



Spring 2022 Graduate Courses

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American Politics

POLS 60036: Immigration and Ethnicity

Ricardo Ramirez

T 6:30 - 9:15 pm

CRN 20451

Cross-listed with SOC and IIPS. The newest wave of immigration has not only transformed the demographic composition of the United States, but has also reshaped the nature of politics and policy. This course explores key questions and themes in the politics of immigration and ethnicity. Drawing on a variety of perspectives and readings in American and Comparative Politics, we will focus on immigration politics and policy, but also on the political behavior of immigrants and ethnic minorities.

POLS 60045: Political Psychology

Darren Davis

W 3:30pm-6:15pm

CRN 31316

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.

POLS 60050: Encounters with the State

David Cortez

Th 3:30pm-6:15pm

CRN 31315

Considerable efforts have been made to explore the effects of state-visibility on modern conceptions of citizenship, political trust, the formation of political interests and preferences, and general attitudes toward government. The impetus for this stems not only from a discernible decline in levels of citizen trust in government, but from a perception of receding state-visibility over the last four decades. Given the positive effects of state-contact on citizen participation and political attitudes, the retrenchment and drift of government social programs, and the development of a "submerged state," presents a significant problem for contemporary (and future) American politics. Scholars argue that the further obscured the role of the state becomes to the public, the less likely they are to both hold positive attitudes toward government, and assume political identities. But has the state, indeed, receded from public view? And if so, for whom? Motivated by this central question, this course explores how encounters with the state shape the experience of citizenship (or lack thereof) in the United States. By focusing on myriad examples where the state has not become "submerged" - where the state makes contact with civil society - we will explore the distribution of power and privilege in American politics.

Comparative Politics

POLS 60468: Comparative Political Economy

Susanne Wengle

Th 6:30pm-9:15pm

CRN 31314

Cross-listed with SOC. The globalization of markets has reshaped politics and economies over the last two hundred years, and in the post-World War II period in particular. This seminar is designed to introduce graduate students to a broad range of theoretical debates about how politics and markets interact. Readings will include classical works in comparative political economy, such as Smith and Polanyi, but will largely focus on more recent seminal texts and cutting edge research. Empirically, we will cover a range of old and new concerns, including theories of industrialization and de-industrialization, varieties of capitalism, changing welfare states, the role of public and private regulations etc.. The class also strives to include readings on a range of countries - including advanced industrialized countries, developing and emerging economies, as well as economies undergoing post-communist transformations. While grounded in comparative political economy, the class makes a conscious effort to bridge the gap between CPE and IPE wherever the existing debates offer opportunities to do so.

POLS 60473: Democratic Transitions, Breakdowns, Advances, and Erosions

Scott Mainwaring

M 3:30pm-6:15pm

CRN 31313

Cross-listed with SOC. This course will analyze the conditions that make democracy and authoritarian regimes more or less likely to be stable and, conversely, that make democratic breakdowns and transitions more or less common. We will also examine some of the conditions that make democratic deepening, stagnation, and erosion more (or less) likely. These questions have long been of central interest to social scientists, historians, and democracy advocates. And they sometimes have huge consequences for the world, as was demonstrated by the aftermath of the breakdown of democracy in Germany in 1933 or by the fall of communism (1989) and the breakup of the Soviet Union (1991). The first part of the course will examine theoretical approaches to studying political regimes, including a few classic works. Part II will include recent work on democratic erosions and breakdowns and on patterns of democratic stagnation and deepening after transitions to democracy. Part III will examine patterns of regime change and stability in authoritarian regimes.

POLS 60476: The Unsolved Politics of Climate Change

Debra Javeline

M 12:30pm-3:30pm

CRN 32407

This graduate seminar is designed for rigorous study of cutting-edge political science research on the global climate crisis. It aims to use the tools of political science to contribute to climate solutions. Each class session, students will read articles and books written by the world's leading experts on the politics of climate change, identify the main contributions, and most importantly, discuss the remaining gaps in knowledge. The course will focus on determining which knowledge gaps represent the most urgent obstacles for addressing the climate crisis and how to fill those gaps through original research. Graduate students and advanced undergraduates will be expected to produce a draft of a publishable research paper that begins to fill a specific knowledge gap, either solo-authored or co-authored. Undergraduates will also have the option to submit as their main course paper a literature review that draws attention to a specific knowledge gap and explains its urgency. Undergraduates seeking to enroll require permission of the instructor and will be expected to have completed prior coursework or equivalent practical work related to climate change or other environmental issues.

POLS 60835: Field Research Methods

Jaimie Bleck

Th 3:30pm-6:15pm

CRN 31309

See [Methodology](#) courses

POLS 60477: Criminal Governance, Democracy and Policies

Abby Cordova

T 3:30-6:15pm

CRN 32935

Crosslisted with MGA. Across the world, millions of citizens live in territories controlled by criminal organizations that co-exist with democratically elected governments. The spread of organized crime across the globe has followed as many countries transitioned to democracy and/or ended long-lasting civil wars. Increasingly, conflict environments feature criminal gangs, drug-traffickers, mafias, and state actors involved in criminal activities. Informed by prominent theories and methodologies in political science, and the social sciences more broadly, this course will examine the causes of organized crime and its consequences or the consolidation of democracy, particularly in countries in Africa and Latin America. Importantly, a core objective of the course is to identify evidence-based policy approaches to address organized crime in developing countries. More specifically, we will examine theories and methodologies in political science, and related fields, that help us address the following six research questions: 1) What countries are the most and least affected by organized crime? 2) What is the role of politics in criminal violence? 3) How does criminal governance differ from other types of governance? 4) How does organized crime interact with other forms of violence, particularly gender-based violence? 5) In what ways, does organized crime affect democracy? and 6) How have citizens and governments responded to organized crime? In brief, the course will offer an in-depth examination of organized crime and governance through the lens of political science and related fields in the social sciences.

Constitutional Studies

No CS courses for Spring 2022

International Relations

POLS 60245: International Institutions, Norms, Organizations, & Law: Promoting Peace, Democracy and Human Rights

Gary Goertz

W 6:30pm-9:15pm

CRN 32334

Cross-listed with IIPS. This seminar will devote itself to the analysis of international institutions, norms, organizations along with international law and human rights. The literature on these 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, organizations, and international law with particular attention to (1) liberal institutionalism, (2) international norms, (3) IGOs, (4) international law, courts, and human rights. Substantively we shall focus on the areas of security (e.g., alliances), conflict management, peacekeeping, democratization, along

with international law, courts and human rights. The major requirement of the course is a research paper. A 5-7 page research proposal will be presented in the middle of the semester. The subject of the research paper must involve some aspect of the topics covered in the seminar.

POLS 60247: Violent Conflict in Fragile States: Research, Policy and Practice in Complex Wars

Rachel Sweet

W 3:30pm-6:15pm

CRN 32408

Cross-listed with IIPS. This course examines the dynamics of contemporary armed conflict. Themes include the strategy of rebel organization, mass killings, state-led violence, and terrorist networks. We will examine a variety of questions involving political institutions, economic exchange, and social change during war, as well as consequences for violence and state authority at war's end, moving beyond conventional wisdom to seek the real strategy, politics, and dirt of war by taking a "close up" view through working with original materials from conflict zones. Students will work with original interviews, on-the-ground material from United Nations peace operations, and documents from diverse rebel and terrorist groups. The course will cover methodological questions of how to operate on the ground in conflict environments, interact with combatants, victims, perpetrators, and collect and interpret evidence. We focus primarily on civil wars—the dominant form of current-day conflict—as well as the international dimensions of these conflicts. The course is designed for students who anticipate research or practitioner careers related to conflict, security, peacebuilding, and/or development. We will examine the problems these professions commonly confront, such as data quality, propaganda, policy decision-making, international intervention, and investigating abuses and illicit behavior in complex environments.

Political Theory

POLS 60641: Theory Field Seminar

Dana Villa

M 3:30pm-6:15pm

CRN 31312

An examination of the primary methodological and interpretative approaches in political theory today. Readings from broadly "hermeneutic" theorists (Gadamer, Wolin, Strauss, Arendt), the Cambridge historical school (Skinner, Pocock), the Frankfurt School (Horkheimer, Habermas, Honneth), and contemporary analytic political theory (Rawls, Larmore). Depending on time and student interest, some consideration of post-modernism and/or deconstruction will also be included.

POLS 60669: Thucydides

Susan Collins

W 3:30pm-6:15pm

CRN 31311

That Thucydides' War of the Peloponnesians and Athenians remains a seminal text of Political Theory and International Relations testifies to its bold claim to be "an everlasting possession." The inquiry Thucydides undertook over two centuries ago into the fundamental causes of war and human action and the greatest aims of nations and states earned him the title of the first "scientific" historian. Through a close study of his great work, then, we will seek to understand what kind of science it constitutes and what truths it purports to discover. We will take up such central questions of political life as freedom and empire; the causes of war; the relation of speech and deed; the nature of regimes; the foundation of peace and political order. In the course of our study of the war in which an oligarchic Sparta eventually prevailed over the great empire of democratic Athens, we will consider also how in the flux of history, there may yet be the possibility of a wisdom that is continuous with human beings—that exists, Thucydides states, "in accord with what is human." Our overarching goal will be to achieve, as far as possible in a single semester, the unparalleled clarity regarding political life and human affairs for which Thucydides himself is justly celebrated.

POLS 60694: Aquinas on the Virtues, Law, and Politics

Mary Keys

T 3:30pm-6:15pm

CRN 31310

Cross-listed with MI, THEO, PHIL, and LAW. This graduate seminar focuses on many of the politically relevant writings of Thomas Aquinas, with special attention given to the interplay between faith and reason, and among ethics, law, and politics, in Aquinas's multifaceted thought. We will focus on selections on virtue, law, and politics from Aquinas's "Summa Theologiae", together with readings from Aquinas's commentaries on Aristotle's "Nicomachean Ethics" and "Politics", and from Aquinas's "De Regno" and "Summa Contra Gentiles". The course is open to well-prepared, senior undergraduates, with the instructor's permission.

POLS 60695: Foucault and Politics

Fred Rush

M 6:30pm-9:15pm

CRN 32317

Cross-listed with PHIL. The first third of the seminar is devoted to gaining the necessary background to discussing Foucault's lectures at the Collège de France of the late-1970s. The principal background text is Discipline and Punish. We then turn to three, consecutive sets of lectures: Society Must Be Defended (1975–6), Security, Territory, Population (1977–8), and The

Birth of Biopolitics (1978–9). The works will be read in English translation and discussion is in English. French is always a plus, however.

Methodology

POLS 60810: Regression I

Luis Schiumerini

MW 9:30am-10:45am

CRN 20174

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.

POLS 60835: Field Research Methods

Jaimie Bleck

Th 3:30pm-6:15pm

CRN 31309

Cross-listed with MGA. This course introduces students to a range of methodological approaches to generate and gather original data. The course will highlight "best practices" in research design and implementation, but it will also address the logistical constraints and trade-offs that graduate students face while conducting fieldwork. Over the course of the semester, all students will develop multiple strategies to build and evaluate their own research questions. *Also counts towards Comparative Politics.*

POLS 60843: Experimental Design

Erin Rossiter

T 3:30pm-6:15pm

CRN 31307

Political scientists across subfields are increasingly using experimental approaches. This course covers the design, implementation, and analysis of experiments. We will discuss both theoretical and practical aspects of experimentation. Core concepts will be applicable across types of experiments, including lab, survey, online, and lab-in-the-field.

Professionalization

POLS 61001: American Politics Research Lab

Matthew Hall

F 1:30 - 4:15 pm; 1/14, 1/28, 2/11, 2/25, 3/18, 4/8, 4/22

CRN 31306

The American Politics Research Lab provides resources, training, guidance and coordination for research projects in American politics. The lab supports research efforts by graduate students, undergraduate students, and faculty. Regular activities include training workshops, research presentations, question-and-answer sessions, project updates, and special topic discussions.

POLS 98701: The Academic Career

Christina Wolbrecht

TBA

CRN 22168

This class is designed to prepare Ph.D. students for success in finding a faculty position in academia.

POLS 98702: Research, Dissertation, and Publication Workshop

Susan Collins

TBA

CRN 26956

This workshop is for all Theory and Constitutional Studies Ph.D. students working on Dissertations, Dissertation Prospectuses, conference papers, and scholarly articles for publication. Every student will submit and present their research and writing to the group for constructive criticism and guidance. Students must be at least in their second year of the program, and the course is especially important for those who are preparing dissertation prospectuses and chapters. The course will meet every other week through the year.

POLS 98704: Dissertation Writing Workshop

Karrie Koesel

Th 3:30pm-6:15pm

CRN 27266

This course is designed to provide a structure for dissertation writing for Ph.D. students who are writing a dissertation or a dissertation proposal employing empirical (qualitative and/or quantitative) methods. We will focus on structuring dissertation and proposal writing and workshopping student chapters and other dissertation-related writing.

Directed Readings & Research

All are [variable credit courses](#). See [Class Search](#) for all sections offered for these courses.

POLS 66900 - Directed Readings (*Letter grade*)*

POLS 66903 - Directed Readings (*S/U grade*)*

POLS 67950 - Examination Preparation**

POLS 98699 - Research and Dissertation

POLS 98700 - Nonresident Dissertation Research**

*Directed Readings require email approval from the faculty member. If the course is going to count toward field requirements, prior, written approval is required by the field chair and DGS and filed by the Graduate Studies Coordinator. Contact the [Graduate Studies Coordinator](#) for more information.

**Contact the [Graduate Studies Coordinator](#) to set-up a section.