



POLITICAL SCIENCE COURSES SPRING 2016 (AY16)

Required Courses

FP130, U.S. Government and Constitutional Development. 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.

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 regime types, institutional design, government performance, and survival. Introduces key theories and debates about political phenomena.

Restricted Courses

FP482, NAFAC Special Topics. NAFAC Moderators only.

FP482B, Debate. This course is for members of the Naval Academy's debate team. Students will use research compiled by the squad in the first semester and write a paper to direct further research on the national debate topic and will present their research orally in a demonstration debate for the political science department.

FP500, Honors Advanced Research Design. Advanced research techniques: individual design guidance with special reference to advanced statistical techniques as well as methodological approaches. Literature review and presentation to the faculty. (Prereq: 2/C FPSH. Honors Director permission required.)

FP510, Honors Senior Thesis. A 4 credit advanced research seminar allowing students to complete the research that will culminate in their senior honors thesis. (Prereq: Acceptance into the honors program and 1/C standing.)

American Politics

FP326, American Presidency. Growth and evolution of Office of the President; executive agencies, their function, control and problems; special attention to president's selection, role as commander-in-chief and relations with the legislative and judicial branches.

FP328, Legislative Process. Decision making in the U.S. Congress; constituencies and elections, role of party and committees, and interaction with executive and judicial branches, bureaucracy, interest groups, and other actors.

FP345, Environmental Politics and Security. Examines the major environmental problems currently influencing U.S. domestic and environmental security policies. Reviews major theories and public policies about the relationships among environmental, demographic, and political conflicts to include global warming, pollution, degradation and future scarcity of land, air, ocean, fresh water resources and novel ethical issues. Special emphasis is placed on DOD environmental programs and the legal responsibilities.

FP355, Civil-Military Relations. An examination of the interplay between civilians and the military in a liberal democratic society. The course blends of theory, practice, policy, sociology, history and political philosophy to examine the relationship of the professional military to the society which it serves. Employs a comparative approach with emphasis on case studies.

FP397, Criminal Law and Justice. An examination of both (1) the criminal justice system and the requirements of due process as mandated by the Constitution (double jeopardy, coerced confessions, plea bargaining, etc.) and (2) the criminal law – the nature of criminal intent, the criminal act, the defenses (self-defense, insanity, etc) as illustrated in such common law felonies as murder, rape, robbery, and battery.

FP414, Constitutional Law: Civil Liberties. An analysis of leading Supreme Court decisions in the areas of speech, press, and religion, equal protection of minorities and women, privacy.

FP420, Public Policy Analysis. Analysis of U.S. public policy toward social and economic problems, including nature of social choice; survey of selected policy areas, such as health care, education, housing and economic and social welfare.

Comparative Politics

FP322, Comparative European Politics. Study of foreign and domestic policy issues and processes of major European political systems as well as NATO, the European Union, and the U.S.-European relationship.

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

FP486C, Politics of Popular Culture in World Politics. All around us, in our globalized, digitally connected world, words and images matter, from a cartoon that makes Muslims mad enough to kill (Charlie Hebrow, Paris attack), to movies that cause cyber warfare (Sony Pictures, The Interview), to TV shows that make a place for gay identity in everyday life (Will and Grace, and Modern Family), to infotainment news shows that host presidents and heads of state where they engage global publics on policy decisions (Jon Stewart and Colbert Report). Over the semester we will explore the many ways in which popular culture shapes and is shaped by politics.

FP486D, Comparative Democratic Institutions. Examination of the central institutions of democratic governance, including the structure of executive and legislative institutions, electoral systems, and political parties; consideration of the effects of institutions on representation, accountability, policy outcomes, and democratic stability.

FP486E, Debates in Iranian Politics, Culture, and Society. This course explores the politics, culture, and society of Iran through the voices of those prominent intellectuals, reformers, clerics, poets, and others who have helped shape the country's major debates and events, from the nineteenth century until today. From European-inspired intellectuals and anti-Western clerics to dissident journalists and reformist politicians, this course will look at such topics as political participation, youth culture, journalistic freedom, and minority rights, relying heavily on original sources, including film and literature. Taught by Class of 1955 Distinguished Visiting Professor of Middle East Studies.

International Relations

FP371, Asian International Politics. Analysis of interstate relations of selected East and Southeast Asian states; concentration on regional organizations, security alliances and bilateral arrangements.

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.

FP421, National Security Policy. Examination of interaction of domestic and foreign political and military considerations in the formulation and execution of national security policy; use of case studies and review of current strategic policies.

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.

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 National Security Chair.

FP486J, Nuclear Weapons and 21st Century Nuclear Strategy. Following two decades of a strategic intellectual nuclear holiday, finally, deterrence is once again a topic of discussion and debate in the military and academic communities. Addresses questions regarding how nuclear deterrence has evolved and its anticipated future and effectiveness in the 21st century.

FP486K, Weapons of Mass Destruction – Foundations and Policy. Course examines the unique contemporary and enduring global political and security issues posed by chemical, biological, radiological (or so called “dirty bombs”), and nuclear weapons (CBRN). Reviews WMD history, US Government policies and international agreements, and strategies to reduce the dangers posed by state and non-state use of WMD.

