



## POLITICAL SCIENCE DEPARTMENT U.S. NAVAL ACADEMY

### COURSE DESCRIPTIONS AY18 Spring 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.

**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

**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.

**FP340 Modern Political Thought and Ideology.** Introduces students to the components of contemporary political ideas and principles. Course distinguishes among philosophical arguments and social movements and emphasizes how distinction blurred during 20th century. Key concerns include social justice, equality, liberty and rights. Readings range from extremes of anarchism to debates about feminism and environmentalism.

**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.

**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.

**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.

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

**FP360 – Middle East International Politics.** The course 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. The course also reviews the region's colonial past along with domestic circumstances that affect the influence of the Middle East on global affairs. A careful look at the Bush Doctrine and the rise of terrorism are included.

**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. (*Prerequisite: 2/C*)

**FP397 – Criminal 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.

**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.

**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.

**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.

**FP450 – International Political Economy.** This course examines the historical and theoretical foundations of contemporary international political economy. It explores the evolving association between government and economics stressing the roles of mercantilism, liberalism and globalization. It explores the political and economic influence of US national agencies as well as international organizations during the latter half of the 20th century.

**FP460B – Congress and National Security Decision Making.** This course will cover the constitutional role of and process by which Congress produces an annual defense authorization and appropriations bill as well as the jurisdiction of the armed services and appropriations committees. In addition to a brief review of the legislative process, this course will analyze congressional action on selected national security matters (e.g., war on terror, nuclear deterrence and modernization, cyber warfare, F35 procurement, Littoral Combat Ship program. military personnel issues, and other issues that may emerge during the course of the term).

**FP462 – Special Topics in Iran 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.

**FP468 – Palestinian-Israeli Conflict.** The conflict between Arabs and Jews over Palestine is one of the most important factors shaping Middle East politics. To date, the Palestinian-Israeli conflict has produced a series of wars and recurring patterns of violence. This course identifies key actors and motivations in the conflict as well as the conflict's intractability. Peace processes are also a topic of discussion.

**FP486I – Politics of Security in Northeast Asia.** This course will deal with the concept of traditional and non-traditional security and explain the relationships among Northeast Asia countries. Specifically, the course will examine the past, present, and future international security issues in Northeast Asia, including relationships between China, Russia, South Korea, North Korea, Japan and the US. Historic tensions between these regional neighbors make Northeast Asia a potential flashpoint in international relations.

**FP486J - Nuclear Deterrence Strategy in the 21st Century.** After two decades of little attention, nuclear deterrence is once again a topic of discussion/debate in military and academic communities. The course addresses questions regarding how nuclear deterrence has evolved and what is anticipated in the 21st century.

**FP486K – Weapons of Mass Destruction: Foundations and Policies.** Evaluates the threats posed by weapons of mass destruction (chemical, biological, nuclear, and radiological weapons). Covers technical foundations, international, state, and non-state actors and the issues of WMD policy and proliferation in the modern world. (*Pre-requisite: FP230 or FP210*)

## Honors

**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.

**FP510 – Honors Senior Thesis.** An advanced research seminar to carry out the research to culminate in a senior honors thesis.

## By Invitation

**FP482 – NAFAC Moderators Course.** *Pre-requisite: Acceptance as a NAFAC Moderator.*

**FP482B – Debate.** *Pre-requisite: Debate team membership. Can only be taken once for credit.*