



UNIVERSITY OF
NOTRE DAME

POLITICAL SCIENCE

Undergraduate Course Schedule Spring 2024

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American Politics

POLS 10100: Intro to American Politics

Christina Wolbrecht

MW 11:00a - 12:15p

CRN 21894

This course surveys the basic institutions and practices of American politics. The goal of the course is to gain a more systematic understanding of American politics that will help you become better informed and more articulate. The course examines the institutional and constitutional framework of American politics and identifies the key ideas needed to understand politics today. The reading and writing assignments have been designed not only to inform you, but also to help develop your analytic and research skills. The themes of the course include the logic and consequences of the separation of powers, the build-in biases of institutions and procedures, the origins and consequence of political reforms, connections between demographics and politics, and recent changes in American politics in the 21st century. This semester we will emphasize the significance of the upcoming elections. Although the course counts toward the Political Science major and will prepare prospective majors for further study of American politics, its primary aim is to introduce students of all backgrounds and interests to the information, ideas, and academic skills that will enable them to understand American politics better.

POLS 20100: Intro to American Politics

Christina Wolbrecht

MW 11:00a - 12:15p

CRN 21083

This course surveys the basic institutions and practices of American politics. The goal of the course is to gain a more systematic understanding of American politics that will help you become better informed and more articulate. The course examines the institutional and constitutional framework of American politics and identifies the key ideas needed to understand politics today. The reading and writing assignments have been designed not only to inform you, but also to help develop your analytic and research skills. The themes of the

course include the logic and consequences of the separation of powers, the build-in biases of institutions and procedures, the origins and consequence of political reforms, connections between demographics and politics, and recent changes in American politics in the 21st century. This semester we will emphasize the significance of the upcoming elections. Although the course counts toward the Political Science major and will prepare prospective majors for further study of American politics, its primary aim is to introduce students of all backgrounds and interests to the information, ideas, and academic skills that will enable them to understand American politics better.

POLS 30005: The United States Congress

Rachel Porter

MW 11:00a - 12:15p

CRN 32180

This course is a comprehensive introduction to the workings of the contemporary U.S. Congress. We will examine who runs for and who wins seats in Congress, the lawmaking processes in the House and Senate, and the roles of parties and leaders in the two chambers. The purpose of this course is to examine two fundamental questions: (1) what do members of Congress do and why and (2) how do the individual and collective actions of members of Congress explain national policy? We will examine the process of legislating as well as the role of political parties, leaders, and interest groups. Throughout the semester, we will debate the common criticism that “Congress is broken” and consider its effectiveness as an institution. Is policymaking too partisan? Is the public’s disapproval of Congress justified?

POLS 30024: Media and Politics

Darren Davis

TR 9:30a - 10:45a

CRN 25685

Although the mass media is not formally part of the U.S. government, it is arguably the most powerful institution shaping public attitudes, creating and producing information, and communicating political information to individual citizens. Almost all exposure to politics comes not from direct experience but from mediated stories. And, with the rise of the Internet, the growth of 24-hour cable news, and the decline of the “Big Three” television networks has created, a more diffuse media environment has been created. The primary purpose of this course is to analyze the role of the media in American politics and its relationship with the public, government, and candidates for office in a democratic society.

POLS 30028: Religion in American Politics**David Campbell****MW 3:30a - 4:45p****CRN 28446**

This course will examine the many ways in which religion has been fused into American politics. In doing so, we will also explore the rising tide of secularism in the United States, which many argue has resulted from a backlash to the fusion of religion and conservative politics. Then it will turn to trying to solve the puzzle of America's religious pluralism—if religion is so politically divisive, why are Americans so accepting of (most) religions other than their own? What explains the exceptions to that acceptance? What are the implications of a secularizing America for religious pluralism?

POLS 30035: Race, Ethnicity, and American Politics**Dianne Pinderhughes****TR 2:00p - 3:15p****CRN 32181**

This course introduces students to the dynamics of the social and historical construction of race and ethnicity in American political life. The course explores the following core questions: What are race and ethnicity? What are the best ways to think about the impact of race and ethnicity on American citizens? What is the history of racial and ethnic formation in American political life? How do race and ethnicity link up with other identities animating political actions like gender and class? What role do American political institutions, the Congress, presidency, judiciary, state and local governments, etc. play in constructing and maintaining these identity categories? Can these institutions ever be used to overcome the points of division in American society?

POLS 30045: Politics of Inequality in America**Ricardo Ramirez****MW 11:00a - 12:15p****CRN 32458**

In the past four decades, the United States has experienced an unprecedented rise in income and wealth inequality. Inequalities across multiple other dimensions (race, ethnicity, geography, and gender) are also pervasive. This course examines a multitude of questions related to politics, policy, and varieties of inequality. How has the American political system and the policies it produces affected levels of inequality in the U.S.? How has inequality shaped American politics and policy? What is the relationship between income and power? What are the political consequences of increasing income inequality? What are the implications of racial and ethnic inequities for the quality of democratic representation? Which policies increase political inequality? What are effective remedies for unequal influence? Finally, which institutions move democratic practice furthest towards full democratic equality and which ones serve to reinforce historical hierarchies? This course is designed to help students understand the political causes and consequences of inequality in America and consider potential interventions to support human flourishing for all.

POLS 30063: Constitutional Criminal Law and Procedure**William Dailey****MW 9:30a - 10:45a****CRN 29323**

This proposed course would cover a lot of constitutional terrain involved in the area of criminal justice, from investigative steps through trial and sentencing. It would cover significant issues in 4th, 5th, 6th and 8th Amendment law as well as situating them within broader philosophical concerns about justice, Catholic Social Teaching, and the questions of race.

POLS 30104: The Kennedy Presidency, Its Aftermath, and the Rise of the Security State**Craig Iffland****TR 3:30p - 6:00p****CRN 32448**

Sixty years ago, President John F. Kennedy was assassinated, in broad daylight, in the presence of hundreds of witnesses, while traveling in his presidential motorcade through Dealey Plaza in downtown Dallas, Texas. On that day, a historic presidency came to a tragic end. Two days later, the alleged assassin (Lee Harvey Oswald) was murdered by a Dallas nightclub owner (Jack Ruby) while being escorted from his cell by a host of police officers, raising the possibility of a conspiracy. The official investigation into Kennedy's assassination ("The Warren Report") was met with fierce public skepticism, precipitating numerous Congressional investigations that revealed extensive covert operations (both in the US and abroad) conducted by the Central Intelligence Agency and the Federal Bureau of Investigation that would have been relevant to those charged with investigating the assassination. When combined with an already heightened public skepticism of the assassination itself, these revelations proved to be an enduring catalyst for a slow and steady decline of public trust in government that continues unabated to our present day. In this course, we examine the origins and rise of the "security state" in the United States, its role in significant events in the Kennedy presidency, including the investigation into his assassination, and the extent of its power both before and after Kennedy's presidency. Ultimately, students will be asked whether and to what extent the demands of national security conflict with the constitutional prerogatives of a representative democracy.

POLS 30127: The Law of American Democracy**Rick Garnett****TR 11:00a - 12:15p****CRN 32445**

This course will examine ways that law structures, promotes, and governs the practice of democracy in America. Topics include key features of the American constitution, including federalism, bicameralism, the separation of powers, and judicial review; the First Amendment and the freedoms of speech and press; voting rights, elections, parties, and campaigns; and the changes caused and challenges posed by technological and other developments. This course will be taught by a member of the Notre Dame Law School faculty. It is designed and intended for undergraduates, without legal training, but it will be taught in a manner typical for law schools and will involve engagement with, and close reading of, legal texts.

POLS 30136: Latinos in the Future of America: Building Transformative Leadership**Luis Fraga****MW 11:00a - 12:15p****CRN 23576**

This course will examine the opportunities and challenges facing Latino communities today as they simultaneously transform and are transformed by their continuing growth in U.S. society. Through a careful examination of the biographies of leaders in Latino communities, we will examine what role they have each played in empowering Latino communities to advance in business, arts, education, community organizing, entertainment, medicine, religion, law, academia, politics, and other areas. The course will coincide with the Transformative Latino Leadership Speaker Series sponsored by the Arthur Foundation through the Institute for Latino Studies. Students in the class will have the opportunity to interact with invited leaders in several settings including the classroom, meals, receptions, and university-wide events. The primary course requirement is a research essay about the life and career of a chosen leader.

POLS 30161: Black Political Thought**Bernard Forjwuor****MW 9:30a - 10:45a****CRN 32443**

This course will focus on the writings of Black political thinkers in the Americas, Africa, and Europe. Through critical examination of the conditions against, and contexts within, which the political theories of these thinkers are situated, this course hopes to arrive at some understanding of the principles, goals and strategies developed to contest and redefine notions/concepts of citizenship (vis-a-vis the imperatives of race/racism and the global colonial formations), humanity, justice, equality, development, democracy, and freedom.

POLS 30175: Digital Deviance: The Psychology of Tech-Facilitated Offenders

Mitchell Kajzer

MW 9:30a - 10:45a

CRN 32581

Ingrained in our daily lives, the use and interaction with digital devices and the internet have given rise to technology-facilitated crimes. This course introduces the psychology behind these offenses and their perpetrators. Students will delve into the motivations and behaviors of diverse offenders, such as hackers, online child offenders, cyber stalkers, and identity thieves. Additionally, the course explores the psychology of individuals engaged in online activities linked to mass killings, alongside essential techniques of threat assessment. By comprehending the psychological aspects of digital deviance, students will be better equipped to address and mitigate the challenges posed by technology-driven criminal behaviors.

International Relations

POLS 10200: Intro to International Relations

Susan Rosato

MW 11:30a - 12:20p

CRN 21895

This course provides an introduction to the study of international relations. It covers several approaches to and issues in the field, including theories of international politics, war, nuclear weapons, terrorism, trade, finance, globalization, international law and human rights, and the environment.

POLS 20200: Intro to International Relations

Jazmin Sierra

MW 9:25a - 10:15a

CRN 21064

This course introduces the major questions, theories, and topics in the study of international relations. The course is divided in three parts. The first part focuses on the main schools of international relations theory and how they understand the effects of anarchy on the international system. The second part covers major topics in the study of international relations in two issues areas. We will first examine topics in international security pertaining to the causes, conduct, and mitigators of violence among state and non-state actors. We will then focus on topics in international political economy, such as the distributive effects of trade, the rise of finance, economic development, among others. The last part of the course centers on the future of world order. We will study how key stakeholders of the international system define and articulate their interests in a world where power is increasingly diffused.

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

Evaluate critically the readings by examining the logic, data, and conclusions presented by the author(s).

Understand the assumptions and conclusions of the main schools of international relations theory regarding the effects of anarchy in the international system.

Isolate the main sources of peace and conflict in international politics.

Identify which international actors, institutions, and processes shape world politics.

POLS 30201: US Foreign Policy

Dan Lindley

TR 11:00a - 12:15p

CRN 25687

The United States is the most powerful state in the world today. Its actions are important not just for US citizens, but they also affect whether others go to war, whether they will win their wars, whether they receive economic aid, whether they will go broke, or whether they will starve. What determines US foreign policy? What is the national interest? When do we go to war? Would you send US soldiers into war? If so, into which wars and for what reasons? How do our economic policies affect others? Does trade help or hurt the US economy and its citizens? We first study several theories about foreign policy. We then examine the US foreign policy process, including the President, Congress, the bureaucracy, the media, and public opinion. To see how this all works, we turn to the history of US foreign policy, from Washington's farewell address through the World Wars and the Cold War to the Gulf War. We then study several major issue areas, including weapons of mass destruction, trade and economics, and the environment. Finally, we develop and debate forecasts and strategies for the future.

POLS 30266: Political Economy of Globalization

Susan Rosato

MW 12:30p - 1:45p

CRN 32182

This course examines the intersection of politics and economics in an increasingly global world. Economic interdependence has increased dramatically over the past fifty years. While this has raised living standards in many countries, it has also given rise to new social, economic, and political tensions. This course offers an analytical framework for evaluating the consequences of globalization and provides an overview of several theoretical approaches to and empirical issues in today's global economy. The course is divided into three main sections. The first part of the course focuses on understanding what is meant by 'globalization' as well as an introduction to several contending theories of globalization. The second part of the course will focus on managing globalization, and will evaluate different options available to states, institutions, and other actors. The final section of the class will be devoted to empirical issues associated with globalization. Topics discussed include: the environment, corruption, human rights, non-governmental organizations, democratization, and regional trading blocs.

POLS 30308: Global Politics in an Age of Populism and Nationalism

Harrison Greenleaf

MW 9:30a - 10:45a

CRN 32183

Throughout the past century, nationalism and, more recently, populism have stood as two of the most powerful forces in global politics. The recent successful political campaigns of those such as Donald Trump, Victor Orban, and Jair Bolsonaro have displayed the enduring need for both scholars and students of politics to understand and examine these two political dynamics. This course will first explore the conceptual foundations of nationalism and populism and the debates surrounding their sources. Next, students will examine the consequences for both domestic and foreign policy, including such issues as trade, regime durability, international institutions, and war? Finally, the course will investigate both historical and contemporary cases of nationalist and populist leaders across the globe.

POLS 30321: Global Environmental Politics

William Kakenmaster

MW 2:00p - 3:15p

CRN 32184

Global environmental politics is a field of political science that examines how political processes shape environmental outcomes and vice versa. On the one hand, it is concerned with issues such as climate change, biodiversity loss, deforestation, and natural resource use. On the other hand, it studies things like political institutions, social movements, party systems, and state-business relations. All the while, it places these ideas in a cross-national, global perspective. Throughout this course, students will grapple with both foundational and emerging questions in the study of global environmental politics. Why do some governments have stronger environmental policies than others? When do interest groups support or oppose different forms of environmental regulation? What role do social movements play in supporting diverse coalitions of environmental interests? How do voters form and express preferences for or against environmental action?

POLS 30363: Introduction to International Development Studies

Lakshmi Iyer

MW 11:00a - 12:15p

CRN 24051

An introduction to the field of international development, with particular focus on the various disciplines that have contributed to and shaped the development discourse. Readings, lectures, and discussions will draw from various disciplines, including economics, political science, sociology, anthropology, environmental and technological sciences, public health, law, and gender studies, among others. We will examine debates on the meaning and measurement of development; alternative approaches to, and methods in, the study of development; and attempts to address some of the main development challenges facing the world today. There will be a central focus on understanding "what works" in development. Working together in teams, students will conceptualize and design an international development project using "real world" constraints.

Comparative Politics

POLS 10400: World Politics: An Introduction to Comparative Politics

Andy Gould

TR 9:30a - 10:45a

CRN 24465

In this course, we study how and why politics takes place as it does in countries around the world. We explore the origins of nation-states and seek to understand how democracy develops or decays. We investigate several country-cases in detail, including Britain, China, France, Germany, India, Iran, Japan, Mexico, Nigeria, Russia, and South Africa. For these and other countries, we study how globalization poses new challenges and opportunities for creating order, justice, and human flourishing.

POLS 20400: World Politics: Introduction to Comparative Politics

Andy Gould

TR 9:30a - 10:45a

CRN 21059

In this course, we study how and why politics takes place as it does in countries around the world. We explore the origins of nation-states and seek to understand how democracy develops or decays. We investigate several country-cases in detail, including Britain, China, France, Germany, India, Iran, Japan, Mexico, Nigeria, Russia, and South Africa. For these and other countries, we study how globalization poses new challenges and opportunities for creating order, justice, and human flourishing.

POLS 30401: Latin American Politics**Scott Mainwaring****MW 2:00p - 3:15p****CRN 32185**

Politics of Latin America is intended to be a multidisciplinary introduction to critical issues within contemporary Latin American culture, society, politics, and economy. An assumption behind the organization of this course is that many of the traditional boundaries between different disciplines in the social sciences and the humanities are drawn somewhat arbitrarily, and that a more comprehensive understanding of Latin America can, and even should, be approached from a number of different analytic and disciplinary lenses. Thus, we will trespass traditional disciplinary boundaries from time to time over the course of the semester. The course is divided into two major parts. The first part is organized around a number of key analytic lenses, which we will employ sequentially with an aim to gaining a deeper appreciation of important aspects of contemporary Latin America. We will begin with a discussion of the utility of "culture" as a tool for understanding Latin America. Is there such a thing as "Latin America" understood as a discrete category of countries, and if so, what do they share in common? We will follow this discussion with an exploration of what is certainly a chief cultural expression among any people, an exploration of levels of religiosity and their relationship to social and political behavior. Other key features of culture will be woven into the analyses of the case studies we will undertake for the remainder of the course. We will explore the wide variation in the quality of democratic governance in different Latin American countries. And we will look to some of the sources of that variation, including democratic institution building, economic and social policy making, and the persistence of populist politics, and forces in the international arena, such as U.S Foreign Policy, among other factors. In the remainder of the course, we will look specifically at country-cases in comparative perspective, in particular Mexico, Brazil, Chile, Argentina, Colombia and Venezuela. In selecting these cases, I have made a conscious decision to sacrifice breadth for greater depth. An effort will be made throughout the discussion of the cases to make broader comparisons with a wider range of Latin American cases.

POLS 30407: Dictatorship, Democracy and War in Latin America**Guillermo Trejo****TR 3:30p - 4:45p****CRN 32186**

Why have some countries in Latin America developed into democracies, while others have seen the rise of dictatorships? Why have some countries remained at peace while others are often at war? This course examines historical, economic, regional, and international factors that have influenced political development in Latin America.

POLS 30485: Comparative Courts and the Rule of Law**Anibal Perez-Linan****MW 5:05p - 6:20p****CRN 32187**

The death of a Supreme Court Justice triggers a bitter partisan battle over the impending nomination. Is this tragedy unique to the United States? Why are political parties so eager to control the Court? This course will explore how constitutional norms seek to protect judicial independence, and how political parties "game" such constitutional norms worldwide. We will analyze episodes of "packing" and "purging" of supreme courts and constitutional tribunals in different countries. We will investigate the practice of "strategic retirement" in the US Supreme Court, the threat posed by legislative majorities to judicial independence, and the slippery slope of partisan manipulation. We will also address whether judicial purges constitute opportunities for a more balanced judiciary (for instance, in terms of gender). Comparative analysis will help us learn from the experience of other nations. This course will introduce students to basic notions of game theory and quantitative analysis.

POLS 30543: Nothing is True and Everything is Possible: Politics, Media, and War in Putin's Russia**Sean Griffin****TR 3:30p - 4:45p****CRN 31752**

In 1987, the Soviet Union was the largest political entity on the planet. Four years later, it had vanished from the map entirely. In this interdisciplinary course, you will learn about the 'new Russia' that has emerged in the three decades since this stunning collapse. Drawing on an array of resources in English translation, you will explore the politics, media, and culture of the post-Soviet period: from the lawless years of the "wild 90s" under Boris Yeltsin to the return of totalitarianism under Vladimir Putin and his brutal invasion of Ukraine. In so doing, your study of contemporary Russia will lead us to discuss some of the most pressing questions in global politics today. What is the nature of truth and power in Putin's dystopian propaganda state? Should the current leadership in Russia be described as a fascist regime or neo-Soviet? And, perhaps most importantly, how did Russia's democratic experiment ultimately end with the launch of the largest war in Europe since 1945—and what lessons might this failure hold for America and the rest of the world?

POLS 40490: Sustainability: Principles and Practices**Debra Javeline****TR 12:30p - 1:45p****CRN 28450**

This interdisciplinary course explores the challenges of environmental sustainability through social, economic, scientific, and theological lenses. Taught jointly by professors from the natural sciences, humanities, and social sciences, the course aims to instill broad, integrative and critical thinking about contemporary global environmental problems whose solutions will depend on multidisciplinary approaches. This gateway course to the Minor in Sustainability is open to all students interested in a deep exploration of these critical issues. Students considering the Minor in Sustainability are encouraged to take this course during their sophomore year. Requirements include a field trip and two hours of community volunteer work.

POLS 40505: Cities, States, and Global Governance**Kyle Jaros****TR 9:30a - 10:45a****CRN 32616**

At a moment when global challenges - from climate change to inclusive development to public health threats - loom large, many nation-states seem unable to come together to address them. In what ways are the world's cities and subnational governments working on their own and in concert to meet these challenges? This course examines the distinctive roles and capacities of cities, provinces, and states in managing global policy issues and explores different modes of trans-local cooperation and coordination. We start by considering the global governance shortcomings of nation-states and exploring the multilevel character of key policy challenges. We next use case studies from different issue-areas to assess how action by subnational governments is contributing to but also complicating solutions. We conclude by discussing the limitations of subnational approaches to global challenges and considering the most appropriate policy roles and portfolios for subnational actors in the 21st century.

POLS 40520: China, Development, and the Global South**Joshua Eisenman****M 3:30p - 6:15p****CRN 32619**

What are Beijing's objectives towards the developing world and how have they have evolved and been pursued over time? In light of China's unprecedented Belt and Road Initiative and increasingly assertive military activities far from its shores, the answer to this question is perhaps more important than ever before. This course analyzes and explains China's strategies in Southeast Asia, Central Asia, South Asia, Africa, Middle East, and Latin America, and evaluates their effectiveness. It is informed by the functionally organized academic literature, but uses a regional approach that allows for comparisons among regions based on their economic, political, military, and social characteristics. Topics will cut across the overlapping political, economic and security

spheres, with particular attention paid to how different developing countries have perceived and responded to China's rapidly growing engagement and influence. This structure allows us to consider not only the unique features of Chinese engagement in each region, but also place them in the larger context of Beijing's strategy towards other developing regions and the developing world as a whole. This course will be of great interest to students and scholars interested in international development, Chinese foreign policy, comparative political economy, and international relations.

Political Theory

POLS 10600: Political Theory

Patrick Deneen

MW 3:30p - 4:45p

CRN 21896

This course is an introduction to political theory as a tradition of discourse and as a way of thinking about politics. The course surveys selected works of political theory and explores some of the recurring themes and questions that political theory addresses. This introductory course fulfills the political theory breadth requirement for the political science major.

POLS 20600: Political Theory

Patrick Deneen

MW 3:30p - 4:45p

CRN 21061

This course is an introduction to political theory as a tradition of discourse and as a way of thinking about politics. The course surveys selected works of political theory and explores some of the recurring themes and questions that political theory addresses. This introductory course fulfills the political theory breadth requirement for the political science major.

POLS 30665: Constitutionalism, Law & Politics II: American Constitutionalism

Susan Collins

MW 12:30p - 1:45p

CRN 32262

In "Constitutionalism, Law & Politics II: American Constitutionalism," we shall study fundamental texts of the American constitutional and political tradition in an attempt to answer questions such as: What is the purpose of government? What is the meaning of political equality? What is political liberty and how is it best secured? Since we lack the time for a comprehensive survey of American political thinkers, we shall examine select statesmen and critical historical periods, focusing on the Founding era, Lincoln and the slavery crisis, and the Progressive era and New Deal.

POLS 30700: Democracy and Virtue

Vincent Munoz

MW 11:00a - 12:15p

CRN 32440

"Democracy & Virtue?" investigates a simple question: Does democracy foster virtue? The class will approach this question, first, through a philosophical investigation of the nature of political regimes, including democratic regimes. This investigation will take place via a careful reading of and discussions about Plato's Republic. The class will then turn to an examination of America as a modern constitutional democracy. Our primary text for this part of class will be Tocqueville's Democracy in America. Additional readings from Montesquieu, The Federalist, and Catholic writers will also be introduced. Students should expect to read carefully and deliberately and to participate extensively in class, which will be conducted as a seminar conversation.

POLS 30705: Why the Church?

Daniel Philpott

MW 10:30a - 11:20a

CRN 26718

The subject of the course is Catholic apologetics in the generation of millennials (and Gen Z). Studies show that teens and young adults are leaving the Church in large numbers and that the ones who stay do not subscribe to Church teachings. Seeking to "meet them where they are," the course begins with an examination of contemporary trends in the religious lives of millennials, with a particular focus on Catholics. It proceeds to examine the major reasons why millennials are leaving the Catholic Church and to engage students in arguments for and against the Church's positions on: the rationality of God, science, sex and marriage, the Church's role in historical injustices, and politics. In the final portion of the course, we will pivot to a "positive apologetics" look at the case for the Church through beauty and the witness of the saints, modes of engagement that are said to appeal to the millennial generation. The course concludes with the case for the resurrection of Jesus. Taught in the political science department, the course considers the political dimension of each unit, corresponding to the politicized character each of the disputed questions in the mind of contemporary young adults who are leaving

the Church, as studies of opinion demonstrate. The course will be taught with a range of students in mind: those who are confident in their Catholic faith and wish to learn how to persuade others; those who are unsure of their Catholic faith; those who are of a different Christian or religious faith and interested in learning about the Catholic faith; and those who are skeptical of the Catholic faith.

POLS 30707: Foundations of Constitutional Order: Political Philosophy of Citizenship & Constitutional Government

Susan Collins

TR 11:00a - 12:15p

CRN 32260

This seminar-style course will examine foundational questions of constitutional order. We will begin from debates about the nature of political society among contemporary thinkers, Jurgen Habermas, Pope Benedict, John Rawls, and Carl Schmitt. We will then focus on key Ancient, Medieval, and Modern thinkers: Aristotle, Aquinas, Machiavelli, Hobbes, Locke, Montesquieu, Rousseau, and the Federalist writers. Our aim will be to attain clarity about the questions that are fundamental to every constitutional order, especially the character of our "original" or pre-political condition, the status of war and peace, the nature of political authority and law, and the proper ends of political community.

POLS 30751: Citizenship & Constitutional Government Core Texts II: Modern Constitutionalism

Mary Keys

TR 2:00p - 3:15p

CRN 32453

The "Core Texts in Citizenship & Constitutional Government" course sequence offers a select group of students an opportunity to study some of the seminal texts in history and philosophy of constitutional government. Students will study classical texts with Prof. Susan Collins (Fall) and modern texts with Prof. Mary Keys (Spring), including: Plato, Aristotle, the Bible, Augustine, Aquinas, Locke, Rousseau, Tocqueville, and others. Through small seminars, students will engage in a year-long conversation about justice, equality, liberty, and the rule of law. The sequence is designed for students looking for and willing to engage in deep, deliberate, and careful study of core texts of Western constitutionalism. No application required.

Political Methodology

POLS 30813: Simulating Politics and Global Affairs

Tom Mustillo

MW 2:00p - 3:15p

CRN 32617

Politics, markets, and the environment are all spheres of development that are fundamentally shaped by the action and interaction of many individuals over time. For example, the Arab Spring protests, the shortage of medicines in Caracas, and the rising water temperatures of the Baltic Sea are all system-level outcomes arising from the individual actions of thousands or even billions of people. In these spheres, leadership is often weak or non-existent. Scientists call these "complex systems." Complexity is difficult to study in the real world. Instead, scientists often approach these phenomenon using computer simulations (sometimes called agent-based models, social network models, and computational models). The goal is to build computer models of development that link the actions and interactions of individuals to the system-level outcomes. This class will use the perspective, literature, and tools of complexity science to approach core questions in the field of development.

POLS 30751: Research Design and Methods

Susan Pratt-Rosato

MW 2:00p - 3:15p

CRN 26347

This course is designed to guide juniors through the process of designing an original research project in the field of political science. Students will learn how to choose a topic, formulate an original research question, design and conduct appropriate research to answer this question, develop a thesis statement, and gather and analyze evidence/data to test the strength of their argument. Students will spend the semester constructing a research design that will outline the details of their research project. This course is not for current thesis writers.

POLS 40811: Quantitative Political Analysis

Rachel Porter

MW 9:30a - 10:45a

CRN 26717

This course is designed to achieve three objectives: (1) introduce you to research and quantitative analysis in political science, (2) help you become critical consumers of political information and policy-oriented reporting, and (3) give you the ability to answer questions of social scientific importance using data. Throughout the course, we'll discuss the complexities of generating good research designs, starting with how to ask interesting

questions and how to measure concepts of interest to social scientists. Students in this course will learn to understand the most common statistical techniques used in political science and acquire the skills necessary to use these techniques and interpret their results. A mastery of these techniques is essential for understanding research on public opinion and voting behavior, electoral studies, and comparative research on the causes of democracy. The target audience for this course is undergraduate students with interest in the social sciences (not only Political Science), who want to use quantitative approaches to solve important problems, as well as develop marketable analytical skills.

POLS 30751: Qualitative Political Analysis

Sebastian Rosato

MW 5:05p - 6:20p

CRN 26346

Qualitative Political Analysis introduces the core qualitative methods used in political science. Students will learn about applying the scientific method in qualitative research; the links between theory and evidence; research design appropriate to research questions, including comparing the strengths and weaknesses of qualitative and quantitative research methods; the difference between systematic, evidence-based research and anecdotal work; and important techniques for analysis, inference, and interpretation, including case studies research. This course can help prepare students to write a thesis in political science, but students do not need to plan to write a thesis for the course to be useful in their other studies and in their post-graduate careers. This course also serves as one of the core classes in the political science department's methods specialization, but students who are not pursuing the specialization are also most welcome and will find the course useful. The main goal of the course is to help students build their analytical skills -- to learn how political scientists think but also simply to learn to think better.

POLS 30751: Visualizing Politics

Michael Coppedge

TR 2:00p - 3:15p

CRN 26716

This course is an introduction to political, economic, and social issues through the medium of visual displays. This kind of course has become feasible because data are now abundant and easy to access and software for displaying and analyzing data are available and easy to use. The ability to examine and display data is an increasingly valuable skill in many fields. However, this skill must be complemented by the ability to interpret visual displays orally, and by a commitment to use data responsibly: to reveal, rather than slant or distort, the truth. We will discuss examples concerning drugs, marriage, climate change, development, economic performance, social policy, democracy, voting, public opinion, and conflict, but the main emphasis is on helping you explore many facets of an issue of particular interest to you. You will learn to manage data and produce your own graphics to describe and explain political, social, economic (or other!) relationships. The graphics will include line and bar graphs, 2D and 3D scatterplots, motion charts, maps, and others.

Junior/Senior Seminar

POLS 43002 01: Truth, Politics, and Democracy

James McAdams

TR 11:00a - 12:15p

CRN 23379

What is the relationship between truth and politics? Why should truth matter in a liberal democracy? Not very long ago, these questions would have seemed odd. Yet, we now live in a world in which truth seems up for grabs and people's feelings are more important than scientific knowledge and facts. We are also living in a world in which liberal democratic values, norms, and institutions are in crisis. Politicians of all political persuasions act as though staying in power is more important than serving the public good. Hence, they become masters of Untruth-telling. It's no surprise that citizens no longer trust their leaders and are susceptible to manipulation by conspiracy theorists, predatory opinion makers, and demagogues. What a mess! In this seminar, we will consider numerous aspects of the uneasy relationship between truth and liberal democracy in our troubled times. Topics will include the philosophical underpinnings of truth-telling; the relationship between truth and justice; "fake news," "alternative facts," and political lies; American exceptionalism, "post-truth," and the denial of facts and science; the benefits and dangers of social media; strategies for restoring popular confidence in truth; and what it means to "live within the truth." We will consider the perspectives of a variety of thinkers and political actors and pundits, both present and past, including Immanuel Kant, John Stuart Mill, Machiavelli, Vaclav Havel, Mark Zuckerberg, Tucker Carlson, and maybe even Donald Trump. This course is specifically designed for students who like to read, write, reflect upon, and discuss big ideas and big topics.

POLS 43002 02: Social Capital - Block Party 101

Jaimie Bleck

MW 8:00a - 9:15a

CRN 21336

Robert Putnam defines social capital as "connections among individuals - social networks and reciprocity and trustworthiness that arise from them" (2000: 19). This class will explore the ability of events, including parties, picnics, sporting events, and shows, to generate social capital across communities. What types of events can bring us closer to our neighbors or others in our community? Scholars recognize that membership in some associations, clubs, and friend groups can facilitate societal trust, political participation, political knowledge, public goods provision, and even disaster response. To what extent can participation in shared experiences and activities generate similar positive effects? What types of events can generate inclusive social capital that cuts across societal cleavages? This course draws on literature on social capital in different country contexts including the US, Japan, and Mali as well as case studies of different efforts to build social capital through community events. We will also explore barriers to social capital formation, the negative impact of social capital, the relationship between social capital and technology, and as well social capital in the context of crises. The class

culminates in an experiential learning project where the class will have to create an event that brings people from different communities in South Bend together with the hope of creating more lasting bonds.

POLS 43002 03: International Security

Rosemary Kelanic

MW 9:30a - 10:45a

CRN 23220

This course examines when, why, and how military threats and military force are used to obtain political objectives. We will discuss the many methods through which states and non-state actors attempt to convince their opponents to meet political demands, including military coercion, economic coercion, forced migrations, terrorism, guerrilla warfare, nuclear blackmail and all-out conventional warfare. We will also explore how the organizational attributes of these actors – for example, leadership structures, military cultures, and bureaucratic politics – may affect their decisions to use force and the effectiveness with which they do so. The course focuses on the period from the end of World War II until the present.

POLS 43002 04: International Flashpoints and Wicked Problems

Steve Landis

TR 12:30p - 1:45p

CRN 23219

This course considers lingering, current, and emerging crises in the international system. Special consideration will be given to topics constituting the “wicked problems” of the world that are considered hard to explain, complex to understand, and difficult to solve. Instruction will emphasize a cross-national, positivist approach for studying 21st Century issues such as climate change, migration, disease, terrorism, state failure, and poverty.

POLS 43002 05: Public Opinion and Political Behavior

Darren Davis

MW 11:00a - 12:15p

CRN 24467

A principle tenet underlying democratic governance is the belief that public opinion or the “will of the people” should dictate governmental behavior. To the extent this belief is a realistic consideration, difficult questions remain concerning the capacity for citizens to develop reasoned opinions and how to conceptualize and measure opinion. This course explores the foundations of political and social attitudes and the methodology used to observe what people think about politics.

POLS 43002 07: China Challenge: Guns, Trade, and Confucius

Victoria Hui

MW 3:30p - 4:45p

CRN 32189

China has gone from international isolation to a superpower in the last three decades. How has China orchestrated its meteoric rise? How have US policies facilitated and hindered China's efforts to close the power gap? Does China's rise present a challenge to American hegemony and an attack on the U.S. constructed post-WWII order? Are the world's two most powerful states locked in a 'Thucydides Trap' destined for war? This course analyzes China's ascendance through international relations theories and practices.

POLS 53002 02: Morality Politics and Culture Wars

Angela McCarthy

TR 11:00a - 12:15p

CRN 21337

What is morality politics and the issues that contribute to the 'culture war' in the United States? In this course, we examine several value-laden social issues including the debate over reproductive rights, LGBTQ+ rights, sex education, end-of-life issues, immigration, capital punishment, climate change, gun control, and artificial intelligence. We will examine the moral and ethical foundations underpinning these conflicts and the broader societal impact of these issues. Students will discern conservative and progressive perspectives and discuss ways in which we can engage in critical conversations to develop policy solutions.

POLS 53002 03: Strategy

Joseph Parent

MW 3:30p - 4:45p

CRN 21650

What makes good strategy? This class draws on lawyers, economists, ethicists, generals, business people, philosophers, historians, sociologists, and political scientists to study the foundations and limitations of strategic thinking. The main themes are power, persuasion, and unintended effects.

POLS 53002 04: Civil Wars

Steve Landis

MW 13:30p - 1:45p

CRN 22050

This course surveys the life cycle and dynamics of civil wars. Large-N, quantitative datasets and published research are used for analyzing the onset, duration, severity, termination, and recurrence of these types of conflicts. Special consideration will be given to important characteristics that influence civil wars such as ethnicity, regime type, natural resources, refugees, and international intervention.

POLS 53002 05: Causes of War

Dan Lindley

TR 13:30p - 1:45p

CRN 23577

Why do groups of people systematically kill other groups of people? War is perverse, tragic, and compelling. War's causes must be studied to prevent it when possible and to prepare for it when necessary. This course examines the causes of interstate and intrastate/ethnic war. The central theme and question of the course is assessing the extent to which wars are caused by accidents, misperceptions, and miscalculations. If misperceptions and miscalculations are prime drivers of war, then many policy prescriptions seem to offer the hope of reducing the frequency of war. On the other hand, if the cause of war is more often deliberately aggressive states, groups, or leaders, then must we place our hopes in deterrence alone? We will see as we examine a number of case studies including WWI, WWII, Vietnam, the Gulf War, Rwanda, the former Yugoslavia, and those you research for your papers. We may also cover terrorism, Iraq, Korea, India-Pakistan, depending on how things unfold. As a senior writing seminar, the class emphasizes clear and persuasive communication and argumentation, sharp discussion, lots of papers, iterations of papers, presentations of papers, and intro-group critiquing of papers.

POLS 53002 06: Liberalism and its Discontents

Patrick Deneen

MW 9:30a - 10:45a

CRN 32190

In contrast to 1989, when it was believed by many that liberalism was the political “end of history,” today the prospects of liberalism are being debated by voices across the political spectrum. What is liberalism? What are its strengths and weaknesses? Will it continue to be the dominant political form in the West, and if not, what are its potential alternatives?

Directed Readings/Research

POLS 35901: Internship

Claudia Francis

TBA

CRN 20183

The goal of the internship program is to provide opportunities to integrate coursework with real work experience. Interns are able to explore career options, gain valuable work experience, and build their resume. The Political Science department can help connect students with a variety of organizations in the South Bend

community. Students may also receive credit for an internship they have arranged, but must receive approval from the instructor prior to starting the internship. During the semester, students commit 6 hours per week to interning, preferably in two 3-hour blocks of time. During the summer, students commit to interning 20 hours per week for six weeks. Interested students should contact Claudia.Francis@nd.edu

POLS 35902: Exoneration Justice Internship

Claudia Francis/Jimmy Gurule

TBA

CRN 26996

Under the guidance of law school students and staff lawyers, interns participating in the Exoneration Justice Clinic (EJC) will review correspondence from inmates claiming wrongful convictions based on actual innocence in Indiana prisons and conduct research into the validity of the claims. Interns will also research resources available to assist exonerees upon release from prison to reintegrate into the community. The EJC is located at 806 Howard Street in South Bend. During the semester, interns will work 6-8 hours per week including a mandatory meeting on Thursdays from 12:30-2:00 pm (no exceptions/late arrivals). During the summer, interns will work 40 hours per week for 8 weeks. To apply, contact Claudia.Francis@nd.edu

POLS 46902: Directed Readings

TBA

Students on the dean's list are eligible for independent study on a topic of the student's choice, under the supervision of a faculty member.

POLS 47905: Research Apprenticeship

TBA

This variable credit (0 or 1) course offers undergraduates a chance to learn about and participate in the research experience. After several training sessions, students are assigned to a faculty member to work on an ongoing faculty research project.

POLS 58902: Senior Thesis

TBA