

Political Science Graduate Program

Class Schedule - FALL 2018

American Politics

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| | | | | | updated 8.6.2018 |
| CRN 16528 | POLS 60036 | Immigration and Ethnicity | Ricardo Ramirez | W | 6:30-9:15 |
| | | The newest wave of immigration has not only transformed the demographic composition of the United States, but has also reshaped the nature of politics and policy. This course explores key questions and themes in the politics of immigration and ethnicity. Drawing on a variety of perspectives and readings in American and Comparative Politics, we will focus on immigration politics and policy, but also on the political behavior of immigrants and ethnic minorities. | | | |

Comparative Politics

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| CRN 14811 | POLS 60453 | Comparative Field Seminar | Michael Coppedge and Michael Hoffman | R | 6:30-9:15 |
| | | Theoretical Approaches to Comparative Politics This course surveys the major approaches to the comparative study of politics and evaluates the great variety of methods employed. Many of the most important books and articles are used as examples. This course is designed to be helpful to those preparing to take the comprehensive examination in comparative politics. | | | |
| CRN 19864 | POLS 60472 | Comparative Political Institutions | Anibal Perez-Linan | W | 6:30-9:15 |
| | | This course offers an introduction to the comparative analysis of political institutions. The study of institutions relies on analytical tools shared by several fields in political science, creating a common idiom across the discipline. In the first part of the seminar, we will focus on institutions as an explanation for political outcomes. We will introduce different theoretical perspectives (e.g., rational choice and historical institutionalism), identify mechanisms at work in institutional theories (powers, incentives, and legacies), and illustrate those themes with reference to concrete institutions (executives, legislatures, bureaucracies, electoral systems). The second part of the seminar will analyze institutions as the endogenous outcome of elite interactions. We will map emerging debates about gradual institutional change, constitutional replacement, and inter-institutional conflict. In the third part of the course, we will employ this dual perspective—institutions as causes and as outcomes—to understand challenges to judicial independence and the rule of law throughout the world. Course requirements include seminar participation, the completion of four short assignments, and a final research paper (of about 10,000 words). | | | |

Constitutional Studies

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| CRN19863 | POLS60244 | International Law (see I.R. section) | Emilia Powell | TR | 11:00-12:15 |
| CRN20416 | POLS60113 | Comparative Constitutional Law | Paolo Carozza | W | 3:30-5:10 |
| | | <i>(Cross-list with LAW 73449-01)</i> This course is intended to provide a broad survey of comparative constitutional law, including a basic introduction to comparative legal methods, understandings of different structural aspects of constitutional law such as separation of powers and federalism, the role of constitutional adjudication and judicial review, and a comparative look at selected constitutional rights. We will draw on a variety of different legal systems from various parts of the world. The specific reading assignments the course will be drawn primarily from Norman Dorsen, Michel Rosenfeld, Andrés Sajó, Susanne Baer, and Susanna Mancini, <i>Comparative Constitutionalism: Cases and Materials</i> (3rd Edition, West Academic Publishing 2016). Other materials will be distributed separately. This course will be taught in a seminar format. Students will be required to write a short research paper of at least 7,000 words, or at least 10,000 words for those taking the course for three credits instead of two. | | | |

International Relations

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| CRN 19862 | POLS 60236 | Climate Change and Conflict | Patrick Regan | MW | 2:00-3:15 |
| | | <i>(cross list with IIPS 40406)</i> This course will explore the implications for peace and conflict that result from global climatic changes. The course will require a reading of climate science literature along with that from the social sciences on the causes of armed conflict. Our goal will be to develop an understanding of the way that pressures resulting from human generated global processes can impact the way humans coexist on the planet. Armed conflict is one of the adaptive strategies that humans can undertake, albeit one that might provide the most debilitating consequences. | | | |

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| CRN 20014 | POLS 60226 | International Security | Eugene Gholz | R | 3:30-6:15 |
| | | 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. | | | |
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| CRN 19863 | POLS 60244 | International Law | Emilia Powell | TR | 11:00-12:15 |
| | | <i>(also counts toward Constitutional Studies; cross list with LAW 70401)</i> International law constitutes the underlying framework of the international system. It governs relations primarily between states. However, with time, other entities were granted the status of subjects of international law—including international organizations, and individuals—expanding international law’s volume, substantive content, and reach beyond the traditional sovereign states. Contemporary international law covers a vast array of issues such as territorial sovereignty, environment, trade, human rights, criminal law, etc. This course is designed for law students and political science students who have interest in the role of law in interstate relations. The course will provide a comprehensive overview of general characteristics of international law, such as its historical development, principles, main thinkers, subjects, and sources of law. We will also study several substantive areas of international law, including international criminal law, maritime law, and peaceful resolution of disputes. We will conclude the course by analyzing international courts, such as the International Court of Justice and International Criminal Court. | | | |
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| Methods | | | | | |
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| CRN 19980 | POLS 60836 | Qualitative Methods II (QCA Methods) | Gary Goertz | W | 3:30-6:15 |
| | | 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. | | | |
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| CRN 12974 | POLS 60833 | Math for Political Scientists | Jeffrey Harden | TR | 8:00-9:15am |
| | | 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. | | | |
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| CRN 16534 | POLS 60884 | Maximum Likelihood Estimation and Generalized Linear Models | Jeffrey Harden | TR | 9:30-10:45am |
| | | This course extends the basic linear model to several other types of models. These are typically called “generalized linear models,” although for historical reasons people in political science often call them “maximum likelihood models.” The principle we will care about is how to adapt the standard linear model that you know and love so that a tremendously broader class of outcome variables and data structures can be accommodated. The outcome variables we will coerce the linear model into fitting include: dichotomous outcomes, counts, ordered categorical outcomes, unordered categorical outcomes, bounded variables, and more. Lastly, we will examine some special topics that come up frequently in applied political science research. | | | |
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| CRN 12068 | POLS 63800 | Proseminar | Guillermo Trejo | W | 3:30-6:15 |
| | | 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. | | | |
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| Political Theory | | | | | |

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| CRN 20015 | POLS 60681 | Marx, Neitzsche, Weber | Dana Villa | M | 3:30-6:15 |
| | | This class focuses on the two greatest social thinkers of the 19th and 20th centuries, Karl Marx and Max Weber, as well as the decisive philosophical intervention of Friedrich Nietzsche in the late 19th. We simply can't appreciate Weber's achievement unless we are fully aware of his debt to--and critique of--both Marx and Nietzsche. Readings include Marx's Economic and Philosophical Manuscripts of 1844, his "Contribution to the Critique of Hegel's Philosophy of Right," and "The German Ideology." From Nietzsche, we will read "Beyond Good and Evil" and "On the Genealogy of Morals." Finally, from Weber we will read the Vocation Lectures, "The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism," and his 1917 "On Parliament and Government in a Reconstructed Germany," with emphasis on the sections on bureaucracy and the possibility of "leadership democracy." | | | |
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| CRN 19360 | POLS 60648 | Locke | Michael Zuckert | M | 6:30-9:15 |
| | | The seminar will investigate the political philosophy of John Locke. The main texts to be covered will be his Questions Concerning the Law of Nature and Two Treatises of Government, along with the writings of Robert Filmer, whose Patriarcha was the chief target of the First Treatise. In addition to studying Locke himself we will look carefully at a few of the leading secondary approaches to Locke, who has proved to be one of the most controversial thinkers in the canon. | | | |
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| Non-Substantive | | | | | |
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| CRN 14101 | POLS 98702 | Dissertation Workshop (Political Theory) | Ruth Abbey | R | 5:00-7:45 |
| | | A workshop for dissertation writers in the field of Political Theory. Each participant shares some of his or her writing with the group and critiques the writing of others. | | | |
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| CRN 18926 | POLS 98704 | Dissertation Writing Workshop (All Fields) | Karrie Koesel | T | 6:30-9:15 |
| | | This course is designed to provide a structure for dissertation writing for Ph.D. students who have passed their proposal defense and plan to write a dissertation employing empirical (qualitative and/or quantitative) methods. We will focus on structuring dissertation writing, reading recent award-winning dissertations, and workshopping student chapters and other dissertation-related writing. This workshop is open to all sub-fields. | | | |
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| Political Science Graduate Students also may enroll in the following course(s) | | | | | |
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| CRN | POLS | TBD - Sr. Seminars | | | |
| | | <i>Registration instructions: register for three credit hours, Directed Readings POLS 66900 Sotirios Barber, department approval is required. After grade is received, request a title change to reflect course content on your transcript.</i> | | | |
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| Courses of Interest in other Departments | | | | | |
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