

CRN29889	POLS60456	Logic of Political Violence	Guillermo Trejo	M	6:30-9:15
<p>The purpose of this seminar course is to understand the logic and dynamics of state repression and insurgent collective action. We will explore the transformation of social movements (seeking social justice) and criminal organizations (seeking profits) into armed insurgencies. Our focus is on the state: Failed states may be a privileged terrain for the emergence of criminal organizations and for rebel and terrorist groups, but repressive states in authoritarian regimes and electoral autocracies may also contribute to the transformation of peaceful dissent into violence. Based on the work of Hobbes, Weber, Tilly, Olson, and Bates the course first introduces the role of the state and its primary responsibilities (e.g., taxation, security, and border controls) and analyzes the conditions under which state actors fail to fulfill their role or inflict violence on their own population. In the second part, we analyze why states repress their own citizens and the conditions under which state violence may lead to the escalation of peaceful protest into armed rebellion. In the third section, we focus on the opportunities that state failure may open for the privatization of violence and assess the transformation of criminal networks into insurgent groups and the rise of paramilitary groups. The course covers material from different theoretical and methodological persuasions. We will read game-theoretic research, as well as large-N statistical analyses, comparative case studies, ethnographies, and studies that combine different approaches. Geographically, the course covers cases from Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America, and the Middle East. This seminar is intended for graduate students across the social sciences.</p>					

Constitutional Studies - See cross-listed courses in American Politics and Political Theory

International Relations

CRN27660	POLS60205	International Political Economy	Jazmin Sierra	M	3:30-6:15
<p>This seminar explores the interaction between politics and economics in the international system, with an emphasis on the theoretical development of the subfield of international political economy. We will investigate the balance between cooperation and conflict, the effect of international institutions on economic relations, and the mutual impact of domestic and international politics. Substantive topics include the international trade system, the international monetary and financial systems, the role of the global economy in economic development, and the impact of economic globalization on domestic societies. Throughout the course, we will consider how well models developed in other fields of political science or economics can be applied to international political economy. We also will attempt to identify the "state of the art" in the study of international political economy. This course serves as a basis for future research in the fields of international political economy, international relations, and comparative political economy. It also prepares students for the international political economy component of the international relations comprehensive exam. Students are expected to participate in all class sessions, to write several short papers, and to write and present a research design at the end of the course.</p>					
CRN29887	POLS60217	Theories of International Relations	Joseph Parent	W	6:30-9:15
<p>This graduate seminar provides a survey of major theoretical traditions and their applications in the study of international relations. The course explores recent changes in and debates on the key theoretical approaches (realism, liberalism, and constructivism) with a particular emphasis on identifying and criticizing their central assumptions and causal logics. A second objective of the course is to clarify and assess various methodological perspectives, ranging from empiricism to constructivism, and their consequences for the design and conduct of research.</p>					

Methods

CRN20207	POLS60810	Quantitative Methods 1	Luis Schiumerini	TH	2:00-3:15
<p>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.</p>					
CRN27668	POLS60885	Introduction to Causal Inference in the Social Sciences	Jeffrey Harden	TH	11:00-12:15
<p>This course is an introduction to causal inference methods used in quantitative social science research. It begins with theoretical and conceptual discussions of causality, then moves to the statistical theory underlying the potential outcomes model. It then covers a variety of methods designed to assist with identification of causal effects in both experimental and observational data. The course focuses on the two complementary goals of learning the theory behind causal inference as well as practical implementation in statistical software. Students will walk away from the course with an understanding of how to apply causal inference methods and what is going on "under the hood" with their results. Class time is spent in lecture and working hands-on with example data.</p>					
CRN29893	POLS 60886	Introduction to Bayesian Statistics	Jeffrey Harden	TH	9:30-10:45
<p>The course is an introduction to Bayesian statistics. It focuses on the two complementary goals of learning the theory behind Bayesian inference as well as practical implementation of Bayesian methods in statistical software (mostly in R). Students will complete the course with an understanding of how to apply, present, and diagnose Bayesian models in their own work as well as what is going on "under the hood" with their results. Class time will be spent in lecture and working hands-on with example data.</p>					

Political Theory

CRN29890	POLS60682	Critics of Liberalism	Patrick Deneen	T	3:30-6:15
<p><i>(also counts toward Constitutional Studies)</i> Liberalism is undergoing profound reconsideration as contemporary political events reveal declining support and potential rivals. In this course, we will consider a number of critiques of liberalism from a variety of perspectives, including writings by Strauss, Arendt, Horkheimer and Adorno, Wolin, McWilliams and Barber, as well as several more contemporary critics including Schindler, Legutko, and Milbank. If there is interest, we might read Professor Deneen's recent book and a number of the responses it has provoked.</p>					

CRN29891 POLS60683 Political Science Fiction: Shelley to Ishiguro Eileen Hunt Botting W 6:30-9:15

Mary Shelley's Frankenstein-now in its bicentennial year-gave birth to political science fiction, or science fiction with real-world implications for the ethics and politics of being human. This seminar will explore one strand of political science fiction inspired by Frankenstein-which I call "GMO literature"-that engages the ethics and politics of the bioengineering or genetic modification of people and other forms of life. In addition to Frankenstein, we will examine The Island of Doctor Moreau, Brave New World, Flowers of Algernon, Gattaca, Oryx and Crake, Never Let Me Go, and other works of science fiction from various genres. All of these examples of political science fiction take as their starting point the narrative premise of Frankenstein: humans can create, alter, or transform (human) life through science, medicine, and technology. They also follow Frankenstein in pressing their readers to think carefully about the ethical and political consequences of such scientific, medical, and technological interventions in the making or transformation of life forms. We will also read contemporary work from bioethics and political theory, by Habermas, Fukuyama, Sandel, Bostrom, Phillips, Singer, and others, that engages real-world issues concerning the ethics, politics, legal regulation, and health care policy of human germline genetic modification in the 21st century.

CRN29892 POLS60684 Arendt and Heidegger Dana Villa TH 3:30-6:15

This seminar will be devoted to teasing out the relationship between Hannah Arendt's political theory and Martin Heidegger's philosophy. From Arendt we will read The Human Condition, On Revolution, and selected essays in Between Past and Future. From Heidegger we will read Division 1 of Being and Time, Introduction to Metaphysics, The Origin of the Work of Art, and selected essays in The Question Concerning Technology and Other Essays.

Non-Substantive

CRN24351 POLS98702 Dissertation Workshop Ruth Abbey 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.

CRN22636 POLS98701 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.

Political Science Graduate Students also may enroll in the following undergraduate course(s)

CRN22814 POLS 53002 Senior Seminar: Constitutional Sotirios Barber TH 2:00-3:15
04 Interpretation

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.

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.

Courses of Interest in other Departments

TBD