

# Political Science Undergraduate Program

## Summer 2015 Course Descriptions

<u>CRN</u>	<u>Course ID</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Instructor</u>	<u>Meeting Time(s)</u>
3801	30050 01	<b>Politics and the Human Condition</b>	<b>Benjamin Radcliff</b>	<b>MTW 12:45-2:45</b>
		<p>Political and social theorists have long speculated on how the political organization of society affects the quality of human life. This course examines the fundamental question of how political factors affect material and subjective conditions of life. The course utilizes material from philosophy and literature, as well as the emerging social science of subjective well-being. The course fulfills a seminar requirement for the Political Science major and counts as a methodology course for graduation with departmental honors in Political Science.</p>		
3858	30360 01	<b>Modern War</b>	<b>Margarita Konaev</b>	<b>MTW 10:00-12:15</b>
		<p>This course explores the origins, conduct and resolution of violent conflict over the past 100 years. The course will first develop an integrated theoretical framework for the concurrent study of interstate and intrastate wars by examining the leading explanations for the outbreak of violence, including the international balance of power, regime type (democracy/dictatorship), identity-based motivations, and the role of political elites. Then, we will assess the strengths and weakness of these theories by examining how specific conflicts unfold and end. We will discuss great power politics and regime pathologies on the eve of WW1 and WW2, identify the international dimensions of internal conflicts, and consider the role of repression as a trigger for the Syrian civil war. Additionally, we will explore the religious and ethnic components of the Arab-Israeli conflict and analyze the thought processes of leaders before and during the wars in former Yugoslavia. By the end of the course, students will be able to identify risk factors that make states vulnerable to civil wars and prone to fighting one another, and be prepared to think through policy options for the prevention and resolution of violent conflicts.</p>		
3214	45999 01	<b>Summer Internship</b>	<b>Carolina Arroyo</b>	<b>TBA</b>
		<p>Summer internships are an excellent way to explore career options, to gain valuable work experience and to build your resume. Students who have secured an unpaid summer internship can apply for academic credit by contacting the Director of Internships. To qualify for credit, internships must have prior approval, must be unpaid, be at least 6 weeks in duration and provide at least 120 hours of work.</p>		