

# POLITICAL SCIENCE (PLSC)

## PLSC 1: American Politics: Principles, Processes and Powers

3 Credits

This course examines the American democracy by looking at the dynamic interaction between the founding ideals of the United States government, the institutions established by the Constitution, and the ongoing contest for power within and through those institutions. Students will learn how Congress, the Presidency and the Supreme Court shape law and public policy; how the electoral process influences the decisions of voters and political parties; and how the media, interest groups, political action committees, and public opinion impact political outcomes. Through these topics the course takes up questions such as, Who has a voice in American politics and why are some political actors more influential than others? Do the electoral and policy making processes uphold democratic values? How responsive is the United States government to public wants? How does the media influence citizens' political preferences and behavior? The course both provides a foundation for further study of politics and equips students with the capacity to act politically on their own behalf and in concert with their communities. Students are empowered to interpret and pursue their interests, rights, and opportunities within the US political system in relation to the values of democratic equality and liberty the system was organized to secure, and to influence the process through which policies that shape their lives in critical ways are made.

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences  
United States Cultures (US)  
General Education: Social and Behavioral Scien (GS)  
GenEd Learning Objective: Crit and Analytical Think  
GenEd Learning Objective: Key Literacies

## PLSC 1H: American Politics: Principles, Processes and Powers

3 Credits

This course examines the American democracy by looking at the dynamic interaction between the founding ideals of the United States government, the institutions established by the Constitution, and the ongoing contest for power within and through those institutions. Students will learn how Congress, the Presidency and the Supreme Court shape law and public policy; how the electoral process influences the decisions of voters and political parties; and how the media, interest groups, political action committees, and public opinion impact political outcomes. Through these topics the course takes up questions such as, Who has a voice in American politics and why are some political actors more influential than others? Do the electoral and policy making processes uphold democratic values? How responsive is the United States government to public wants? How does the media influence citizens' political preferences and behavior? The course both provides a foundation for further study of politics and equips students with the capacity to act politically on their own behalf and in concert with their communities. Students are empowered to interpret and pursue their interests, rights, and opportunities within the US political system in relation to the values of democratic equality and liberty the system was organized to secure, and to influence the process through which policies that shape their lives in critical ways are made. The course supports honors students in their progress toward independent research by focusing on what political scientists studying American politics do, the types of questions they ask,

and the methods they employ to answer those questions. Engagement with scholarly literature prepares students to draw on existing research to frame their own research questions about American politics.

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences  
United States Cultures (US)  
General Education: Social and Behavioral Scien (GS)  
Honors  
GenEd Learning Objective: Crit and Analytical Think  
GenEd Learning Objective: Key Literacies

## PLSC 1S: American Politics: Principles, Processes and Powers

3 Credits

This course examines the American democracy by looking at the dynamic interaction between the founding ideals of the United States government, the institutions established by the Constitution, and the ongoing contest for power within and through those institutions. Students will learn how Congress, the Presidency and the Supreme Court shape law and public policy; how the electoral process influences the decisions of voters and political parties; and how the media, interest groups, political action committees, and public opinion impact political outcomes. Through these topics the course takes up questions such as, Who has a voice in American politics and why are some political actors more influential than others? Do the electoral and policy making processes uphold democratic values? How responsive is the United States government to public wants? How does the media influence citizens' political preferences and behavior? The course both provides a foundation for further study of politics and equips students with the capacity to act politically on their own behalf and in concert with their communities. Students are empowered to interpret and pursue their interests, rights, and opportunities within the US political system in relation to the values of democratic equality and liberty the system was organized to secure, and to influence the process through which policies that shape their lives in critical ways are made. As part of First Year Seminar requirements, students will receive brief research assignments to learn how to use library and online resources and will participated in required advising sessions to learn about Penn State degree requirements, career exploration, internships, Penn State study abroad programs, study skills, and the variety of subfields and research interests in political science.

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences  
United States Cultures (US)  
First-Year Seminar  
General Education: Social and Behavioral Scien (GS)  
GenEd Learning Objective: Crit and Analytical Think  
GenEd Learning Objective: Key Literacies

## PLSC 2: American Public Policy

3 Credits

Examination of selected areas of public policy in America. Analysis of policy content, alternatives, and impact.

**Prerequisite:** PL SC001  
Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

PLSC 3: Comparing Politics around the Globe

3 Credits

This course examines the variety of ways that people seek and wield power around the world. Through cross national comparison and individual country analysis, the course considers different forms of democratic and authoritarian regimes, sources of stability and change in different regime types, and the relationship between cultural, economic, and social factors and political processes. Students are introduced to the central questions in comparative politics, including What is the state and where did it come from? What is democracy? Why are some countries democracies whereas others are dictatorships? Does the kind of regime a country has affect the prosperity and well-being of its citizens? Why are ethnic groups politicized in some countries but not in others? Why do some countries have many parties whereas some have only a few? How do governments form, and what determines the type of government that takes office? What are the material and normative implications associated with different types of government? The course examines competing answers to questions such as these and evaluates the explanations for their logical consistency and empirical accuracy. Students learn to compare political phenomena across disparate contexts and how to use such comparisons to test claims about the political world. In doing so, they learn about the similarities and differences among countries and a range of approaches to analyzing the political world.

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences  
International Cultures (IL)  
General Education: Social and Behavioral Scien (GS)  
GenEd Learning Objective: Crit and Analytical Think  
GenEd Learning Objective: Global Learning  
GenEd Learning Objective: Key Literacies

PLSC 3H: Comparing Politics around the Globe

3 Credits

This course examines the variety of ways that people seek and wield power around the world. Through cross national comparison and individual country analysis, the course considers different forms of democratic and authoritarian regimes, sources of stability and change in different regime types, and the relationship between cultural, economic, and social factors and political processes. Students are introduced to the central questions in comparative politics, including What is the state and where did it come from? What is democracy? Why are some countries democracies whereas others are dictatorships? Does the kind of regime a country has affect the prosperity and well-being of its citizens? Why are ethnic groups politicized in some countries but not in others? Why do some countries have many parties whereas some have only a few? How do governments form, and what determines the type of government that takes office? What are the material and normative implications associated with different types of government? The course examines competing answers to questions such as these and evaluates the explanations for their logical consistency and empirical accuracy. Students learn to compare political phenomena across disparate contexts and how to use such comparisons to test claims about the political world. In doing so, they learn about the similarities and differences among countries and a range of approaches to analyzing the political world. The course supports honors students in their progress toward independent research by focusing on what political scientists studying Comparative Politics do, the types of questions they ask, and

the methods they employ to answer those questions, including game theory and statistical analysis. Engagement with scholarly literature prepares students to draw on existing research to frame their own research questions about Comparative Politics.

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences  
International Cultures (IL)  
General Education: Social and Behavioral Scien (GS)  
Honors  
GenEd Learning Objective: Crit and Analytical Think  
GenEd Learning Objective: Global Learning  
GenEd Learning Objective: Key Literacies

PLSC 7N: Contemporary Political Ideologies

3 Credits

This course provides a comparative analysis of the beliefs, values and ideas that constitute the major political ideologies in contemporary politics, such as liberalism, conservatism, socialism, anarchism, fascism and environmentalism. The course focuses on ideologies as traditions of thought developed through contentious political action with attention both to the unique features of each ideology and the ways that they overlap in theory and practice. It considers what ideologies are, what they do, and how we can study them. Each ideology is examined with respect to its historical origin; the major ideas, thinkers, events and political activists associated with its genesis; and how it has developed and changed in response to new circumstances. Students learn to think about ideologies as distinct from parties, regimes and political actors, and to establish criteria for classifying them in order to observe their influence on and through political action and organization. As the belief systems that underlie or justify political action, ideologies include views about human nature, history, and the scope and purpose of government. Ideologies implicitly or explicitly suggest an ideal form of socio-political organization that articulates who owes what to whom and establishes criteria for evaluating the status quo. The course will investigate how different ideologies understand the political community, the role of government, access to knowledge, institutional legitimacy and change. Students will learn to identify the value commitments various ideologies entail, as well as how those values shape the perception of political problems and the actions they necessitate.

Bachelor of Arts: Humanities  
Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences  
General Education: Humanities (GH)  
General Education: Social and Behavioral Scien (GS)  
General Education - Integrative: Interdomain  
GenEd Learning Objective: Crit and Analytical Think  
GenEd Learning Objective: Global Learning  
GenEd Learning Objective: Soc Resp and Ethic Reason

PLSC 10: Scientific Study of Politics

3 Credits

This course introduces students to both the scientific study of politics, and the way that a scientific approach to political phenomena advances our understanding of political actors, events, processes, and institutions. It provides information about the elements of scientific reasoning, and introduces systematic approaches to studying politics through the lens of important puzzles and questions about international relations, comparative politics, and American politics. Students learn about

relevant data sources, as well as how to interpret data appearing in graphs and tables. The course consists of three parts. The first part of the course offers an overview of the elements of scientific inquiry including causal explanation, empirical verification, theories and hypotheses, and dependent and independent variables. The second part of the course examines dominant approaches to studying politics, including experiments; observational methods such as surveys and elite interviewing; formal models; archival research; and computational methods such as text analysis. Each approach will be presented using a similar format. Students will be introduced to the approach through a combination of lectures and assigned readings. They will then look at and learn about data sources suited to and consider questions or puzzles that can be addressed by each approach. Careers that make use of the analytic skills associated with each approach also will be discussed. The final part of the course considers the benefits of scientific approaches over less systematic analysis and the challenges inherent in trying to explain complex political behavior, institutions, and events. By the end of the course, students will understand what it means to "do" political science: i.e., to ask questions about political phenomena, form theories related to those questions, collect data, pick an approach to analyze the data, and draw inferences from the analysis.

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences  
 General Education: Social and Behavioral Scien (GS)  
 GenEd Learning Objective: Effective Communication  
 GenEd Learning Objective: Crit and Analytical Think

#### PLSC 14: International Relations

3 Credits

Characteristics of modern nation-states and forces governing their international relations; nationalism; imperialism; diplomacy; current problems of war and peace. Credit will not be given for both this course and INT U 200. PL SC 014PL SC 014 International Relations (3) (GS) (BA) This course meets the Bachelor of Arts degree requirements. This course has three major goals. First, you should come away from this course with an idea of what the scientific study of Political Science is all about. Second, you should come away from the course knowing some general theories (explanations) for international behavior that you should use when you think about international politics in the future. Third, you will be introduced to a number of important topics in international politics. These include the end of the Cold War, nuclear weapons, international economics, and international development. Students will take examinations that include short answer and essay questions. Short projects or papers will supplement exams. Students are also graded on attendance, participation and oral presentations in weekly recitation sections. The course fulfills one of the lower-division requirements for majors in political science and international politics. For non-majors this course may be used to fulfill a general education or bachelor of arts social/behavioral science requirement. It will be offered at least once per academic year with an enrollment limit of 180.

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences  
 International Cultures (IL)  
 General Education: Social and Behavioral Scien (GS)

#### PLSC 14H: International Relations

3 Credits

Characteristics of modern nation-states and forces governing their international relations; nationalism; imperialism; diplomacy; current problems of war and peace. Credit will not be given for both this course and INT U 200.

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences  
 International Cultures (IL)  
 General Education: Social and Behavioral Scien (GS)  
 Honors

#### PLSC 17N: Introduction to Political Theory

3 Credits

This course focuses on the concepts, principles and values used to explain, justify and challenge the organization and use of collective power. It introduces the field of political theory as an intellectual tradition that combines reflection on what political life is and what it should accomplish with investigation of the values manifest through existing political institutions and how those institutions can be best organized to achieve desired outcomes. Through analysis of selected works of major thinkers, beginning with the Ancient Greeks and extending through the contemporary period, students consider questions and problems that philosophers, political leaders and citizens have grappled with for millennia: What is a political community? What is justice? Who is included in the realm of justice? What is the best form of government? What do I owe to the state? What does the state owe to me? What is the proper purpose and scope of government? Students learn to critically engage arguments in canonical texts to understand both how they contributed to debates in their own time and how subsequent theorists and activists have interpreted them to articulate and challenge various forms of exclusion and oppression. Ultimately, students are invited to see political theory as a conversation across time to clarify concepts that are fundamental to the study and practice of politics yet remain contested, such as freedom, equality, democracy and justice, and to distinguish between the legitimate purposes of government and the arbitrary use of power. Through the course students will learn to employ and evaluate political concepts with care and precision so they can participate in that conversation productively as democratic citizens as well as in further study of political theory. Students may not get credit for both PLSC 17N and PLSC 17W

Bachelor of Arts: Humanities  
 Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences  
 General Education: Humanities (GH)  
 General Education: Social and Behavioral Scien (GS)  
 General Education - Integrative: Interdomain  
 GenEd Learning Objective: Crit and Analytical Think  
 GenEd Learning Objective: Integrative Thinking  
 GenEd Learning Objective: Soc Resp and Ethic Reason

#### PLSC 17W: Introduction to Political Theory

3 Credits

This WAC course focuses on the concepts, principles and values used to explain, justify and challenge the organization and use of collective power. It introduces the field of political theory as an intellectual tradition

that combines reflection on what political life is and what it should accomplish with investigation of the values manifest through existing political institutions and how those institutions can be best organized to achieve desired outcomes. Through analysis of selected works of major thinkers, beginning with the Ancient Greeks and extending through the contemporary period, students consider questions and problems that philosophers, political leaders and citizens have grappled with for millennia: What is a political community? What is justice? Who is included in the realm of justice? What is the best form of government? What do I owe to the state? What does the state owe to me? What is the proper purpose and scope of government? Students learn to critically engage arguments in canonical texts to understand both how they contributed to debates in their own time and how subsequent theorists and activists have interpreted them to articulate and challenge various forms of exclusion and oppression. Ultimately, students are invited to see political theory as a conversation across time to clarify concepts that are fundamental to the study and practice of politics yet remain contested, such as freedom, equality, democracy and justice, and to distinguish between the legitimate purposes of government and the arbitrary use of power. Through the course students will learn to employ and evaluate political concepts with care and precision so they can participate in that conversation productively as democratic citizens as well as in further study of political theory. Students may not get credit for both PLSC 17N and PLSC 17W

Bachelor of Arts: Humanities  
 Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences  
 General Education: Humanities (GH)  
 General Education: Social and Behavioral Scien (GS)  
 General Education - Integrative: Interdomain  
 GenEd Learning Objective: Crit and Analytical Think  
 GenEd Learning Objective: Integrative Thinking  
 GenEd Learning Objective: Soc Resp and Ethic Reason  
 Writing Across the Curriculum

#### PLSC 20: Comparative Politics--Western Europe

3 Credits

Comparative analysis of political cultures, interest groups, parties, and decision-making processes in principal Western European political systems. PL SC 020 Comparative Politics-Western Europe (3) (GS) (BA) This course meets the Bachelor of Arts degree requirements. The goal of this class is to learn how to compare democratic processes. Therefore, this course is organized by components of political systems rather than individual countries. We will begin with basic information and an overview of organizing principles of modern democracy. Then we will examine the institutional structures of democracies: legislatures, executives, bureaucracies, and federal structures. We will then cover societal interests and social cleavages and the way in which they are organized to influence government. The third section of the course focuses on elections, political parties, party systems, and government formation. Finally, we will examine the effects the rise of the EU on West European governments and their capacity to represent citizens' interests. Readings in this class will focus on seven countries: France, Britain, Germany, Italy, and Sweden, Netherlands, and Spain. Working in groups students will choose one additional country to study over the course of the semester. Students will use their detailed knowledge of different political systems, from their own study and the readings in the textbook and the web, to assess the larger arguments about how citizens' interests are represented in democratic systems. Evaluation in this course will be based on class participation, quizzes, group projects, and

exams. Evaluation methods will vary with instructors. PL SC 20 satisfies the Comparative Politics component of the International Politics Major and the Comparative Politics distribution requirement for the Political Science major. It is recommended for study abroad in Europe. PL SC 20 is a prerequisite for several PL SC 400- level courses. PL SC 20 will be offered once a year with 35 seats per offering.

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences  
 International Cultures (IL)  
 General Education: Social and Behavioral Scien (GS)

#### PLSC 22: Politics of the Developing Areas

3 Credits

The impact of colonialism, nationalism, and development policy on the political culture, structure, and transformation of post-colonial regimes. PL SC 022 Politics of the Developing Areas (3) (GS;IL) BA - This course meets the Bachelor of Arts degree requirements. This course will introduce students to the political and economic development of countries in "developing world." Upon gaining an exposure to definitional issues, such as the distinction between the developed and developing world, we'll discuss the theoretical lenses that structure our discussion throughout the semester. The course will then turn to the processes and institutions involved with development assistance, the legacy of colonialism, and state building. By the conclusion of the course students should have a stronger understanding of how political and economic dynamics fuel the nexus between domestic and international institutions and how this affects economic and political development. Evaluation will be primarily through examinations. This course is appropriate for potential majors in Political Science and International Politics seeking to satisfy comparative politics requirements and non-majors satisfying general education requirements.

Bachelor of Arts: Other Cultures  
 Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences  
 International Cultures (IL)  
 General Education: Social and Behavioral Scien (GS)

#### PLSC 60: Society and Cultures in Modern Israel

3 Credits

An introduction to the society and cultures of the State of Israel from 1948 to the present.

Cross-listed with: ANTH 60, JST 60, SOC 60  
 International Cultures (IL)  
 General Education: Social and Behavioral Scien (GS)

#### PLSC 83: First-Year Seminar in Political Science

3 Credits

Exploration of current topics of interest in political science, international relations, and/or political theory. PL SC 083S First-Year Seminar in Political Science (3) (GS;FYS)(BA) This course meets the Bachelor of Arts degree requirements. Every first-year seminar in Political Science focuses on several of the major questions of the field. Many of these questions concern the constitutional arrangements of governments: What is it that we want governments to do, and what is the ideal government arrangement? Why does every nation (and every state and city) have somewhat different constitutional provisions for legislation, judicial,

military and executive functions of government? What can we learn from careful comparisons of different types of government? What is unique to the American system and what are the consequences of this uniqueness? Other questions concern power: To what extent do wealthy individuals and wealthy organizations have disproportionate power in society? Is this appropriate or not? What is the impact of governmental attempts to limit the influence of the wealthy? We are also very much interested in the international system: What types of foreign policies and diplomatic strategies reduce the likelihood of war? What is the role of international organizations (such as the UN or World Bank) and multinational corporations in shaping conflicts between nations? Finally, we are interested in ordinary citizens: Do citizens know enough to formulate rational opinions on public issues? Why are many citizens apathetic? What motivates citizens to support one candidate over another or to favor particular policies and philosophies? Each first-year seminar will select a special topic of interest and use that topic to explore a subset of these questions in order to provide a challenging introduction to political science. In the course of doing so, each first-year seminar in political science will also introduce students to specialized materials (such as government documents), library resources, and appropriate electronic media. In addition, each seminar will emphasize the standards of evidence, logic, and critical thinking required to develop effective and persuasive reports and oral presentations. Students will write essay exams and one or more written reports on the relevant topic of their own choices. Class participation is required. The course fulfills both a first-year seminar and a general education or Bachelor of Arts social/behavioral science requirement. The course will be offered three times per year with a maximum of 20 seats per offering. In addition to the academic topic and issues of this course, students can expect to gain a general introduction to the University as an academic community and have the opportunity to explore their responsibilities as members of that community. Students will develop an understanding of the learning tools and resources available to them, including the opportunity to develop relationships with faculty and other students who share their academic interests.

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences  
First-Year Seminar  
General Education: Social and Behavioral Science (GS)

#### PLSC 90: Introduction to Security

3 Credits

The study of security issues is more critical than ever, considering a series of global trends. Those reach from violent radicalization to arctic transformation, as well as include technology trends. All of those have an impact on security in our daily lives, in the public sector, and in the private sector. Together, both states and individuals are confronted with many pressing and often competing local, national, and global security challenges that demand thoughtful responses and solutions. Particularly challenging is the need to put in place security measures while ensuring that they do not infringe on the values they aim to protect. The multifaceted security crises of our time is rooted in a broad spectrum of hazards. It among other things stretches across lone wolf terrorists, natural disasters, public health emergencies, transnational organized crime, and cyber attacks; and it includes global counterterrorism, counterproliferation, and environmental change. All of those represent significant problems facing our world today. At the same time, they provide opportunities for us to bring about changes that will significantly increase the ongoing quality of life around the world. In order to do so, it is essential to develop analytical skills for risk

assessment, policy analysis and strategy development. Critical thinking skills are also crucial since we need to be able to identify security gaps, unreasonable securitization trends, and point out fallacies of reasoning and misrepresentation of facts that may occur when responding to security threats. In this course, we will review the historical evolution of security studies, national and international security policies and strategies, human security and security management in business and industry. Further, in the rapidly changing world of security studies, it is important to understand the critical differences between concepts like strategic security, counterterrorism, protection, intelligence, homeland security, criminal justice, conflict studies, emergency management, threat assessment, human security, crisis management, disaster management, and related terms. Based on this, students will learn how security issues relate to their chosen academic discipline and professional goals. Using real-world examples, students will develop understanding of the academic, historical, and technological evolutions that gave rise to the field of security studies, and go in-depth to examine the main areas in which security strategists, analysts, and practitioners work.

General Education: Social and Behavioral Science (GS)  
GenEd Learning Objective: Critical and Analytical Thinking  
GenEd Learning Objective: Integrative Thinking  
GenEd Learning Objective: Social Responsibility and Ethical Reasoning

#### PLSC 91: Introduction to Peace and Conflict Studies

3 Credits

Introduction to theory and practice concerning major contemporary issues of peace and conflict; includes anthropological, technological, psychological, and economic perspectives.

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

#### PLSC 110: Rights in America

3 Credits

This course explores the historical and contemporary struggles of particular groups within American society to expand their rights. PLSC 110 Rights in America (3) (GS;US) The American political system established in 1787 promised several fundamental things: (1) a social order not based upon aristocracy; (2) the rule of law; and (3) basic unalienable liberty. But some groups were excluded from these. This course explores the historical and contemporary struggles of particular groups within American society to expand their rights. We will explore the efforts of African-Americans, women and other marginalized groups to obtain basic liberty, equal protection and civil rights. As we discuss these groups, political institutions, and American politics we will focus on four overarching questions: (1) what is liberty; (2) why do some groups need to fight for rights; (3) how did the expansion of rights come about; (4) and what is the role of courts in expanding, or not expanding, rights? Our exploration of rights in American will proceed one group at a time (i.e., African-Americans, women). We will look first at the history of how rights developed for each group and then discuss the implications of this more generally for the state of equal protection and discrimination in the country. At the end of the course, issues that equality claims into a new dimension are considered. These include movements for separatism in race and gender; the debate over reverse discrimination; speech codes; native Americans and peyote; giving personhood status to the fetus; polygamy; and animal rights.

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

United States Cultures (US)

General Education: Social and Behavioral Scien (GS)

PLSC 111: Debating the Purpose of Government

3 Credits

Students will become acquainted with a variety of political theories and debate their usefulness in considering contemporary political controversies. PL SC 111 Debating the Purpose of Government (3) (GH)(BA) This course meets the Bachelor of Arts degree requirements. Although governments must always attend to urgent matters that cannot be put off, government attention is, and perhaps should be, directed as well toward matters that are of fundamental importance. However, there is substantial disagreement about what those matters are. In this course, through brief summarizing readings and through lectures, students will encounter the arguments of various political philosophers making the case that one or another purpose is most essential to government. Among the candidates for the status of primary purpose of government will be civic and moral education, the defense of life and property, the dismantling of the economic foundations of inequality, and the institution of justice in accordance with universal moral principles. The compatibility of the various conceptions of the purpose of government with the experiences and aspirations of women will receive special attention. After a brief exposure to each perspective, teams of two students each will research and debate the pro's and con's of each perspective in light of what it can contribute to our understanding of contemporary political events and controversies (if there are more than twenty- six students enrolled, some time will be taken from lectures to accommodate debates). Each student will take a turn as debater and a turn at researching, composing, and organizing the content of the team's opening statement. Approximately twenty minutes after each debate will be allocated to questions and comments from students who were not part of either team that day. At the midpoint of the course and after its conclusion, there will be essay exams in which students will be required to demonstrate basic familiarity with summaries of the various political theories and apply those theories to contemporary political controversies.

Bachelor of Arts: Humanities

General Education: Humanities (GH)

PLSC 112: Ethics in Citizenship, Politics, and Government

3 Credits

An examination of choices we make as citizens, elected officials or people who carry out the work of government. PL SC 112 Ethics in Citizenship, Politics, and Government (3) (GS)(BA) This course meets the Bachelor of Arts degree requirements. It is often said that politics is a dirty business, meaning that unethical behavior is prevalent in politics. But this is often said with a twinge of disappointment, sometimes with bitterness or anger. We wish that it were not so. One part of an effort to improve the ethical character of politics is to strive for a clear understanding of what ethical political action is. This course endeavors to arrive at that understanding by dividing the question of ethics in politics into three parts, ethical political action for citizens, ethical political action for elected officials, and ethical political action for persons responsible for carrying out the work of government. In democratic republics the political functions of citizens include choices as members of juries, as people subject to laws, and as voters. In the latter role, they decide, among other things, how much to help the less

fortunate, and how much weight to assign to universal principles as opposed to love of one's country solely because it is one's own. Additional questions arise when we consider the problems of defining and achieving ethical action for elected officials. One question is whether we can separate private and public lives to the extent that unethical behavior in one's private life is irrelevant to one's ethical obligations as an elected official. Another is whether claims that some choices are more ethical than others can ever be more than a way to mobilize the resentful. Still another is whether the pursuit of power, honor, and wealth by those in public office is a symptom of a sickness that can be cured through inquiry into what a happy life consists of. In the last part of the course, we will examine the ethical questions facing those who carry out the work of government &ndash; by building roads, fighting wars, delivering mail, inspecting meat, or any of the tasks that governments do. What sort of pressures might induce government workers to act in ways that are unethical? How can those pressures be seen for what they are and resisted? Each week, we will pose these and related questions as clearly as possible, and then see how to answer them in real-life cases that have confronted citizens, elected politicians, or government workers. In this way, we will strive to attain an understanding that is a necessary, though not sufficient condition of ethical political action.

General Education: Social and Behavioral Scien (GS)

PLSC 123: Ethnic and Racial Politics

3 Credits

Political movements among United States ethnic and racial groups; government policies on race and ethnicity; comparison to other culturally diverse countries. PL SC 123 Ethnic and Racial Politics (3) (GS;US;IL)(BA) This course meets the Bachelor of Arts degree requirements. Despite many historical predictions that ethnic and racial distinctions would decline over time, recent events in the United States and around the world indicate that ethnic and racial identity remain strongly significant in politics. An analysis of the role race and ethnicity play in politics and government is of major relevance not only in the field of political science, but in several other fields, such as anthropology, sociology, economics, history, linguistics, and religious studies. By studying ethnic and racial politics, students will learn the various methods by which social groups organize to achieve political goals, how and why opposition usually arises to those goals, and what policies governments can pursue to defuse social tensions. Students will also learn the historical and cultural basis of ethnic identities and the resulting political disputes that result when social groups differentiate themselves from other social groups. Important to the course will be the use of comparative case studies of the United States to ethnic and racial politics in other countries, such as Canada, Indonesia, and South Africa. Examination of relevant political movements and government policies in these countries will help to determine whether the United States can learn from others or whether others can learn from the United States. The course will also include an international component through the comparative case studies as well as discussion of immigration policy and the role of ethnic groups in U.S. foreign policy.

**Prerequisite:** PL SC001 or PL SC003

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

International Cultures (IL)

United States Cultures (US)

General Education: Social and Behavioral Scien (GS)

## PLSC 125: Pennsylvania Government and Politics

3 Credits

Pennsylvania political processes; executive, legislative, judicial decision-making, and electoral behavior; selected public policies.

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

## PLSC 130: American Political Campaigns and Elections

3 Credits

Methods and strategies of American political campaigns: polls, political consultants, parties, and the media.

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

United States Cultures (US)

General Education: Social and Behavioral Scien (GS)

## PLSC 132: The Politics of International Intolerance

3 Credits

Introductory course emphasizing psychological, historical, and political aspects of global intolerance towards minorities. PL SC 132 The Politics of International Intolerance (3) (GS;IL)(BA) This course meets the Bachelor of Arts degree requirements .PL SC 132 is an introductory survey concerning the social phenomenon of "intolerance" i. e., attitudes or behaviors that seek to exclude or eliminate groups perceived to be different. Here "difference", encompasses such features as nationality, belief, race, gender, or sexual orientation. Often these aspects of the human condition are the targets of majority discrimination or collective violence. The course presumes the following assumptions: (1) Intolerant attitudes are not just "another point of view" but also an utterly destructive form of behavior inimical to civilized values. (2) Few, if any, societies have existed without some forms of intolerance. (3) The causes of intolerance are usually multi-causal (economic, political, and psychological) and are understood through social science. (4) "Politics" implies both the ideology and organization of intolerant movements and the relation of such movements to public authorities. Students should expect fairly extensive readings involving primary source material, analyses of intolerant behavior drawn from different disciplines, and comparison of intolerance phenomena from a global perspective. All examinations are in an essay format and may require synthesis of sources to address specific questions. Each student should be prepared to research an example of intolerance through print and electronic sources. A short paper based on the research should emphasize comparison, analysis, and consequences. The finding may be presented to the class for discussion.

Bachelor of Arts: Other Cultures

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

International Cultures (IL)

General Education: Social and Behavioral Scien (GS)

## PLSC 135: The Politics of the Ecological Crisis

3 Credits

The political implications of the increasing scarcity of many of the world's resources. PL SC (S T S) 135 The Politics of the Ecological Crisis (3) (GS)(BA) This course meets the Bachelor of Arts degree requirements.

"The Politics of Scarcity" examines some "big" questions about the prospects for humans in general and democracy in the United States in particular. Much of the reading assumes that our civilization faces the twin problems of increasingly serious shortages of resources and a growing ecological crisis that threatens the basis of life. Further, it argues that these "twin crises" feed upon each other, and that together they pose serious short and long run challenges to survival. Some readings attribute these problems to the dominant values that characterize modern Western society. The course does consider some dissents from this perspective, arguments that things will be just fine. However, it concentrates on problems and predictions of trouble. Thus, the class does not claim to present an evenly balanced assessment. Rather, it recognizes that most of what we learn, read, and see supports the status quo and assumes our civilization and energy-dependent way of life will continue. Consequently it makes sense to emphasize the less frequently argued position that we may be headed for disaster. The class aspires to appeal to students regardless of major or college – to scientists, engineers, students of the humanities, and even economists and political scientists. It fulfills the University-wide general education requirement in Social Science. Although it discusses the role of politics in general and the role of the American political system in particular in discussing the "twin crises," it mostly grapples with fundamental questions of value that underlie and guide the play of power in our political system and with how the massive changes now taking place globally both affect and are affected by politics.

Cross-listed with: STS 135

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

General Education: Social and Behavioral Scien (GS)

## PLSC 137: United States Intelligence and Policy Making

3 Credits

The policy making process in the United States foreign intelligence and security policy; emphasis on the period following World War II.

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

## PLSC 140: Contemporary Controversies in International Relations

3 Credits

Contemporary issues of international security presented rigorously using analytical tools of international relations and political science. PL SC 140 Contemporary Controversies in International Relations (3) (GS) PL SC 140 investigates international security in the post-Cold War world. It does so by focusing on critical, ongoing, international conflicts and problems. These include the rise of China, resurgence of Russia, and international terrorism. After a brief introduction to key theories and tools of International Relations and some historical context, we will focus on the division of the post-Cold War world into zones of peace (characterized by liberal, free market democracies) and turmoil (characterized by ethno-nationalist, religious, and territorial conflict). The course will also cover a range of related security topics including terrorism, the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, and instability in the developing world.

General Education: Social and Behavioral Scien (GS)

## PLSC 155: Understanding Tyranny

3 Credits

Exploration of the rationales, methods, and consequences of highly repressive political regimes through novels, films, and memoirs.

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

## PLSC 177N: Politics and Government in Washington DC

1-3 Credits

The course centers on a Spring Break trip to Washington DC, with students meeting on campus before and after the trip. PLSC 177N Politics and Government in Washington DC (1-3) This course centers on a Spring Break trip to Washington DC, where students will meet with their members of Congress, get briefings at foreign embassies and international organizations, meet with leaders of federal government agencies, participate in seminars led by interest groups and political party officials and consultants, and tour government offices and facilities. The class will meet before the trip to discuss the history, culture, and context of politics and government in the capital city of the United States and will continue to meet after the trip so that students can analyze what they have learned about politics and government in Washington as a result of their experiences during the trip. The course is open to and appropriate for students in all majors.

Bachelor of Arts: Humanities

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

United States Cultures (US)

General Education: Humanities (GH)

General Education: Social and Behavioral Scien (GS)

General Education - Integrative: Interdomain

GenEd Learning Objective: Effective Communication

GenEd Learning Objective: Crit and Analytical Think

GenEd Learning Objective: Global Learning

GenEd Learning Objective: Integrative Thinking

## PLSC 178: Organized Crime, Law, and Politics

3 Credits

This course will address laws, politics, and policies related to organized crime issues. PL SC 178 Organized Crime, Law, and Politics (3) This course addresses the role and impact of organized crime in US laws, politics, and policies over the past century, with particular attention to modern organized crime groups. The course will look at how organized crime syndicates influenced and often cooperated with some political leaders and law enforcement agencies in the twentieth century, while other political leaders became famous for prosecutions of organized crime figures. Modern legal tools in the fight against organized crime will be discussed, such as RICO and witness protection programs. And the course will look at many examples of modern organized crime groups that originated in Europe, Asia, or Latin America, but which now have an impact on US society, and the policies that attempt to limit the influence of modern organized crime. Included in the examination of modern organized crime will be the connection to modern terrorist activities.

## PLSC 183N: The Cold War in Literature, Politics, and History

3 Credits

The course will focus on the history and politics of the Cold War and its depiction in literature and film, especially in British and American literature, but also in that of other countries. Students will read political science and history texts, novels, short stories, and poetry, and view films. Students will analyze the reasons that the Cold War has been and continues to be a major inspiration for literary production and a transformative influence on literary style. Students will be encouraged to explore alternative methodologies for research on cold war topics including the use of primary sources, for ex. documents from the intelligence community archives that have since been declassified. In addition to a class field trip, students will be encouraged to make additional site visits to appropriate institutions in U.S. intelligence history. They'll be making a series of visits to relevant sites.

Cross-listed with: ENGL 183N

Bachelor of Arts: Humanities

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

International Cultures (IL)

General Education: Humanities (GH)

General Education: Social and Behavioral Scien (GS)

General Education - Integrative: Interdomain

GenEd Learning Objective: Crit and Analytical Think

GenEd Learning Objective: Global Learning

GenEd Learning Objective: Integrative Thinking

## PLSC 197: Special topics

1-9 Credits/Maximum of 9

Formal courses given infrequently to explore, in depth, a comparatively narrow subject that may be topical or of special interest.

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

## PLSC 199: Foreign Studies

1-12 Credits/Maximum of 12

Courses offered in foreign countries by individual or group instruction.

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

International Cultures (IL)

## PLSC 209: Democratic Leadership

1 Credits

Penn State has a special opportunity to create new leaders who learn deliberative approaches to politics and public life. This one-credit course provides a background for this approach to democratic leadership, and it also prepares students for the Nevins Fellows paid internship program. Those who complete this course will have first priority when awarding these internships each year. The centerpiece of this course are day-long workshops that introduce students to effective civic leaders in government or the non-profit sector. Bracketing these workshops are a handful of seminars, which introduce ideas, discuss reading assignments, and reflect on the workshops. In addition to short reaction papers, students will produce a narrative essay at the end of the course that describes how they could see themselves advancing democracy in the United States (or elsewhere) and what kind of internship experience will help them prepare for such a career. For those who opt to seek an

internship, this essay will supplement their formal application. Credit for the course requires attendance at every class meeting and workshop, or equivalent makeup assignments, if permitted.

Cross-listed with: CAS 209  
Honors

PLSC 222N: Science and Politics of the Female Athlete

3 Credits

The purpose of this course is to explore gender differences in sport and politics that emerge from physiology, culture, history, politics, and policy. The engagement of women in sport has unique physiological considerations and ethical dilemmas as well as a rich history of defining moments and important ties to feminism and politics. In this course, students will learn how physiology differences affect female athletic performance and the effects of exercise on the female body, as well as how cultural, historical, and political forces shaped women's participation in sport. Students will also see how similar historical, cultural, and political forces affect women's involvement in politics. Combined, students will understand how similar forces shape gender norms and participation two different, yet related, aspects of society. Additionally, students will learn about the push for evidence-based policymaking and apply that knowledge to topics including doping, pregnancy, and gender verification. Students will integrate physiology and policy in a final assignment advocating for evidence-based sport policy. They will also educate their peers through a public education project.

Cross-listed with: KINES 222N, PUBPL 222N  
General Education: Health and Wellness (GHW)  
General Education: Social and Behavioral Scien (GS)  
General Education - Integrative: Interdomain  
GenEd Learning Objective: Effective Communication  
GenEd Learning Objective: Crit and Analytical Think  
GenEd Learning Objective: Integrative Thinking  
GenEd Learning Objective: Soc Resp and Ethic Reason

PLSC 290N: Comparative Violence: Political and Criminological Perspectives

3 Credits

This course will cater to the interests of anyone who has ever asked oneself: what are the origins of individual and mass violence and why some parts of the world or one's own country have more of it than others? This course is designed to critically approach this question, based on the broad, cross-disciplinary perspective of security research and new security studies. This course will enable students to understand the distinctions and overlaps between political and criminal violence, analyze the levels from individual to mass violent behaviors, and assess theoretical approaches to studying violence. Students will engage in comparative exploration of different disciplinary perspectives on the origins and types of violent behaviors, including political science, criminal justice, international relations, and others. The course will provide the critical basis (theoretical and empirical) for students to evaluate the puzzle from multiple angles.

**RECOMMENDED PREPARATIONS:** CRIMJ 12 PLSC 3 CRIMJ 100  
Bachelor of Arts: Humanities  
Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences  
International Cultures (IL)  
United States Cultures (US)

General Education: Humanities (GH)  
General Education: Social and Behavioral Scien (GS)  
General Education - Integrative: Interdomain  
GenEd Learning Objective: Effective Communication  
GenEd Learning Objective: Crit and Analytical Think  
GenEd Learning Objective: Global Learning  
GenEd Learning Objective: Integrative Thinking

PLSC 296: Independent Studies

1-18 Credits/Maximum of 18

Creative projects, including research and design, which are supervised on an individual basis and which fall outside the scope of formal courses.

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

PLSC 297: Special Topics

1-9 Credits/Maximum of 9

Formal courses given infrequently to explore, in depth, a comparatively narrow subject which may be topical or of special interest.

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

PLSC 299: Foreign Studies

1-12 Credits/Maximum of 12

Courses offered in foreign countries by individual or group instruction.

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences  
International Cultures (IL)

PLSC 300: Introduction to Independent Thesis Research

1-3 Credits

Introduction to research design, principles of social science research, and development on honors theses research proposal.

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences  
Honors

PLSC 306: Senior Thesis Writing Workshop

1-3 Credits/Maximum of 3

This seminar supports the writing and editing of senior honors theses. PL SC 306H Senior Thesis Writing Workshop (1-3)(BA) This course meets the Bachelor of Arts degree requirements. This is a workshop for honors students in their senior year writing their thesis in political science. There are no assigned readings or written assignments outside of those necessary for the completion of your thesis. Participants are expected to make progress on their own thesis and to contribute to the collaborative enterprise of discussing thesis progress and problems while critiquing one another's work. Each participant is expected to make progress on their thesis, to collectively discuss and consider the research process during workshop sessions, and come prepared to offer useful feedback and criticism on other participants' research.

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences  
Honors

## PLSC 308: Introduction to Political Research

3 Credits

Introduction to conceptualization, research design, and measurement in political research. PL SC 308 Introduction to Political Research (3) This course introduces students to the research process in political science. The course can be taken by itself or as the first in a two course sequence with PL SC 309. It is intended to give political science majors the skills needed to conduct research in political science, or in related fields such as public policy. The course introduces students to the scientific approach to accumulating knowledge, it examines conceptual and theoretical thinking about politics (e.g. understanding what concepts, variables and hypotheses are), it covers different methods of collecting social science data (interviews, surveys, observation, experiments, analysis of documents, etc.) and it provides an introduction to the interpretation of that data. Ethical issues in research are discussed, and students are also introduced to basic statistical concepts. The course typically includes multiple take home and/or in-class assignments that require students to utilize different data collection methods and practice the generation and interpretation of those data.

**Prerequisite:** any 3 credits in Political Science

## PLSC 309: Quantitative Political Analysis

3 Credits

Data analysis and statistical applications in political research, including data processing; inferential statistics; contingency analysis; correlation and regression; multivariate analysis. PL SC 309 Quantitative Political Analysis (3) This course introduces students to the basic statistical techniques used to study politics quantitatively. It can be taken by itself or as the second course in a two course sequence with PL SC 308. It is required for all Liberal Arts Fellows. Students in 309 learn about developing questions suited to empirical research; constructing hypotheses; measuring political concepts; and conducting basic univariate and multivariate analyses. The course includes sections on the basic principles of probability, sampling, and statistical inference so that students can understand and implement statistical techniques for describing and explaining political phenomena. There is also extensive coverage of the use and application of various statistical techniques. Exercises both in and out of class will require students to engage with and apply various social science concepts, and to undertake quantitative analyses of political and policy-relevant data.

**Prerequisite:** any 3 credits in political science  
Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

## PLSC 309H: Quantitative Political Analysis

3 Credits

This course introduces students to research design and quantitative analysis techniques used in political science with an aim toward developing transferrable skills for future coursework in the political science major, especially the senior thesis process. Students will learn how to construct theories and design studies, how to quantify concepts, and how to test theories using a variety of statistical techniques, including descriptive analysis, correlation, hypothesis testing, and regression analysis. The course will include classroom lectures and computer lab time to enable students to work hands-on with datasets. This course is the first in a three-course sequence for students interested in writing an honors thesis in political science.

**Prerequisite:** ANY 3 CREDITS IN POLITICAL SCIENCE  
Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences  
Honors

## PLSC 395: Internship

1-18 Credits/Maximum of 18

Supervised off-campus, nongroup instruction including field experiences, practica, or internships. Written and oral critique of activity required.

**Prerequisite:** prior approval of proposed assignment by instructor  
Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

## PLSC 397: Special Topics

1-9 Credits/Maximum of 9

Formal courses given infrequently to explore, in depth, a comparatively narrow subject that may be topical or of special interest.

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

## PLSC 399: Foreign Studies

1-12 Credits/Maximum of 12

Courses offered in foreign countries by individual or group instruction.

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences  
International Cultures (IL)

## PLSC 403: The Legislative Process

3 Credits

Analysis of the policy process within the legislative system; the effects of environmental factors on policy alternatives and legislative decision making.

**Prerequisite:** PL SC001 or PL SC003  
Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

## PLSC 404: Analyzing Public Policy in the American States

3 Credits

This course provides students with the tools to empirically evaluate policy proposals and outcomes in the American states. PL SC 404 Analyzing Public Policy in the American States (3) Developing public policies is the proximate goal of any government. In the United States national, state, and local lawmakers steeped in their own traditions, procedures, and political environments establish rules that determine their citizen's quality of life. In the states specifically, laws affect citizens's access to and their ability to afford an education; the quality of the roads they travel on; the wages they earn; whether and to what extent they qualify for subsidized health care; how they cast their ballot in elections; and myriad other aspects of their lives. This course focuses on policymaking in the American states and how those policies can be evaluated using social science methods. The course begins with a discussion of what makes states distinct from one another & their populations, governmental institutions, and political values. The focus then shifts to how statistical techniques can be used to describe variation in state policy; to develop causal arguments to explain variation; and to assess the efficacy and value of different approaches to the same social problems. Students learn how to measure and gather data relevant to public policy debates, to describe and categorize policy, to model

policy outcomes, and to draw conclusions about alternative approaches to solving the policy problems being addressed. Students then apply this knowledge to major policy debates in state government. The course concludes with an exploration of the ethical implications of using data to make policy decisions and with attention to how technical and statistical information can be effectively communicated to professional and nonprofessional audiences. Students are required to have an understanding of introductory statistics (equivalent to the knowledge they would gain from PL SC 309 or STAT 200) prior to taking this course.

**Prerequisite:** PL SC001 , PL SC309

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

PLSC 405: The American Presidency

3 Credits

An examination of the selection methods for, and powers of, the American presidency, as well as other chief executives.

**Prerequisite:** PL SC001

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

PLSC 405H: The American Presidency

3 Credits

An examination of the selection methods for, and powers of, the American presidency, as well as other chief executives.

Honors

PLSC 408: Democracy and Its Impacts

3 Credits/Maximum of 3

This course examines advances in democratization around the globe, and compares the performance of democratic and authoritarian governments. This course examines the impacts of international democracy aid around the globe, and compares the performance of democratic and authoritarian governments in promoting citizens' well-being. Democracy assistance for activities such as conducting elections and strengthening civil society has become a key component of foreign aid provided by longstanding democracies. Its use is based on a widespread belief that democracies perform better than autocracies in a number of policy domains. The course focuses on how such aid affects recipient countries, and how performance of democratic and authoritarian regimes actually differs. It traces the expansion of international democracy aid, explores the different types of assistance that donor countries provide, and reviews empirical research on the impacts in recipient countries. It then turns to a comparison of the performance of democratic vs. authoritarian regime type in generating public goods such as economic prosperity, socioeconomic equality, and civic peace.

**Prerequisite:** PL SC 001; PL SC 003; PL SC 014; or PL SC 022

PLSC 409: Democratic Deliberation

3 Credits

Explores the theory and practice of democratic deliberation in elections, town meetings, juries, legislatures, and other public institutions. CAS (PL SC) 409 Democratic Deliberation (3) Many modern democracies have made strides to become more deliberative in how they make decisions. This course looks closely at the most promising innovations in self-government while also reviewing the persistent anti-deliberative and

undemocratic features of modern societies and governments. Topics covered in the course include deliberative democratic theory, political conversation, common forms of public meetings, mediated deliberation, campaigns and elections, the jury system, and deliberative democracy on larger social scales.

**Prerequisite:** CAS 137 , CAS 175 , CAS 201 , CAS 202 , CAS 216 , CAS 250 , CAS 272 or PL SC001 , PL SC017 , PL SC112 , PL SC130

Cross-listed with: CAS 409

PLSC 410: Strategy and Politics

3 Credits

This course examines political behavior using social choice theory and game theory. PL SC 410 Strategy and Politics (3)(BA) This course meets the Bachelor of Arts degree requirements. Strategic behavior is central to politics. It is common for political outcomes to be determined by the interaction of individuals seeking goals in an environment in which goal attainment is complicated by the choices of other actors. This course introduces various methods for analyzing strategic behavior using social choice and game theories. We will employ these approaches to better understand a wide range of political phenomena in international politics, comparative politics, and American politics, such as war, terrorism, voting, electoral competition, government formation, and democratic transitions. By the end of the course, students will, among other things, have experience using games to analyze a range of political behaviors and institutions. The course assumes no prior knowledge of social choice theory or game theory.

**Prerequisite:** PL SC001 , PL SC003 , or PL SC014

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

PLSC 411: Principles of International Cooperation

3 Credits

An exploration of the forces that make conflict, or cooperation, more likely in international relations. PL SC 411W Principles of International Cooperation (3) This course explores the forces and conditions that make conflict, or cooperation, more likely in international relations. Since international anarchy prevents actors from trusting one another cooperation should be rare or nonexistent. In spite of the logic and prevalence of such arguments, international cooperation does exist. While there is no definitive explanation for the persistence of cooperation in a world without central authority, we will pursue several arguments about how and why it does emerge. These arguments are based upon characteristics of the international system along with concepts developed principally from game theoretic approaches to the study of politics. By the end of the course students should have a basic grasp of game theory in international relations as well as examples of cooperation and conflict around the world. The game theoretic approach will enable students to understand why countries with often common interests and good intentions nevertheless fail to cooperate. Students will be expected to write essays that demonstrate their mastery of these theoretical constructs and ability to apply them to real world situations about which they have done independent research. Political Science 411W fulfills the related course requirements for the revised International Politics Major and International Relations and 400 level course requirement for the Political Science major.

**Prerequisite:** PL SC014

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

## Writing Across the Curriculum

## PLSC 412: International Political Economy

3 Credits

The transnational politics of trade, investment, aid, raw materials, and the environment; nation-states, multinational corporations, and the U.N. PL SC 412 International Political Economy (3)(BA) This course meets the Bachelor of Arts degree requirements. This course is an introduction to the scientific study of international political economy (IPE), an interdisciplinary field related to international politics and international economics. Some exemplary issues IPE addresses include the collective action problem among nation states, the management and openness of international economy, the determinants of foreign economic policies, and the causes and consequences of economic globalization. IPE examines the interaction between politics and economics at the international level as well as between the international and domestic levels, involving various political and economic actors (governments, MNSs, interest groups, as well as individuals). The course aims to develop the analytical skills of students in explaining theoretically international political and economic events.

**Prerequisite:** ECON 102 , ECON 104 , ECON 014 , I B 303 , or BUS 364  
Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

## PLSC 413: The Rise and Fall of the Soviet Union

3 Credits

Background, organization, and operation of the Communist Party and the government of the Soviet Union.

**Prerequisite:** 3 credits from: PL SC003 , PL SC014 , PL SC155 , or RUS 100  
Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

## PLSC 414: Dictators and Their Demise

3 Credits/Maximum of 3

Dictators and Their Demise examines the political economy of authoritarian rule. PL SC 414 Dictators and Their Demise (3) Dictators and Their Demise provides a broad exploration about how non-democratic governments throughout the world rule. We examine: the conditions that give rise to authoritarianism; the variety of authoritarian regimes; the strategies authoritarian leaders use to stay in power; the consequences of different types of authoritarianism for outcomes such as economic growth and human development; and the domestic and international sources of authoritarian demise. The course covers cases of authoritarian rule in: Chile, the Dominican Republic, Egypt, Malaysia, Mexico, and the former Zaire (now the Democratic Republic of the Congo or DRC). The course builds knowledge about the governments under which most people in the Global South lived during the 20th century. Even today, roughly half of the world's population lives under some form of non-democratic government. Yet almost all courses currently in the curriculum, particularly in the field of comparative politics, focus exclusively on democratic forms of government. This course therefore examines a new topic not currently offered in the curriculum. In addition to learning about different types of authoritarian rule, students form an understanding of how common foreign policy tools, such as economic sanctions, foreign aid, and human rights shaming, are likely to affect domestic politics in these countries. This knowledge helps students critically evaluate foreign policy relationships between democracies, such as the United States, and dictatorships. Course materials cover theoretical approaches to the study of authoritarian rule,

in-depth case studies (including novels, biographies, and documentary), and empirical research. This course requires student presentations, weekly reading assignments, descriptive analysis of quantitative data in graphs, multiple written assignments, and a final take-home essay exam. Students develop analytic skills through the weekly written homework assignments in which they apply the broad theoretical concepts to analyze counterfactual situations from specific cases of authoritarian rule. Oral presentations develop inter-personal skills and require students to research specific cases of authoritarian rule currently in the news. This helps students critically evaluate current events. Finally, the written assignments require students to develop skills working with real data. Students collect and graphically present basic descriptive data about economic and human development in non-democratic countries: economic data, infant mortality, literacy, and indicators of women's well-being. Using real world data to make international comparisons helps students develop skills to form and articulate complex arguments, and teaches them the basics of research design.

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

## PLSC 415: International Organization: Political and Security Functions

3 Credits

Theory and evolution of international organization; political and security functions of the United Nations and regional organizations.

**Prerequisite:** PL SC014

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

## PLSC 417: American Local Government and Administration

3 Credits

Organization, powers, functions, and problems of American cities and metropolitan areas; modern trends and developments.

**Prerequisite:** PL SC001

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

## PLSC 418: International Relations Theory

3 Credits

A survey of traditional and contemporary conceptual frameworks and theoretical approaches for the analysis of international relations.

**Prerequisite:** PL SC014

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

## PLSC 418H: International Relations Theory

3 Credits

A survey of traditional and contemporary conceptual frameworks and theoretical approaches for the analysis of international relations.

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences  
Honors

## PLSC 418W: International Relations Theory

3 Credits

A survey of traditional and contemporary conceptual frameworks and theoretical approaches for the analysis of international relations.

**Prerequisite:** PL SC014

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences  
Writing Across the Curriculum

## PLSC 419: The Bureaucratic State

3 Credits

Overview of structural, technological, decision-making, behavioral, and political subsystems of bureaucracy; emphasis on bureaucratic dynamics within larger environmental, interorganizational contexts.

**Prerequisite:** PL SC001 , PL SC002 , or PUBPL304W

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

## PLSC 420: State Making

3 Credits

Students learn about how national states arise, expand the territory and population they control, and persist or fail.

**Prerequisite:** PL SC003 or PL SC014

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

## PLSC 422: Comparative Urban Politics

3 Credits

Relationships between structure and evolution of city systems and patterns of political behavior.

**Prerequisite:** PL SC003 , PL SC020 , PL SC022 , or PL SC417

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

## PLSC 423: Post-Soviet Politics

3 Credits

Aspects of political transition and institutions of the fifteen Soviet successor republics; emphasis on Russia and republican confederation.

**Prerequisite:** PL SC003 , PL SC155 , or RUS 100

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

## PLSC 424: Topics in Comparative Government and Institutions

3 Credits

Topics in the comparative analysis of representative contemporary Western and non-Western governmental institutions.

**Prerequisite:** 3 credits from PL SC003 , PL SC020 , PL SC022

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

## PLSC 425: Government and Politics of the American States

3 Credits

Comparative analysis of political processes; executive, legislative, and judicial decision making and behavior; examination of systems functioning; selected public policies.

**Prerequisite:** PL SC001

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

## PLSC 426: Political Parties and Interest Groups

3 Credits

Interest group basis of American politics, analysis of party and group behavior in electoral politics and the policy process.

**Prerequisite:** PL SC001

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

## PLSC 427: Political Opinion

3 Credits

Nature and development of mass attitudes and opinions; political socialization; voting behavior; relation between opinions and public policy.

**Prerequisite:** PL SC001

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

## PLSC 428: Gender and Politics

3 Credits

Gender in politics in the United States and around the world; major areas of women and politics research. PL SC (WMNST) 428 Gender and Politics (3) (US;IL)(BA) This course meets the Bachelor of Arts degree requirements. This course is designed as an overview to the field of women and politics. It examines the role that women play in politics in the United States and around the world. Students will begin by examining how women are socialized differently from men and how that socialization effects women's political attitudes and participation. Then students will focus on women in different political offices and how their behavior compares to that of their male counterparts. Students will then analyze the women's movement in the United States. Finally, students will turn to different theories of the ideal position of women and men in politics and use those theories to explore the issue of pornography. Students will be evaluated on a final exam, short essays ( 4 3-5 page essays), class participation, and a research paper (15 pages). This is an advanced course with 6 credits prerequisite in Women's Studies or Political Science. This course fulfills the American Politics and Comparative Politics distribution as well as the advanced course requirement for the Political Science major. It is an elective for a Women's Studies major. It also fulfills an International/Intercultural competency requirement. This course will be offered once a year with 35 seats per offering.

**Prerequisite:** 3 credits in political science or women's studies

Cross-listed with: WMNST 428

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

International Cultures (IL)

United States Cultures (US)

## PLSC 429: Analysis of Electoral Politics

3 Credits

The new politics, its technology, and the strategic perspectives that underlie it. PL SC 429 Analysis of Electoral Politics (3)(BA) This course meets the Bachelor of Arts degree requirements. This course engages students in the empirical study of electoral politics in the United States. Elections in the U.S. are about voters, candidates and the rules that determine what these actors do to structure the course of the election and that lead to the final outcome. In empirical political science, analysis involves the systematic examination and evaluation of relevant data to solve a problem or answer a question. In this course, then, students use data about voters to systematically analyze their actions and decisions in U.S. presidential elections, with an emphasis on understanding why they make the choices they do to produce the resulting election outcomes. Throughout the course, students will draw on a range of publicly available data and use statistical analyses to investigate the “cost” of voting; evaluate competing theories of voter choice; examine how candidate evaluations, candidates’ issue stances and retrospective evaluations of candidates influence voter choice; assess how vote choice is shaped by an individual’s partisan identification; and evaluate how social demographic trends shape election outcomes. At the conclusion of the course, students will have the substantive knowledge and analytic skills to evaluate the assertions and conclusions of politicians, pundits, and political scientists as they contemplate campaigns and election outcomes. Students are required to have an understanding of introductory statistics (equivalent to the knowledge they would gain from PL SC 309 or STAT 200) prior to taking this course.

**Prerequisite:** PL SC001 , and PL SC309

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

## PLSC 430: Selected Works in the History of Political Theory

3 Credits

Detailed examination and analysis of a selected major work, thinker, or tradition in the history of political theory.

**Prerequisite:** PL SC017 or PL SC007

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

## PLSC 430W: Selected Works in the History of Political Theory

3 Credits

Detailed examination and analysis of a selected major work, thinker, or tradition in the history of political theory. PL SC 430W Selected Works in the History of Political Theory (3)The course will examine the tradition of “liberal” political philosophy, focusing principally on the social contract tradition in Western political philosophy. We will examine the work of the “classic” social contract theorists -Hobbes, Locke, Rousseau, and Kant - and discuss some more recent variants. We will then consider broad contemporary critiques of this tradition. In particular, we will consider charges of exclusion, parochialism, and biased conceptions of the self allegedly manifested in liberal theories, especially as those charges that center on considerations of race and gender.

**Prerequisite:** PL SC017 or PL SC007

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

Writing Across the Curriculum

## PLSC 431: Ancient, Medieval, and Renaissance Political Theories

3 Credits

Political theories of Plato and Aristotle; selected Greek, Roman, medieval, and Renaissance theorists through Machiavelli.

**Prerequisite:** PL SC017 or PL SC007

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

## PLSC 432: Modern and Contemporary Political Theories

3 Credits

Political theories of the seventeenth through the twentieth centuries, including Hobbes, Locke, Rousseau, Marx, Mill, Mosca, Weber, and selected theorists.

**Prerequisite:** PL SC017 or PL SC007

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

## PLSC 433: Political Foundations of the Early American Republic

3 Credits

The course introduces students to the major political and philosophical movements that influenced the founders of the early American republic. PL SC 433 Political Foundations of the Early American Republic (3)The course introduces students to the major political and philosophical movements that influenced the founders of the early American republic. The first section of the course, set in the ancient world, will examine the earliest experiments in democratic government in both Greece and the Roman Republic. In addition to studying the structure and traditions of ancient governments, students will consider competing theories for why these early democratic experiments ultimately failed. The second section of the course traces the gradual evolution of representative democracy in Britain from the signing of Magna Carta to the quiet subjugation of the monarchy in the 19th Century. Recognizing that the theoretical structures of political power remain somewhat fixed in this period, students will consider how legal precedent can gradually transform seemingly static political institutions. The third section of the course examines American efforts to establish stable representative institutions in the aftermath of the Revolutionary War. Looking back at both ancient and modern constitutional traditions, students will examine how prior democratic experiments heavily influenced the deliberations of the founders both at the Constitutional Convention and in the establishment of the new federal republic.

**Prerequisite:** PL SC001 or HIST 020 or PL SC017

## PLSC 434: War and Development in Africa

3 Credits

This course will examine the relationship between war and development in sub-Saharan Africa in the post colonial era. PLSC 434 / AFR 434 War and Development in Africa (3) (IL) This course will examine the relationship between development and war in sub-Saharan Africa in the modern era. Specifically, it will analyze the extent to which the processes of state building, nation building, and international intervention have contributed to the incidence of both civil war and international conflict in Africa. We will begin with a review of several theoretical arguments on the causes of warfare in Africa and then turn to a discussion of these on African political development. This course complements present offerings in international relations and comparative politics in the PLSC department and can serve as an advanced undergraduate offering in the

African Studies concentration in AFR. The course directly complements our present offerings in international conflict given that we don't have a regularly offered course that focuses on conflict in a specific region. In addition, it will augment our comparative politics offerings with an examination of prominent issues in comparative politics such as political development, democracy, and modernization. The course will fulfill the IL requirement and encourage students understanding of the historical background as well as the political, economic, and cultural factors that influence African politics. African conflicts are often viewed as "ethnic conflicts" and in this class students have an opportunity to assess the extent to which ethnic, linguistic, or religious factors influence the likelihood of conflict and contribute to development in African states. Students will also be required to write essays evaluating the contribution of a range of theoretical arguments on Africa's conflicts in order to assess the degree to which cultural more than political or economic factors contribute to their onset. Students will then have the opportunity to conduct more extensive research on a specific African case to develop their analyses further. These exercises will often require that students reevaluate their beliefs about social identities such as race (e.g. in Rwanda the difference between Tutsi and Hutu is often viewed as a "racial" difference between black Africans, which is at odds with most Western conceptions of race). They also require students to challenge stereotypes regarding the subordination of African values in conflicts to a simple concern with "tribe". Students will gain a broader knowledge and appreciation of the different values, traditions, and cultures evident in Africa and understand how these can both exacerbate and mitigate conflict. Evaluation in the course will consist largely of examination of the students' brief expository essays and larger case studies for which students will be encouraged to conduct original research. The course should be offered biannually with a class limit of about 40 students.

**Prerequisite:** PL SC014 , PL SC003 , AFR 110

Cross-listed with: AFR 434

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

International Cultures (IL)

PLSC 435: Foundations of American Political Theory

3 Credits

Political theories of colonial, revolutionary, and constitutional periods presented through works of selected thinkers and analysis of particular political problems.

**Prerequisite:** PL SC001 , PL SC017 , or PL SC007

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

PLSC 436: Civil Wars

3 Credits

This course examines factors influencing the onset, duration, severity, termination, recurrence, and consequences of civil wars around the world. PL SC 436 Civil Wars (3) This course provides a broad exploration of the causes, characteristics, and consequences of civil wars. In particular, it investigates what makes civil wars more likely to occur, what influences how long they last, how severe they are, and how likely they are to recur, while also considering their consequences for the states that experience them. It considers the scholarly research on this topic over the past decade or more, and builds an awareness both for what are the known regularities as well as what are the continuing uncertainties about the place of civil war in the contemporary international system. It does this specifically within the context of scientific research about civil wars, and thus also advances student knowledge about how social scientists learn

what they know about how the world works. Building on this perspective, and after absorbing the lessons to be learned from the literature, students will gain even greater appreciation for the quality of knowledge about civil wars by conducting their own detailed analysis of a civil war (each student will study one civil war of their choosing) asking how well the civil war they study fits patterns identified by the literature. This course complements, without duplicating, existing political science courses about militarized political conflict, and qualifies as one course majors can take to satisfy their 400-level course hours requirement. In addition to political science majors, it should be of interest to international politics majors, students in other social science majors, and perhaps Masters students in the School of International Affairs as well.

**Prerequisite:** PL SC003 or PL SC014

PLSC 437: War in World Politics

3 Credits

Causes, resolution, and consequences of crises and wars; testing theories of conflict using both case and statistical studies.

**Prerequisite:** PL SC014

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

PLSC 438: National Security Policies

3 Credits

Impact of national security on U.S. government and foreign policy; roles and interaction of President, Congress, government agencies, interest groups.

**Prerequisite:** PL SC001 or PL SC014

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

PLSC 439: The Politics of Terrorism

3 Credits

Analysis of political terrorism as a violent alternative for peaceful change and traditional warfare in the nuclear age.

**Prerequisite:** CRIMJ100 or PL SC014 , or permission of program

Cross-listed with: CRIMJ 439

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

PLSC 439H: The Politics of Terrorism

3 Credits

Analysis of political terrorism as a violent alternative for peaceful change and traditional warfare in the nuclear age.

Cross-Listed

Honors

PLSC 440: Globalization and Its Implications

3 Credits

This course explores the socioeconomic implications of globalization.

**Prerequisite:** AF AM100 or AFR 110 or PL SC003 or PL SC014 or PL SC020 or PL SC022

Cross-listed with: AFR 440, IB 440

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

International Cultures (IL)  
United States Cultures (US)

PLSC 442: American Foreign Policy

3 Credits

Principles of American foreign policy; processes of policy formulation; roles of the President, Congress, the State Department, and other government agencies.

**Prerequisite:** PL SC014

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

PLSC 443: Ethnic Conflict in Africa

3 Credits

This course explores the various causes and impacts of ethnic conflicts in the African context.

**Prerequisite:** AF AM100 , AFR 110 , PL SC001 , PL SC003 , PL SC007 , PL SC014 , PL SC017 , PL SC020 , or AFRAS301

Cross-listed with: AFR 443

Bachelor of Arts: Other Cultures

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

International Cultures (IL)

PLSC 444: Government and the Economy

3 Credits

Interactions of governmental and economic activity in American life. Survey of governmental (national, state, local) promotional, regulatory, and ownership policies.

**Prerequisite:** 3 credits in political science or economics

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

PLSC 445Y: Politics of Affirmative Action

3 Credits

Examines history, politics, and economics of the use of special programs to advance racial interests in the U.S. PLSC 445Y / AFAM 445Y / LER 445Y Politics of Affirmative Action (3) (US)(BA) This course meets the Bachelor of Arts degree requirements. The objectives of this course are to introduce students to the relationship between affirmative action and other policies purportedly designed to end racial inequality in the U.S. This course approaches the study of affirmative action in the context of the historic racial discrimination and inequality that Black Americans have faced since the founding of the Nation. The purpose of this course is to help students think about how contemporary and historic affirmative action policies relate to race, concepts racial inequality, the historic and continuing causes for racial inequality, public opinion, American politics and economic thought. The course materials will lead students through scholarly and popular articles, books and video presentations on the topic. It is hoped that students will become familiar with the history of affirmative action from its conception. Students will gain an intimate understanding of affirmative action economic and social outcomes on various racial groups. No prior knowledge is assumed, however a knowledge of civil rights history, quantitative methods, and constitutional law will be useful. The Politics of Affirmative Action satisfies the requirements for major and minor electives for the African American Studies, and major and minor electives for Political Science, and Labor Studies and Industrial Relations. Students are evaluated on

the basis of an examination, term paper, class participation and class presentations of papers.

**Prerequisite:** AAA S 100 level course and PL SC001 or PL SC007

Cross-listed with: AFAM 445Y, LER 445Y

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

United States Cultures (US)

Writing Across the Curriculum

PLSC 446: Business and Government Relations

3 Credits

An examination of the interaction between business and government across different types of political systems. PL SC 446 Business and Government Relations (3) This course examines the interaction between business and government across different types of political systems. Intellectual approaches from various disciplines will be used to understand different dimensions of business and government interactions. Models of interaction to be covered in the course include pluralism, corporatism, business as capital, business as firm models, sectoral models, network models, and clientalism. Particular attention will be given to the interactions of business and government during the policy process, from formation to implementation. Case studies from developed and developing countries, and examples of specific policy proposals will be utilized to help students analyze business interactions with government, and political interactions with business. Specifically, students will analyze variation in the structure of business-government relations across countries; different political systems, economic systems, and development levels. Through this course, students will be able to construct an appropriate framework to evaluate the business and political implications of adopting different business-government models, and construct analytical frameworks to understand the policy implications of adopting different models for the same policy.

**Prerequisite:** PL SC001 ; PL SC003 ; or PL SC014

PLSC 447: Analysis of Public Opinion and Political Attitudes

3 Credits

This course engages students in the empirical study of public opinion. PL SC 447 Analysis of Public Opinion and Political Attitudes (3) The essence of democracy is popular sovereignty. The voice of the people must be freely expressed and send a clear message to elected officials. In turn, those officials must be responsive to citizens. This class focuses on the voice of the people with particular attention to several analytic questions: How do we measure public opinion? Do public opinion polls and other methods provide an accurate measure of public sentiment? How can we know if public opinion has changed? How can we utilize public opinion data to assess political polarization, civic competence, and levels of the public's trust in government? In this course, students will learn how to answer questions like these using the same data reported by the press, utilized by government officials, and examined by political scientists to assess the success of democracy in the United States and throughout the world. The course is organized around a series of contemporary policy topics (such as foreign policy, welfare or education) integrated with specific analytic techniques. By the end of the semester, students will be familiar with public opinion on many contemporary policy debates and they will learn a series of data analytic skills that can be applied to any topic. Students are required to have an understanding of introductory statistics (equivalent to the knowledge they would gain from PL SC 309 or STAT 200) prior to taking this course.

**Prerequisite:** PL SC001 and PL SC309

PLSC 450H: Genocide and Tyranny

3 Credits

This course focuses on the conceptualization and socio-political determinants of genocide and tyrannical regimes, with an emphasis on the Holocaust.

**Prerequisite:** PL SC003 , PL SC007 or PL SC014 or HIST 121

Cross-listed with: JST 450H

Honors

PLSC 451: The Politics of Human Rights

3 Credits

This course examines the politics of human rights and repression, focusing on the causes and consequences of state sponsored violence and human rights violations.

**Prerequisite:** PL SC001 , PL SC003 , or PL SC014

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

PLSC 452: Government and Politics of Central Europe

3 Credits

Politics and society in the Communist Era, the revolutions of 1989, and problems of adjustment to democracy and market.

**Prerequisite:** PL SC003 , PL SC020 , PL SC022 , or PL SC155

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

PLSC 453: Political Processes in Underdeveloped Systems

3 Credits

Comparative analysis of the political, social, and economic problems characteristic of underdeveloped systems.

**Prerequisite:** PL SC003 , PL SC020 , or PL SC022

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

International Cultures (IL)

PLSC 454: Government and Politics of Africa

3 Credits

Contemporary African politics, institutions, and ideologies; patterns of change, social forces, and nation building in selected African states. PLSC 454 / AFR 454 Government and Politics of Africa (3) (IL)(BA) This course meets the Bachelor of Arts degree requirements. In this course, we will discuss the current democratization trend in Africa by focusing on the experiences of African countries. The course is divided into three sections. Part One considers a range of factors that affect politics in Africa. We will discuss in depth the following factors: colonialism, nationalism, the relationship between state and society, ruler-ship, the military, political parties, and economic development. Then, we will consider the experiences of our four cases, to gain a historical background. In part two, we will focus on democratic transitions. We will discuss the factors that enable transitions to occur, as well as the process that transitions follow. Then, we will consider four transitions: two that resulted in the installation of a democratic government (Nigeria in 1979, Sudan in 1986) and two that ended in continued authoritarianism (Angola in 1992, Kenya in 1978). Part three considers the prospects of

democracy. We will discuss the probability of a democratic transition occurring in the near future. The goals of this class are four fold. First, students will gain detailed knowledge about four African countries. Second, we will learn how to compare countries. Third, students will have a better understanding of the democratization process in general, and will be able to explain or predict democratization beyond the four cases discussed in this class. Finally, the experiences of these four countries offer a deeper understanding of what democracy is and provide students with greater flexibility to fulfill requirements in either the African and African American Studies major or the Political Science/International Politics major. PLSC 454 / AFR 454 will be offered once per year with 35-50 seats per offering.

**Prerequisite:** 3 credits from: AFR 110 , PL SC003 , PL SC020 , or PL SC022

Cross-listed with: AFR 454

Bachelor of Arts: Other Cultures

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

International Cultures (IL)

PLSC 455: Governments and Politics of Western Europe

3 Credits

Comparative analysis of political and governmental structures of major West European nations; main functions and processes of such structures.

**Prerequisite:** PL SC003 or PL SC020

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

PLSC 456: Politics and Institutions of Latin-American Nations

3 Credits

Social forces and processes, governmental institutions, foreign policies of major states of Latin America.

**Prerequisite:** HIST 179 , PL SC003 , PL SC020 , or PL SC022

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

PLSC 458: Government and Politics of East Asia

3 Credits/Maximum of 3

This course examines the political systems, institutions, and leadership of East Asian countries. This course examines the political systems, institutions, and leadership of East Asian countries. Students will learn about the nature and extent of political change that has occurred across East Asia, with particular attention to the history of the region, and the regime changes that have occurred in East Asian countries. Students also will compare the political development and experiences of different countries in the region, and consider how their development and experiences compare to countries beyond East Asia. Upon completion of the course, students will have knowledge of the government and politics of East Asian regimes, and the region's role in global politics.

**Prerequisite:** 3 credits from PL SC003 , PL SC020 , PL SC022

Bachelor of Arts: Other Cultures

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

PLSC 459: Culture and World Politics

3 Credits

Role of culture in world politics.

**Prerequisite:** PL SC014

Cross-listed with: AFR 459

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences  
International Cultures (IL)

PLSC 460: Science, Technology, and Public Policy

3 Credits

The all-pervasive importance of science and technology policy in modern societies and mechanisms and processes by which it is made.

**Prerequisite:** 3 credits in natural sciences or engineering, 3 credits in social and behavioral sciences

Cross-listed with: STS 460

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

PLSC 461: Politics of the European Union

3 Credits

This course introduces students to the history, institutions and politics of the European Union. PL SC 461 Politics of the European Union (3) (IL) This course introduces students to the history, institutions and politics of the European Union. We will survey the central theories of political and economic integration, and compare them to how European integration has unfolded. We will analyze the EU's institutions and political processes, and review major EU policy areas.

**Prerequisite:** PL SC003 or PL SC020

International Cultures (IL)

PLSC 462: Marxist and Socialist Political Theory

3 Credits

Analysis of major problems and key works in the Marxist and Socialist tradition; dialectical materialism, alienation, class warfare, etc.

**Prerequisite:** PL SC017 , PL SC007 , PL SC413 , or PL SC452

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

PLSC 463: Government and Politics of China

3 Credits/Maximum of 3

This course will present an overview of modern Chinese politics since 1949.

**Prerequisite:** PL SC 003, PL SC 014, PL SC 022, or ASIA 100

Cross-listed with: ASIA 463

Bachelor of Arts: Other Cultures  
International Cultures (IL)

PLSC 464: Extractive Industries in Africa

3 Credits

Socioeconomic and environmental impacts of extractive industries in Africa.

**Prerequisite:** AFR 110 or at least one of the following: PL SC003 or PL SC014 or PL SC022

Cross-listed with: AFR 464

International Cultures (IL)

PLSC 465: Democratization in Asia

3 Credits

A course which identifies components of democracy, such as definitions, measures, datasets, and the democratization process. PL SC (ASIA) 465Y Democratization in Asia (3) (IL) This class is an upper-level seminar on democratization in Asia. How do countries move from having an authoritarian regime to a democratic government? Why are some democratic governments stable while others are not? In this class, we will focus on democratization theory and how it applies to countries in Asia. This course is organized into two parts. In the first part of the course, we will discuss democracy and democratization theory. We will cover such components as: definitions, measures, datasets, and the different stages of the democratization process. In the second part of the course, we will apply these concepts and measures to specific Asian countries. Course topics will be explored through readings from textbooks, articles, datasets, and media sources. By the end of the course, students will have a deep knowledge about a wide range of Asian countries. Students will develop the skills to compare countries, will understand the democratization process within Asia, and will be able to generalize from their knowledge to evaluate democratization events around the world. Finally, students will gain a deeper understanding of what is democracy and how easy or difficult it is to install and maintain. This course fulfills the distribution requirement for comparative politics, as well as the advanced and related course requirements for Political Science majors. In addition, the course fulfills the supporting course requirement for International Politics majors and the related areas requirement for Asian Studies majors. Finally, the course fulfills the requirements for writing across the curriculum and other cultures.

Cross-Listed

International Cultures (IL)

Writing Across the Curriculum

PLSC 466: Political Psychology

3 Credits

An interdisciplinary investigation of the major topics and debates characterizing the subfield of political psychology. PL SC 466 Political Psychology (3) This course offers an interdisciplinary investigation of the major topics and debates characterizing the subfield of political psychology. It draws on research being done in a variety of disciplines and disciplinary subfields including social, developmental and clinical psychology; the cognitive neurosciences; biological anthropology; genetics; evolution; and behavioral economics to examine political behavior. Specifically, the course will examine the thinking and actions of both political elites and the mass public, and consider the reasoning processes they employ in order to make sense of the political world. Topics to be covered include how emotions (e.g., fear, lust) shape human reasoning; how preferences develop; how differences in cognition, emotion and personality inform political judgment and shape political leadership; how prejudices develop and affect war and other conflicts; how political and social identities develop and how they affect individuals' political judgments and decisions; how neurobiological influences operate in conjunction with social and cultural factors to affect how individuals process information; and how genetics and hormones affect individuals political development and behavior. Through these and other topics covered in the course, students will develop an understanding of how political elites and ordinary citizens process information, develop preferences and make decisions, and why, as a consequence, they act as they do. This course fulfills the distribution

requirement for American politics and comparative politics, as well as the advanced and related course requirements for Political Science majors. The course also fulfills the supporting course requirement for International Politics majors.

**Prerequisite:** PL SC001 , PL SC003 , PL SC014 , or PSYCH100  
Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

PLSC 467: International Relations of the Middle East

3 Credits

The international relations of the Middle East, stressing national security policies of regional and outside actors, and major contemporary conflicts.

**Prerequisite:** PL SC014 or HIST 181  
Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

PLSC 468: Politics and the Media

3 Credits

An examination of how politics and public policy affect and are shaped by the news media, as a political institution, in America.

**Prerequisite:** PL SC001 , PL SC003 , PL SC022 , PL SC409 , CAS 409 , CAS 175 , CAS 201 , CAS 272 , COMM 100 or COMM 110  
Bachelor of Arts: Other Cultures  
Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

PLSC 469: Government and Politics of South Asia

3 Credits

This course offers an overview of the politics of modern South Asia with specific focus on Afghanistan, India and Pakistan. ASIA (PL SC) 469 Government and Politics of South Asia (3) (IL) This course provides an overview of the politics of modern South Asia with particular attention to the experiences of Afghanistan, India and Pakistan. It examines theories of political and economic development and ethnic politics, the impact of the British colonial experience on South Asia, the rise of nationalism, and the emergence of independent nation states in the region. Three important themes are explored throughout the course: (1) the state of economic development in the three countries; (2) the relationship between identity politics and violence; and (3) the international relations of these countries, with particular attention to terrorism and nuclear policy. Course topics will be explored through readings from textbooks and assigned articles, articles from current news sources and documentary films from the three countries. By the end of the course, students will have knowledge of the politics of Afghanistan, India and Pakistan and the political factors that have shaped their development over the past century. Students will acquire the tools necessary to evaluate critically the impact of war, the legacy of colonialism, and the challenge in building durable democratic institutions. This course fulfills the distribution requirement for comparative politics, as well as the advanced and related course requirements for Political Science majors. The course also fulfills the supporting course requirement for International Politics majors and the related areas requirement for Asian Studies majors.

**Prerequisite:** PL SC003 , PL SC014 , PL SC022 or ASIA 100  
Cross-listed with: ASIA 469  
International Cultures (IL)

PLSC 470: Legal Brief Writing

3 Credits

Writing of legal briefs as practiced in American courts.

**Prerequisite:** PL SC001  
Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences  
Writing Across the Curriculum

PLSC 471: American Constitutional Law

3 Credits

The origins of judicial review, landmark decisions of the Supreme Court, and their impact on the American form of government.

**Prerequisite:** PL SC001  
Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

PLSC 471H: American Constitutional Law

3 Credits

The origins of judicial review, landmark decisions of the Supreme Court, and their impact on the American form of government.

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

PLSC 472: The American Legal Process

3 Credits

Analysis of the roles, procedures, and policies characterizing the American legal system.

**Prerequisite:** PL SC001  
Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

PLSC 473: American Judicial Behavior

3 Credits

Analyzes behavior of judges and other participants in the legal process; examines how and why courts function as policymaking bodies.

**Prerequisite:** PL SC001  
Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

PLSC 474: Civil Liberties and Due Process

3 Credits

Fundamental problems relating to civil liberties and due process.

**Prerequisite:** PL SC001  
Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

PLSC 476: Empirical Legal Studies

3 Credits

This course engages students in the empirical study of law and the courts. PL SC 476 Empirical Legal Studies (3) The tools of social science affect both how scholars understand the workings of the judicial system and how lawyers practice law. This course engages students in the empirical study of law and the courts. It provides them with the substantive knowledge, and statistical and analytic skills they need to understand both (1) how social scientists use empirical evidence

to make inferences about laws, judges, and legal institutions and (2) how statistical methods are used in legal practice. Through the course, students will undertake statistical analyses and learn how to present these analyses to nontechnical audiences, such as jurors, employers, and the general public. The course begins with an overview of the social scientific study of law and the courts, and then investigates a series of topics, including how social science and empirical evidence are used to make legal claims and establish legal standards, to provide a context for judicial decisions, and to litigate cases.

**Prerequisite:** PL SC001, and PL SC309

PLSC 477: Sex, Race, & Justice: The U.S. Supreme Court and Equality

3 Credits

The American judicial system has played an active role in policing the rights of disadvantaged groups in American history. In this course, we will draw upon political science and legal approaches to examine the judiciary's approach to ensuring equality through an examination of cases involving same-sex rights, affirmative action, and voting rights. We will explore difficult questions such as: How does the Court define equality? Are justices' decisions driven by law, ideology, or both? Is the current Supreme Court particularly activist? Readings include court cases, newspaper articles, and essays from political science and law journals.

**Prerequisite:** PLSC 1  
United States Cultures (US)

PLSC 480: Congress and the Presidency

3 Credits

Basic characteristics and processes of the national legislature and executive; roles and interaction of these institutions in the policy process.

**Prerequisite:** PL SC001  
Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences  
Writing Across the Curriculum

PLSC 481: Global Political Economy

3 Credits

This course examines states, markets, power, production, and the relations between the various transnational agents who act in these areas. Students may not receive credit for PL SC 481 and PL SC 412. PL SC 481 Global Political Economy (3) Changes in the international system in the 1970s led to increased interest on the part of students of international relations in the political economic processes underlying change. Important debates among scholars in both mainstream theoretical traditions and in critical theory gave rise to International Political Economy as an increasingly visible sub-field in International Relations. This seminar tracks the historical relations between the development of capitalism as an economic system and the emergence and transformation of global politics, using concepts developed in the study of political economy. Seminar discussion, examinations, and a short research paper will be used to evaluate students' learning.

**Prerequisite:** PL SC014 or INTST100  
Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

PLSC 482: American State and Urban Politics

3 Credits

Explores basic characteristics and processes of American state and urban politics; nature of intergovernmental relations involving these governmental levels.

**Prerequisite:** PL SC001  
Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

PLSC 484: The Foreign Policy of Soviet Successor States

3 Credits

Relations between Russia and The Newly Independent States (NIS); Russia's relations with selected foreign states and political institutions; regional impact of the NIS in Baltic, Asian, and Central Asian areas.

**Prerequisite:** PL SC003  
Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences  
Writing Across the Curriculum

PLSC 486: International Culture in East Asia

3 Credits

Study of the role of culture in East Asian regional and East-West international relations. ASIA 400 (PL SC 486/HIST 489) International Culture in East Asia (3) (IL)(BA) This course meets the Bachelor of Arts degree requirements. This course will examine the place of culture in international history through a comparative look at the role of cultural circulation and exchange in relations among China, Korea, and Japan (and between East Asia and the West) from the propagation of Buddhism in the first century A.D. to present-day circulation of popular music, movies, and comics. We will explore the international politics of culture and the politics of international culture, considering questions of what constitutes culture, whether it is ever entirely separate from politics, and how that separation has evolved over time. These larger themes of the course will be tackled by following the historical movement of concrete objects and people throughout the region. This is a course in international history, but it also seeks to explore aspects of international relations. The goals of the class are not only to gain an understanding of the uses and impact of culture in international relations, but also to develop the skill of building such an understanding through primary and secondary sources, both written and visual. Students in this class will think critically about assigned texts to develop their own interpretations of their meanings. Through readings, discussions, presentations, and the final project, students will enhance their ability to think critically and to express their ideas clearly in both speech and writing. Class work includes some lecture but emphasizes guided discussions, group work, writing exercises, and some student presentations. This participatory approach is intended to deepen students' appreciation of the assigned readings, to help them understand value systems that may differ from those predominant in western cultures, and to assist students in developing both analytic and expressive abilities.

**Prerequisite:** ASIA 100; ASIA 101; ASIA 102; ASIA 103; ASIA 104; ASIA 172; ASIA 174; ASIA 175; ASIA 197; JAPNS 120; JAPNS 121; CHNS 120; CHNS 121; KOR 120; KOR 121  
Cross-listed with: ASIA 400  
Bachelor of Arts: Other Cultures  
International Cultures (IL)

## PLSC 487: International Law and Organizations

3 Credits

Major topics and issues of international law with special attention to institutional arrangements (international organizations) through which that law operates. PL SC 487 International Law and Organizations (3) The course is useful in two distinct ways. First, it aids in the understanding of how countries conduct their relations with one another. Second, studying international law-it is a distinct system of law-- helps students to assess whether they might be suited for law school. The course introduces international law and international governmental organizations (the two are closely linked) and their role in the management of peaceful relations among countries as well as during international conflict. Both the contributions and limitations of international law will be analyzed. International law is viewed both as a body of norms countries feel an obligation to follow and as a means of communication among countries. Major topics covered include sources of international law, human rights law, environmental law, economic law, law of the sea, and the use of force. There are several hundred major intergovernmental organizations. Several of the most prominent will be discussed including the UN, the WTO, the European Union, the International Labor Organization, and the International Court of Justice. Examinations are principally of the essay variety although a command of factual information is essential to success in the course. Students also prepare critiques of important international legal cases (many of which have been decided by national courts) and of treaties (the principal modern manifestation of international law).

**Prerequisite:** PL SC003 or PL SC014

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

## PLSC 488: Comparative Public Policy

3 Credits

Comparative methodology and public policy implementation in postindustrial societies; selected case studies of policy output. PL SC 488 Comparative Public Policy (3) Comparative Public Policy is an upper level political science course that includes components of comparative politics, public administration, and descriptive economics. The course presumes that developed industrial democracies confront common challenges in meeting human needs and that policy comparison is worthwhile despite distinctive societies and political cultures. For example, government involvement in the provision of health care varies widely from Britain's National Health Service to the largely private approach of the United States. Nevertheless all health care systems confront rising technology costs, an ageing population, and rising performance expectations. A primary purpose of the course is to consider the origin and development of individual country programs while assessing the common challenges. Cross national comparison becomes relevant to the course by including some available data on costs, implementation and outcomes. Because the course includes about six distinct areas, e.g., education, taxation, urban planning income support, and overall macroeconomic policy, the course will depict profiles of policymaking in Europe, North America and Japan. Ideally comparison should help students to evaluate the effectiveness of policy choices of a particular country and government. A second objective of the course will be to examine the national approaches to the relationship between the state and private economic activity. Not only does government expenditure amount to nearly half of some country's total output, government choices create distinctive legal environments for business activity. Antitrust, health, wage, and consumer regulation

offer an excellent point of comparing different incentives for economic activity in the United States and Europe. Apart from policy choices mentioned in the first paragraph, the regulation of economic activity has cumulative results for employment and the distribution of income. This portion of the course is intended to be somewhat more elementary than the first because of the probability that students will be less familiar with its content. The primary objective will be to help students understand the variations among market economies and reasons for their description as "neo-liberal," "social market," or "corporatist." Finally, the course will examine some current ideas about recent changes in the global economy and their consequences for national policy. Clearly "globalization" has become a matter of political concern owing to its consequences for the creation of wealth, employment, growth and distribution. While the course cannot devote detailed or exclusive to the European Union, Europe's response to rapid movements in short term capital and investment presents an interesting point of comparison with the United States and Japan. The course should enable students to understand the meaning and criticism of "globalization" as a factor in shaping some national policies.

**Prerequisite:** PL SC003

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

## PLSC 489: Public Administration

3 Credits

A survey of the major approaches to the management of most governmental agencies. PL SC 489 Public Administration (3) Government Management is a three-credit Political Science course that teaches the role and function of bureaucracy. Although some investigation is made about state and local government functions, the primary focus of the course is on the federal bureaucracy. In particular, the course illustrates how the interrelationship between the three branches of government exists using the various federal agencies as functionaries. The course first examines the basic functions of bureaucratic agencies in the modern world; primarily their distributive, re-distributive and regulatory activities. In addition to these functions, the various external and internal political forces that form the mission of the agencies are examined. Next the internal function of a bureaucracy is examined by highlighting the various roles of the people who comprise a typical large agency. The roles of the political appointee, the career professional, the general civil servant and the union laborer are examined, with the GS system of the federal government used as a guide to show the hierarchy that exists in a large agency. By highlighting both the functions of a typical agency and examining its role in the larger government structure, and by looking inside the bureaucracy to see the various short and long term roles of the people who comprise those agencies, the student appreciates how large bureaucracies are at the same time always changing, and always staying the same.

**Prerequisite:** PL SC001

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

## PLSC 490: Policy Making and Evaluation

3 Credits

Advanced analysis of public policy, emphasizing policy evaluation and the factors that determine policy success and failure.

**Prerequisite:** PL SC001 , PL SC002 , or PUBPL304W

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

PLSC 491: Peace and Conflict Studies Seminar

3 Credits

Advanced study of major contemporary issues of peace and conflict; includes anthropological, technological, psychological, and economic perspectives.

**Prerequisite:** PL SC014 , PL SC091

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

PLSC 494: Research Project

1-12 Credits/Maximum of 12

Supervised student activities on research projects identified on an individual or small-group basis.

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

PLSC 494H: Research Project

1-12 Credits/Maximum of 12

Supervised student activities on research projects identified on an individual or small-group basis.

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

Honors

PLSC 495: Political Science Internship

1-6 Credits/Maximum of 6

Combining experience in government offices, related agencies, or law firms, with appropriate readings and a research paper/report.

**Prerequisite:** prior consent of supervisor, adviser, or department head; applicable departmental internship requirements such as satisfactory completion of required 300- or 400-level courses appropriate for the internship program selected

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

PLSC 496: Independent Studies

1-18 Credits/Maximum of 18

Creative projects, including research and design, which are supervised on an individual basis and which fall outside the scope of formal courses.

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

PLSC 497: Special Topics

1-9 Credits/Maximum of 9

Formal courses given infrequently to explore, in depth, a comparatively narrow subject which may be topical or of special interest.

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

PLSC 499: Foreign Study--Government

1-12 Credits/Maximum of 12

Study, in selected foreign countries, of political institutions.

**Prerequisite:** PL SC003 , 3 credits in economics, history, political science, or sociology

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

International Cultures (IL)