



POLITICAL SCIENCE DEPARTMENT U.S. NAVAL ACADEMY

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS AY19 (FALL 2018)

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 - U.S. Government and Constitutional Development. The basic concepts of American democracy and the Constitution placed in a comparative context for midshipmen from foreign countries

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.

Electives

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.

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.

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 major environmental problems currently influencing U.S. domestic and security policies. Explores major theories and public policy controversies related to global warming, pollution, land, air, water degradation and scarcity, and biodiversity. Discusses enduring and novel ethical issues. Special emphasis placed on DoD environmental programs.

FP356 – Conflict and Peacemaking. This seminar focuses on examining, discussing, and learning how to think critically about the nature of conflicts and the art of peacemaking in the post-Cold War world. It includes lectures, problem-centered learning approaches and discussion sessions. Interactions with experts and a visit to a foreign embassy assist midshipmen in gaining a perspective on conflict management and peacemaking.

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.

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.

FP372 – Political Parties, Campaigns and Interest Groups. Study of dynamics of group politics in the U.S. political system; emphasizes roles played by parties, interest groups, public opinion and elections in the U.S. political process.

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. (*Pre-requisite: 2/C*)

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.

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.

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.

FP460A - Nuclear Weapons and National Security. Explore the understanding of the development of nuclear weapons, their relationship to US National Security strategy, the efforts to control them and the security challenges that these weapons have will continue to present for national security.

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

FP469 – Islam and Politics. This course provides an overview of the relationship between Islam and politics. It covers important political developments in Muslim history: starting with the Prophet Muhammad's time, the establishment of the early Muslim community, the development of the Caliphates, the role of the Shari'ah (Islamic Law), the decline of Islamic societies, and their revival in modern times. Additional attention is given to selected topics, such as contemporary Islamic movements, the status of minorities in Islamic societies, the role of women, and the question of violence.

FP485C – Homeland Security: Strategy and Policy. An overview of homeland security. Analyzes US unconventional threats and vulnerabilities as well as organizational strategies and policies to counter them. Focus on intelligence reform, infrastructure protection, interagency coordination, and law.

FP485D – Arctic Security. The Arctic region is currently experiencing numerous and diverse signals indicating that this environmental system continues to be influenced by long-term upward trends in air temperature, modulated by natural variability in regional and seasonal anomalies. Arctic nations and 'near-Arctic' nations are adapting their economic and security postures to reflect increased exploration and development of natural resources, maritime traffic, and militarization. This course will examine the political, economic, and security implications of the thawing High North and impact on Arctic Security.

FP485E – U.S. National Security Strategy. Covers the foundations of US national security strategy, including national security actors, processes and both historical and emerging case studies of national security strategy challenges. Taught by the Class of 1960 Chair of National Security.

Honors

FP505 – Honors Senior Seminar. An advanced research seminar to carry out the research to culminate in a senior honors thesis. *Pre-requisite: FPSH major, FP500.*