



POLITICAL SCIENCE DEPARTMENT U.S. NAVAL ACADEMY

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS FALL 2016 (AY17)

Required Courses

FP130, U.S. Government and Constitutional Development. Core course taken by all midshipmen during their Fourth Class year. Basic concepts of American democracy, the Constitution, political process, structure and functions of national government and factors influencing its operation; emphasis on legal and ethical demands placed on government officials, both civilian and military, as defined by the Constitution and statute.

FP130X, United States Government and Constitutional Development for Foreign Students. The basic concepts of American democracy and the Constitution placed in a comparative context for USNA exchange students.

FP210, Introduction to International Relations. Approaches to analysis of international relations; nature and evolution of international political systems; foreign policy decision making; roles of non-state actors; diplomacy and war; economic development; and international institutions.

FP220, Political Science Methods. Discussion of the philosophy of science for the political scientist; instruction in research methods with emphasis on scientific method and quantitative techniques.

FP230, Introduction to Comparative Politics. Study of the origins of the modern state and the emergence of democracies and dictatorships. Investigates economic and cultural causes and consequences of democracy. Explores different regime types, institutional design, government performance, and survival. Introduces key theories and debates about political phenomena.

American Politics

FP372, Political Parties, Campaigns and Interest Groups. Study of dynamics of group politics (parties, interest groups, public opinion and elections) in the U.S. political system.

FP375, Politics and the Media. Comprehensive analysis of how print, electronic and computer based mass media choose, cover and disseminate information about American politics.

FP413, Constitutional Law: Federal System. Analysis of key Supreme Court decisions interpreting the power of judiciary, executive and Congress under the Constitution; nation-state relations; the commerce power; economic liberties.

FP430, Political Philosophy. Addressing the development of political philosophy, this course will examine intellectual heritage of Western thinkers from ancient Greece to the present.

FP485A, Energy Analysis, Policy, and Security. This interdisciplinary course focuses on energy analysis, policy, and security. The course is divided into four major sections: (1) Overview and Introduction, (2) Fossil Fuels, (3) Nuclear Power, and (4) Renewable Energy. The class includes specific topics such as: underlying energy science, best estimates of energy supplies and current usage profiles, energy policy trends, current and developing energy technologies, the economics of energy development and usage, and the competing interests and worldviews that drive the energy policy debates. Consists of large interdisciplinary lectures (conducted by Professors from Political Science, Economic, Oceanography and Engineering) and small discussion sections lead by a political science professor. No preexisting knowledge or expertise is required.

FP485B, Elections and Voting Behavior. U.S. elections from 19th century corrupt party machines to today's high-tech data-driven campaigns. Topics include voter turnout, voter mobilization and persuasion, election laws, campaign finance, voter disenfranchisement, party membership, public opinion, media, and campaign strategy, often featuring guest speakers.

Comparative Politics

FP323, Comparative Latin American Politics. Social, economic and political environments; regimes and government institutions and interest groups, political parties, students, church and armed forces; theories of Latin American political behavior with country case studies.

FP357, Politics of China and Japan. An investigation of the politics of a potential 21st century superpower and the world's second largest economy, examining their trajectories of development, the cultural and historical factors behind governance, formal and informal political institutions, and major problems confronting political elites.

FP358, Politics of Southeast Asia. This course presents a survey of Southeast Asian politics, including Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, and the Philippines. Democratization, political economy, the role of Islam, maritime piracy, and security issues will be examined.

FP367, Politics of Russia and the CIS. The development and disintegration of the contemporary Russian political system.

FP369, Middle Eastern Politics. Comparative analysis of domestic politics, political economy, the role of religion, foreign policies, and elements of international relations of Middle Eastern political systems; theoretical emphasis on ethnic conflict, conflict resolution and democratic development.

FP462, Special Topics in Iran Studies. Explores the challenges of Iran to the United States and its role in the Middle East. Taught by Class of 1955 Distinguished Visiting Professor of Middle East Studies.

FP485C, Armed Conflict, Rebellion, and Civil War. This course will embark upon an effort to rigorously assess the causes, dynamics, effects, and outcomes of civil wars.

FP485D, Special Topics in Israeli Studies. Explores special topics in the politics of Israel. Taught by the Miller Distinguished Visiting Professor of Israeli Studies.

International Relations

FP311, Ethics and International Relations. The course will focus on dominant theories on International Relations and will use historical and fictional case studies to explore the ethical dilemmas that arise in relations between states.

FP384, Politics of Irregular Warfare. Theoretical, historical and policy examination of low-level political-military confrontation; viewed from several perspectives, such as revolutionary, policy-making, military and nation-state; focus on U.S. response to low intensity conflict. (Prereq: 2/C)

FP407, Intelligence and National Security. Examination of nature, significance and development of intelligence including collection, counterintelligence, clandestine and covert action and evaluation; includes current issues and case studies.

FP408, International Law. Designed to introduce the basic elements of international law and to develop an understanding of the organizations and politics involved in international legal processes. (Prereq: FP210.)

FP437, International Organizations. International organizations in world politics; attention given to control of conflict and violence, economic cooperation and management of global resources; major focus on the United Nations; discussion of selected regional issues and other organizations.

FP450, International Political Economy. IPE investigates the relationship between state and economy by exploring the interaction of power and the activities of the market place. Revolves around topics (historical, legal and policy) associated with the int'l organizations and the role of the multinational corporations. (Prereq: FP210)

FP460, Nuclear Weapons and US National Security Policy. Development of nuclear weapons, their relationship to US National Security strategy, the efforts to control them and the security challenges that these weapons will continue to present for national security. Taught by the Class of 1960 Distinguished Visiting Professor of National Security.

FP485I, National Security Decision Making in the Cyber Age. Explores the exciting challenges and opportunities the growth of cyber power brings to national security decision making for both the Department of Defense and the rest of the US government. Focus is on strategy, policy, and operations versus the technical aspects of cyber. Taught by the Distinguished Visiting Professor of Political Science and Cyber Security Studies.

FP485J, Nuclear Deterrence Strategy in the 21st Century. After two decades of little attention, nuclear deterrence is once again a topic of discussion/debate in military and academic communities. Course addresses questions regarding how nuclear deterrence has evolved and what is anticipated in the 21st century.

Honors

FP505, Honors Senior Seminar. An advanced research seminar to carry out the research to culminate in a senior honors thesis. *Prereq: FP500, acceptance into the honors program, and 1/C standing.*

Upcoming Spring Courses 2017

American Government and Law Concentration

FP326, American Presidency
FP341, Political Psychology
FP345, Environmental Politics and Security
FP355, Civil-Military Relations
FP397, Criminal Law and Justice
FP414, Constitutional Law: Civil Liberties
FP420, Public Policy Analysis

Comparative Politics Concentration

FP323, Comparative Latin American Politics
FP367, Politics of Russia and the CIS
FP462, Special Topics in Iran Studies
FP486, Special Topics in Israeli Studies

International Relations Concentration

FP314, Formulation of U.S. Foreign Policy
FP371, Asian International Politics
FP384, Politics of Irregular Warfare
FP407, Intelligence and National Security
FP437, International Organizations
FP460, Global Issues and National Security Threats
FP486K, Weapons of Mass Destruction—Foundations and Policy

FP482, NAFAC Moderators Course
FP482B, Debate
FP500, Honors Advanced Research Design (2/C)
FP510, Honors Senior Thesis (1/C)