

POLITICAL SCIENCE COURSES FALL 2011 (AY12) January 27, 2011

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. **Successful completion of FP130 is required for enrollment in all other required and elective FP courses.**

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; Third World 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 politics in other societies which offers students a basic framework for comparing political systems. Key theoretical concepts, analytical tools and seminal works in the field are introduced to lay the foundation for advanced area studies coursework.

American Government and Law Concentration (prereq FP130)

FP326, American Presidency. An examination of the presidential selection process and of the nature of presidential power in both the domestic and international spheres, with a focus on the ways in which they are both enhanced and constrained by other actors in the political system, including Congress, the judicial branch, the bureaucracy, the media, and the public.

FP341, Political Psychology. Introduction to psychological concepts and approaches used to analyze politics. Topics covered include acquisition of personal political attitudes and beliefs; the dynamics of public opinion; theories underlying PsyOp (Psychological Operations), revolutions and wars; and psychological sources of effective and defective decisions in small group settings such as juries, military commands and policy settings.

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

FP397, Criminal Law and Justice. By concentrating on the nature of criminal law, the institutions and actors applying it, the course seeks to give students a thorough comprehension of the justice system. (Prereq: 2/C.)

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

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

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, Elections and Voting Behavior. An analysis of elections and the voting process. Topics include candidate selection, the conduct of elections, and voting behavior, with an emphasis on the role institutions play in shaping the behavior and preferences of candidates and voters. (Prereq: FP220)

FP485B, Native American Politics. [This course covers the unknown world within the United States-the Reservation system. Tribal government, tribal schools, tribal economies, tribal prisons, tribal casinos and most of all, tribal grievances represent the main focus.](#)

Comparative Politics Concentration (prereq FP130)

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.

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. (Prereq: FP130)

FP358, Politics of Southeast Asia. Introduction to the politics of Southeast Asia. Examine types of political regimes existing in the region, state of democracy, recent political and economic developments, international relations in the region, and security issues. Also examines the role of Islam in the politics of several Southeast Asian nations.

FP365, African Politics. Analysis of political trends and constitutional development of African political systems; their relations with one another and outside world; attention directed to U.S. security interests in Africa.

FP367, Politics of Russia and the CIS. The development and disintegration of the modern Soviet 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.

FP440, Politics of Central Europe. Analysis of the politics of Central Europe from a comparative perspective; the struggle for national identity and economic development in the post-communist environment.

FP462, Special Topics in Comparative Politics: Politics and Challenges of Iran - explores the challenges of Iran to the United States and its role in the Middle East.

FP485C, Central Asian politics: Will investigate how emerging national identities in the Former Soviet Central Asia as well as South Asia have had a profound impact on local and regional politics. Focus will be placed upon how post-Soviet, post-9/11 and post-Partition states have used a reimagining of their past to appeal to burgeoning youth populations for political credibility. Course will deepen Midshipmen knowledge of a strategically important region as well as provide an analytical framework to deconstruct regional power-elite systems, growing security threats, and trans-border issues.

International Relations Concentration (prereq FP130)

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.

FP313, Information Technology and International Politics. Effects of information technology on both the national and international political systems; emphasis on changed weaponry, the vulnerability of “cyberspace” and other aspects of the information revolution on the relations among nations.

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.

FP360, Middle East International Politics. Addresses central issues pertinent to the Middle East such as the sources of conflict in the region, political and economic factors that promote peace and stability, the role of international organizations, and the role of non-state actors. Reviews the region’s colonial past along with domestic circumstances that affect the influence of the Middle East on global affairs. (Prereq: FP130 and FP210 or permission of department chair).

FP371, Asian International Politics. Study of international relations in Asia with topics on regional security structure, political economy, the roles of great powers (China, Japan, the United States, and Soviet Union/ Russia), and major security issues (such as the crises on the Korean Peninsula and across the Taiwan Straits).

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 LIC. 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. (Prereq: FP210, 2/C, U.S. citizenship.)

FP408, International Law. Survey of public law of nations including jurisdiction, citizenship, nationality, human rights, and treaty law. This course places special emphasis on the law of the sea, the law of war, and the legal issues involving the use of force by states. (Prereq: FP210)

FP437, International Organizations. Attention given to control of conflict and violence, economic cooperation and management of global resources; major focus on the UN; discussion of selected regional issues and other NGOs.

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 Global Issues and National Security Threats. Taught by the Class of 1960 Distinguished National Security Chair, Ambassador Paula J. Dobriansky. FP460 is open to upper class midshipmen majoring in Political Science. This seminar will deepen midshipmen understanding of U.S. security policy, involving domestical/international actors, processes and institutions and in particular, the usage of hard and soft power. Topics include: political, military, economic, non-state actors and legal implications of national security and global issues.

FP485D, Emerging International Security Threats. The course will cover the full range of current and looming challenges to global and national security, from violent extremism to proliferation of weapons of mass destruction to emergence of new powers (especially China) to failing states. It will also explore such systemic security challenges as pandemic disease, climate change, resource competition, and cyber vulnerabilities. The course will be in seminar format; combine political, economic, and technological analysis’ and involve policy and crisis-management “games.” (Gompert)

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 I/C standing.*