

Political Science Spring 2017 Courses

(M)- Methodology

(*)- Advanced Seminar

PS 042: Western Political Thought II

Professor: Dennis Rasmussen

(Cross-listed as PHIL 42.) Examination of some of the central thinkers and concepts of modern political thought, including the rejection of ancient political philosophy and Christianity and the rise of liberalism (Hobbes and Locke); the critique of the liberal outlook in the name of nature and virtue (Rousseau), tradition and custom (Burke), equality and liberation (Marx), and creativity and greatness (Nietzsche); and the attempt to rescue or recover liberal modernity in the face of some of these worries (Smith and Mill). In addition to exploring the various conceptions of nature, human nature, justice, freedom, history, and the good life found in the works of these thinkers, we will also use their arguments to reflect on the health or illness of liberal democracy in today's world.

PS 061: Introduction to International Relations

Professor: Michael Beckley

Examination of several conceptual designs intended to make order out of the essential anarchy in international relations, from a theoretical assessment of the nation-state and the nature of national power to an exploration of behavior among nation-states, including the ultimate problem of war and peace and an appraisal of the factors that give an age its particular characteristics.

PS 099: Fieldworks in Politics

Professor: Shin Fujihira

Internship placements with such employers as legislators, campaigns, news media, lobbies, law firms, and administrative agencies. Twelve to fifteen hours of work per week. Written assignments, with supporting readings, on organizational structure, goals and strategies, and occupational socialization.

PS 102: Congress, Bureaucracy and Public Policy

Professor: Jeffrey Berry

The focus of this course is on the national policy-making process. Examination of such topics as agenda building, the relationship between congressional elections and public policy outcomes, legislative process, congressional-agency relations, bureaucratic politics, and program implementation. Recommendations: Sophomore standing or permission of instructor.

PS 103: Political Science Research Methods (M)

Professor: Nimah Mazaheri

The study of quantitative methods for investigating political issues and policy controversies. Focuses on collecting, analyzing, and presenting data. Emphasizes hands-on training that provides useful skills for academic and professional settings. Topics covered include: measurement, hypothesis development, survey design, experiments, content analysis, significance tests, correlation, and regression. No prior statistics background necessary. Prerequisites: PS 11, 21, 41, 42, or 61. A methodologically focused course.

PS 104: New Media, New Politics (M)(*)

Professors: Jeffrey Berry and Robin Liss

Research seminar on three media sectors: cable television, talk radio, and the political blogosphere. Analysis of the economic foundations of each, advertising, audience demographics, and program strategy. Students will conduct an original empirical study of new media.

PS 105: Constitutional Law

Professor: Michael Zuckerman

The development and application of American constitutional law as interpreted in the leading decisions of the Supreme Court. Included are citizenship, the commerce power, due process of law, and the equal protection of the laws. Recent trends in constitutional doctrine.

PS 108: Public Opinion and US Democracy (M)

Professor: Deborah Schildkraut

Addresses the impact of public opinion in the United States on the political process and vice versa. Emphasis is on the linkage between U.S. citizens and the democratic process. Examines what public opinion is and debates about how it can be measured. Topics include the nature of attitude formation, stability and change; the role of the media in opinion-formation; the link between attitudes and behavior; group differences in opinions; how elites influence mass opinions; political inequality; polarization; and the relationship between public opinion and policy outcomes. Requires the completion of any PS foundation course (PS 11, 21, 41, 42, or 61).

PS 118-01: Immigration Policy and American Politics

Professor: Natalie Masuoka

This lecture course will consider the social, demographic and political consequences of American immigration policy. In the first half of the course, we will review the history of immigration policy in the United States and will discuss potential (or lack of potential) for immigration policy reform today. The second half of the course consider American citizenship policy and the processes of immigrant political incorporation found today.

PS 118-02: Organizing for Social Change

Professors: Danny LeBlanc and Kenneth Galdston

This course will trace community organizing to some of its early roots in the United States, as well as drawing connections between community organizing and other movements, including the labor, civil rights, and environmental movements. Presentations and discussions with other Boston area community organizers will be included as will be opportunities to visit with and observe local community-based organizations.

PS 118-03: Massachusetts State Government: Learning While Doing

Professor: Benjamin Downing

Students will be placed in one of a dozen State House offices—for a legislator, committee, in the governor's office, or for an executive branch agency—to serve in a policy-focused internship. These experiences will be supplemented with a class built around discussion of shared experiences, as well as on the interplay between policy and politics. The primary goal is for

students to develop real world skills and a deeper understanding of how politics and policy intersect to create law, regulatory programs, and social change.

PS 118-04: Courts and Social Policy

Professor: Steven Young

In 1991, political scientist Gerald Rosenberg published *The Hollow Hope: Can Courts Bring About Social Change?* By drawing upon three cases of political activism in the courts, civil rights, abortion, and women's rights, Rosenberg drew an astonishing conclusion: court decisions on their own don't do very much. This course first examines the role of the judiciary in the American political system, particularly the relationship between courts and social change in the postwar era. After studying Rosenberg's three case studies, we study contemporary rights-based movements to re-examine the possibilities and limits of law as a tool for social change today. The third section of the course moves to examine the comparative and global role of courts in relationship to social change. This section leads into the final unit of the course, where you will move beyond the cases and policies to develop your own analysis of law and social change in an area of your choice using legal and non-legal sources.

PS 118-05: How Campaigns, Communications, and Organizing Can Impact Our World

Professor: Doug Rubin

Conventional political wisdom is dead. The proliferation of media channels has radically transformed the way we communicate and the way we campaign for public office, impacting traditional campaign tactics and opening the door for different strategies and candidates. This course will explore how the way we communicate and campaign has changed, and the impact those changes have on our political process. We will include guest lectures from campaign professionals, elected officials, and grassroots organizers to illustrate the transformation of the modern political campaign, and discuss / debate the impact these changes will have on the future of our electoral system. We will also use the 2016 Republican and Democratic Primaries as a case study, and closely analyze the tactics and strategies used by the campaigns as they move through the 2016 election.

PS 119-01: Seminar in American Racial Politics (*)

Professor: Natalie Masuoka

This seminar course will address the state of racial politics in the United States by discussing the unique identities, ideologies and approaches to government found within Asian American, black and Latino communities. Content will primarily cover contemporary American politics from 1964 to the current. An introductory course on American government is recommended but not required.

PS 120: Seminar: Power and Politics in China (*)

Professor: Elizabeth Remick

Advanced seminar on sources of political power and resistance in post-Mao Chinese politics. Debates in recent research over state strength, origins of political reform, development of civil

society, prospects for democratization, corruption, censorship, religion, and protest. Please see departmental website for specific details. Requirement: PS 126 or HIST 44, or permission of instructor.

PS 124: Seminar: Comparative Political Economy of Advanced Industrial Democracies (M)(*)

Professor: Shin Fujihira

Examines the political foundations of capitalism in the U.S., Europe, and Japan. Topics include: Keynesianism and monetarism, neoliberalism and partisan governments, interest group politics, central banks and monetary policy, welfare states, corporate governance, financial and labor markets, industrial policy and technological innovation, taxation and redistribution, class and gender inequality, and immigration.

PS 125: Building the European Union

Professor: David Art

Introduction to the project for greater economic, political, and security integration among the current members of the European Union in its historical context, economic and political setting, and future ambitions. Covers recent events and important European events-in-the-making, including the implementation of the Maastricht Treaty, the expansion of the European Union, and the EU-sponsored strategies to facilitate democratic transitions in Eastern Europe. Recommendations: Sophomore standing or permission of instructor.

PS 128: Gender, Work and Politics in East Asia

Professor: Elizabeth Remick

This course examines the connections between gender and economic development in East Asia during the post-WWII period. Paying attention to differences among East Asian countries, it looks at how men and women have participated differently in the post-war "miracle." It examines the kinds of work that women have done, considering different experiences that women of different classes have had during the development process. To what extent is the gender division of labor mandated or facilitated by the state, under what conditions, and for what reasons? What role do culture and politics play in creating the gender division of labor? How has women's participation in economic development altered gender relations? Has the miracle liberated women, as some predict it should?

PS 130: Seminar in African Political Economy (M)(*)

Professor: Pearl Robinson

Theories explaining the impact of political institutions on African economies. Questions include: Why has sustainable development been so elusive? What are the determinants of state-business relationships in economic policy-making in the neo-liberal era? How does the quality of governance affect issues of poverty and redistribution? Can gender-targeted strategies turn the tide of poor economic performance? We follow shifts in development thinking, the leverage of foreign interests, and the relationship between ideas and economic policy-making in Africa over the last half-century. Prerequisites: Sophomore standing or approval of Instructor.

PS 138-01: Political Violence in State and Society

Professor: Consuelo Cruz

This course examines the varieties in form and scale of political violence. It also assesses salient theories that aim to explain or trace the origins and logic of such violence. Finally, the course tests these theories against empirical cases mainly drawn from the Latin American experience.

PS 138-02: Making States: Theory and Practice

Professor: Consuelo Cruz

What are states? How are they built? What determines variations in their character and strength? We address these questions by a) closely examining key selections from the theoretical literature on the state, and b) probing major empirical cases from different regions of the world.

PS 138-03: Policing in the US and Europe

Professor: David Art

What are the origins of domestic security institutions (police) in Western Europe and the United States? How did major political developments (such as WWI and WWII, rise of fascism, the Civil Rights Movement, colonialism and de-colonization) affect the use of coercion domestically? How did public attitudes toward the police change over time in different states, and why? Why is there no mass incarceration in Europe? What are the origins (political, social, economic, and cultural) and consequences of mass incarceration in the United States? These are some of the key issues this senior seminar will address.

PS 139-02: States, Nations, and the Politics of Citizenship Rules (*)

Professor: Oxana Shevel

How do states decide who has the right to citizenship? For modern nation-states, defining the boundaries of the nation in whose name the state is constituted has always been a critically important task. For today's states hosting large numbers of immigrants and minorities, this question remains highly salient, and often politically contested. In this course we will examine the politics of citizenship policymaking in modern states, paying particular attention to alternative theoretical explanation. Are citizenship rules determined primarily by material considerations, such as economic, demographic, and security concerns? Or perhaps by ideational considerations, such as prevailing images of the nation and normative ideals? Do international norms and standards constrain and inform citizenship policymakers today? Is citizenship politics and policies fundamentally different in democratic and authoritarian states? In this course we will focus on such questions and analyze contemporary and historical citizenship policies in various countries in the world, paying particular attention to Western and Eastern Europe as well as North America.

PS 139-03: Poverty and Public Policy (*)

Professor: Nimah Mazaheri

Over 1.3 billion people live in extreme poverty. This seminar examines why poverty persists and what governments can do about it. Key topics include the causes and consequences of poverty, how governments measure poverty and characterize the poor, and the types of solutions available to governments and international organizations for reducing poverty. We also examine how political and economic dynamics shape policy responses to poverty. Other subjects covered are inequality, collective action, the informal economy, and unemployment.

PS 139-04: Islam and Democracy in the Modern Middle East (*)

Professor: Andrew March

The main themes of this course are the development of both theocratic and democratic ideals in modern Islamic political thought, the challenge of political Islam to post-colonial Muslim authoritarian states, the secular management and governance of religion, Islamic revolutionary movements and, finally, theories of Islamic democratic constitutionalism. The course looks at the origins of the problem of state sovereignty, religious vs. positive law and the relationship between Islam and constitutionalism in 19th century state modernization processes in the Ottoman Empire (including partially independent territories like Egypt and Tunisia) and Iran. It looks at debates around the abolition of the Ottoman Caliphate from the 1920s, followed by the birth of “political Islam” in the Muslim Brotherhood and Jamaat-i-Islami and expressed ideologies of Mawdudi, Qutb and Khomeini. We will then look at some social science literature on Islamist party behavior and elections under authoritarian regimes. Finally, the course will look at the ideological developments in Islamist movements that attempted to reconcile democratic and Islamist ideals leading up to the brief “Arab Spring” and the constitution-making processes in countries like Egypt and Tunisia.

PS 144: The Meaning of America

Professor: Dennis Rasmussen

Examination of American political thought, concentrating on the founding debate, the development of Lincoln's thought and the Civil War, and Alexis de Tocqueville's Democracy in America. Topics include the Puritan origins of America, the meaning of and the relationship between our founding documents, the challenges posed by the Anti-Federalists, the defense of the large republic in The Federalist, the role of religion in American life, the problems presented by slavery, the proper role of a democratic statesman, and Tocqueville's hopes and worries about liberal democratic society and government (especially its American variant).

PS 151: The Political Philosophy of Hobbes (*)

Professor: Ioannis Evrigenis

A comprehensive examination of Hobbes's political thought through detailed study of his theory of human nature and the main political works, The Elements of Law, De Cive, and Leviathan. The seminar will consider Hobbes's alleged atheism and relativism, the role of the state of nature and of fear in his political theory, his views on the sources of conflict and his proposed remedies, as well as the implications of his theory for international relations.

PS 158-01: Origins of Modern Republicanism

Professor: Vickie Sullivan

Increasing frustration with a classical liberal outlook that fosters individualism, social inequalities, and materialism has led to a renewed scholarly interest in republicanism as a salutary alternative. Republicanism offers a conception of political life in which the people play an active role in the civic life of the state. This course will examine the seminal works of modern republicanism: Machiavelli's *Discourses on Livy* and Rousseau's *Social Contract*, both of which propose to bring forward elements of the ancient Roman republic as a model for modern times. In studying these two foundational works, the course will pursue such questions as: How do Machiavelli and Rousseau define the domestic and international problems to which each responds?; How do their definitions of these modern problems affect their respective depictions of ancient Rome?; How should a republic interact with other states?; To what extent does civic

engagement necessarily engage a martial ethos?; What role can the people as a body play in determining a state's political fate?; How has the advent of Christianity altered the possibilities of political life?; What does Rousseau's social contract owe to Machiavelli's thought?; To what extent is republicanism a viable alternative to liberalism?

PS 158-02: Origins of Islamic Political Thought

Professor: Malik Mufti

This course will survey the development of political philosophy in the Islamic world, from its early development through the great debates that raged between the 9th and 14th centuries on issues such as the respective spheres of human reason and divine law, the relationship between the individual and the polis, and the proper conduct of warfare. It will focus on the writings of thinkers including al-Farabi, Ibn Rushd, and Ibn Khaldun, and will conclude by considering their legacies in contemporary Islamic political thought.

PS 160: Force, Strategy, Arms Control (M)

Professor: Jeffrey Taliaferro

Examination of the political, economic, military, and ethical factors affecting the use and utility of military force in international relations. Study of the political and decision-making process by which nations decide to use military force. Study of the major arms control agreements of the post-World War II period, including negotiations currently under way. Prerequisites: PS 61.

PS 167: Studies in War and Empire

Professor: Malik Mufti

An introduction to basic issues in international relations theory such as the causes of war, the motivations behind imperialism, strategic thinking in various cultures, and the role of leadership. Major strategic thinkers such as Thucydides, Sun Tzu, Machiavelli, and Clausewitz.

PS 168: International Law

Professor: Seth Turner

The function of international law in the international community and its relation to international politics, with special emphasis on the nature of the legal process.

PS 188-01: Human Rights and American Foreign Policy

Professor: Katrina Swett

Fundamental notions of universal human rights are deeply embedded in American history and its sense of national identity. Much of the early writing and debate about the moral foundations of the nation suggest that Americans viewed themselves as a righteous template after which the rest of the world should pattern itself. However, America's self-image and its implications for US foreign policy became more relevant in the 20th century when America emerged as a major player on the world stage. Particularly in the post-World War II period, the US played a pivotal role in establishing universal human rights as a key organizing principle for the new world order. This course will examine the role that human rights have played in American foreign policy and the cross currents, contradictions and inconsistencies that have emerged. We will look at these issues both historically and in the current context, examining topics ranging from enhanced

interrogation techniques (torture) employed by the Bush administration to the challenges posed by violent extremist groups such as ISIS to the international architecture of human rights.

PS 188-02: Cybersecurity and Cyberwar

Professors: Jeffrey Taliaferro and Ming Chow

Interdisciplinary analysis of cybersecurity in the United States and other countries, intended to introduce engineering students to policymaking and intelligence aspects of cybersecurity and liberal arts students to the technical constraints of computer networks and software. Hands-on activities including packet analysis, exploiting a vulnerable system, password cracking, social engineering, reconnaissance, and malware analysis. Examination of state and non-state actors engaged in cyber-espionage, counterintelligence, deterrence, and offensive cyber operations.

Guest speakers from private sector, civil liberties groups, and intelligence community.

Prerequisites: PS 61: Introduction to International Relations (for PS and IR majors) or COMP 15: Data Structures (for CS majors in A&S or SoE)

PS 188-03: Political Foundations of Economic Prosperity

Professor: Dan Drezner

This course addresses one of the great mysteries in world history: why some countries began to experience mass prosperity at the start of the 19th century, why some countries caught up, and why other countries have fallen further behind, and what this means for world politics. Topics include: myths about national prosperity; how political institutions undergird economic prosperity; how openness to the global economy affects national prosperity; financial crises; the rise of inequality; and technological, environmental, ideological, political and ethical challenges to global prosperity in the future.

PS 188-04: Gender Issues in World Politics

Professor: Richard Eichenberg

This course is a survey of many issues relating to gender in world politics, with a particular emphasis on: gender differences in political attitudes and behavior generally; gender differences in attitudes toward war and national security in particular; the cross-cultural uniformity (or lack thereof) in gender differences in attitudes and political behavior, particularly in relation to national security and war; the role of gender differences in war, in particular how gender roles are created and the effect of war on men and women; violence against women; and the role of gender in world affairs more generally and specifically the role of gender in economic development, environmental sustainability and gender mainstreaming within international institutions.

PS 188-05: Quantitative Research Methods (M)

Professor: Richard Eichenberg

This course provides intensive instruction in all phases of the research process, including: translating a general topic into specific research questions and hypotheses; finding and aggressively evaluating scholarly literature; finding and evaluating sources of raw information and data; analyzing information and presenting it effectively in written, tabular, and graphic form; employing quantitative and qualitative methodologies for analyzing information; organizing and writing effective scholarly reports; and presenting the results of research effectively to others. The course will also provide an introduction to rudimentary statistical

techniques and the software used to conduct statistical analysis. Students will complete several homework assignments and also complete a substantial research project.

PS 188-06: Race and US Africa Policy

Professor: Pearl Robinson

Scholars debate whether foreign attachments of US ethnic lobbies foster policy advocacy that runs counter to the national interest. This course traces the shift in emphasis of African-American internationalists from the defense of Black nationality to broader human rights advocacy around norms of racial equality, the rule of law, and economic justice. Case studies address the role of race, ethnicity and religion in the making of US Africa policy from 1850 to the present.

PS 189-01: American Primacy (*)

Professor: Michael Beckley

The United States is the world's only superpower. Will this period of American primacy last? This course reviews the major threats to American power and evaluates how the United States can overcome them.

PS 199: Senior Honors Thesis (M)

Professor: ARR