

Political Science Graduate Program

Class Schedule - Spring 2017

American Politics					January 18, 2016.
CRN29309	POLS60040	American Political Institutions	Matthew Hall	W	3:30-6:15
		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.			
CRN29767	POLS60046	State Politics and Policy	Ricardo Ramirez	W	6:30-9:15
		This course examines the politics and policy making of sub-national governments in the U.S. We will examine all fifty states, considering their similarities and differences, and focusing on how these similarities and differences help us understand general theories about politics. The topics that we will cover fall into three primary areas: political behavior, political institutions, and public policy. The behavioral section focuses on the forces in society that try to influence government, including political parties, interest groups, and individual citizens. The institutional component of the course will focus on the basic players involved in state government, such as governors, legislatures, and courts. Finally, we will examine the causes and consequences of state and local government public policy.			
CRN29310	POLS60045	Political Psychology	Darren Davis	R	3:30-6:15
		This course provides an overview of the growing literature on political psychology. Political psychology is an interdisciplinary field that uses experimental methods and theoretical ideas from psychology as tools to examine politics. We will focus on psychological theories that help us to understand how people think and feel about politics. The primary goal of this course is to acquaint students with various ways in which psychological theory contributes to our understanding of politics. Specifically, this course explores the role of human thought, emotion, and behavior in politics and examine the psychological origins of citizen's political beliefs and actions. Topics include how and why citizens form political attitudes, the influence of values and emotions on behavior, the structure of political beliefs and ideologies, how citizens interact with each other, political persuasion and how voters process political information, attitude change, personality and social dominance, political tolerance, and prejudice.			
CRN30664	POLS60047	Politics and Human Condition	Ben Radcliff	MW	3:30-4:45
		Writing seminars are devoted to a specialized topic. These seminars give students a chance to take an advanced course in a seminar setting, with an emphasis on research skills and discussion.			
Comparative Politics					
CRN29315	POLS60448	The State	Victoria Hui	M	6:30-9:15
		<i>(Also counts toward International Relations)</i> 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?			
CRN29318	POLS60469	Comparative Political Behavior	Michael Hoffman	M	3:30-6:15
		Recent events in every corner of the world have highlighted the enduring importance of the political behavior of ordinary citizens. This course addresses political behavior—including public opinion, voting, representation, political culture, and mobilization, among other topics—in comparative perspective. It begins with the canonical theoretical literature on the origins of mass attitudes and affiliations. After moving through other theoretical accounts of preference formation, it then examines more recent scholarship on a number of topics relevant to political behavior. The course will be truly "comparative" to the greatest extent possible, subject to the limited availability of data and scholarship on certain areas. Readings will include both theoretical and empirical literature on a variety of aspects of political behavior. Methodological issues will also be discussed, and each student will conduct original research using existing political surveys.			

CRN29314	POLS60238	Religion and Global Politics	Daniel Philpott	T	3:30-6:15
		<i>(Also counts toward International Relations and Political Theory)</i> My graduate course in Religion and Global Politics will introduce students to the leading research in the young and dynamic field of religion and global politics. What explains the political stances and influence of religious actors? Why do states adopt the approach to governing religion that they do? Students will be challenged to read critically recent literature in this field, to formulate research questions, and to consider related normative issues. Empirical areas include democratization, human rights, civil war, terrorism, peace, reconciliation, and the evolution of religion's influence over the course of history.			
CRN30579	POLS60470	Large-Scale Criminal Violence in New Democracies	Guillermo Trejo and Henan Flom	M	9:30-12:15
		This course is a workshop for doctoral students working on dissertations related to large-scale criminal violence in new democracies – particularly in Latin America. The study of large-scale criminal violence is a new area of research that defies some of our key assumptions about the state, democracy, and organized crime. Because research in this area requires a great amount of foundational work, young scholars writing dissertations on large-scale criminal violence have to simultaneously engage in pioneering theoretical and conceptual work while at the same time fulfil the requirements of cutting edge mainstream empirical research. In this workshop we will offer students an interdisciplinary and methodologically pluralistic environment to present their dissertation research ideas and findings, and receive timely feedback they will be able to integrate as they continue their research and writing. The weekly meetings will be devoted to discussing the students' research alongside recently published cutting-edge research on the subject. At the end of the semester, with the financial support from the Kellogg Institute, we will organize a two-day conference on large-scale criminal violence with faculty and graduate students from peer institutions in the Midwest, providing an additional opportunity for ND students to present and defend their work. The course is open to PhD students in political science, sociology, economics and anthropology, subject to prior permission from the instructors.			
CRN29317	POLS60460	Civil Wars	Tanisha Fazal	W	12:30-3:15
		<i>(Cross list with IIPS70203, Kroc)</i> 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.			
Constitutional Studies					
CRN29312	POLS60110	Aristotle's Constitutionalism	Susan Collins	R	6:30-9:15
		<i>(Constitutional Studies, Political Theory, and Ancient)</i> This course will involve a close study of the whole of Aristotle's Politics and parts of his Nicomachean Ethics, the two major works of his political philosophy. We will aim in particular to investigate the principles of Aristotle's "constitutionalism"—his understanding of the polis ("city"), politeia ("regime" or "constitution"), and best regime—as well as his treatments of the variety of regimes, faction and revolution, and political justice. But in Aristotle's thought, such obviously political matters are clearly linked with his more fundamental inquiry into questions of nature, human nature, law, virtue, and the human good or happiness. Hence we will seek to clarify also the links between Aristotle's inquiry into such theoretical and philosophic questions and the practical and political principles of his constitutionalism.			
CRN25516	POLS60113	Comparative Constitutional Law	Paolo Carozza	W	9:15-10:55
		<i>(Cross list with LAW 73449)</i> This seminar situates the subject of comparative constitutional law in a broader framework of comparative legal traditions, starting with a discussion of the aims and methods of comparative law, then proceeding to constitutional history and theory, and considering the idea of "constitutional identity." From there we will discuss both structural topics such as federalism, separation of powers, and judicial review, as well as selected fundamental rights. Examples and topics will be drawn from a variety of different constitutional systems. A research paper will be required, as well as regular participation in weekly class meetings.			
CRN24519	POLS60112	The Freedom of Speech	Richard Garnett	TR	11:05-12:20

		<i>(Cross list with LAW70307)</i> Examines First Amendment precedents and doctrines, and also those associated with other speech-protecting legal texts. Questions to be considered include: How, and why, do we define and protect the Freedom of Speech? What are the benefits, and what are the costs, of free speech? When is the regulation or censorship of expression justified? Are courts and legislators ever justified in assigning greater value to some messages and forms of expression than to others, or in silencing some speakers in order to amplify the voice of others? Does the government have a role to play in creating the conditions necessary for the freedom of speech to flourish, or is the freedom of speech best considered as a constraint on government? Is the freedom of speech primarily an individual right or a structural feature of constitutional government?			
International Relations					
CRN29313	POLS60226	International Security	Michael Desch	W	6:30-9:15
		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.			
CRN29768	POLS60235	International Institutions, Norms, and Organizations	Gary Goertz	T	6:30-9:15
		<i>(Cross list with Kroc IIPS 80203)</i> This seminar will devote itself to the analysis of international institutions, norms, and organizations. The literature on these three tends to be segregated, but we shall discuss them as variations on the same theme. Much of the course will be survey of various approaches to institutions, norms, and organizations, with particular attention to (1) rational design, (2) international norms, (3) legalization, and (4) IGOs. Substantively we shall focus on the areas of security (e.g., alliances), conflict management, peacekeeping, and democratization. The major requirement of the course is a research paper. In addition, a 5--7 page research proposal will be presented in the middle of the semester. The subject of the research paper must involve international institutions, norms, or organizations.			
Political Theory					
CRN29769	POLS60674	The Search for Self-Knowledge	Catherine Zuckert	MW	2:00-3:15
		<i>(Political Theory and across fields)</i> An inscription outside the oracle of Delphi commanded those who passed to "know yourself." Philosophers ever since have attempted to respond to that command by asking, what is the 'self'? How is it related to the 'soul' or 'body' of the individual? How is that individual or 'self' related to and shaped by others, that is, to society and that which transcends human life, nature as a whole and the divine? In sum, why seek self-knowledge? And how can such knowledge be acquired? In this seminar we will examine the four very different answers to these questions suggested by Socrates in Plato's Alcibiades I, Augustine's Confessions, Montaigne's Essays, and Rousseau's Confessions. Students will be evaluated on the basis of their participation in seminar discussions, an in-class report, and final paper.			
CRN29320	POLS60673	Rousseau	Patrick Deneen	M	3:30-6:15
		<i>(Political Theory and Early Modern)</i> In this seminar we will explore most of the key social, literary and political works of Jean-Jacques Rousseau. Rousseau's importance as a thinker can hardly be overstated. His influence can be discerned in many currents of early and late modern political philosophy as well as a range of political events and movements, ranging from an influence over such thinkers as Kant, Hegel, Tocqueville, Marx, Heidegger, Foucault and others, as well as movements ranging from the French Revolution to the Romantic reaction against modernity. Rousseau allows us to look both backward – to the ancients that he admired and critiqued – and forward, to a possibility of human "perfectibility" that he at once recommended and feared. In this seminar we will read widely from his vast oeuvre in order to better understand his pivotal role as an intellectual architect of both modernity and anti-modernity.			
CRN29319	POLS60667	Democratic Theory	Ernesto Verdeja	R	3:30-6:15

		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.			
Methods					
CRN20245	POLS60810	Quantitative Methods	Jeffrey Harden	TR	11:00-12:15
		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.			
Non-Substantive					
CRN23111	POLS98701	The Academic Career	Christina Wolbrecht	TBD	TBD
		This class is designed to prepare Ph.D. students for success in finding a tenure-track position in academia.			
		Political Science Graduate Students also may enroll in the following course(s)			
		TBD			
		Courses of Interest in other Departments			
		TBD			