

POLITICAL SCIENCE COURSES SPRING 2014

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; 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)

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.

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 their legal responsibilities.

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.

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.

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.

FP468, Palestinian-Israeli Conflict. Provides a broad overview of the major themes in the Palestine Israeli conflict including how it started, what factors make the conflict so intractable, the major ideological perspectives, how the conflict affects US foreign policy and regional security in the Middle East.

International Relations Concentration (prereq FP130)

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.

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.

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. (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.)

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. This course will explore and deepen the midshipmen's understanding of the development of nuclear weapons, their relationship to US National Security strategy, the effects to control them and the security challenges that controlling these weapons of unprecedented destructiveness have presented and will continue to present for US national security in the coming decade. Baseline for the discussion of today's challenges and include focus on several case studies including North Korea, Iran, Pakistan, Black Market Technology Transfers, Nuclear Terrorism, Strategic Arms Reductions, and Nuclear Energy and Nuclear Proliferation.

FP486I, US Military Policy in the 21st Century. Taught by Distinguished Visiting Military Professor. The course will broadly focus on the formulation of national security and defense policy and strategy with particular expertise in policy and strategy formulation on issues involving East Asia, the Middle East, and South Asia. (Limited enrollment Dept Chair Permission)

FP486J, Statecraft: An International Relations Simulation. This class utilizes a fully automated simulation that allows students to experience the challenges and opportunities of statecraft in a complex, intense, and way. Students take on the roles of foreign policy decision-makers and grapple first-hand with the sorts of tradeoffs and responsibilities that characterize world politics.

Restricted Courses

FP482, 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.)