

**Graduate Program**
Class Schedule - Fall 2020

Updated 7/7/2020

American Politics

CRN 20469 POLS 60040 American Political Institutions Matthew Hall T 3:55-6:40 pm
(also counts toward Constitutional Studies) This course explores the role of national institutions in the American political system, with an emphasis on Congress, the presidency, and the Supreme Court. Students will consider three functions commonly ascribed to political institutions in relation to elite behavior: channeling individual preferences, constraining strategic choices, and structuring political opportunities. 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.

Comparative Politics

CRN 20472 POLS 60471 Comparative Authoritarianism Karrie Koesel T 3:55-6:40 pm
This seminar examines the nature and varieties of modern authoritarian regimes, the causes of their emergence, and the processes that lead to their endurance as well as their destruction. We will examine both the recent and (to a lesser extent) the older literature on dictatorship to analyze the origins, structure, and practices of contemporary authoritarian regimes throughout the world, along with some earlier example of authoritarian polities, such as communist regimes, that have largely passed from the political scene. The readings for this course have been guided by three goals. One was maximizing the range of regimes analyzed. Another was identifying scholarship that highlights different methodological approaches in political science. Finally, to focus on core issues that are central to the analysis of all regimes, whether democratic or authoritarian for example, institutional design; competing arguments about a regime origins; the relationship between the state and the economy, the state and the international system, and the regime and society; the management of both competition for power and leadership succession; and issues of regime legitimacy and accountability. This course is open to PhD students in political science, sociology, anthropology and economics, subject to prior permission from the instructor.

CRN 20473 POLS 60475 Political Identity and Behavior Michael Hoffman R 7:05-9:50 pm
ONLINE This course addresses political attitudes and behaviors from an individual perspective. It focuses on issues related to identity politics - including racial, ethnic, religious, and gender identities - and political behavior - including public opinion, voting, representation, political culture, and mobilization, among other topics - in comparative perspective, including attention to the American case. Readings will include both theoretical and empirical literature on each topic and consist of a mix of classics and contemporary works. Methodological issues will also be discussed, and each student will conduct original research using existing political surveys.

Constitutional Studies

CRN 19624 POLS 60108 Islamic Law and Constitutions Emilia Powell T 9-11:30am
(also counts toward International Relations; crosslisted with LAW) This seminar offers an introduction to Islamic law and Islamic constitutionalism. How does the world of Islam understand the concept of law? What is Islamic justice? Do constitutions of Islamic law states differ from those of the West? How does governance relate to religion in the Islamic world? How did this relationship evolve? Students will consider the meaning of Islamic justice, its embodiment in the legal system, its execution, the way it has evolved, and the principles that underpin it. We will examine the role of Muslim religion in the shaping of the law, and how a faith-based concept of law relates to modern governance. The aim of this seminar is to acquire a better understanding of Islamic law as an expression of the divine will, and as a system of laws and justice, through focusing on classic texts, Islamic law states' constitutions, as well as photography, art and sculpture.

(also counts toward International Relations; crosslisted with LAW) A foundational course in international human rights law. Focuses primarily on examples from United Nations-related human rights regimes and from the principal regional systems, and examines: the historical and jurisprudential bases of international human rights law, the normative frameworks of the principal universal human rights treaties and of customary international law and the institutional mechanisms for interpreting, monitoring compliance with and enforcing those norms.

International Relations

CRN 20470 POLS 60205 **International Political Economy** Jazmin Sierra R 3:55-6:40 pm

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.

Methodology

CRN 17107 POLS 60830 **Qualitative Research Methods** Gary Goertz W 7:05-9:50 pm

ONLINE This course surveys some of the key issues in qualitative methods and research design. Major sections of the course deal with causal complexity, necessary and sufficient conditions, concepts, case study methodology, case selection, within-case causal inference, and philosophy of causation. Students will do 8-10 page projects on (1) causal complexity, (2) concepts, (3) case selection or case studies. These papers require the student to examine the issue in some particular area of application, and put together the three papers can form most of a research design or dissertation prospectus.

CRN 12706 POLS 60833 **Introduction to Quantitative Methods** Luis Schiumerini MW 2:20-3:35 pm

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.

CRN 20477 POLS 60884 **Advanced Quantitative Methods** Jeffrey Harden T 7:05-9:50 pm

ONLINE Quantitative methods are often used to understand the behavior and interactions of individuals, governments, and nations. This course is designed to provide students with an understanding of the quantitative tools that are useful for doing quantitative political research. We will begin by reviewing the basics of statistical inference and the linear regression model, with a thorough discussion of the problems that arise in regression analysis and the solutions to those problems. The bulk of the course will be devoted to the following topics: Extensions to the basic regression model: simultaneous equations and time-series/cross-sectional models; maximum-likelihood techniques for modeling categorical dependent variables: logit/probit, ordered logit/probit, multinomial logit/probit, and count models; models for dealing with sample selection bias: tobit and Heckman models; techniques for modeling time-series data. Throughout, we will focus on understanding the theoretical underpinnings of the model and developing and evaluating applications of the models to substantive problems in political science. Students will be asked to do data-analysis exercises, to evaluate published research relying on quantitative techniques, and to do a research project on a topic of their own choosing.

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.

Political Theory

CRN 20474 POLS 60681

Marx, Nietzsche, Weber

Dana Villa

W

3:55-6:40 pm

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."

CRN 21053 POLS 60688

Plagues, Pandemics & Politics: Political Science
Fiction from Sophocles to Atwood

Eileen Botting

TR

2:20-3:35 pm

This graduate seminar in political theory will treat the politics and literature of plagues and pandemics from Sophocles' "Oedipus Rex" to Mary Shelley's "The Last Man" to Margaret Atwood's "MaddAddam Trilogy." We will read classic works of political science fiction alongside classic works of political philosophy that grapple with plagues, pandemics, and other human-made and politically-exacerbated disasters. The goal of this seminar is to think through the relevance of literature for theorizing the political causes, symptoms, and solutions for pandemics such as Covid-19.

CRN 20476 POLS 60687

German Political Philosophy in the 20th Century

Vittorio Hosle

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7:05-9:50 pm

German political thought is more rooted in philosophy than the Angloamerican tradition; at the same time it was involved in, and reacted to, the most horrific experience of 20th century totalitarianism, National Socialism. We will read books by the three greatest political theorists of the Weimar republic, Hans Kelsen, Hermann Heller, and Carl Schmitt, study Martin Heidegger's rectorate speech, look at Hannah Arendt's totalitarianism theory, and read two political philosophies from the Federal Republic, Habermas' Between Facts and Norms and my own Morals and Politics.

Professionalization

CRN 13601 POLS 60467

Dissertation Workshop

Susan Collins

TBD

TBD

A workshop for dissertation writers. Each participant shares some of his or her writing with the group and critiques the writing of others.