative literature on one of the major themes in political science. I am more interested in raising comparative and theoretical issues than in how much you learn about specific countries. Course readings will include Juan Linz, The Breakdown of Democratic Regimes; Guillermo O'Donnell and Philippe Schmitter, Transitions from Authoritarian Rule: Tentative Conclusions about Uncertain Democracies; Carles Boix, Democracy and Redistribution; Adam Przeworski et al., Democracy and Development; Ronald Inglehart and Christian Welzel, Modernization, Cultural Change, and Democracy. We will read some work on international factors in regime change and stability; and other work on the effects of formal political institutions such as presidential and parliamentary systems on democratic stability.

"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 course will examine fundamental concepts in contemporary liberal theory including rights and liberties, the problem of fraternity, equality and justification. Authors will include John Rawls, Michael Oakeshott, Isaiah Berlin, Richard Rorty, and Ronald Dworkin.

This upper-level political theory course will explore the philosophical origins and evolution of the idea of women's human rights, which has become a cornerstone of human rights advocacy, women's non-governmental organizations, and development programs around the world. Readings will be drawn from Scotus, Ockham, Suárez, Grotius, Hobbes, Locke, Rousseau, Kant, Wollstonecraft, Grimké, Stanton, J.S. Mill, Okin, Nussbaum, and MacKinnon. Undergraduate and graduate students will write article-length research papers and make in-class, conference-style presentations on their research projects.

The course will deal with two of Plato's three main works on political philosophy, which we will read thoroughly and in detail. Aim of the course is to render the students familiar with the main theses and arguments of the dialogues and introduce them to some of the major questions every Plato interpreter faces: Why did Plato write dialogues? How does he himself relate to the main interlocutors in his dialogue? Is it true that he deliberately holds something back? Why are metaphysical, ethical, and political ideas intertwined in a way almost absent from modern political philosophy? What is the function of myths? How did Plato evaluate the political reality of his time? Is it true that he influenced modern totalitarianism? Can we learn something from his radical criticism of democracy?
CRN 15571    POLS 60833 Math for Political Scientists
David Nickerson    Monday & Wednesday 11:45-1:00 pm    DeBartolo 108
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.

CRN 19333    POLS 61001 Constitutional Conventions
Michael Zuckert    Tuesday & Thursday 3:30-4:45 pm    DeBartolo 136
This course will focus on the American constitutional convention of 1787 with an eye to understanding the constitution proposed by the convention and the political process that produced it. The main reading will be James Madison's notes on the convention debates. We will also experiment with a new simulation role playing game of the convention.

CRN 13297    POLS 63800 Proseminar
Benjamin Radcliff    Tuesday 3:30-6:00 pm    DeBartolo B011 (lower level)
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.