

POLITICAL SCIENCE COURSES SPRING 2013

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.**

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 organizations.

FP220, Political Science Methods. Discussion of the philosophy of social 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. Offers students a basic framework for analyzing other political systems. Key theoretical concepts, analytical tools and seminal works in the field are introduced to provide foundation for advanced area studies coursework.

American Government and Law Concentration (prereq FP130)

FP320, Advanced Political Science Methods. Designed to enhance the student's ability to apply empirical methods to political science questions. Building on FP220, it expands the range of methods in the students' toolkit. Course will use R statistical environment; helps students identify datasets and appropriate methods for use in advanced research projects in Honors and Capstone classes. (By permission of instructor. 1/C and 2/C standing)

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. (FPSA Elective)

FP340, Modern Political Thought and Ideology. Introduces students to the main components of contemporary political ideas and principles; distinguishes among philosophical arguments, ideological convictions, and social movements; readings range from the extremes of anarchism to debates about feminism and environmentalism.

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.

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.

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. (2/C. standing)

FP414, Constitutional Law - Civil Liberties. Designed to present the student with a broad overview of the Supreme Court's interpretation of the United States Constitution and the resulting effects. Time will be devoted to the analysis of major Supreme Court decisions in the area of civil rights and civil liberties.

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

FP486J, Cyber Power: Policy and Economics. A growing dependence on military and intelligence networks and the networking of our critical national infrastructure can quickly become vulnerabilities. This course will develop a political and economic framework for analyzing cyber power. The course will cover the body of thought that impinges on cyber matters and provides a synthesis of this information in a variety of decision-making contexts. (Cavaiola)

Comparative Politics Concentration (prereq FP130)

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.

FP469, Islam and Politics. Surveys selected topics in Islamic political thought, contemporary Islamic revival, Islamic movements and parties, Islam and democracy, the rights of women and minorities in Islamic states, the role of the Shari'ah.

FP486C, 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)

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.

FP314, Formulation of U.S. Foreign Policy. Case study-based review of the content, formulation and execution of U.S. foreign policies since World War II, including decision-making processes, administration of policy and development of current policies.

FP324, Latin American International Politics. International subsystem; foreign policy making of Latin American states, roles of non-state actors; international institutions; diplomacy and violence; and application of international theory.

FP356, Conflict and Peacemaking. Examines the nature of conflicts and the art of peacemaking in the post-Cold war world; includes lectures, problem-centered learning approaches, and discussion sessions; interactions with experts and a visit to a foreign embassy will assist midshipmen in gaining a perspective.

FP370, International Russian and Euro-Asian Politics. Discussions of geopolitical, ideological, institutional, cultural and economic factors affecting foreign policy decision making in Russian and other members of Commonwealth of Independent States; regional and global issues of security, democracy and free market economics. (FP210 highly recommended)

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. (2/C. standing)

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: FP130, FP210, 2/C, U.S. citizenship.)

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.)

FP421, National Security Policy. Analyzes how the US defines and pursues its national security policy, including formulation of security strategies and the roles of major domestic and international actors.

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. 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.

FP486I, 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 technical analysis' and involve policy and crisis-management "games." (Gompert)

FP486B, War and Grand Strategy: Some Fundamental Concepts. Adopts an interdisciplinary approach by drawing on history, political science, international relations and economics. The readings consist of leading strategic theorists on war and allow students to evaluate and discuss the way political leaders and strategic planners have successfully/unsuccessfully grappled with the challenges associated with the use of force to obtain national objectives.

Restricted Courses

FP482A, Special Topics. NAFAC Moderators only.

FP482B, Debate. This course is designed 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. (can only take once for credit)

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.)