POLITICAL SCIENCE (POLISCI)

Courses

POLISCI 101 INTRODUCTION TO POLITICAL SCIENCE 1 Units
Introduction to Political Science introduces students to the specialties within political science, outlines the academic emphases within the major and associated requirements, and explores public and private sector opportunities in the field of political science.
PREREQ: POLITICAL SCIENCE MAJOR OR MINOR OR CONSENT OF INSTRUCTOR

POLISCI 141 AMERICAN GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS 3 Units
An introductory course covering the history, structure and functioning of American national government and its relation to state and local government.

POLISCI 200 INTRODUCTION TO PEACE AND SOCIAL JUSTICE 3 Units
Introduction to Peace and Social Justice teaches an interdisciplinary approach to understanding peace -- as more than the absence of war. It explores multiple ways to create the conditions where social justice can flourish from global to local levels. Themes: non-violence, conflict resolution, human rights, environmental sustainability, and social inequality.
PREREQ: COMPLETION OF GENED 120, GENED 130 OR GENED 140
CROSS-LISTED: POLISCI 200, SOCIOLGY

POLISCI 217 AMERICAN MINORITY POLITICS 3 Units
The central concern of this course is to provide the student an awareness of the political development of racial and ethnic minorities in today's political arena. It will compare and contrast the development of the white ethnic communities of the 19th and 20th centuries with our modern day racial and ethnic minorities.
CROSS-LISTED: RACEETH 217 AND POLISCI 217

POLISCI 220 INTRODUCTION TO PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION 3 Units
A course to introduce students to the concepts and problems of public policy and administration. Emphasis will be given to the role played by individuals and groups in large organizations; theories of organization will be set forth and operations of governmental administrative agencies in the political world will be examined.

POLISCI 240 LAW AND SOCIETY 3 Units
The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the development of law and legal practices from a political science perspective. Special emphasis will be paid to the political factors in our society that shape law. The manner in which law affects the politics of our society will also be stressed.

POLISCI 247 ISSUES AND CRISES IN AMERICAN POLITICS (GS) Repeatable 3 Units
An examination of selected major issues and crises confronting the American political system today. Both domestic and foreign policy issues are analyzed. Attention also will be given the political response to these issues and crises as reflected in recent policies and policy proposals of the national government. Repeatable one time (different topic) for a maximum of 6 credits in major/degree, but not repeatable for general studies credit.

POLISCI 250 INTRODUCTION TO POLITICAL THEORY 3 Units
An introduction to Western political thought, the role of ideology in politics, and perennial questions in political philosophy.

POLISCI 255 INTRODUCTION TO COMPARATIVE POLITICS 3 Units
This course compares the political systems of five or six countries, reflecting the range of political institutions and political behavior around the world. Students will learn to develop explanations for similarities and differences in the political life of countries around the world, e.g. why are some countries democratic and others authoritarian?

POLISCI 261 AFRICAN-AMERICAN POLITICS (DV) (GE) 3 Units
The course examines the African-American experience of race, ethnicity, class, and gender within the context of American political landscape. It will therefore explore the unique history, content and forms of African-American political participation as well as their struggle for freedom and equality as full citizens in the workings of various American political institutions.
CROSS-LISTED: POLISCI 261 AND AFRIAMR 261

POLISCI 265 POLITICS OF TERRORISM AND COUNTERTERRORISM 3 Units
This course examines the definitions, sources, patterns, and ideologies of modern terrorism. It then analyzes the objectives of various terrorist organizations as well as their operations, including strategies, tactics, weaponry, financing and state sponsorship. The course concludes by assessing the various counterterrorist measures, with special emphasis on U.S. counterterrorism policy.

POLISCI 266 ASIAN AMERICANS IN U.S. POLITICS 3 Units
This course explores political issues confronting Asian Americans in the United States. The course makes in-depth analysis of political aspects of Asian Americans as voters, as candidates, as activists and as contributors in the political process.

POLISCI 280 POLITICS OF URBAN INEQUALITY IN THE U.S. 3 Units
The course offers a sophisticated depiction of systemic urban inequality that constrains the lives of the urban poor. The readings will feature academic books and research articles that describe and analyze the politics and life experiences in inner-city neighborhoods.
CROSS-LISTED: POLISCI 280 AND RACEETH 280

POLISCI 291 TRAVEL STUDY Repeatable 1-3 Units
Variable topics. Group activity oriented presentations emphasizing "hands on" and participatory instructional techniques.

POLISCI 301 POLITICAL SCIENCE RESEARCH METHODS 3 Units
An introduction to basic research methods in political science. Topics will include various data collection and analysis techniques on the U.S. Presidency, the U.S. Congress, the U.S. Supreme Court, political socialization, political parties, interest groups, civil violence, rebellion, and revolution. Students will obtain "hands-on" experience with computer software designed specifically for political science and the social sciences. This is not a statistics course, and no previous knowledge of statistical methods is assumed.
PREREQ: 3 UNITS OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

POLISCI 302 WRITING IN POLITICAL SCIENCE 3 Units
This course will allow students to improve their analytical and writing skills through various writing assignments involving different formats. Some of the assignments will involve multiple drafts, based on peer and instructor feedback.
PREREQ: POLISCI 301

POLISCI 314 MEDIA AND AMERICAN POLITICS 3 Units
This course will examine the principles of media and politics, and how the media impacts American public's political attitudes and behaviors. Topics will include campaign advertising, alternative media, public space, bias, and persuasion.
PREREQ: SOPHOMORE STANDING OR CONSENT OF INSTRUCTOR
POLISCI 316 POLICE AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE ADMINISTRATION  3 Units
This course examines the administrative process within the criminal justice setting. Both administrative theories and principles as well as applications to the criminal justice system will be covered.
PREREQ: SOPHOMORE STANDING OR CONSENT OF INSTRUCTOR

POLISCI 317 THE AMERICAN LEGISLATIVE PROCESS  3 Units
The study of the organization and functioning of the legislative bodies, with particular attention to Congress: functions, membership, committee system, executive-legislative relations, pressure groups, lobbying, movement for reform.
PREREQ: SOPHOMORE STANDING OR CONSENT OF INSTRUCTOR

POLISCI 318 THE AMERICAN PRESIDENCY  3 Units
Analysis and discussion of the various roles of the President regarding his constitutional status and powers, nomination and election, administrative responsibilities, legislative and political leadership, and his role in the conduct of foreign relations.
PREREQ: SOPHOMORE STANDING OR CONSENT OF INSTRUCTOR

POLISCI 319 AMERICAN POLITICAL PARTIES AND ELECTIONS  3 Units
This course will examine the development, organization, and functions of political parties and elections in the American political system. Topics include the nature and function of political parties, nominations and elections, political campaigns and campaign finance, voting behavior and party realignment issues, and the role of the party in government policy-making.
PREREQ: SOPHOMORE STANDING OR CONSENT OF INSTRUCTOR

POLISCI 321 AMERICAN INTEREST GROUP POLITICS  3 Units
This course will examine the interest group system in the United States by examining the history, roles, strategies, successes, and failures of interest groups in the American political system.
PREREQ: SOPHOMORE STANDING OR CONSENT OF INSTRUCTOR

POLISCI 330 PUBLIC POLICY ANALYSIS AND ADVOCACY  3 Units
A systematic introduction to the study of public policy through an analytical problem-solving approach and the use of that evidence-based approach to advocate for policy change. The course will also examine and explore public problems and policy issues.
PREREQ: SOPHOMORE STANDING OR CONSENT OF INSTRUCTOR

POLISCI 331 U.S. DISABILITY POLITICS AND POLICY  3 Units
This course will examine disability politics and policy in the United States with a special emphasis on the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA). It will explore the formulation and adoption of disability policy with particular attention paid to the subsequent legal challenges that have interpreted disability law and expanded rights over time.
PREREQ: 3 UNITS OF POLITICAL SCIENCE OR SPECCED 201

POLISCI 340 POLITICS OF DEVELOPMENT  3 Units
This course focuses on the comparative analysis and contending interpretations of development in the developing countries. The analysis also includes the influence of the international economic system as exercised through direct foreign investment and commercial lending institutions.
PREREQ: SOPHOMORE STANDING OR CONSENT OF INSTRUCTOR

POLISCI 341 URBAN EDUCATION: ISSUES AND POLICIES (DV)  3 Units
This course introduces students to important issues and policies that influence urban schools. It provides a deeper understanding of the difficulties schools, parents, children, and teachers face in making American schools a truly equitable institution. The course is suitable for future teachers and policy professionals interested in the social, political and economic factors that shape urban schooling.
CROSS-LISTED: EDFOUND 341 AND POLISCI 341

POLISCI 342 SCIENCE POLICY AND HUMAN HEALTH  3 Units
This course will explore the intersections between science, public policy, and human health. A number of controversial scientific issues that have the potential to affect human health will be reviewed, which may include climate change, medical marijuana, genetic engineering and childhood vaccination.
PREREQ: SOPHOMORE STANDING

POLISCI 343 US ENVIRONMENTAL POLITICS AND POLICY  3 Units
This course will explore opportunities and constraints in the development of environmental policy in the United States.
PREREQ: SOPHOMORE STANDING

POLISCI 344 STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT  3 Units
A study of modern American state and local governments, their evolution from colonial beginnings, their problems and their potential. Topics include constitutional revision, the role of governors, legislatures and courts, forms of urban and rural government, and state-local relations.
PREREQ: SOPHOMORE STANDING OR CONSENT OF INSTRUCTOR

POLISCI 345 FEDERALISM  3 Units
This course offers a critical and comparative exploration of origins, operation, and significance of federalism in a variety of countries.
PREREQ: SOPHOMORE STANDING OR CONSENT OF INSTRUCTOR

POLISCI 348 INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS  3 Units
The course will explore theoretical perspectives as well as the expanding roles of international organizations in the context of global politics. It will provide an overview of the United Nations system, a number of regional organizations, and their contributions to the maintenance of international peace and security.
PREREQ: SOPHOMORE STANDING OR CONSENT OF INSTRUCTOR CROSS-LISTED: POLISCI 348 AND INTRNAR 348

POLISCI 350 INTERNATIONAL LAW  3 Units
A study of international law, its sources, development and content. Selected readings on theory, and form decisions and opinions of the Permanent Court of International Justice and the International Court of Justice.
PREREQ: SOPHOMORE STANDING OR CONSENT OF INSTRUCTOR

POLISCI 351 INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS  3 Units
An introductory survey of political relations among nation-states, including the topics of war and peace, nationalism, elements of national power, conventional and nuclear weaponry, diplomacy, economic interdependence, the Third World, and international and regional organizations.
PREREQ: SOPHOMORE STANDING OR CONSENT OF INSTRUCTOR

POLISCI 352 COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT - EUROPE  3 Units
Comparative analysis of politics in contemporary Europe. Topics covered include the political institutions and political cultures of major states in Europe, nationalism and regionalism in Europe, and the institutions of the European Union.
PREREQ: SOPHOMORE STANDING OR CONSENT OF INSTRUCTOR
POLISCI 356  POLITICAL SOCIOLOGY  3 Units
An analysis of the impact of social cleavages and cohesion on the operation of political institutions; the composition and behavior of power elites; the social base of political power; the social functions of electoral behavior.
PREREQ: 3 CREDITS IN SOCIOLOGY OR POLITICAL SCIENCE
CROSS-LISTED: POLISCI 356 AND SOCIOLOGY 356

POLISCI 357  PUBLIC OPINION AND POLITICAL BEHAVIOR  3 Units
An examination of public opinion in the United States as it concerns political and social behavior. Major topics are the acquisition of beliefs, leadership and opinion formation, voting behavior, and propaganda.
PREREQ: SOPHOMORE STANDING OR CONSENT OF INSTRUCTOR

POLISCI 365  BLACK POLITICAL AND SOCIAL THOUGHT  3 Units
This course will utilize a Pan-African approach to provide an organized and systematic pattern of social and political ideologies/thought put forth by Black publicists and theorists concerning the organization of their society. As such, it will survey the principal personalities and major protest movements that have emerged both in the Diaspora African Community as well as those in Africa.
PREREQ: SOPHOMORE STANDING OR CONSENT OF INSTRUCTOR

POLISCI 410  ANCIENT AND MEDIEVAL POLITICAL THOUGHT: GREEK, ROMAN, CHRISTIAN  3 Units
This course will examine the political thought of the ancient and medieval worlds, focusing on the Greek, Roman and early Christian periods. Through study of texts by Aristotle, Cicero, Augustine, and others, this course will highlight how these texts both reflect their own times, and inform political thinking today.
PREREQ: SOPHOMORE STANDING OR CONSENT OF INSTRUCTOR

POLISCI 411  MODERN POLITICAL THOUGHT  3 Units
An introduction to the principal political concepts and ideas of the modern period, including the writings of Machiavelli, Luther, Calvin, Locke, Hobbes, Rousseau, Hegel, Burke and others.
PREREQ: SOPHOMORE STANDING OR CONSENT OF INSTRUCTOR

POLISCI 412  CONTEMPORARY POLITICAL THOUGHT  3 Units
A study in depth of certain selected topics of contemporary importance, such as the resolution of power conflicts, the theory and practice of nonviolence, and the existentialist dilemma.
PREREQ: SOPHOMORE STANDING OR CONSENT OF INSTRUCTOR

POLISCI 413  CONSTITUTIONAL LAW  3 Units
A study of constitutional review, its meaning and nature. The development of constitutional relationships between the national government and the states as well as among the branches of the national government is considered.
PREREQ: SOPHOMORE STANDING OR CONSENT OF INSTRUCTOR

POLISCI 414  THE CONSTITUTION AND CIVIL LIBERTIES  3 Units
A course focusing on the constitutional development of the freedoms of individuals and the limitations upon the powers of government, both state and national.
PREREQ: SOPHOMORE STANDING OR CONSENT OF INSTRUCTOR

POLISCI 415  CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND THE CONSTITUTION  3 Units
This course examines the role of the major participants in the criminal justice system-defendants, police, prosecutions, courts, and corrections-and the development of constitutional law regulating their behavior.
PREREQ: SOPHOMORE STANDING OR CONSENT OF INSTRUCTOR

POLISCI 416  THE CONSTITUTION AND CIVIL RIGHTS  3 Units
This course focuses on the development of constitutional law in the area of equal rights protections offered by the Fourteenth Amendment and civil rights protections guaranteed by the national government.
PREREQ: SOPHOMORE STANDING OR CONSENT OF INSTRUCTOR

POLISCI 418  LEGAL RESEARCH AND WRITING  3 Units
The purpose of this course is to introduce students to research and writing in the field of public law. Students will learn how to use a variety of legal resource materials and how to cite the materials appropriately. Students will also demonstrate a mastery of these skills by completing homework assignments and by writing two major papers.
PREREQ: POLISCI 413 OR POLISCI 414 OR POLISCI 415 OR POLISCI 416

POLISCI 419  THE JUDICIAL PROCESS  3 Units
A study of the American judicial system as part of the larger framework of the political, social and economic systems of the nation. Emphasis will be on topics such as the judicial role, judicial organization and jurisdiction, judicial power, and the decisional process rather than legal cases.
PREREQ: SOPHOMORE STANDING OR CONSENT OF INSTRUCTOR

POLISCI 420  AMERICAN POLITICAL THOUGHT  3 Units
A study of the fundamental political ideas of America and the political philosophers who espoused them from colonial times to the present.
PREREQ: SOPHOMORE STANDING OR CONSENT OF INSTRUCTOR

POLISCI 421  PUBLIC PERSONNEL ADMINISTRATION  3 Units
A critical study of problems of public personnel, with particular emphasis on the process of recruiting and managing people in the public services.
PREREQ: 3 UNITS OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
UNREQ: MANGENMT 320 AND POLISCI 421

POLISCI 422  RELIGION AND AMERICAN POLITICS  3 Units
This course provides an overview of how religion influences American politics, and how the U.S. political process shapes the practice of religion in America. Students will learn about American religious history, religious pluralism, religious political behavior, religious interest groups and social movements, and religion and the U.S. constitution.
PREREQ: SOPHOMORE STANDING OR CONSENT OF INSTRUCTOR

POLISCI 430  FORMATION OF PUBLIC POLICY  3 Units
This course will examine the major public policy problems facing the United States today and the political processes seeking to resolve these problems. Special emphasis to be given to governmental cooperation in seeking to resolve these problems.
PREREQ: SOPHOMORE STANDING OR CONSENT OF INSTRUCTOR

POLISCI 440  THE POLITICS OF GOVERNMENT BUDGETING  3 Units
An introduction to the study of criteria for what services or functions should be undertaken by government and in what amounts; analyzing the effects that government spending and taxes have on the behavior of the private sector and on the political system, and evaluating the problems and solutions for allocating tax burden equitably among different groups in society.
PREREQ: SOPHOMORE STANDING OR CONSENT OF INSTRUCTOR

POLISCI 446  POLITICS OF THE METROPOLIS  3 Units
A treatment of social, economic and political forms, structures, processes and behavior in metropolitan communities. Ideas concerning the power structure and decision-making process, the role of the citizen, and the complex whole of metropolitan life will be discussed.
PREREQ: 3 UNITS OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
POLISCI 456  GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS OF LATIN AMERICA  3 Units
This is a survey course of Latin American government and politics. Major
concepts and principles of comparative politics are reviewed and applied
to the Latin American context. Country studies may include Mexico,
Brazil, Argentina, Chile, Cuba, Guatemala, and Venezuela.
PREREQ: SOPHOMORE STANDING OR CONSENT OF INSTRUCTOR

POLISCI 457  AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY  3 Units
An analysis of the forces and institutions involved in the establishment of
American foreign policies. Emphasis is placed on the effect of the growth
of American power and responsibility upon the development of foreign
policies.
PREREQ: SOPHOMORE STANDING OR CONSENT OF INSTRUCTOR

POLISCI 460  GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS OF ASIA  3 Units
A comparative study of the political structures, institutions, and
processes of the nations of Asia.
PREREQ: SOPHOMORE STANDING OR CONSENT OF INSTRUCTOR
CROSS-LISTED: POLISCI 460 AND ASIANSTD 460

POLISCI 461  GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS OF AFRICA  3 Units
The course will critically analyze the political events, major problems,
processes and trends in Sub-Saharan African politics and society. It
will also attempt to examine the prospects for economic development
and democracy in contemporary Africa. Some African countries will be
selected for special attention.
PREREQ: SOPHOMORE STANDING OR CONSENT OF INSTRUCTOR
CROSS-LISTED: AFRIAMR 461 AND POLISCI 461

POLISCI 462  SOCIAL WELFARE POLICY  3 Units
Provides students with the analysis and critical understanding of the
policy issues surrounding historical and current social welfare programs,
of new social welfare issues and of policy decisions that lead to changes
in programming. Community organization, as an intervention approach,
will be explored.
PREREQ: SOPHOMORE STANDING OR CONSENT OF INSTRUCTOR
CROSS-LISTED: SOCWORK 462

POLISCI 463  PEACE STUDIES: CONFLICT RESOLUTION AND CRISIS
MANAGEMENT  3 Units
The course will critically analyze the political events, major problems,
processes and trends in international and regional conflicts. It will
examine the prospect for peaceful negotiation among states and
international organizations to solve international crises.
PREREQ: SOPHOMORE STANDING OR CONSENT OF INSTRUCTOR

POLISCI 464  WOMEN IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS  3 Units
This course takes seriously the explanatory power and importance of
gender in the study of global politics. It explores the roles of women
and men, femininities and masculinities in the shaping, defining, and
legitimating of world affairs. Using a critical, interdisciplinary perspective,
this course considers how gender helps us better understand security, the
global political economy, and global governance.
PREREQ: SOPHOMORE STANDING OR CONSENT OF INSTRUCTOR
CROSS-LISTED: POLISCI 464 AND WOMENST 464

POLISCI 471  GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS IN THE MIDDLE EAST  3 Units
An intense investigation of the social, economic, and political conditions
of Islamic, Arab and non-Arab countries of the Middle East. Topics
include basic tenets of Islam: political culture, formation of nation states,
political systems (monarchies and republics), consequences of political
development and modernization, and the role of the Middle East in
international politics.
PREREQ: SOPHOMORE STANDING OR CONSENT OF INSTRUCTOR

POLISCI 472  GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS OF CHINA  3 Units
This course exposes students to the breadth of Chinese government and
politics. It briefly overviews the traditional Chinese system, its breakdown,
and the rise of communism. It also overviews a more detailed treatment
of the characteristics and major events of the communist era.
PREREQ: SOPHOMORE STANDING OR CONSENT OF INSTRUCTOR
CROSS-LISTED: POLISCI 472 AND ASIANSTD 472

POLISCI 480  GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS OF JAPAN  3 Units
This course will present a historic and thematic overview of political
development in contemporary Japan. It consists of analysis of japanese
postwar politics, government decision-making structures and processes,
foreign affairs and political economy.
PREREQ: SOPHOMORE STANDING OR CONSENT OF INSTRUCTOR
CROSS-LISTED: POLISCI 480 AND ASIANSTD 480

POLISCI 489  SEMINAR IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION  3 Units
A study of the complex aspects of administrative organization, behavior
and decision-making in the area of public policy through the examination
of a variety of pertinent cases.
PREREQ: POLISCI 220 OR CONSENT OF INSTRUCTOR

POLISCI 490  WORKSHOP Repeatable 1-6 Units
Variable topics. Group activity oriented presentations emphasizing
‘hands on’ and participatory instructional techniques. Repeatable for a
maximum of 6 credits in major/degree.
PREREQ: 3 UNITS OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

POLISCI 491  TRAVEL STUDY Repeatable 1-3 Units
Variable topics. Group activity oriented presentations emphasizing
‘hands on’ and participatory instructional techniques.

POLISCI 493  INTERNSHIP IN POLITICAL SCIENCE Repeatable 1-12
Units
Study and work with a government unit or in some area of public affairs
under the direction of a faculty supervisor. Students will have the opportunity
to combine academic learning with practical experience
in government and politics. Repeatable for a maximum of 12 credits in
major/degree.
PREREQ: 3 UNITS OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

POLISCI 496  SPECIAL STUDIES Repeatable 1-3 Units
Variable topics. Group activity. Not offered regularly in the curriculum but
offered on topics selected on the basis of timeliness, need, and interest,
and generally in the format of regularly scheduled Catalog offerings.
Repeatable for a maximum of 6 credits in major/degree.
PREREQ: 3 UNITS OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

POLISCI 497  EXCHANGE STUDY Repeatable 1-12 Units
Variable topics. See Schedule of Classes.

POLISCI 498  INDEPENDENT STUDY Repeatable 1-3 Units
Study of a selected topic or topics under the direction of a faculty
member. Repeatable for a maximum of 4 credits in major/degree.
Department Consent required.

POLISCI 498R  INDEPENDENT STUDY - UNDERGRADUATE
RESEARCH Repeatable 1-3 Units
Study of a selected topic or topics under the direction of a faculty
member. Repeatable for a maximum of 4 credits in major/degree.
Department Consent required.

POLISCI 499  SENIOR HONORS THESIS  3 Units
Individual research for majors writing thesis for honors degree; emphasis
upon depth, scope and individual research on approved topics under the
supervision of a member of the faculty.
PREREQ: 3.25 GPA AND 21 CREDITS IN POLITICAL SCIENCE