Department of Political Science

Why study political science?

Because political science advances our understanding of politics, power, governance, and public policy in the United States and across the globe. In the broadest sense, political science is the study of governments and governmental procedures. Political science is as old as civilization, because people always have been interested in their government and in their leaders. But political science as it is thought of today, as one of the social sciences, is a comparatively new discipline. It developed in the United States during the last century as political scientists developed an ability to make increasingly scientific observations of government. Political scientists are concerned with the origins and sources of governmental organizations, their growth, and their decline, as well as with the processes and structure of government.

Ask yourself, Am I interested in public affairs? Am I a good analytical and critical thinker? Am I curious about the world and its workings? Do I communicate well orally and in writing? Do I want to be a knowledgeable citizen? Am I interested in the relationship between government and the people? Am I curious about how decisions are made and how conflicts are resolved?

Undergraduate Programs

Course work is for students studying contemporary political processes as part of their general education, for students majoring in allied social sciences, for students planning to enter professions such as law and teaching, and for majors in political science.

Courses for Nonmajors

Political Science offers several introductory courses that may be used as electives, to fulfill KU Core requirements, or to prepare for study in advanced topics in the same area.

Public Affairs Internship Program

The department supervises integrated internships for majors who are second-semester juniors or seniors. They are offered during the spring semester in Topeka and Washington, D.C. Programs consist of up to 12 hours in political science—an internship, participation in an intern seminar, and directed readings. Students serve as interns in Topeka or Washington at least 4 days each week and attend weekly seminars. Students also may enroll in a directed readings course with a faculty member on campus. Readings provide a theoretical and analytical study program related to the internship and the seminar. Contact the department early in the fall semester.

Graduate Programs

The department offers M.A. and Ph.D. degrees for students interested in academic work in political science leading to teaching and research careers. Political science graduates also have found careers in the public, private, and not-for-profit sectors. Ph.D. students can pursue concentrations in U.S. politics, comparative politics, international relations, political theory, and public policy.

Students who are interested in enrolling in graduate level coursework in the Department of Political Science without formal admission to a graduate program at KU are encouraged to apply for graduate non-degree seeking student status. See the department’s non-degree seeking admission webpage (https://kups.ku.edu/admission-nds) for further details.

Fields of Graduate Study

For graduate study, courses in the department are divided into the following fields:

- U.S. political institutions and processes
- Comparative politics
- International relations
- Public policy
- Political philosophy and empirical theory

Courses

POLS 102. Introduction to Political Science as a Career. 1 Hour S.
Provides an overview of the discipline of political science; emphasizes developing an understanding of opportunities in political science at the University of Kansas and careers with a political science degree. Major sub-fields within the discipline are discussed as well as the benefits of particular tracks within the departmental coursework. The course helps students plan their goals for their education and match those goals to career goals. Graded on a satisfactory/unsatisfactory basis. Prerequisite: Enrollment by permission of the instructor only. LEC.

POLS 110. Introduction to U.S. Politics. 3 Hours SF GE3S / S.
An introduction to basic American governmental institutions, political processes, and policy. LEC.

POLS 111. Introduction to U.S. Politics Honors. 3 Hours SF GE3S / S.
Open only to students in the College Honors Program or by consent of instructor. LEC.

POLS 125. Introduction to Intelligence and Statecraft. 3 Hours S.
This course examines the evolution of the U.S. Intelligence Community and how it is adapting to new international security challenges. The course discusses the historical background of U.S. intelligence and how political ideology, domestic policies, technology, and the threat have shaped today’s U.S. Intelligence Community. The course provides an overview of the roles, missions, and structure of the U.S. Intelligence Community and how the various components support national security decision makers. The course also provides an overview of diplomacy and intelligence as tools of statecraft. Course looks at foreign intelligence services, their targets, and operational successes and failures. Finally, the course addresses emerging national security issues potentially shaping future U.S. intelligence operations. On completion of the course, students will have an in-depth understanding of the U.S. Intelligence community, how it supports national security decision makers, and how it can influence policy development. LEC.

POLS 130. US Intelligence Community. 3 Hours S.
This course provides a comprehensive look at the roles, missions, and structure of the U.S. Intelligence Community. Students will develop an understanding of the components of the intelligence process used by the U.S. Intelligence Community: (1) planning and direction, (2) collection, (3) processing, (4) analysis and production, and (5) dissemination. This course also addresses the various polices and executive orders shaping intelligence collection both domestically and abroad, such as, intelligence oversight and restrictions on sharing and dissemination of information within and between local, state, and federal government agencies and the private sector. On completion of the course, students will have an in-depth understanding of the roles of the various components of the U.S.
Intelligence Community and the intelligence processes used to support national security decision makers. Prerequisite: POLS 125. LEC.

POLS 150. Introduction to Comparative Politics. 3 Hours SF AE42/GE3S / S.
An introduction to the comparative study of political systems emphasizing governmental structures, parties, electoral techniques, and recent trends in the field. The course also considers major differences between (1) representative and autocratic systems, and (2) developed and underdeveloped nations. LEC.

POLS 151. Introduction to Comparative Politics Honors. 3 Hours SF AE42/GE3S / S.
Open only to students in the College Honors Program or by consent of instructor. LEC.

POLS 170. Introduction to International Politics. 3 Hours SF AE42/GE3S / S.
A study of the nation-state including the role of nationalism, sovereignty, and power. Patterns of state action including neutralism, collective security, war, and cooperation through international organizations are stressed. Specific examples of contemporary international problems are also analyzed and discussed. LEC.

POLS 171. Introduction to International Politics Honors. 3 Hours SF AE42/GE3S / S.
Open only to students in the College Honors Program or by consent of instructor. LEC.

POLS 177. First Year Seminar: _____ 3 Hours GE11 / U.
A limited-enrollment, seminar course for first-time freshmen, addressing current issues in Political Science. Course is designed to meet the critical thinking learning outcome of the KU Core. First-Year Seminar topics are coordinated and approved by the Office of First-Year Experience. Prerequisite: First-time freshman status. LEC.

POLS 249. Study Abroad Topics in Political Science: _____ 1-6 Hours S.
This course is designed for the study of special topics in Political Science at the freshman/sophomore level. Course work must be arranged through the Office of KU Study Abroad. May be repeated for credit if content varies. LEC.

POLS 301. Introduction to Political Theory. 3 Hours GE3S / S.
An examination of the perennial issues and major concepts in political philosophy. Ideas such as community, liberty, equality, justice, and democracy are examined in order to understand the various meanings given to these concepts in political discourse and to understand the role of these ideas in various political theories. LEC.

POLS 302. Introduction to Political Theory, Honors. 3 Hours S.
Honors Version of POLS 301. An examination of the perennial issues and major concepts in political philosophy. Ideas such as community, liberty, equality, justice, and democracy are examined in order to understand the various meanings given to these concepts in political discourse and to understand the role of these ideas in various political theories. Prerequisite: Open only to students in the University Honors Program. LEC.

POLS 306. Political Science Methods of Inquiry. 3 Hours GE12 / S.
An introduction to the social science methods of investigation and analysis that are used in political science as a discipline and, in many cases, in public and private sector analytical work as well. The nature of political science data sources and methods of data collection, the logic of social scientific inquiry, and key methods of data analysis are emphasized. Prerequisite: POLS 110 or POLS 150 or POLS 170 (or their Honors equivalents), or consent of instructor. LEC.

POLS 308. Topics in Social Justice: _____ 3 Hours.
The study of selected problems in social justice or equity. Course is repeatable for different topics. LEC.

POLS 310. Contemporary Issues in U.S. Politics. 3 Hours S.
An examination of issues and problems concerning government and politics in American society. This course is intended primarily for non-majors, and does not meet the junior/senior level course field distribution requirement. LEC.

POLS 320. Introduction to Public Policy. 3 Hours GE3S / S.
Offers an introduction to the policy-making process covering policy formulation, adoption, and implementation. Overview of major theories of the policy-making process, the actors involved in the process, and the constraints and enhancements offered by the broader political environment. The theoretical frameworks are applied to several substantive policy areas. LEC.

POLS 325. Intelligence Analytics. 3 Hours S.
This course develops advanced critical thinking, writing, oral communication skills by enhancing the student’s ability to apply analytic tradecraft methods to intelligence products. Course emphasizes in-class, hands-on exercises to enhance the student’s ability to apply structured analytic techniques, critically assess bias and logical fallacies in information sources, critiquing analytical products, and applying sound tradecraft methods to intelligence products. Course emphasizes in-class, hands-on exercises and oral presentations. Course also emphasizes the team-oriented environment of the intelligence profession, specifically focusing on standards of practice found in US intelligence agencies. On completion of the course, students will have an understanding of the analytic processes and guidelines the U.S. Intelligence Community uses to create intelligence products for national security decision makers. Prerequisite: POLS 125 and POLS 130. LEC.

POLS 330. Introduction to Public Administration. 3 Hours S.
Introduction to administration, public policy and policy makings is the study of government workers, the organizations in which they work, how they are financed, and how government engages citizens to help form and maintain community. In various ways, the class sessions explore the three important issues of public administration: discretion, authority, and accountability. (Same as PUAD 330.) Prerequisite: POLS 110. LEC.

POLS 331. Introduction to Public Administration, Honors. 3 Hours S.
Introduction to administration, public policy and policy making, for honors students, is the study of government workers, the organizations in which they work, how they are financed, and how government engages citizens to help form and maintain community. In various ways, the class sessions explore the three important issues of public administration: discretion, authority, and accountability. (Same as PUAD 331.) Prerequisite: POLS 110. LEC.

POLS 345. Counterintelligence. 3 Hours S.
This course provides an overview and history of the counterintelligence discipline; the structure and operations of the U. S. counterintelligence community including its legal foundation; and the privacy and civil liberties implications of counterintelligence operations. Course discusses how counterintelligence has evolved from the Cold War-era, with its focus on counter espionage, to 21st Century challenges such as threats from non-state actors and to our cyber networks. Course also addresses the emerging national security issues which will shape future U.S. counterintelligence operations. On completion of the course, students will have an understanding of how the U.S. counterintelligence capabilities and programs work to detect and neutralize the impact of espionage against US interests. Prerequisite: POLS 125 and POLS 130. LEC.
POLS 350. Contemporary Issues in Comparative Politics. 3 Hours.
This course will survey selected current political issues around the globe. The focus of the course will be on understanding and analyzing the wide diversity of political phenomena that mark countries around the world. Topics may include such things as elections and electoral politics; political parties; government stability; democratization; ethnic, racial, caste, or religious conflict; protest and revolutionary movements; social movements (environmental, feminist, and others); and the politics of economic reform. This course is intended primarily for non-majors, and does not meet the junior/senior level course field distribution requirement. LEC.

POLS 370. Contemporary Issues in International Politics. 3 Hours S.
A survey of selected issues in current international relations. Topics include global economic interdependence, regional conflicts and nationalism, United States military and economic policy in the post-Cold War era, the role of international organizations such as the United Nations and the European community, global environmental problems and the contemporary role of international law. This course is intended primarily for non-majors and does not meet the junior/senior level course field distribution requirement. LEC.

POLS 492. Field Work in Politics and Policy-Making. 3-6 Hours AE61 / S.
This offering provides course credit for field work in politics and policy-making that takes place outside the department's Spring Semester internship programs in Washington, D.C. and Topeka. Consent of Instructor is required prior to enrollment. FLD.

POLS 493. Directed Readings. 1-3 Hours AE61 / U.
Individual and supervised readings in selected areas of political science. Course is repeatable for different areas; however, only 3 hours of directed readings can be applied to the major. Prerequisite: Junior level and consent of department. IND.

POLS 494. Washington Semester Intern Seminar. 3 Hours AE61 / S.
Intern seminar in Washington, D.C. Students meet weekly during Washington Semester program, in speaker/seminar format. Participation is expected, and a term paper is a requirement. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor. FLD.

POLS 495. Topeka Semester Intern Seminar. 3 Hours AE61 / S.
Intern seminar at statehouse in Topeka. Students meet weekly during this program, in speaker/seminar format. Participation is expected, and a term paper is a requirement. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor. FLD.

POLS 496. Washington Semester Field Work. 3-6 Hours AE61 / S.
Supervised internships in public and private agency offices in the Washington, D.C. area. This course is open only to students who are participating in the department's organized, supervised, semester-long Washington internship program. In order to be eligible for the program, students must have junior or senior standing, an overall grade-point average of 2.75, must have completed POLS 110 and have a 3.0 grade-point average in all political science courses. Course will be graded satisfactory/unsatisfactory. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor is required prior to enrollment. FLD.

POLS 497. Topeka Semester Field Work. 3-6 Hours AE61 / S.
Supervised internships in public and private agency offices in the Topeka area. This course is open only to students who are participating in the department's organized, supervised, semester-long Topeka internship program. In order to be eligible for the program, students must have junior or senior standing, an overall grade point average of 2.75, must have completed POLS 110 and have a 3.0 grade-point average in all political science courses. Course will be graded satisfactory/unsatisfactory. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor is required prior to enrollment. FLD.

POLS 498. Honors Thesis. 3-6 Hours AE61 / S.
Political science majors who in their senior year who wish to become candidates for graduation with honors in political science must enroll in and successfully complete six hours of honors thesis work. Consent of the department is required and candidate must have minimum grade point averages of 3.5 in political science courses and 3.25 in all courses, in both in-residence and combined work. IND.

POLS 499. Capstone Research/Field Work Experience. 3 Hours S.
Capstone research and/or field work experience project for political science majors. Project specified under the direction of a faculty mentor and approved by the undergraduate director. Prerequisite: Senior standing and 12 hours of upper division credit in POLS. RSH.

POLS 501. Contemporary Political Thought. 3 Hours AE51 / S.
An examination of the major theoretical questions concerning citizenship and government in modern society. Major ideologies and important contemporary philosophers are examined to determine how they address such issues as the meaning of the public interest, the just distribution of power and privilege, the proper role of government in society, and legitimate methods for making collective decisions. Prerequisite: POLS 301, or consent of instructor. LEC.

POLS 502. History of Political Thought. 3 Hours S.
A survey of major concepts and theories in political philosophy from Plato to Marx. The emphasis is on understanding major classics in western political thought. Prerequisite: Sophomore level or consent of instructor. LEC.

POLS 503. Politics in Literature. 3 Hours S.
An examination and analysis of the portrayal of politics and political problems in literature. Classical and modern texts will be considered, including dramas, poems, and novels. Prerequisite: Sophomore level or consent of the instructor. LEC.

POLS 511. The Judicial Process. 3 Hours S.
Covers judicial functions, organizations, personnel, and processes. Examines the goals of the law and the operations of the legal system in meeting these objectives. Focuses on norm enforcement, conflict resolution, and judicial policy-making. Prerequisite: Sophomore level or consent of the instructor. LEC.

POLS 512. Latino Politics in the U.S. . 3 Hours AE41 / S.
An overview of the political position of Latinas/os in the United States. The focus is on the three largest Latino groups in the U.S.: Mexican-Americans, Cuban-Americans, and Puerto Ricans; as well as an examination of other South American and Central American populations in the U.S. The main topics include identity formation, the political circumstances of Latinos, relationship to the electoral process, political behavior, and the policy process. LEC.

POLS 515. American Political Parties. 3 Hours S.
Survey of the development of the American political party system, stressing party organization, nominating systems, campaigns, elections, role of mass media, and party finances. Prerequisite: Sophomore level or consent of the instructor. LEC.

POLS 516. Public Opinion and American Democracy. 3 Hours S.
This course examines the construction, administration, and interpretation of public opinion polls. The course will also examine the role of public opinion in the democratic process and the formation of public opinion. LEC.

POLS 520. Political Campaigns. 3 Hours H.
This course will examine the communication involved in political campaigns. Students will be exposed to theories and ideas related to campaigns and will apply this knowledge to current political activity.
Although the primary focus of the course is politics, students interested in public relations and strategic communication also benefit from learning and practicing media relations strategies. The mediated nature of modern political communication, as well as the communication strategies of campaigns and journalists, will be examined in a semester-long simulated campaign. By the end of the semester, students will become more informed users and consumers of political campaign messages. (Same as COMS 607.) Prerequisite: COMS 130 or COMS 150. LEC.

POLS 521. Mass Media and Politics. 3 Hours H.
This primary goal of this course is to critically examine the role of mass media in U.S. politics. Students learn how information makes it into news coverage, as well as how media content affects individuals, political campaigns, and governing decisions. The course covers media effects theories, news bias and polarization, political entertainment, and other topics. Although the primary focus of the course is politics, students interested in public relations and strategic communication also benefit from learning about U.S. journalism. By the end of the semester, students will be able to critically evaluate political and media systems in the U.S. (Same as COMS 335.) Prerequisite: COMS 130 or COMS 150. LEC.

POLS 528. Environmental Justice and Public Policy. 3 Hours S.
This course provides an overview of environmental justice, both as a social movement and as a public policy initiative. Environmental justice examines the distribution of environmental externalities across different socio-economic and racial groups. We will discuss several different public policy areas that have been impacted by the environmental justice movement: hazardous waste facility siting, urban redevelopment and Brownfields, transportation policy, and Native American sovereignty. We will also touch upon international environmental policy in an environmental justice context. Throughout the course we will evaluate empirical issues in studying environmental justice. (Same as EVRN 528.) Prerequisite: POLS 306 or a statistics class or consent of instructor. LEC.

POLS 553. Comparative Environmental Politics. 3 Hours S.
This course compares environmental politics and policies across a number of countries, including those in North America, Western Europe, East Asia, and Latin America. (Same as EVRN 553.) LEC.

POLS 561. Liberation in Southern Africa. 3 Hours NW AE42 / S.
This course examines struggles for freedom in southern Africa and the consequences of political, economic, and social changes in the region. The end of colonial rule, the demise of white-settler domination, and the fall of the apartheid regime is discussed. As a major political event of the twentieth century, the liberation of southern Africa had both local and global consequences. The course analyzes transnational issues of liberation and resistance to consider broader regional and international perspectives. Course themes pay particular attention to gender and ethnicity and include a focus on democratization and contemporary meanings of liberation. Prior coursework in African Studies is strongly recommended, but not required. (Same as AAAS 561 and HIST 561.) LEC.

POLS 562. Women and Politics. 3 Hours AE41 / S.
This course exposes students to contemporary research on women and politics by surveying the sub-fields of political science. Topics include women's representation in the U.S., women and U.S. public policy, gender and legal theory, international women's movements, women and revolution, and women as political elites. We will examine the ways in which feminist theory and women's activism have challenged the narrow focus of the discipline as well as redefined women's place in society. (Same as WGSS 562.) Prerequisite: Sophomore level or consent of the instructor. LEC.

POLS 563. Comparative Political Economy. 3 Hours S.
This course studies fiscal, monetarist, and trade policies to assess the usefulness and problems posed by these policy instruments across countries. This includes examining exchange rates, interest rates, budget deficit, trade deficit, and debt, to understand their composition and relevance to domestic economy, employment, investment, development, and international trade, the problems they pose, and how these may be overcome. We then examine when, how, and why government enacts these instruments across countries and regions. Prerequisite: Sophomore level or consent of the instructor. LEC.

POLS 564. Elections and Political Parties Around the World. 3 Hours S.
An examination of the diverse forms of election rules and their consequences for political parties, politicians, and voters. The course will survey election rules in theory and practice; the design and re-design of election rules in new and established democracies; and how elections affect party strategies or governance and representation, and the types of party systems that emerge. The course will also incorporate intensive studies of election campaigns occurring during the semester that the course meets. Prerequisite: Sophomore level or consent of the instructor. LEC.

POLS 565. Political Change in Asia. 3 Hours S.
This course focuses on three periods of major political changes in Asia since 1945; independence from colonization; adoption of governance; and steps toward democratization. The focus on political change is to help students see that a) many countries initiate political reforms domestically; b) the ability to implement changes is correlated to ability to win support; c) the constitutional process may favor some groups over others; d) the ability to mediate political stability depends on (a), (b), and (c). Prerequisite: Sophomore level or consent of the instructor. LEC.

POLS 566. Social Welfare, Taxation, and the Citizen. 3 Hours S.
Most developed countries provide for the basic needs of their citizens. Many provide health care, free education, and even retirement funding in exchange for taxes. The U.S. is an exception. The course presents taxation systems in most developed countries, then explores the dimensions of social welfare, and the differential roles of citizens in each country. The final section of the course outlines legislative and legal possibilities for U.S. citizens. Prerequisite: Sophomore level or consent of the instructor. LEC.

POLS 582. Transnational Terrorism. 3 Hours S.
The course provides a study of the patterns of transnational terrorism. First, it introduces students to the analytical study of terrorism. The course traces the evolution of terrorism, from the French Revolution to the modern day era. It also covers how scholarship defines, conceptualizes, and measures terrorism. The second goal is to introduce students to key scholarly debates within the literature. Some of the example questions we ask are: are democracies more vulnerable to terrorism? Does globalization render states open to being attacked by transnational actors? Is torture warranted as an effective counterterrorism tactic? The readings draw on empirical scholarship on the causes and consequences of transnational terrorism. (Same as GIST 585.) Prerequisite: Sophomore level or consent of instructor. LEC.

POLS 600. Contemporary Feminist Political Theory. 3 Hours S.
A detailed introduction to feminist thought post-1960. Examines feminism in relation to the categories of political theory: liberal feminism, socialist feminism, radical feminism, and postmodern feminism. Within these categories and separately, we will also consider feminism as it is influenced by women traditionally excluded from mainstream feminist thought, namely U.S. woman of color and women of post-colonial societies. This course is a service learning course that provides students
with on-site practicum, mentoring, and networking skills. (Same as WGSS 600.) Prerequisite: Sophomore level or consent of the instructor. LEC.

POLS 602. American Political Ideas. 3 Hours S.
A study of political movements and thinkers from the Puritan period to the present that have influenced the development of contemporary political ideas. Prerequisite: Sophomore level or consent of the instructor. LEC.

POLS 603. Democratic Theory. 3 Hours S.
Detailed study of the typical and perennial dilemmas that arise in theories of democratic governance with an emphasis on contemporary analytical investigations of democratic systems. Prerequisite: Sophomore level or consent of the instructor. LEC.

POLS 604. Religion and Political Theory. 3 Hours S.
An examination of the relationship between religious faith and politics in Western political thought and theory. The approach will be both historical and philosophical, beginning with Moses on the one hand, and the Greeks on the other. Texts will include biblical, Greek philosophical, Jewish and Christian philosophical and theological writings. (Same as REL 604.) Prerequisite: POLS 301, or for non-majors completion of Western Civilization requirement, or consent of instructor. LEC.

POLS 605. Introduction to Political Computing. 3 Hours S.
This course allows student to learn the major software programs associated with data analysis in politics, including R and STATA. Students also learn the major sources of political and policy data. Students will conduct data collection and analysis for specific political research activities like public opinion surveys, voting behavior, Congressional behavior, comparisons of political processes in different countries, and the evaluation of public policies. Prerequisite: POLS 306. LEC.

POLS 606. Modern Political Theory. 3 Hours S.
An analysis of works by various authors, with the intention of exploring the political ideas that emerge in conjunction with the appearance of modern science, the Enlightenment, the Industrial Revolution, and Romanticism. Topics will include the modern conceptions of the nature of being, truth, justice, and the relationship of the individual to the community. Prerequisite: Sophomore level or consent of the instructor. LEC.

POLS 607. Social Choice and Game Theory. 3 Hours S.
A survey of the political economic approach to individual and collective choice behavior called “rational choice.” The course focuses on models of voting systems and other political institutions as seen from a game theoretic perspective. Prerequisite: Sophomore level or consent of the instructor. LEC.

POLS 608. Topics in Political Theory: ____, 3 Hours S.
A study of selected theorists in relation to a topic in political theory. Sample topics include: revolution; authority and community; elements of political power; political elites: ideology, human nature in politics, political conflict, etc. Theorists will range from ancient to contemporary. Course is repeatable for different topics. Prerequisite: Sophomore level or consent of the instructor. LEC.

POLS 609. Constitutional Law: Governmental Powers. 3 Hours S.
The Supreme Court viewed as a political branch of our government. Special emphasis on the Court’s role in determining powers of government and their relationships. Prerequisite: Junior level or consent of instructor. LEC.

POLS 610. Constitutional Law: Civil Liberties. 3 Hours S.
The constitutional limits on governmental powers are studied with special emphasis on constitutional guarantees of individuals freedom. Prerequisite: Junior level or consent of instructor. LEC.

POLS 611. Psychology in Politics. 3 Hours S.
An examination of psychological perspectives on political phenomena. Topics include political personality, foreign policy decision making, international conflict and cooperation, voting behavior, and political participation and socialization. Prerequisite: Sophomore level or consent of the instructor. LEC.

POLS 612. Comparative U.S. State Politics. 3 Hours S.
A systematic comparative analysis of structures, functions, and policies of state political systems. Prerequisite: Sophomore level or consent of the instructor. LEC.

POLS 613. Urban Politics. 3 Hours S.
A survey of the social, cultural, economic, and structural differences among cities and an investigation into how these factors affect urban politics and policies. Specific topics include leadership, governmental reform, citizen participation, inter-ethnic conflict, and economic development. Prerequisite: Sophomore level or consent of the instructor. LEC.

POLS 614. Campaigns and Elections. 3 Hours S.
This course examines the behavior of candidates, campaigns, and voters in the electoral process. Topics will include the role of media, the impact of money, the operations of political campaigns and the effect of campaign laws. LEC.

POLS 615. The Congress. 3 Hours S.
Descriptive and comparative analysis of legislative institutions and processes in the United States, covering Congress and state legislatures. Prerequisite: Sophomore level or consent of the instructor. LEC.

POLS 616. The Presidency. 3 Hours S.
The office of the President of the United States, its place in the constitutional and political system. Emphasis is given to modern experience and current problems. Prerequisite: Sophomore level or consent of the instructor. LEC.

POLS 617. The Congress. 3 Hours S.
The Congress viewed as a political branch of our government. Special emphasis on the Congress’s role in determining powers of government and their relationships. Prerequisite: Junior level or consent of instructor. LEC.

POLS 618. Formulation of Public Policy. 3 Hours S.
Analysis and evaluation of the structures and processes involved in the formulation of public policy at all levels of government. Prerequisite: Sophomore level or consent of the instructor. LEC.

POLS 619. Public Policy Analysis. 3 Hours S.
An introduction to the study and analysis of public policy with emphasis on the concepts and techniques of policy thinking. The methods of policy description, explanation, evaluation, and choice will be applied to a variety of policy topics, e.g. health care, defense, environmental protection, education, etc. Prerequisite: Sophomore level or consent of the instructor. LEC.

POLS 620. Government and the Economy. 3 Hours S.
An examination of the formulation and execution of government policies in the economy and the business sector; the impact of the economy and business on government policies and the impact of government policies on the economy and business. Prerequisite: Sophomore level or consent of the instructor. LEC.
POLS 623. The Politics of Social Policy. 3 Hours S.
An examination of the formulation and execution of key social policies in the United States, such as welfare policy, crime and drug control policy, disability rights policy, education policy, and social regulatory policy concerning controversial social issues such as abortion and gun control. Prerequisite: Sophomore level or consent of the instructor. LEC.

POLS 624. Environmental Politics and Policy. 3 Hours S.
Analysis of environmental politics and the formulation and implementation of environmental policy. Examines the history and development of environmental politics as well as current trends. Themes include interest groups, business interests, political institutions, and specific environmental policy issues. (Same as EVRN 620.) LEC.

POLS 625. Extremist Groups and Government Response. 3 Hours S.
Examines left- and right-wing extremist political groups in America and how the government has developed policies and respond to these groups. Special attention will be given to the process of policy adoption and implementation and how the government might respond to extremist groups in the future. Issues and themes will include groups such as the left-wing terrorists of the 1960s and 1970s, right-wing anticommunist groups of the 1950s and 1960s, international terrorists acting in the U.S., hate crime, ecoterrorism, citizen militia groups, and pro- and anti-abortion extremist groups. Prerequisite: Sophomore level or consent of the instructor. LEC.

POLS 626. Political Polling and Survey Research. 3 Hours S.
This course focuses on the role of polling in the political process and introduces the theory and methods used in survey research. Topics include the role of polling in campaigns and the policy process, how survey research firms produce polls, analysis of polling for campaigns and public opinion, the psychology of survey response, survey construction, and sampling. Other data collection techniques commonly used in politics and political science such as focus groups and experiments will be covered. Students will conduct original surveys. Prerequisite: Junior level or consent of instructor. LEC.

POLS 628. The Politics of Public Health. 3 Hours S.
This course examines the social, institutional and political context of public health policy in the United States. We will examine factors that shape the nation's public health, explore the role of government in reducing risk and promoting well being, and analyze the major institutions responsible for monitoring, protecting and promoting general public health. Themes include the social determinants of health, health disparities, emerging infectious diseases, food safety, transportation, and environmental health. (Same as EVRN 628.) Prerequisite: POLS 110 and POLS 306 are recommended. LEC.

POLS 629. Topics in Public Policy: __________. 1-3 Hours S.
Examination of the U.S. political system and policy formulation and administration through intensive analysis of selected current public policy problems. Sample topics include the environment, education, and economic well-being. Course is repeatable for different topics. Prerequisite: Sophomore level or consent of the instructor. LEC.

POLS 630. Politics of Identity. 3 Hours AE41 / S.
This seminar explores the nature of identity and how identity is relevant to politics and policy with a focus on political attitudes and behavior, institutions, and public policy. Topics include individual and group identity, identities such as gender, racial, sexual orientation, and partisan, and the enduring importance of identity for understanding politics as well as the policy process. The approach is multidisciplinary but political science perspectives are relied on more heavily. (Same as WGSS 630.) Prerequisite: Sophomore level or consent of the instructor. LEC.

POLS 634. Bureaucratic Politics. 3 Hours S.
Examination of U.S. governmental agencies with special attention to their development and role in the American political system. Prerequisite: Sophomore level or consent of the instructor. LEC.

POLS 640. Politics of Reproductive Policy. 3 Hours S.
Reproductive policy has historically been a highly politicized policy arena, which has elicited attention from the political community as well as the public. This course moves beyond the popular rhetoric associated with reproductive issues, by critically investigating the history, development, implementation and the relative success of various reproductive policies in the United States. These policies are compared to, and assessed against, policies governing similar topics in various countries. This course is a service learning course that provides students with on-site practicum, mentoring, and networking skills. (Same as WGSS 640.) Prerequisite: Sophomore level or consent of the instructor. LEC.

POLS 643. The European Union. 3 Hours S.
This course will introduce students to the politics of the European Union. The course will cover three closely connected topics. First, it will discuss the institutional make-up of the EU, such as the European commission, the European parliament, the European Council, and the European court of justice. It will assess how well these institutions deal with the growing importance of transnational issues, such as migration and economic policy issues. Second, the course will examine how national governments pursue national interests at the level of the European Union. Third, the class will study how well the EU represents the citizens of European countries. Finally, the course will assess the extent to which the EU has successfully developed into a supra-national federation. (Same as EURS 604.) Prerequisite: Sophomore standing or consent of instructor. LEC.

POLS 644. Justice and Public Policy in Democratic Societies. 3 Hours S.
Examines the ethical and philosophical choices that inform public policy in democratic societies. The guiding idea of the course is that public policies reflect underlying decisions about the nature of state authority and the just use of that authority. The theoretical focus is on modern European and American liberal democratic thought; the empirical focus is global. Among the policy issues examined in the course are public education, immigration, gender equality, same-sex marriage, and drugs. Prerequisite: Sophomore level or consent of the instructor. LEC.

POLS 645. Corruption, Crisis and Scandal. 3 Hours S.
This course investigates political events and decisions that are considered illegal or illegitimate. Cases from the U.S. and around the world are considered. Issues discussed include the misuse of governmental power and funds, electoral fraud, and bribery. Conditions under which problems arise and reforms that address them are considered. Prerequisite: Junior level or consent of instructor. LEC.

POLS 650. Palestinians and Israelis. 3 Hours S.
Examines the international relations, political institutions, and social politics of these two ethonational communities in relation to each other. Specific topics include the historical evolution of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, prospects for conflict resolution, electoral systems and political parties in the two nations, state-society relations, social movements, and roles of gender and religion. Prerequisite: Nine hours of Political Science, including POLS 150/POLS 151 or POLS 170/POLS 171, or permission of instructor. LEC.

POLS 652. Politics in Europe. 3 Hours S.
The study of the politics and government of Europe. Major countries are covered in depth, while smaller democracies are grouped according to political concepts. Prerequisite: Sophomore level or consent of the instructor. LEC.
POLS 653. Gender, War, and Peace. 3 Hours S.
This course explores ways in which militarization and warfare are gendered processes. We ask, what does war tell us about gender, and what does gender tell us about war? Though the majority of fighters are men, women are essential to war efforts. They also represent a high proportion of the casualties of war. Yet women are rarely examined in relation to war; thus we work to uncover women’s experiences of war. We also look to women’s contributions to the peace movement in terms of both theory and practice, asking: Is peace a feminist issue? Should feminists support women’s access to combat positions or oppose the military? What if women ruled the world—would that end wars? Does militarized masculinity harm men more than benefit them? How do states mobilize citizens to war and how is the process gendered? (Same as WGSS 653.) Prerequisite: Sophomore level or consent of the instructor. LEC.

POLS 654. Politics and Government of Russia and the Central Eurasian States. 3 Hours S/W.
The collapse of the Soviet system and the problems of transforming a central planned authoritarian state into a free market democracy. The roles of ethnic and national tensions, economic decay, and cultural factors. Prerequisite: Sophomore level or consent of the instructor. LEC.

POLS 655. Politics of East-Central Europe. 3 Hours S/W.
This course analyzes Communist political theory in its application to the countries of East-Central Europe with consideration of their traditional backgrounds and their patterns of political, social, and economic developments. It constructs a theoretical model of the communist state and discusses its variations by description and comparison of the governments and political processes of Albania, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Poland, Rumania, and Yugoslavia. Prerequisite: Sophomore level or consent of the instructor. LEC.

POLS 656. Government and Politics of East Asia. 3 Hours NW AE42 / S/W.
A comparative examination of the contemporary political institutions, processes and ideas of China, Japan, and Korea. (Same as EALC 656.) Prerequisite: Junior level or consent of the instructor. LEC.

POLS 657. Government and Politics of Southeast Asia. 3 Hours NW AE42 / S/W.
An evaluation of the traditional and contemporary political institutions, behavior and ideas of the countries of Southeast Asia. Prerequisite: Sophomore level or consent of the instructor. LEC.

POLS 658. Theories of Politics in Latin America. 3 Hours S/W.
This course examines how political science can be used to explain the political dynamics of Latin America. The course will be devoted to understanding different theories about politics -- many of which have been devised by political scientists whose primary focus of study is not Latin America -- and examining their uses and limitations in understanding Latin America. Among the themes we will be examining are the relationships between economic growth, political culture, and democracy, the role of the military in politics, the political impact of new social movements (such as the women’s movement and religious movements), theories of revolution, and understanding the prevalence of political corruption in the region. Along the way, we will analyze how political scientists attempt to develop hypotheses, gather data, and test theories. Prerequisite: Sophomore level or consent of the instructor. LEC.

POLS 659. Political Dynamics of Latin America. 3 Hours S/W.
Study of the institutions, processes, and special problems of selected Latin American countries. Prerequisite: Sophomore level or consent of the instructor. LEC.

POLS 660. The Politics and Problems of Developing Countries. 3 Hours NW AE42 / S/W.
A focus on topics pertinent to all of the underdeveloped areas such as the role of the military, styles of political leadership, land tenure systems, the role of the middle sectors, the nature of bureaucracy, the activity of the students, and foreign policy attitudes. Prerequisite: Sophomore level or consent of the instructor. LEC.

POLS 661. Politics of the Middle East. 3 Hours NW AE42 / S/W.
Survey of domestic and international political developments in the Middle East. Topics include: emergence of the modern nation-state, the role of Islam, leadership patterns, competing political ideologies, prospects for democratization, foreign policy relations, and regional conflicts. Prerequisite: Sophomore level or consent of the instructor. LEC.

POLS 662. Gender and Politics in Africa. 3 Hours S.
This course is designed to explore the field of gender and African politics. We begin by paying particular attention to African women's political roles during the pre-colonial and colonial society. Next, we examine the impetus, methods, and path of liberation struggles and how gender roles were shaped, shifted, and changed during these struggles. The majority of the class focuses on current issues in African politics, including gender and development, HIV/AIDS and women's health, gender and militarism. We also explore women's roles in political institutions, civil society organizations, trade and labor unions, and transnational movements. We also examine contemporary constructions of masculinity and femininity in African states and explore how these constructions affect social policy and national political agendas. (Same as AAAS 662 and WGSS 662.) Prerequisite: Sophomore level or consent of instructor. LEC.

POLS 665. Politics in Africa. 3 Hours NW AE42 / S.
A survey of politics in Africa, focused on the countries of sub-Saharan or Black Africa. The course includes a historical discussion of precolonial Africa, colonization and the creation of contemporary states, and the politics of independence, before examining contemporary political systems and the forces influencing patterns of politics on the continent. (Same as AAAS 660.) Prerequisite: POLS 150 or AAAS 105 or AAAS 305 or consent of instructor. LEC.

POLS 666. Political Economy of East Asia. 3 Hours S.
This course provides basic understanding of fiscal, monetarist, and trade politics; how governments in East Asia use them to pursue growth; the extent to which these governments follow or controvert economic policies to pursue growth; and how the performances of economies in East Asia relate to the U.S. and global economies. (Same as EALC 666.) Prerequisite: POLS 150. LEC.

POLS 667. Islam and Politics. 3 Hours NW AE42/AE51 / S.
This course gives students a basic understanding of Islam and Islamic movements, explores the economic, social, political, and cultural context in which these movements take place, and examines the impact of Islam on politics in select countries. Issues such as compatibility of political Islam and democratic politics, political economy in Muslim societies, fundamentalism in Islam, gender relations, identity politics and questions on clash of civilizations are explored. (Same as GIST 667 and SOC 640.) Prerequisite: A principal course in sociology, POLS 150, or consent of instructor. LEC.

POLS 668. Reform in Contemporary China. 3 Hours NW AE42 / H/W.
Examines the epochal changes that have occurred in China from Deng Xiaoping’s rise to power in 1978 to the present. Includes a focus on the historical background of the revolutionary period before examining the political and economic changes that spawned the 1989 “democracy” movement at Tiananmen. The course includes an analysis of the events of the 1990s focusing on U.S.-China political and economic relations and the destabilizing effects of inflation, infrastructural reform, political and
economic decentralization, and leadership succession. A previous course on China is helpful, but not mandatory. (Same as EALC 585.) LEC.

POLS 669. Topics in Comparative Politics: ______. 2-3 Hours S.
A study of selected contemporary problems of policy or politics affecting several countries. Course is repeatable for different topics. Prerequisite: Sophomore level or consent of the instructor. LEC.

POLS 670. United States Foreign Policy. 3 Hours S.
An evaluation of the formulation of United States foreign policy in the post-World War II period. Economic, military, and diplomatic dimensions of policy; internal and external influences on policy; theories of foreign policy decision-making. Prerequisite: Nine hours of political science. LEC.

POLS 671. International Cooperation. 3 Hours S.
An examination of the gains possible from international cooperation and the barriers to achieving cooperation. Theoretical perspectives on international cooperation will be explored along with cases such as trade, the environment, arms control, and the European community. Prerequisite: Sophomore level or consent of the instructor. LEC.

POLS 672. International Political Economy. 3 Hours S.
Structural theories of the international political economy provide the framework for a consideration of the nature of hegemony, the management problem of multinational corporations, the role of international regimes and organizations, development, and dependency. Prerequisite: Junior level or consent of instructor. LEC.

POLS 673. International Organization. 3 Hours S.
International organizations are examined with special emphasis devoted to the United Nations. A central theme of the course rests upon the question of whether strengthened international organization offers the only alternative to further world wars. Prerequisite: Junior level or consent of instructor. LEC.

POLS 674. Ethics in International Relations. 3 Hours H.
This course reviews how philosophical perspectives elucidate the role ethics plays in foreign policy. It covers human rights doctrines, issues of economic and political justice, just war theory (jus ad bellum) and just conduct of war (jus in bello) and humanitarian intervention. Prerequisite: Junior level or consent of instructor. LEC.

POLS 675. Russian Foreign Policy. 3 Hours AE42 / S/W.
Examination of the history of Soviet and Russian foreign policy and current issues of foreign policy in the Post-Soviet era. Analysis of foreign policy making in Russia and the other Post-Soviet states. Emphasis on the changed nature of international security problems after the cold war and on the role of foreign policy in economic development. Prerequisite: Junior level or consent of instructor. LEC.

POLS 676. International Relations of Asia. 3 Hours S/W.
An intensive study of the problems of ideological conflict, diplomatic relations, strategic arrangements, economic cooperation, and cultural exchange in East and Southeast Asia with special emphasis upon the roles of major world powers. (Same as EALC 676.) Prerequisite: Sophomore level or consent of the instructor. LEC.

POLS 677. U.S. National Security Policy. 3 Hours S.
An investigation into (1) how security policy is made; (2) the evolution of changing assumptions, strategies and goals since 1945; and (3) the present policy and its alternatives. Prerequisite: Sophomore level or consent of the instructor. LEC.

POLS 678. Chinese Foreign Policy. 3 Hours S/W.
In-depth examination of China's changing policies toward other countries with special emphasis on policy-making process, negotiating behavior, military strategy, economic relations, and cultural diplomacy. (Same as EALC 678 and GIST 678.) Prerequisite: Sophomore level or consent of the instructor. LEC.

POLS 679. International Conflict. 3 Hours S.
Examination of the historical and theoretical issues surrounding the sources and control of international conflict. Topics will include political and anthropological theories of conflict, the role of force in the international system, international law and just war approaches, nuclear conflict, arms control, and nonviolent alternatives to conflict. Prerequisite: Sophomore level or consent of the instructor. LEC.

POLS 680. International Relations in Political Philosophy. 3 Hours S.
A consideration of classical and modern theories of the international system, such as the writing of Thucydides, Machiavelli, twentieth-century realists, and others. Topics include, theories of the state, the role of ethics and normative judgments in the world order, the nature and use of power, the relationship between domestic and international politics. Prerequisite: Sophomore level or consent of the instructor. LEC.

POLS 681. Comparative Foreign Policy. 3 Hours S.
An examination of theories that seek to explain the foreign policy behavior and decision making processes of states in international relations and a survey of past and present foreign policies of several states in Latin America, Western and Eastern Europe, Africa, the Middle East, and the Far East. Prerequisite: Sophomore level or consent of the instructor. LEC.

POLS 682. Trafficking, Organized Crime and Terrorism: U.S. Government Response. 3 Hours S.
The course addresses multiple ways, in which international terrorism, organized crime, and trafficking intersect and new challenges that the trafficking-terrorism nexus poses to national and international security. It surveys national and international responses by the U.S. government to the crime-terror nexus. Prerequisite: POLS 110, or POLS 170, or POLS 150, or POLS 582, or POLS 625 or consent of instructor. LEC.

POLS 684. International Law: The State and the Individual. 3 Hours S.
International law has assumed an increasingly significant role in international life. This course will examine major law including (but not limited to): the changing status and role of the state; rights of minorities and self-determination; the environment; and human rights. The course will examine the central questions and the relevant international legal principles associated with each issue. Prerequisite: Junior level or consent of instructor. LEC.

POLS 685. International Law: Laws of Armed Conflicts. 3 Hours S.
This course examines the principles, roles, and functions of international law in the conduct of war. As the course reviews the development and application of the basic rules of armed conflict, several current issues and conflicts are addressed including: the legitimate use of force; the proper definitions of combatants and civilians; actions that constitute war crimes, the legality of new weapons technology, and, if the laws of armed conflict apply to the current "war on terrorism." Prerequisite: Junior level or consent of instructor. LEC.

POLS 686. International Human Rights. 3 Hours AE42 / S.
The course introduces students to historical and philosophical bases of contemporary human rights, theoretical approaches and methodological challenges to studying human rights questions, and acquaints them with the main topics, controversies, and tensions in the scholarship, practice and politics of human rights. (Same as GIST 686.) Prerequisite: Sophomore level or consent of instructor is required. LEC.

POLS 689. Topics in International Relations:. 2-3 Hours. 
A study of selected problems in international relations. Course is repeatable for different topics. Prerequisite: Sophomore level or consent of the instructor. LEC.
POLS 690. Research and Diplomacy Lab. 3 Hours S.
This course is designed to provide students with basic tools and an understanding of interdisciplinary social science research and to simultaneously partner with an innovative program implemented by the US Department of State. While learning about the research process and research design, students enrolling in this course team up with a group of four or more students to address a real world problem posed by a State Department officer with whom they have contact through videoconferencing throughout the semester. The team engages in extensive and systematic research to address the problem and presents their findings in a formal report presented to the State Department in the desired format. (Same as GIST 697.) Prerequisite: GIST 301 or POLS 150 or POLS 170 or instructor permission. LEC.

POLS 691. Diplomacy Lab. 1 Hour S.
This course is a supplemental research lab designed to partner with a jr/sr level course offering an innovative program implemented by the US Department of State. Students enrolling in this course team up with a group of four or more students to address a real world problem posed by a State Department officer. This one-credit hour course is intended to function as a special lab project and must be taken in conjunction with a standard course that has a diplomacy lab option. (Same as GIST 696.) Prerequisite: Instructor permission required. LAB.

POLS 701. Political Theory. 3 Hours S.
This course is intended to introduce graduate and advanced undergraduate students to the kinds of activities engaged in by political theorists. Thus the course focuses on several approaches to doing political theory, such as interpreting the work of great political philosophers, clarifying political concepts, organizing and integrating political ideas, evaluating political practices, and creating new political perspectives. The course focuses on historical and contemporary treatments of both epistemological issues (the possibility and grounds for political knowledge) and selected substantive issues (e.g., the legitimacy of the state, the merits and limitations of democracy, the requirements of justice, and the nature and importance of ideologies). LEC.

POLS 703. Social Choice and Game Theory. 3 Hours.
A survey of the political economic approach to individual and collective choice behavior called "rational choice." The course focuses on models of voting systems and other political institutions as seen from a game theoretic perspective. Prerequisite: Nine hours of political science or admission into the M.A. or Ph.D. LEC.

POLS 704. Quantitative Methods Primer in Political Science. 1 Hour.
Provides an introduction of basic quantitative methods in political science to prepare graduate students for the quantitative methods sequence in the Ph.D. program: basic statistics, statistical analysis techniques, and probability are explored. Graded on a satisfactory/unsatisfactory basis. Prerequisite: Permission of the Instructor. LEC.

POLS 705. Research Design for Political Science. 3 Hours.
Introduction to the discipline of political science, the philosophy of science, research design, and data acquisition. Prerequisite: Graduate standing or consent of instructor. LEC.

POLS 706. Research Methods I. 3 Hours.
An introduction to quantitative research methods, including probability theory, hypothesis-tests, and multiple regression. Includes regression diagnostics, the treatment of numeric and categorical predictors, interaction effects and elementary nonlinear models. Applications across the behavioral and social sciences are emphasized. Course consists of three hours of lecture and lab sessions where computing applications are taught. LEC.

POLS 707. Research Methods II. 3 Hours.
This course covers basic techniques for multivariate analysis, focusing on multiple regression. Topics include interpretation of regression statistics, diagnostics for common problems, dummy variables, instrumental variables, basic time series methods including adjustment for autocorrelated error, logistic models, and nonlinear modeling; additional techniques may be covered at the discretion of the instructor. Prerequisite: POLS 706. LEC.

POLS 708. Advanced Qualitative Research Methods. 3 Hours.
An examination of qualitative research approaches frequently employed within political science. Topics may include the use of case studies, archival and documentary research, content analysis, interviewing and focus group techniques, ethnographic fieldwork, narrative and discourse analysis, and others. The course will examine the strengths and limitations of these methods in relation to major research traditions such as culturalist approaches, historical institutionalism, rational choice, and constructivism. Prerequisite: POLS 705 and either graduate standing or consent of instructor. LEC.

POLS 709. Topics in Political Theory: ______. 3 Hours.
At the discretion of the instructor, this course will select one or more important areas of political theory for in-depth analysis. Prerequisite: Six hours in Political Theory. LEC.

POLS 710. American Public Philosophies. 3 Hours.
Surveys scholarly attempts to describe and analyze critically the changing public philosophies that have dominated American society and politics. Liberalism, republicanism, ascriptiveism, and pluralism are examples of such public philosophies. Also considered are some philosophies that are important but have not dominated American politics. Transcendentalism, populism, communitarianism, racial nationalism, and religious fundamentalism are examples of such philosophies. Prerequisite: Graduate standing or consent of the instructor. SEM.

POLS 711. The Psychological Base of Political Behavior. 3 Hours.
Examination of the relations between psychological mechanisms and social milieu factors and individual political behavior. Particular attention is devoted to understanding the development of politically relevant psychological traits and dispositions, and to the methodology employed in studying the socio-psychological factors which underlie individual political behavior. Prerequisite: Twelve hours of political science and consent of instructor. LEC.

POLS 712. The Electoral Process. 3 Hours.
A study of the characteristics of voting behavior and the influences upon such behavior in the United States. Emphasis is placed upon relevant research findings concerning partisanship and participation in politics, and on the methodology employed in the study of political behavior. Prerequisite: Twelve hours of political science and consent of instructor. LEC.

POLS 713. Law and Society. 3 Hours.
A study of the province and function of law in the context of relevant social, economic, and political factors. The impact of these factors on the law will be illustrated through readings and discussions of selected case histories. Emphasis will be placed upon law as a social phenomenon rather than upon its technical aspects. Prerequisite: Twelve hours of political science and permission of instructor for undergraduates. LEC.

POLS 716. Political Behavior. 3 Hours.
A seminar for students interested in understanding the public opinion, voting, and other forms of political participation. This course will include a discussion of the formation, measurement of political attitudes as well as an examination of protest and other forms of extra-legal participation. Prerequisite: Graduate standing or consent of instructor. LEC.
POLS 719. Topics in the American Political Institutions: _____. 3 Hours.
A seminar to be offered as occasion demands, dealing with, but not limited to special topics in the presidency, congress, and judicial processes. Prerequisite: Graduate standing or consent of instructor. LEC.

POLS 720. The Scope of Public Policy. 3 Hours.
Introductory graduate course in the examination of public policy making. Considers institutions, basic theoretical frameworks, and standard methods, and places policy-making within a broad political context. Emphasizes American examples, but relevant comparative material is employed. Prerequisite: Twelve hours of political science. LEC.

POLS 722. Intergovernmental Relations. 3 Hours.
A survey of characteristic legal, political, and administrative relationships among different units of American government, with particular emphasis upon the role of state agencies. Prerequisite: Nine hours of political science. LEC.

POLS 726. Public Policy in Comparative Perspective. 3 Hours.
This seminar examines the application of policy theory in regional and comparative contexts. Much of the research examined focuses on comparative public policy, but select weeks focus on specific regions of the world. A key goal is to help students understand which theories of policy may be best suited for universal application. LEC.

POLS 754. Politics and Government of Russia and the Central Eurasian States. 3 Hours.
The collapse of the Soviet system and the problems of transforming a central planned authoritarian state into a free market democracy. The roles of ethnic and national tensions, economic decay, and cultural factors. Prerequisite: Eight hours in the social sciences and/or history, including POLS 150, or consent of instructor. LEC.

POLS 758. Revolutionary Politics of Latin America. 3 Hours.
Primarily a comparative analysis of the Mexican, Bolivian, and Cuban revolutions within a framework of theories of revolutions. Some attention also to revolutionary political groupings and conditions in other Latin American countries. Prerequisite: POLS 150 or a course concerning Latin America in the social sciences or history. LEC.

POLS 774. International Law. 3 Hours.
Study of topics in international law, relating these closely to the dynamics of international relations. Special emphasis will be given to regulating force, resolving disputes, the law of the sea, human rights, and emerging problem areas such as the environment, outer space, the oceanic seabed, and genocide. Prerequisite: Six hours of courses in international relations including POLS 170 and/or relevant courses in the social sciences and modern history. LEC.

POLS 782. Transnational Terrorism. 3 Hours.
The course provides a study of the patterns of transnational terrorism. First, it introduces students to the analytical study of terrorism. The course traces the evolution of terrorism, from the French Revolution to the modern day era. It also covers how scholarship defines, conceptualizes, and measures terrorism. The second goal is to introduce students to key scholarly debates within the literature. Some of the example questions we ask are: are democracies more vulnerable to terrorism? Does globalization render states open to being attacked by transnational actors? Is torture warranted as an effective counterterrorism tactic? The readings draw on empirical scholarship on the causes and consequences of transnational terrorism. LEC.

POLS 789. Topics in International Relations: _____. 2-3 Hours.
A study of selected problems in international relations. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor. RSH.

POLS 810. American Politics. 3 Hours.
A survey and critical examination of recent theoretical developments and research focusing on national institutions, electoral behavior, and policy-making processes. Emphasis is given to conceptualizing and analyzing the changing nature of the American political system. LEC.

POLS 812. Political Psychology. 3 Hours.
A critical examination of the principal areas in current literature in political psychology, including psychological perspectives on mass political behavior, elite decision making, and international relations. Attention will be given to articulating and evaluating theories, constructing research questions and programs, and comparing methodologies. LEC.

POLS 820. Policy Formulation and Adoption. 3 Hours.
Survey of the literature on the institutional, socioeconomic, and political forces influencing the formulation and adoption of public policy, as well as policy change, at all levels of government. Topics include problem definition, agenda setting, and the methods of decision-making. This is a research seminar so students will be required to conduct an original research project. LEC.

POLS 821. Policy Implementation and Analysis. 3 Hours.
An overview of the policy implementation process and the analysis of public policy. The course covers a variety of theories and methods related to the study of the implementation process, policy evaluation, policy analysis, and policy change and learning. Substantive policy areas covered include environmental regulation, education, criminal justice, public safety, and health care. LEC.

POLS 825. Urban Policy and Administration. 3 Hours.
This course explores the development, implementation and evaluation of public policy in the local government context. It examines a variety of policy tools used to address urban problems and applies theories of the policy process, intergovernmental relations, and institutions to municipal governance. (Same as PUAD 825.) LEC.

POLS 830. Advanced Research Methods for Public Policy. 3 Hours.
Research seminar organized around advanced quantitative and qualitative method skills for research on American and comparative politics and public policy. The course will combine advanced statistical estimation procedures (e.g., hazard analysis, event history analysis, hierarchical “contextual effects” models) with methods for the collection and integration of data. This course is intended to facilitate research efforts of students in the fields of American politics, comparative politics, and public policy. The course is open to Ph.D. students from other departments who have completed a course in intermediate regression analysis. Prerequisite: POLS 707 or similar graduate level course. LEC.

POLS 849. Law, Courts, and Public Policy. 3 Hours.
This course provides an overview of the role of law, litigation, and courts in the public policy process, with an emphasis on bureaucratic institutions. The course covers the main theories and empirical research on the policy effects of litigation and intervention, with a particular focus on civil rights in the areas of employment, policing, welfare, prisons, and environmental policy. (Same as PUAD 849.) Prerequisite: Graduate standing or consent of instructor. LEC.

POLS 850. Introduction to Comparative Politics. 3 Hours.
This course provides a graduate level introduction to the field of Comparative Politics. Among topics it will survey are: the history and development of the field; classic works and major founding concerns of the field; methodological and epistemological debates; competing paradigms which had characterized Comparative Politics (structural-functionalism, culturalists, state-centrists, institutionalists, rational choice, and other); theory building and the role of area studies. LEC.
POLS 851. Comparative Institutions and Government. 3 Hours.
This course provides a survey of the subfield of political institutions within Comparative Politics. Among the topics it will cover are: identifying regime types (democracy vs. non-democracy); comparative electoral systems; party systems; presidential vs. parliamentary systems; comparative legislatures; constitutional engineering and democratic transitions, and others. Prerequisite: POLS 850. LEC.

POLS 852. Comparative Political Economy. 3 Hours.
This course provides a survey of some of the major works, research traditions, and current debates in the subfield of comparative political economy. This includes such topics as: The political economy of development and underdevelopment; dependency and world systems theory; the relationship between economic development and democracy; capitalist development and democracy; the political economy of dual transitions; the political economy of privatization and structural adjustment; comparative welfare states; and comparative labor-business-government relations. Prerequisite: POLS 850. LEC.

POLS 853. Comparative Social Politics. 3 Hours.
This course provides a survey of some major research traditions and current debates in the subfield of political sociology. This includes such topic as: culture and politics; elites, social structures, and politics; the politics of cultural pluralism and ethnopoliticalism; social movements and protest; gender and politics; state-society relation; and religion and politics. Prerequisite: POLS 850. LEC.

POLS 870. International Relations. 3 Hours.
Critical evaluation of the major approaches to international relations and their application to conflict and conflict resolution, foreign policy, and international political economy. LEC.

POLS 878. Conducting and Analyzing Fieldwork in Developing Countries. 3 Hours.
An introduction to fieldwork and surveys conducted in developing and non-democratic countries. The course covers the challenges of conducting interviews and surveys in these countries. The intent is to develop the research skills necessary for data collection and fieldwork as well as evaluating an analyzing survey data collected by other researchers in developing countries. Prerequisite: POLS 705 or equivalent or consent of the instructor. SEM.

POLS 888. Contemporary China Studies. 3 Hours.
This course will review and analyze the current literature on China’s social and political development, including a wide range of topics within political science. There is a rich body of literature within each topic such as civil society in China, legal reform, political culture, nationalism, gender issues, ethnicity, political behavior, elections, economic development, and inequality. This course will introduce key literature within each topic focusing on the debates among China scholars as well as how these debates fit in the general field of political science. (Same as EALC 888 and POLS 888.) Prerequisite: POLS 668 or permission of the instructor. LEC.

POLS 898. Non-Thesis Research. 1 Hour.
Research course used to fulfill continuous enrollment requirement for master’s degree students. Hours cannot count toward degree. Must be graded Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory. RSH.

POLS 899. Thesis. 1-6 Hours.
Enrollment for writing thesis for master's degrees. Graded on a satisfactory progress/limited progress/no progress basis. THE.

POLS 904. Statistical Computing Foundations. 3 Hours.
This is an interdisciplinary course for social science researchers who need to develop routines to estimate and evaluate statistical models. It introduces tools for software development, primarily with the statistical programming language R (and related languages like C). Topics include code organization and optimization, concurrent version management, LaTeX document preparation, and high-performance computing on the KU Linux cluster. Examples from various fields are considered. Prerequisite: Two courses in graduate level statistics and familiarity with R. LEC.

POLS 905. Complex Adaptive Systems, Agent-Based Modeling and Computer Simulation. 3 Hours.
This seminar addresses the rapidly growing science of complex systems. Topics addressed include political, economic, ecological, and biological systems. Includes a survey of the theory of complexity and computer models that are used to study complex adaptive systems. The main focus is on agent-based models, but attention is also given to traditional cellular automata. Methods of designing, programming, and interpreting results of agent-based models are addressed. Students who have no formal training in computer programming are welcome in the course, but they should expect to do some extra work on fundamentals of programming. A preparatory course in Java, C++, Objective-C, or another object-oriented language would significantly facilitate the student's research effort. SEM.

POLS 906. Advanced Regression. 3 Hours.
Covers topics appropriate for a second course in regression analysis. The content will vary according to the interest of the instructor and students, but will generally include such topics as multiple imputation of missing data, the generalized linear model (GLM), and specialized models for longitudinal data. The course will include a review of the principles of maximum likelihood estimation and applications of matrix algebra and differential calculus in statistical applications. LEC.

POLS 907. Research Methods in International Studies. 3 Hours.
This course focuses on quantitative methods of research relevant to international relations and comparative politics. Topics will vary with the instructor and student interests, but may include time series analysis, classification algorithms, computer programming and computational modeling, simulation, event data and content analysis, and dynamic models. Prerequisite: POLS 707. LEC.

POLS 908. Individual and Collective Choice. 3 Hours.
This course surveys rational choice theories of politics as they are applied to decisions by individuals and groups. Models of individual behavior are drawn primarily from economics and decision theory. The primary approaches to collective choice are social choice theory and game theory. Prerequisite: POLS 707. LEC.

POLS 909. Topics in Methodology: ______. 3 Hours.
An intensive seminar in a method (or a variety of relevant methods) of theoretical or empirical research designed for Ph.D. students only. Emphasis is on deepening the understanding and ability to use advanced methods of analysis. Prerequisite: Admission to the Ph.D. program or consent of instructor. RSH.

POLS 910. Research Seminar in American Government. 2-3 Hours.
A faculty and advanced graduate student collegial research experience focusing on American politics, policy-making and administration, with faculty and students engaged in the production of scholarly research articles, books and conference papers. Topics will be chosen by individual students with consent of the seminar professor. LEC.

POLS 911. The U.S. Congress. 3 Hours.
This seminar employs various theoretical and methodological perspectives to explore the burgeoning post-1960 literature on Congress. Traditional subjects such as committees, parties, and elections are examined through applications of formal models, behavioral analyses, and participant observation. LEC.
POLS 912. Elections and Voting Behavior. 3 Hours.
A research seminar for students interested in theoretical and empirical approaches to the behavior of candidates, voters and contributors in campaigns and elections. The impact of campaign laws and other institutional influences will also be examined. LEC.

POLS 913. State and Local Politics. 3 Hours.
Research seminar on various aspects of state and local government, such as reformed institutions, fiscal stress, citizen participation, and various policy problems. LEC.

POLS 914. Political Behavior. 3 Hours.
Survey of various approaches to the analysis of political behavior, including an evaluation of each approach in terms of its utility in building empirically-based political theory. Examples of the application of the various approaches will focus upon the American political process. LEC.

POLS 915. American Political Parties. 3 Hours.
A survey of the theories and research findings dealing with political parties in American politics, including third and minor parties. Topics to be covered include the development and evolution of the party system, the nature of party organization and the recruitment of party activists, the role of parties in the electoral process, the impact of parties upon public policy, and party reform. LEC.

POLS 916. Group Politics. 3 Hours.
The focus of this course is upon the theories and research findings dealing with political groups in American politics, including protest groups, movements, as well as conventional interest groups. Topics to be covered include group mobilization and maintenance, group involvement in the political party and electoral processes, methods and strengths of group influence, and the impact of political groups upon the policy process. LEC.

POLS 917. The Presidency. 3 Hours.
An advanced research seminar for students interested in theoretical and empirical approaches to the American presidency. This seminar will examine the powers and organizations of the White House through a study of the literature. LEC.

POLS 919. Topics in U.S. Government and Politics: ______. 2-3 Hours.
A seminar to be offered as occasion demands, dealing with, but not limited to, bureaucracy, legislative policy, federalism, and special problems in U.S. politics. LEC.

POLS 920. Policy Analysis Research Seminar. 3 Hours.
Research seminar designed to apply public policy theory and policy analysis methods to evaluate the impact of public policies. Students will be required to design and conduct an original research project with the intention of presenting the work at a professional conference or publishing the work in a professional journal. LEC.

POLS 921. Public Law. 3 Hours.
This seminar is designed to initiate the advanced graduate student to research in judicial and jury behavior. Requirements include mastery of literature on the psychological foundations of legal judgment and research designed to test propositions derived from this literature. LEC.

POLS 929. Topics in Public Policy: ______. 1-3 Hours.
Study of selected topics in public policy. LEC.

POLS 940. Teaching Political Science. 1 Hour.
A discussion of teaching methods and approaches. Students are expected to develop a personal teaching portfolio that describes their outlook on teaching political science and provides sample teaching materials. This course must be taken by all graduate teaching assistants and assistant instructors during the first year of their appointment. Grades are issued on a pass/fail basis. LEC.

POLS 950. Research Seminar in International Studies. 2-3 Hours.
A faculty and advanced graduate student collegial research experience, focusing on comparative politics, area studies, and international relations, with faculty and students engaged in the production of scholarly research articles, books, and conference papers. Topics will be chosen by individual students with consent of the seminar professor. RSH.

POLS 951. Mobilization. 3 Hours.
A study of how politicians, interest group leaders, and dissident leaders exhort citizens to act in or preclude them from acting in politics. LEC.

POLS 952. Comparative Electoral and Party Systems. 3 Hours.
This research seminar addresses the major theoretical and empirical issues in the study of electoral and party systems. In addition to evaluating the classic works of Arrow, Duverger, Lipset and Rokkan, Rae, and Taagepera and Shugart, students will assess contemporary work on electoral and party systems that has evolved from this source material. The course will address the design and reform of electoral systems, institutional rules and the strategic environment they create for political actors, the role of institutional and social factors in the development of political party systems, and the role of election administration. Students will develop and present original research papers related to these topics. Prerequisite: POLS 850. LEC.

POLS 953. Comparative Legislatures. 3 Hours.
This research seminar addresses the major theoretical and empirical issues in the study of legislatures. Students will discuss the design of institutions, government formation, accountability, legislative process and role of committees, agenda setting, elections and parties, and representation. The course will familiarize students with the core debates in legislative studies, extend knowledge of regional variation in the design and function of representative institutions, develop skills in the analysis of legislative records, and enhance professional socialization. Prerequisite: POLS 810, POLS 850, or consent of instructor. SEM.

POLS 954. Politics in Post-Soviet States. 3 Hours.
In-depth study of the politics of Russia, Ukraine, and the other Post-Soviet states. Focus on the problems of transforming a centrally planned authoritarian system to a free market democracy. LEC.

POLS 955. Politics of Advanced Industrial Societies. 3 Hours.
Theory and research on the patterns of behavior that characterize the politics of North America, Europe, and developed regions of Asia. Topics include corporatism and alternative forms of interest intermediation, economic theories of socialization and electoral choice, and the role of the state; its finances, adaptation, and the problem of power and legitimacy. Prerequisite: POLS 850 or permission of instructor. LEC.

POLS 956. The Governments and Politics of Asia. 2-3 Hours.
A research seminar on selected subjects and issues in the governments and politics of selected Asian countries. The particular focus each year will depend upon the instructor. LEC.

POLS 957. Comparative Political Behavior. 3 Hours.
The course introduces students to the vast literature on comparative elections and comparative political parties. It pursues a twofold goal. First, the course surveys the large comparative electoral behavior literature. The themes covered in the first half include a discussion of why voters participate in elections, how voters form preferences, how psychological processes affect mass views, and how these, in turn, influence party preferences. Second, the course introduces students to the supply-side of politics and the role of political parties. This second part of the course, therefore, examines why parties form in the first place, what motives they have, what choices they offer in short, how and why parties compete. Together, the way voters form preferences and the logic of party formation illuminate a central element of the democratic process. LEC.
POLS 959. Topics in Comparative Politics: ______. 1-3 Hours.
Study of selective topics in comparative government and politics. LEC.

POLS 960. Politics of Developing Countries. 2-3 Hours.
LEC.

POLS 961. The Politics of Culturally Plural Societies. 3 Hours.
This is an advanced graduate seminar on the comparative study of politics in countries characterized by sub-cultural cleavages, including ethnicity, language, religion and race. The course will first survey and critique competing theoretical explanations for different patterns of conflict or peaceful cohabitation among such groups in a variety of world regions. Students will then examine the utility of these theories in individual in-depth research papers which will be presented in class and critiqued by seminar participants. LEC.

POLS 970. Foreign Policy Analysis. 3 Hours.
Designed to acquaint students with the principal theories, approaches and types of empirical analysis generally employed to explain and interpret the creation and implementation of foreign policy. Topics include rational actor models, collective and bureaucratic processes, societal influences, cognitive and psychological factors, and comparative foreign policy class. Prerequisite: POLS 870. An undergraduate United States foreign policy class is recommended. LEC.

POLS 972. Theories of International Conflict. 3 Hours.
An in-depth survey of theories and research on international conflict. Topics will range from anthropological studies of conflict in primitive societies to contemporary theories of nuclear conflict. The course will also cover current empirical research methodology and results on research on international conflict, as well as models of conflict processes. Prerequisite: POLS 870. LEC.

POLS 973. International Political Economy. 3 Hours.
Provides an eclectic survey of major developments in the field. Topics include the intellectual origins of IPE; the historical evolution of the international system; North-South and Western trade, investment, and monetary relations; foreign aid, debt technology transfer, development, international economic institutions (e.g., IMF, IBRD, MNCs, etc.). (Same as SOC 873.) Prerequisite: POLS 870 or consent of instructor. LEC.

POLS 974. International Mediation and Conflict Resolution. 3 Hours.
The course examines the theory and practice of international mediation and other forms of third party intervention used to resolve interstate and nonstate disputes. Topics include explanations of mediation success and failure, conditions of conflict escalation where mediation is likely to be counterproductive or resisted by recalcitrant disputants, the ethics of intervention, citizen diplomacy, and the role of international organizations such as the United Nations. Prerequisite: POLS 870. LEC.

POLS 977. Ethics in International Relations Theory. 3 Hours.
This course examines how issues of International Ethics have been treated in International Relations theory. This course begins by reviewing several theoretical perspectives of International Relations and how these perspectives have historically understood the role ethics plays in international politics. By the end of the semester, students should have a firm understanding of (1) the salient issues of international ethics in world politics and (2) whether and how IR scholars have (theoretically and methodologically) placed those issues in their research paradigms. The issue areas the course will cover include, but are not limited to, human rights doctrines, issues of economic and political justice, just war theory (jus ad bellum) and just conduct of war (jus en bello), and humanitarian intervention. The course will assess the role international law has played in stemming and/or punishing human rights abuses. Students will review several historical cases of genocide, as well as several cases of truth and reconciliation commissions. LEC.

POLS 978. Advanced Topics in International Relations Theory. 3 Hours.
Intensive examination of key theoretical debates in international relations. Topics covered will include Classical Realism and Liberalism, Neorealism/Neoliberal debate, and post-structural critiques of mainstream international relations theory. Prerequisite: POLS 870. LEC.

POLS 979. Topics in International Relations: ______. 3 Hours.
To be offered periodically when topics of special interest arise. LEC.

POLS 980. International Organizations. 3 Hours.
Considers theoretical and empirical work on international governmental and non-governmental organizations (IOs). Specifically highlights the evolving scholarly debates regarding the function, design, and delegation of authority to IOs as well as their behavior and change. Explores these questions in depth through a wide range of cases, including comprehensive coverage of the United Nations, Breton Woods Institutions, and the European Union, and their activities in issue areas concerning international security, trade, finance, development, humanitarian aid, and the environment. LEC.

POLS 981. Global Development. 3 Hours.
Considers the nature and problems of development and underdevelopment from a cross-regional and interdisciplinary perspective. Deals with the historical origins of the enormous disparities in wealth that exist today, both between and within countries. Considers the explanations for those differences, prescriptions for how to narrow them, and specific cases (both successes and failures) from various regions of the globe. LEC.

POLS 993. Directed Readings. 1-5 Hours.
Designed to meet the needs of graduate students whose study in political science cannot be met with present course. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor. RSH.

POLS 995. Directed Research. 2 Hours.
Designed for advanced graduate students who are concurrently enrolled or who will be enrolled in a subsequent semester in one of the Research Seminars in American Government or International Studies. Students enrolling in this course should have the prior approval of the faculty member with whom they wish to conduct the research. RSH.

POLS 997. Preparation for the Comprehensive Examination. 1-6 Hours.
An independent reading course for students preparing to take the Ph.D. comprehensive examination. May be taken for two semesters or six credits, whichever comes first. Graded on A, B, C, D, or F depending on the results of the comprehensive examination. RSH.

POLS 999. Doctoral Dissertation. 1-15 Hours.
Enrollment for writing doctoral dissertations. Graded on a satisfactory progress/limited progress/no progress basis. THE.