P.02 STUDENT & ALUM FEATURES

P.03 PROFESSORS IN THE MEDIA
In this heated political climate, our Professors have continued their research and writing to keep us active and informed.

P.04 FALL 2017 CLASSES
See what new and returning classes are being offered next semester!

THE DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

MAJORS’ NEWSLETTER:
MARCH 2017

P.05 EVENT CALENDAR

PACKARD HALL
AS.TUFTS.EDU/POLITICALSCIENCE
617.627.3465
JANETH JEPKOGEI ROTICH
CompSci Senior, Minoring in PoliSci

has won the Davis 100 Projects for Peace Award to fund her Technology for Peace Project. With the award’s $10,000 prize, Janeth will be traveling to Africa this summer with Professor Pearl Robinson to design and oversee the construction of a computer center for Mama Kiota’s Franco-Arab Lycée in rural Niger. Mama Kiota is the leader and founder of Jamiyat Nassirat Dine, a Muslim Women’s association with nearly 100 chapters in Niger, and the subject of Professor Robinson’s 2016 documentary.

Haley Cohen, Sabrina Chishti and Alexander Trubowitz attended the Pi Sigma Alpha (Political Science Honor Society) Undergraduate Conference this year in D.C. The president of our PSA chapter, Sabrina, presented at the conference and told us that “presenting at the Pi Sigma Alpha Undergraduate Conference was a great experience. I had never delivered an academic presentation before, and it was an amazing opportunity to practice a skill I’ll be hopefully using a lot in the future. In addition, I met talented and incredible students from all over the country who inspired and encouraged me to continue doing research in the future. Getting a chance to explore D.C. was also a fun bonus!” Similarly, Haley appreciated that “the conference allowed me to enter the world of advanced political science research, to meet political science students from all over the country, and find new areas of research to pursue.”

Blair Read (A13) has received a full National Science Foundation (NSF) graduate fellowship while getting her PhD at MIT. Blair tells us that “the Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP) is a 5-year fellowship, that comes with financial support of $34,000/year for three of those years. GRFP awardees also have access to research and networking opportunities with faculty and other GRFP researchers. The NSF grants 2,000 awards each year, and out of those, 9 were given to political science PhD students,” one of which is her.

MAX FINBERG (A92)

As the featured speaker at this career night event, Max Finberg talked about his time at Tufts, where he triple majored in PoliSci, IR and German, and how his time here helped him to turn to nonprofit work. Max, as a senior, took an ExCollege class on overcoming global hunger, which led to him to “dedicating much of my career and life to seeing that hungry people get fed.” Max went on to become Director of AmeriCorps VISTA, director of the Alliance to End Hunger, and even to being a part of the Obama Administration. At the White House, he was a Senior Advisor of the Domestic Policy Council and of multiple initiatives at USDA. Max emphasized to the attending undergrads that “America needs you. We need you. The world needs you. But you need to do something to serve yourself,” in order to find fulfillment in the work you choose to do.
PROFESSOR KELLY GREENHILL “HAS BEEN AWARD THE 2017 NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES FELLOWSHIP to further her research on how rumors, conspiracy theories, myths, propaganda, and entertainment media influence the beliefs and decision-making of individuals and governments.” (Tufts Now 12/14) The fellowship will allow her to finish her upcoming book, “Extra-Factual Sources of Threat Conception and Proliferation in International Politics.”

"I have long been interested in both threat inflation and manipulation and the politics of information …" Greenhill said. "[My current book] represents a marriage of long-standing interests and a natural extension and expansion of my previous research." (Tufts Daily 2/14)

Our Department congratulates Professor Greenhill on this honor and we look forward to learning more about the “significant impact of what she calls 'extra-factual information' on how individuals and governments perceive and respond to security-related threats.”

POLITICAL SCIENCE FIELDWORK FOR UNDERGRADS >>
Students learn that things such as coffee shops, American flags and even Halloween decorations offer insights into voter behavior in a community.

Read the feature on Professor Natalie Masuoka’s Fall ’16 course, Mapping Politics, which taught students to understand the relationship between “politics” and “place” beyond Tufts: “The most important lesson for me to get across was a greater appreciation for the observational dimension of social science,” said Masuoka... "I wanted to communicate the importance of looking—that walking around in the world, in and of itself, is important when you’re conducting research.”

AMERICA THE INCLUSIVE >>
Protests against the executive order banning immigrants from seven Muslim-majority countries show how far the U.S. has come, says Tufts political scientist Deborah Schildkraut.

Read the feature written by Professor Schildkraut, Chair of the PoliSci Department: “These are turbulent and uncertain times. As we digest each day’s headlines and wonder, ‘What is happening to America?’, we would do well to take stock and acknowledge just how different our country is today relative to where it has been.”

Check out Emeritus Professor Tony Smith’s new book >>

PROFESSOR JEFF BERRY
Discussed the deepening political divide in the US after the Trump inauguration in an article from Reuters: "The ideology of congressmen in the Democratic party is to the left of rank-and-file Democrats and the same is true on the Republican side, they are to the right," said Jeffrey Berry.

Looked at the history and business of fake news in the US in a blog posting for the Oxford University Press: “Anyone with a laptop and an Internet connection can be in the news business (such as the rise of ‘citizen journalists’). Quality, of course, is another matter but when it comes to fake news, it is sensationalism and ‘clickability’ that is most critical.”
Fall 2017 Courses

for the full fall course list and descriptions go to: as.tufts.edu/politicalscience/courses

PS 158-01: TOPICS IN POLITICAL THOUGHT: RISE AND DECAY OF THE WEST
Among the topics explored in this course is the argument that the Western technological mind promotes "enfeeblement of the spirit" and that the idea that modernity marks the peak or "end of history." Comparisons will be made between the modern West and Persia, Greece, Rome, and Christendom and analysis of corruption as a source of individualism, cultural development, and philosophy.

Robert Devigne

PS 118-01: U.S. ELECTIONS: RULES, STRATEGIES
This survey course of U.S. elections connects the dots from laws, such as the Constitution, case law, state and federal statutes, to strategies by political parties, candidates, interest groups, and donors, and from strategies to outcomes illustrated by voting, public opinion, and activism.

Eitan Hersh

PS 118-02: INFORMATION, TECHNOLOGY, AND PRIVACY
A wide-ranging course in how politics affects information technologies and in how information affects politics and governance. Topics include oversight, government leaks, free speech, surveillance, collective action, voter decision-making, campaign targeting, Uber, Amazon and antitrust laws & more.

Eitan Hersh

PS 118-03: MASSACHUSETTS STATE GOVERNMENT
Learn from Massachusetts Senate President, Stan Rosenberg, about the process, roles of key players and strategic thinking involved in creating public policy addressing today's most pressing issues. Class time will be enhanced by guest speakers and visits to the Massachusetts State House.

Stan Rosenberg

PS 138-02: TOPICS IN COMPAR POL: INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL ECONOMY
Intro to the study of International Political Economy, which broadly examines how domestic and international politics shapes global economic systems and the economic relations between countries. Learn how governments and institutions influence global trends and practices in the areas of international trade, foreign investment, monetary policy, foreign aid, and more.

Nimah Mazaheri

PS 188-05: TOPICS IN IR: PEACE THROUGH ENTREPRENEURSHIP
International political instability, unrest and violence most often stem from massive rates of mostly youth unemployment, and the most effective way to address this is by spurring entrepreneurship—the greatest single, private sector job-creator. This course is based on this central theory, covering a range of related topics including theories of international economic development, impact investing, microfinance, and practical operations of the international development space.

Steven Koltaï

PS 188-06: TOPICS IN IR: GENDER AND CONFLICT IN IR
This course will look at gender roles, relations, and symbols, throughout different phases of conflict from the perspective of civilian societies, state militaries and non-state armed groups. Gender will be used as a lens to understand different identities in conflict and will look at expectations for women, men, boys, and girls, as well as examine femininities and masculinities.

Phoebe Grace Donnelly

sign up for a Summer Session Course now until the day the session begins at ase.tufts.edu/summer

courses include:
Intro to Comparative Politics
Western Political Though I & II
Plato's Socrates
US Foreign Policy in the Middle East
3.29 Twitter Diplomacy
4:15 - 5:30pm in ASEAN Auditorium
Twitter has been praised as a tool that will open the world to a global conversation and greater understanding. However, it has also been criticized as design that favors speed over analysis, aggression over reflection, and shock over depth. Join Colin Crowell, VP of Global Public Policy & Philanthropy at Twitter in sharing his insight into Twitter.

3.30 Get Your Voice Heard: OP-ED Workshop
6 - 8pm in Cabot 703
Trying to get more involved in the public discourse around politics right now? Want to be able to take your opinions from your dorm room arguments to the op-ed section of the Boston Globe? Join a panel of journalists from major Boston media outlets who will speak about their own experiences writing op-eds and hear pitches, followed by an op-ed writing workshop for students, led by Tufts’ own Professor Neil Miller.

3.31 Responsive Authoritarianism in China: Protests & Policy Making
3 - 4pm in Rabb Room, Tisch College
How can protests influence policymaking in an authoritarian state? Professor Christopher Heurlin of Bowdoin College sheds light on this important question through case studies of land takings and demolitions in China - two of the most explosive issues in the country today.

Honors Civicus Application Due at Noon on 4.3
~ a Latin honor award reflecting civic engagement over the course of a student’s time at Tufts and publicly recognize seniors who have been exemplary active citizens!

4.5 Passport to Professors & Resources: Academic Advising Fair
7:30 - 8:30pm in Tilton Hall Lounge
The fair draws in faculty representatives from departments and programs across ASE and allows students to interact with those faculty members to find out more about course offerings, major tracks, internships, and career opportunities!

4.10 Pi Sigma Alpha Presents: Samantha Medlock
“Federalism in the Era of Climate Change”
6:30 - 8pm in Barnum 104

4.12 The 12th Annual Murrow Forum featuring Lester Holt
12 - 1pm, location TBD
Lester Holt, award-winning journalist and anchor of NBC Nightly News with Lester Holt and Dateline NBC, will discuss contemporary media issues at the 12th Annual Forum on Issues in Journalism.

4.26 Colcord Talk: Seminar on Hobbes
Featuring Susanne Sreedhar, Prof of Philosophy at BU
6pm in Cabot 703

4.26 Suitcase Stories
7pm, location TBD
A live storytelling event celebrating refugees and immigrants by the International Institute of New England and Massmouth. The event will feature 8-10, 5 minute stories and interested story-tellers will have the opportunity to participate in coaching provided by Massmouth.

5.1 Majors Study Break
4:15 - 5:30pm in Packard Hall, 2nd FL
Wrap up the semester with your fellow Majors and Professors over coffee and snacks!