

**Political Science Graduate Program
Class Schedule Spring 2015**

American Politics

- 60029 Religion and Politics in the U.S. David Campbell T 3:30-6:15p**
Recent years have seen a flowering of empirical research on religion's role in the American political system. This course cuts a swath through that literature by examining what political science has learned- and has yet to learn- about religion, belonging, and behaving, and how they pertain to political behavior. Readings will center on the political science literature, but insights will also be drawn from sociology, history, and economics.
- 60040 American Political Institutions Matt Hall M 6:30-9:15p**
This course explores the role of national institutions in the American political system, with a special emphasis on Congress, the presidency, and the Supreme Court. Students will consider different forms of political "institutions," such as formal rules, informal norms, and organizational structures. Additionally, students will evaluate four functions commonly ascribed to political institutions: channeling preferences, constituting a sense of duty, constraining choices, and shaping power. The goal of the course is for students to gain a basic understanding of American political institutions, synthesize the main themes in the literature, and grapple with current debates in the field.

International Relations

- 60217 Theories of International Relations Gary Goertz W 6:30-9:15p**
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.
- 60226 International Security Dan Lindley T 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.

Comparative Politics

- 60442 Political Protest, Social Movements, and Revolution Debra Javeline T 12:30-3:15p**
This course looks at various theories of political protest, social movements, and revolution. It will examine theoretical debates about why individuals and groups occasionally redress their grievances through collective action and more often endure hardships passively. It will evaluate the relative merit of these theories in explaining cases of protest and passivity worldwide. It will also explore similarities and differences in explanations of reform oriented protest versus action with revolutionary aims.

60460 Civil Wars **Sarah Daly** **W** **3:30-6:15p**
 This course explores the causes, dynamics and outcomes of civil wars and insurgencies. It addresses when and why is violence employed in place of peaceful solutions to conflict and what accounts for individual and mass recruitment into armed organizations. It aims to understand variation in armed groups' repertoires of violence, civilian agency during war, state counterinsurgency and counternarcotics methods, and the political economy of conflict. The course concludes by examining war termination. Students will be pushed to grapple with research written in many traditions including philosophical, statistical, game theoretic, and qualitative materials.

Political Theory

60620 Rawls **Michael Zuckert** **T** **6:30-9:15p**
 John Rawls has undoubtedly been the most significant theorist of the liberal tradition in the late 20th century, and this seminar will explore the body of his work, including his early doctoral dissertation, through his A Theory of Justice and his late Political Liberalism. The guiding questions will be (1) that of Rawls's development - how are we to understand the phases of his thought?; (2) that of Rawls as a philosopher of liberalism - does Rawls present a plausible and attractive version of liberalism?; and (3) that of the inherent truth and value of Rawls's theory.

60661 Augustine and Contemporary Political Thought **Mary Keys** **M** **3:30-6:15p**
 In the first half of this seminar we focus on Augustine's ethical and political thought, studying his masterwork The City of God and a selection of his letters. In the second half of the seminar we examine Augustine's influence in contemporary political thought and the commentary of contemporary scholars on his writings. Readings for this portion of the course include works by political theorists such as Hannah Arendt, Reinhold Niebuhr, Jean Bethke Elshtain, Alasdair MacIntyre, Charles Taylor, and Eric Gregory, and Augustine scholars such as Robert Dodaro, Robert Markus, Ernest Fortin, John von Heyking, John Cavadini, and Frederick Crosson.

60667 Democratic Theory **Ernesto Verdeja** **W** **3:30-6:15p**
 Pundits, politicians, and activists are quick to talk about the importance of democracy, but there seems to be little agreement on democracy's main elements or how it should be institutionalized. This political theory graduate seminar examines several debates in contemporary democratic theory, including the normative foundations of democracy and the relationship between theory and practice. We will address a variety of questions, such as: Is democracy best conceptualized as a system of government, the institutionalized practice of deliberation, or sustained opposition to political domination? What are the strengths and challenges posed by collective self-rule? What are the best procedures for democratic decision-making, and how should we balance the recognition of difference with the need for social unity?
 The course will largely focus on contemporary democratic theory (20th and 21st century). The seminar will consist of close readings and discussions of key political theory texts. We will analyze liberal, communitarian, republican, critical theory and radical democratic approaches, and possibly others if time permits.

Constitutional Studies

61000 American Constitutional Theory and Development **Phil Muñoz** **W** **6:30-9:15p**

In “American Constitutional Theory and Development” we shall attempt to understand the nature of the American regime and her most important principles. We will explore the American Constitution and the philosophical and political ideas that animated its creation and subsequent development. Since we lack the time for a comprehensive survey of American political thinkers, we shall examine select statesmen and critical historical periods—specifically, the Founding era, Lincoln and the slavery crisis, and the Progressive Era and New Deal.

Methods

60810 Quantitative Methods I **Gary Hollibaugh** **R** **3:30-6:15p**

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.

60836 Qualitative Methods II **Gary Goertz** **R** **12:30-3:15p**

This course explores the QCA methodology, both Boolean and fuzzy logic. This includes basic topics such as measurement, the procedures for analyzing data, and measures of fit and significance. Important topics such as the robustness of QCA and multimethod QCA are also included. Students will be expected to learn the software (R version) and do a research paper using QCA on real data (of their choice). While the course does not absolutely require a previous qualitative methods course, such a course will be assumed.

Non-substantive

98701 The Academic Career **Christina Wolbrecht** **TBA** **TBA**

This class is designed to prepare Ph.D. students for success in finding a tenure-track position in academia.

98702 Dissertation Writing Workshop **Michael Zuckert** **TBA** **TBA**

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