

**Political Science Undergraduate Program
Summer 2020 Course Descriptions**

<u>CRN</u>	<u>Course ID</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Instructor</u>	<u>Meeting Time(s)</u>	
3714	30482 01	Identity Politics	Michael Hoffman	MWF 1:00-3:05	as of 3/9/2020 fulfills Comparative Politics field requirement
		<p>Identity politics has recently regained attention as a major force in political behavior. In this course, we will examine the features of identity politics that bear on individuals' political preferences and decisions. Using both historical and contemporary examples, we will analyze the role of identity considerations in electoral behavior, protest, and partisanship, among other areas. Some of the identity categories studied will be race, gender, and religious affiliation. The course includes cases both within the American context and international comparisons.</p>			
3686	34815 01	How to (Not) Lie with Statistics	Jeffrey Harden	TTh 7:30p-9:30p	
		<p>How will Amazon HQ2 impact local economies? Should parents allow kids to have screen time? What role did demographic shifts in suburban areas play in the 2016 and 2018 elections? Does the infield shift work? Modern society constantly faces questions that require data, statistics, and other empirical evidence to answer well. But the proliferation of niche media outlets, the rise of fake news, and the increase in academic research retraction makes navigating potential answers to these questions difficult. This course is designed to give students tools to confront this challenge by developing their statistical and information literacy skills. It will demonstrate how data and statistical analyses are susceptible to a wide variety of known and implicit biases, which may ultimately lead consumers of information to make problematic choices. The course will consider this issue from the perspectives of consumers of research as well as researchers themselves. We will discuss effective strategies for reading and interpreting quantitative research while considering the incentives researchers face in producing it. Ultimately, students will complete the class better equipped to evaluate empirical claims made by news outlets, social media, or their peers. The goal is to encourage students to approach data-driven answers to important questions with appropriate tools rather than blind acceptance or excessive skepticism.</p>			
2574	45999 01	Summer Internship	Carolina Arroyo	TBD TBD	
		<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>			