

POLITICAL SCIENCE, PUBLIC LAW AND ADMINISTRATION

POLS 1110G. Introduction to Political Science

3 Credits (3)

This course covers fundamental concepts in political science, such as political theories, ideologies, and government systems.

Learning Outcomes

1. Construct reasoned civic discourse to advocate a stance or examine alternate positions.
2. Identify fundamental concepts and theories in political science.
3. Analyze data and information in order to gain a deeper understanding of the material.
4. Articulate how the public influence and are influenced by politics.
5. Identify and compare government systems from democracy to authoritarian, as well as models of analysis of contemporary international relations.

POLS 1111. Introductory Government Seminar

1 Credit (1)

Introduction to the government major. Designed to assist students in planning college experience and preparing for upper division course work and research. May be repeated up to 1 credit.

Learning Outcomes

1. This course is designed for the beginning government major.
2. Its goal is to improve your educational experience at the university and within the Department of Government. In this class we hope to develop some basic skills necessary for successful completion of a degree in Government.
3. These include the skills of critical reading, critical writing, oral presentation and research methods.
4. Additionally, we will use this seminar to introduce you to Government faculty, to plan your government degree and to acquaint you with the services and opportunities the department and the university has to offer.
5. Finally, we hope to begin the discussion of where you will go next, when you complete your degree in Government.

POLS 1120G. American National Government

3 Credits (3)

This course explains the role of American national government, its formation and principles of the Constitution; relation of state to the national government; political parties and their relationship to interest groups. This course also explains the structure of the legislative, executive, and judicial branches.

Learning Outcomes

1. Explain the historical and political foundations of the government of the United States;
2. Explain the precursors to, and the development and adoption of the United States Constitution;
3. Explain the United States federal system, the basics of federalism, and the changing relationship of state and federal power;
4. Describe the power, structure and operation of the main institutions of government, namely the legislative, executive, judicial, and the federal bureaucracy;
5. Explain the development and role of political parties and interest groups;

6. Identify the constitutional basis of civil rights and civil liberties and their changing interpretation; and
7. Describe the role of demographics, public opinion and the media in American politics.

POLS 1130G. Issues in American Politics

3 Credits (3)

This course is designed to introduce the students to the contemporary study of American political issues. The course analysis of government policies, examining various approaches to the economy, democracy and the structure and the function of American political institutions.

Learning Outcomes

1. Explain the basic themes and concepts of political science and their application to contemporary issues.
2. Explain the major forces, interests, and institutions of American democratic politics.
3. Describe and define how beliefs, assumptions, and values are influenced by factors such as politics, geography, economics, culture, biology, history, and social institutions.

POLS 2120G. International Relations

3 Credits (3)

This course covers the analysis of significant factors in world politics, including nationalism, national interest, political economy, ideology, international conflict and collaboration, balance of power, deterrence, international law, and international organization.

Learning Outcomes

1. Explain the interrelationships between countries and people in the world,
2. Demonstrate an awareness of current events in the world.
3. Describe several theories of International Relations
4. Explain and identify theories of power and decision making among states in the world.
5. Describe and evaluate issues that relate to International Politics, and how individuals are affected by them.
6. Describe the role of Intergovernmental Organizations in International Politics.
7. Identify the role war plays in International Politics.
8. Explain how economics is intertwined with International Politics.
9. Demonstrate an understanding of role of international terrorism and its impacts on global diplomacy. 1
10. Articulate how beliefs, assumptions, and values are influenced by factors such as politics, geography, economics, culture, history, government, and social institutions.

POLS 2996. Special Topics

3 Credits (3)

Specific topics to be announced in Schedule of Classes. Community Colleges only. May be repeated for a maximum of 12 credits.

Learning Outcomes

1. Varies

POLS 300. Political Research Skills

3 Credits (3)

Introduction to methods of political analysis and fundamentals of research design, including basic methods for the collection and analysis of political data.

Learning Outcomes

1. To gain understanding of research design and methods for collection and analysis of political data.

2. To understand how political scientists collect and analyze data in their research.
3. To appreciate the ethical and methodological issues that are common in political science research.

POLS 308. Prepping for Law School Admissions Test**1 Credit (1)**

This workshop helps students understand the law school application process and prepare to take the Law School Admissions Test (LSAT). May be repeated up to 2 credits.

Learning Outcomes

1. To prepare students to do well in the Law School Admissions Test (LSAT).
2. To help students understand the law school application process.

POLS 313. Model United Nations**3 Credits (3)**

Issues related to the United Nations and international law/organizations through simulations, discussions and research projects.

Prerequisite: GPA of 2.5 or better and consent of instructor.

Learning Outcomes

1. Articulate a strong understanding of the UN in international politics and diplomacy.
2. Demonstrate ability in conducting research, public speaking, and diplomacy skills.
3. Demonstrate literacy in current global issues and the politics and cultures of the countries that students are assigned to represent.
4. Express global understanding and appreciation of cultural activities.

POLS 314. Advanced Model UN**3 Credits (3)**

Advanced topics, research and preparation for Model United Nations activities. Consent of instructor required. Restricted to: Main campus only.

Prerequisite(s): POLS 313, minimum GPA 2.5.

POLS 315. Politics and Film**3 Credits (3)**

Exploration of political themes, images, and representation in film and other media. May be repeated for a maximum of 6 credits under different subtitles.

POLS 320. Making Public Policy**3 Credits (3)**

The course examines how U.S. public policy is made, including the examination of the major institutional and non-institutional players, politics, issues and power critical to the policy process. Interactive discussion sessions bridge theory to policy-making and political action in substantive policy issues. Restricted to: Main campus only. May be repeated up to 3 credits.

Learning Outcomes

1. Develop knowledge of how public policy is made in the United States at various levels of government (federal, state and local) and in relation to demands from interest groups and other stakeholders
2. Develop knowledge of specific public policy areas (such as environmental policy, energy policy, etc.
3. Develop excellence in research skills as well as written and oral communication of topics in the area of domestic policy

POLS 321. Topics in Public Policy**3 Credits (3)**

Course examines issues in public policy. May be repeated up to 6 credits.

Learning Outcomes

1. Develop knowledge and analytical skills with regard to particular topics within the subfield of public policy

POLS 324. Environmental Policy & Administration**3 Credits (3)**

This course introduces students to the history, development and formation of the central dimensions of environmental policy, politics and administration in the United States. Students also explore key substantive environmental policy issues (energy policy, natural resource and waste management policies, national parks and wildlife protection, and air and water pollution), and the global dimensions of climate change, environmental justice and sustainability. May be repeated up to 3 credits.

Learning Outcomes

1. Develop knowledge of historical and contemporary aspects of environmental policy, politics and administration in the United States
2. Develop ability to critically analyze environmental policy debates
3. Develop ability to effectively communicate analysis of environmental policy and administration in oral and written forms

POLS 325. Education Policy and Politics**3 Credits (3)**

Overview of current pressing policy issues and political debates on education in the U.S., including school choice, vouchers, accountability, and affirmative action. Multiple topics and perspectives covered, with political economy as the main approach. May be repeated up to 3 credits.

Learning Outcomes

1. Understand the historical development and changing federal role in education policy, including major federal education laws and reforms.
2. Examine critical issues and trends in federal education policy, as well as the various actors and perspectives involved in education debates and decision-making.
3. Explore policy process theories and apply them to the analysis of federal education events.
4. Study in depth a federal education policy issue by examining its progress through the various stages of the policy process.

POLS 326. Public Policy & Indigenous Communities**3 Credits (3)**

Study of historical and contemporary public policy and law that deals with the special legal status of Native American tribes and tribal members.

Learning Outcomes

1. Become familiar with the body of public policy and the area of law that deals with the special legal status of Native American tribes and tribal members
2. Examine the history, the public policy and the law that has impacted the ability of these indigenous communities to exercise their inherent sovereignty
3. Investigate the history, legislation, policies and landmark cases that have shaped this important area of government in the United States

POLS 330. Introduction to Public Administration**3 Credits (3)**

Public administration involves the full range of government agencies, non-profit organizations, and private contractors involved in the implementation of public policy at the federal, state, and local level. This course introduces students to the formal study of public administration and will explore major challenges in public service, the management of public and non-profit organizations, administrative ethics and law,

leadership theory, and financial and personnel management. Restricted to: Main campus only. May be repeated up to 3 credits.

Learning Outcomes

1. Gain a strong foundation in the the major issues, theories and challenges of public administration
2. Develop skills to critically analyze key problems in public administration
3. Develop ability to effectively communicate the main issues, theories and challenges of public administration in both oral and written form

POLS 331. Special Topics in Public Administration

3 Credits (3)

Special topics in public administration. May be repeated for a maximum of 6 credits under different subtitles.

POLS 335. Management of Nonprofit Organizations

3 Credits (3)

This course provides an introduction to the nonprofit sector, its nature, scope, and functions, and an overview of a range of nonprofit management concerns and practices. Students will confront the critical issues facing the sector. Activities are designed to expand the management skills of students by offering analytical tools and knowledge, and providing opportunities to test the application of these skills. May be repeated up to 3 credits.

Learning Outcomes

1. Gain a strong foundation in the study of nonprofit organizations and management issues
2. Expand students' management skills
3. Gain experience in application of management skills

POLS 343. Congress and the Legislative Process

3 Credits (3)

This class reviews the history, structure, membership, operation, power and culture of the American Congress. Restricted to: Main campus only.

Learning Outcomes

1. Develop knowledge of the functions and goals of the US Congress, specifically how federal legislation is drafted, debated and passed.
2. Develop skills in debating legislative bills through in-class simulations
3. Develop excellence in research and written and oral communication of significant topics in the study of the US Congress and legislative processes

POLS 345. The Supreme Court

3 Credits (3)

This class studies the history and operation of the Supreme Court, as well as landmark cases that have shaped American government and the Court.

POLS 348. Political Parties and Interest Groups

3 Credits (3)

Organization, principles, and functions of political parties and interest groups in the U.S.

POLS 350. Special Topics in American Government

3 Credits (3)

Special topics in American government. May be repeated for a maximum of 6 credits under different subtitles.

POLS 351V. Conspiracy Theories in American Politics

3 Credits (3)

This course explores the origins, evolution, and impact of conspiracy theories in American politics. Students analyze prominent theories, their formation and spread, and their influence on public discourse and political life.

Learning Outcomes

1. Identify and analyze the historical origins and evolution of conspiracy theories in American politics.
2. Evaluate the impact of conspiracy theories on public discourse, political movements, and government policies.
3. Critically assess the evidence and arguments presented in support of various conspiracy theories.
4. Explore the psychological factors that contribute to belief in conspiracy theories and their influence on individual and collective behavior.

POLS 353. Women and Politics

3 Credits (3)

An examination of women's participation in U.S. electoral politics as voters, candidates, and officeholders; political activism in issue-based movements and strategies for affecting public policy; leadership as administrators and managers in public service agencies. Also explores the influence of feminism in changing women's roles socially, legally, and politically.

POLS 354. Native American Politics

3 Credits (3)

This course explores the rights of Native Americans and the politics, policy, and administration of tribal governments with a focus on the history and current relationship between Native Nations and the US political system. Students will learn about Native peoples' cultural responses, forms of resistance, and adaptations to colonization. Restricted to: Main campus only.

Learning Outcomes

1. Develop a strong understanding of historical and contemporary issues in Native American policy in the United States
2. Develop skills to critically analyze debates over Native American policy
3. Develop skills to effectively communicate analysis of Native American policy in oral and written forms

POLS 360. World Politics

3 Credits (3)

Introduction to major theories and concepts for understanding fundamental problems and issues in international relations May be repeated up to 3 credits.

Learning Outcomes

1. Identify and critically evaluate the major concepts (theory) and practices (reality) of International Relations.
2. Identify, define, and critically think about themes and key issues unique to International Relations and evaluate their pros and cons.
3. Develop knowledge, analytical ability and critical thinking about global efforts and challenges to International Relations.

POLS 361. Special Topics in International Relations

3 Credits (3)

Course examines contemporary issues in international relations. Repeatable under different subtitles. May be repeated up to 6 credits.

POLS 362. International Political Economy

3 Credits (3)

Political factors in international economic relations; theories of political economy.

POLS 364. National Security

3 Credits (3)

Analysis of theories, concepts, historical development and current issues of significance for US national security

Learning Outcomes

1. Analyze international issues from a National Security policy perspective and examine major theoretical approaches (or “paradigms”) of National Security
2. Critically examine the historical evolution and the most prominent and contemporary challenges of National Security
3. Acquire abilities to synthesize and articulate important debates in the National Security literature and connect them to current national, regional, and global crises.

POLS 365. Introduction to Security Studies**3 Credits (3)**

Introduction to the field of security studies, with focus on theories and issues in the study of security in international politics, including emerging 21st century security challenges related to cyberspace, A.I., information warfare and virtual deterrence.

Learning Outcomes

1. Analyze international issues from a security studies perspective and examine major theoretical approaches (or “paradigms”) of security studies
2. Critically examine the historical evolution and the most prominent and contemporary challenges of security studies
3. Synthesize and articulate important debates in the security studies literature and connect them to current national, regional, and global challenges and crises.

POLS 366. American Foreign Policy**3 Credits (3)**

Formulation, content and rationale of current foreign policies of the U.S. May be repeated up to 3 credits.

Learning Outcomes

1. Develop knowledge of the historical development and current practice of US foreign policy
2. Develop the skills necessary to conduct independent research and written and oral communication of significant topics in US foreign policy

POLS 367. Terrorism**3 Credits (3)**

An introductory course using an interdisciplinary framework to explore definitions, historical roots, contemporary manifestations and future trends in political terrorism.

POLS 368. Human Security**3 Credits (3)**

Introduction to human security, its focus on security of the individual as opposed to the security of the state since the end of the Cold War and the emergence of global challenges such as environmental crises, public health, and cybersecurity of the virtual self.

Learning Outcomes

1. Identify and critically evaluate the major concepts and practices in human security
2. Define, identify and critically think about key issue areas in human security
3. Develop a coherent body of research in regard to a human security topic of your interest; engage with complex knowledge about human security and apply your analysis to a specific phenomenon.
4. Investigate current, global efforts and challenges in regard to human security.

POLS 370. Comparative Politics**3 Credits (3)**

Comparative study of similarities and differences to be found in political systems across the world, with emphasis on the structure and performance of modern states, accountability of government institutions, parties and elections, social movements, and public policies. May be repeated up to 3 credits.

Learning Outcomes

1. Develop knowledge of main issues and concepts in the study of comparative politics.
2. Increase analytical ability to explain similarities and differences between political systems
3. Promote critical thinking regarding the human and environmental consequences of government policies in addressing common public policy problems.

POLS 371. Latin American Politics**3 Credits (3)**

Comparative study of government systems and political change in Latin American countries, with focus on challenges of social inequality, democratization, regional integration, relations with the United States, and the rights of women, LGBTQ* community, Indigenous and Afro-descendant peoples. May be repeated up to 3 credits.

Learning Outcomes

1. Develop knowledge of how historical legacies, domestic politics, and global relations shape contemporary politics in Latin America
2. Increase analytical ability to explain similarities and variation in contemporary politics in Latin America
3. Develop critical thinking regarding how to explain the persistence and political implications of socioeconomic inequalities and discrimination in Latin America
4. Develop oral and written communication skills in expressing knowledge, concepts, and comparative analysis

POLS 372. Special Topics in Comparative Politics**3 Credits (3)**

Course examines contemporary issues in comparative politics. May be repeated under different subtitles. Restricted to: Main campus only.

POLS 373. Resistance Movements in World Politics**3 Credits (3)**

Comparative study of contemporary resistance movements and social protests around the world with a focus on their origins, demands, ideologies, strategies and impacts. May be repeated up to 3 credits.

Learning Outcomes

1. Develop knowledge of concepts of power and resistance movements and their applicability in many parts of the world.
2. Increase analytical ability to explain variation in the motives, strategies and impacts of resistance movements.
3. Promote critical thinking regarding how we choose to address inequalities, injustices and dissent.
4. Develop oral and written communication skills of key concepts and original research.

POLS 378. U.S.-Mexico Border Politics**3 Credits (3)**

Analysis of contemporary challenges facing the U.S.-Mexican border, including immigration, binational cooperation, drug trafficking, corruption, human rights violations and security. May be repeated up to 3 credits.

Learning Outcomes

1. Develop knowledge of the main issues and controversies in US-Mexico border politics.

2. Increase analytical ability to explain the implementation and results of border policies for local communities and the environment.
3. Promote critical thinking regarding the merits of alternative policies and future possibilities.

POLS 379. Mexican Politics

3 Credits (3)

Study of the politics and government of contemporary Mexico with focus on challenges of democratization, human rights, public policies, Mexico-US relations, and internal security. May be repeated up to 3 credits.

Learning Outcomes

1. Develop knowledge of main issues and concepts in the study of Mexican politics.
2. Develop ability to conduct online research on current issues in Mexican politics.
3. Promote critical thinking regarding the causes and consequences of criminal violence in Mexican politics and how it may be best addressed.

POLS 380V. Political Ideologies

3 Credits (3)

Introduction to the prevailing political ideologies in the modern world and the ways in which modern nations operating under one or more of these ideologies attempt to answer fundamental questions about the allocation and distribution of rights, liberties, and other things of value. In addition, the course work and discussions attempt to address recent political, social, and economic events in various areas of the world. May be repeated up to 3 credits.

Learning Outcomes

1. To understand the historical origins of major political ideologies and their impacts on different societies.
2. To communicate in oral presentation and written work the main characteristics of different political ideologies in a comparative context.
3. To analyze current uses of political ideologies in government and society.

POLS 382. Classical Political Thought

3 Credits (3)

Analysis of main currents in political thought from ancient Greece and Rome to the high Middle Ages.

POLS 383. Modern Political Thought

3 Credits (3)

Historical and theoretical examination of political ideas and ideologies from Machiavelli to Nietzsche. Topics include liberalism, conservatism, romanticism, communism, and Nihilism.

POLS 385. American Political Thought

3 Credits (3)

Introduction to major American thinkers and historical currents from colonial time to the present. May be repeated up to 3 credits.

Learning Outcomes

1. To understand the nature of the specifically American form of constitutionalism, as compared to its alternatives;
2. To understand the idea of progress in American history, including its colonial origins and its contemporary manifestation under the terms of progressivist ideology;
3. To understand the meaning and origin of American conservatism, and its place in contemporary political life;

4. To understand the dynamics of shifting political and institutional power relationships (including issues of centralization and decentralization) in relation to the above; and
5. To understand the general relationship between cultural phenomena and questions of political order.

POLS 387. Religion and Politics

3 Credits (3)

Survey of major points of interaction between politics and religion in the U.S., using theoretical, historical, and institutional analysis.

POLS 388. Contemporary Political Thought

3 Credits (3)

Introduction to the major thinkers and political arguments in contemporary political thought, from after Nietzsche to the present day. Topics include liberalism, fascism, existentialism, and post-liberal thought.

Learning Outcomes

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the critical debates related to political ideologies and movements from the 20th century to the present day.
2. Evaluate the historical, cultural, and intellectual contexts that have shaped contemporary political thought.
3. Critically examine the historical evolution of political thought in the post-Nietzschean world, including its political, cultural, and intellectual causes.

POLS 390. Special Topics in Public Law

3 Credits (3)

Course examines various issues in public law. May be repeated under different subtitles.

POLS 391. Constitutional Law

3 Credits (3)

The class explores the reasoning and political context of the Supreme Court cases that define the distribution and limits of governmental powers and duties under the U.S. Constitution, including separation of powers and federalism. Restricted to: Main campus only.

POLS 392. Civil Liberties

3 Credits (3)

The course examines the reasoning and political context of major Supreme Court cases defining constitutional rights of free speech, religious liberty, free press and criminal procedural rights.

POLS 394. Judicial Process

3 Credits (3)

Class examines the structure, function and purpose of the American judicial system. Restricted to: Main campus only.

POLS 395. Law and Society

3 Credits (3)

Class critically explores the development, role and impact of law on society, covering different philosophies and theories of law, different world legal systems, and different issue areas of law and society.

Restricted to: Main campus only. May be repeated up to 3 credits.

Learning Outcomes

1. To understand the development, role and impact of law on society
2. To gain knowledge of different philosophies and theories of law
3. To gain knowledge of different legal systems around the world and key issues in law and society
4. To gain skills in critical analysis of debates in law and society

- To gain skills in effective communication of analysis of law and society in oral and written forms

POLS 396. International Law**3 Credits (3)**

Nature, growth, and scope of law of nations, rights and obligations of states in peace and war, current issues.

POLS 399. New Mexico Law**3 Credits (3)**

Examination of the history, development and implementation of law in New Mexico with an emphasis on legal issues unique to New Mexico.

Crosslisted with: CJUS 399. May be repeated up to 3 credits.

Learning Outcomes

- To understand the unique legal issues of New Mexico through critical examination of the history, development and implementation of law in the state.
- To develop skills to critically analyze debates over legal issues in New Mexico.
- To develop skills to effectively communicate analysis of legal issues in New Mexico in oral and written forms.

POLS 405. Directed Readings**1-3 Credits**

Individualized readings. Course subtitled. May be repeated for a maximum of 6 credits. Graded S/U. Consent of instructor required.

POLS 406. Independent Study**1-3 Credits**

Individualized research. Course subtitled. May be repeated for a maximum of 6 credits. Consent of instructor required.

POLS 407. Workshop**1-6 Credits (1-6)**

Focus on skills related to careers in government and political science. Specific topics announced in the Schedule of Classes; Only three credits apply toward government major or minor requirements. May be repeated up to 6 credits.

Learning Outcomes

- Develop skills related to careers in government and public service

POLS 410. Internship**1-12 Credits**

Hands-on experience working with public agencies, political campaigns, elected officials & non-profits. May be repeated for a maximum of 12 credits; only 3 credits apply toward government major or minor requirements. Consent of instructor required. Graded: S/U.

Prerequisite(s): Completion of 12 government credits, 2.5 GPA, junior and above standing.

POLS 411. Service Learning Experience**3 Credits (3)**

Experiential learning through a community service project. May be subtitled to reflect service activity. May be repeated for a total of 6 credits; only 3 credits apply toward government major or minor requirements.

Prerequisites: completion of 12 government credits, junior or above standing, and consent of instructor.

POLS 412. Practicum in Student Government**3 Credits (3)**

Research of issues in student government. Consent of instructor required. Graded: S/U.

Prerequisite(s): Student government participation, completion of 12 POLS credits, junior or senior standing.

POLS 415. Senior Seminar**2 Credits (2)**

Review and integration of political skills acquired in the Government Department. Students will focus on critical essay writing and oral presentation of a synthesis of knowledge gained from prior departmental coursework. May be repeated up to 2 credits.

Learning Outcomes

- To integrate knowledge from various classes during the students' coursework as a Government major.
- To effectively communicate in oral and written forms a synthesis of main issues, theories, scholars and actors in the various sub-fields of the government major.

POLS 469. Globalization**3 Credits (3)**

Analysis of the globalization process. Covers theories of globalization, the global economy, political globalization, global culture, transnational social movements, transnational migration and world labor market, global cities, and local-global linkages. Same as SOCI 4460. May be repeated up to 3 credits.

POLS 493. Mass Communications Law**3 Credits (3)**

Examination of legal issues relating to mass media in the United States. Invasion of privacy, libel, sedition, copyright, and advertising regulation. Same as JOUR 493 and COMM 493.

POLS 502. Research Methods in Government**3 Credits (3)**

Contemporary methods of political analysis, including mathematical and statistical techniques and computer applications. MPA students must complete this class with a B- or better. MA students must complete either POLS 502 or POLS 503 with a B- or better.

POLS 503. Qualitative Research Methods**3 Credits (3)**

An overview of qualitative research methods such as fieldwork, ethnography, content analysis, case studies, focus groups and grounded theory. Introduces students to epistemology (the study of knowledge) and to basic components of research design. Explores activist scholarship, ethical dilemmas in research, and software tools for computer assisted analysis. Especially useful for students preparing theses, dissertation, or other research projects. MA students must complete either POLS 503 or POLS 502 with a B- or better.

POLS 505. Directed Readings**1-3 Credits**

Selected topics in government. May be repeated for a total of 6 credits. Graded S/U.

Prerequisite: consent of instructor.

POLS 510. Internship**1-6 Credits**

Assignment with a public agency and research report. Only 3 credits apply toward degree requirements. Graded S/U.

Prerequisite: approval of graduate advisor.

POLS 517. Selected Topics in Government**3 Credits (3)**

Selected issues which may cross sub-fields of the discipline. May be repeated for a total of 6 credits.

POLS 519. Proseminar in Public Administration**3 Credits (3)**

Review of classic and contemporary theory and practice in public administration. Application of written and oral skills to the presentation

and defense of essays on various aspects of public administration. To be completed with a B- or better.

Prerequisite(s): 30 credits of M.P.A.

POLS 522. Public Sector Economics I

3 Credits (3)

Introduction to the economic rationale for government intervention in the economy and the effects of that intervention on economic agents and the economy in general. Emphasis on the expenditure side of government policies. Same as AEEC 522.

POLS 524. Introduction to the Nonprofit Sector

3 Credits (3)

Advanced study of the nature and operation of the nonprofit sector and how it interacts with public policy. The course provides an overview of the nonprofit sector, its scope, structure, history, values, distinct contributions to society, place in the government service delivery systems, and selected public policy issues that affect it.

Learning Outcomes

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the unique nature of the nonprofit sector, and distinguish it from the public (government) and private (business, for-profit) sectors in form and delivery systems.
2. Provide a description of the historical, theoretical, and legal perspectives on nonprofit organizations, as well as current trends and challenges facing the sector.
3. Evaluate the scope of the nonprofit activity in the U.S. and demonstrate an understanding of the major nonprofit subsectors, such as health care, arts, social service, and religious organizations.
4. Determine how nonprofit organizations and business firms can constructively learn from one another.
5. Explain and justify the role and function of nonprofit organizations and the myriad ways in which nonprofit organizations serve our communities and enhance our society.

POLS 525. Seminar in the Nonprofit and Philanthropic Sector

3 Credits (3)

Advanced study of the role of philanthropy and nonprofit organizations in society. Addresses the theoretical and academic foundations of research literature in the field from a variety of disciplines.

Learning Outcomes

1. A better understanding of the various issues and topics of the Nonprofit/Philanthropic sector studied by scholars in the field.
2. An ability to discuss major findings and theories in the field of Nonprofit and Philanthropic Studies.
3. The knowledge to discuss and critique research designs and methods that have been utilized in Nonprofit/Philanthropic Studies.
4. An ability to frame new research questions (and/or, extend knowledge) related to nonprofit organizations and philanthropy.

POLS 526. Performance Management of Public and Nonprofit Organizations

3 Credits (3)

Advanced study of the theory and practice of performance measurement and management, how to select key performance indicators, implement a performance management system and use performance measures. Examines importance of leadership roles and accountability in managing public and nonprofit organizations.

Learning Outcomes

1. To understand the inextricable connection between performance measurement and strategic planning in developing effective organizations.

2. To develop the skills to implement performance management systems in organizations, regardless of level of authority within these organizations.
3. To gain skills to adeptly navigate organizational challenges that impede implementation of performance management systems.

POLS 527. Issues in Public Management

3 Credits (3)

Selected issues in public management. May be repeated under different subtitles for a total of 6 credits.

POLS 530. Seminar in Public Policy

3 Credits (3)

Survey of the political, administrative, and technical aspects of policy making in government. MA students taking POLS 530 as part of their core requirements must complete the class with a B- or better.

POLS 536. Public Policy and Indigenous Communities

3 Credits (3)

Indigenous communities are found throughout North, Central and South America. This course addresses the history, development and governance of these communities. Different sections of the course may choose to focus on different indigenous communities. All courses will consider the principles of governance internal to indigenous communities as well as the governing relationships between indigenous communities and modern states.

POLS 537. Issues in Public Policy

3 Credits (3)

Selected issues in public policy. May be repeated under a different subtitle for a total of 6 credits.

POLS 540. Seminar in Public Administration

3 Credits (3)

Survey course on the theory and practice of program, personnel, and financial management in government and the private, nonprofit sector. MA students taking POLS 540 as part of their core requirements must complete the class with a B- or better.

POLS 541. Public Budgeting

3 Credits (3)

Budgetary processes; budget classification, analysis, and evaluation. MPA students must complete this class with a B- or better.

POLS 542. Public Sector Human Resources Management

3 Credits (3)

Exploration of public personnel systems and practices, including job analysis, compensation, performance evaluation, recruitment, and labor-management relations. MPA students must complete this class with a B- or better.

POLS 543. Skills Workshop

1-6 Credits (1-6)

Focus on management of task skills in selected areas of public administration. Specific topics will appear in the Schedule of Classes. May be repeated up to 6 credits.

Learning Outcomes

1. Develop specific skills related to the practice of public administration

POLS 544. Public Policy Analysis

3 Credits (3)

Environment of policy analysis; various descriptive and quantitative designs for analyzing and evaluating public policy. Problems of policy analysis. MPA students must complete this class with a B- or better.

Prerequisite(s): POLS 502 or consent of instructor.

POLS 547. Government Organizations**3 Credits (3)**

Historical overview and present applications of organization theory in public management. MPA students must complete this class with a B- or better.

POLS 548. Public Sector Leadership**3 Credits (3)**

Theories and styles of leadership.

POLS 549. Ethics in Government**3 Credits (3)**

Examination of standards, perspectives, and issues for ethical decision-making in public agencies. MPA students must complete this class with a B- or better.

POLS 550. Seminar in American Politics**3 Credits (3)**

Overview of American political institutions. Includes study of American constitutional theory; legislative, executive, and judicial functions and processes; political parties and interest groups; and public policy formulation. MA students taking POLS 550 as part of their core requirements must complete the class with a B- or better.

POLS 560. Seminar in International Relations Theory**3 Credits (3)**

A critical overview of leading approaches and controversies in international relations theory. The purpose of the course is to introduce students to contending theoretical perspectives and conceptual frameworks that help make sense of contemporary world politics. MA students taking POLS 560 as part of their core requirements must complete the class with a B- or better.

POLS 563. Issues in International Relations**3 Credits (3)**

Selected issues in international relations. May be repeated under a different subtitle for a total of 6 credits.

POLS 564. Advanced National Security Policy**3 Credits (3)**

Major topical, theoretical, and regional issues in national security policy.

POLS 565. Advanced Issues in Security Studies**3 Credits (3)**

Advanced study of theories, concepts and key issues in the area of security studies, including historical security problems and emerging 21st century challenges related to cyberspace, A.I., information warfare and virtual deterrence.

Learning Outcomes

1. Analyze international issues from a security studies perspective and examine major theoretical approaches (or "paradigms") of security studies.
2. Critically examine the historical evolution and the most prominent and contemporary challenges of security studies.
3. Synthesize and articulate important debates in the security studies literature and connect them to current national, regional, and global challenges and crises.

POLS 567. Advanced Issues in Terrorism**3 Credits (3)**

Advanced study of theories of the causes of terrorism, responses to varieties of terrorism, and major issues in the study of terrorism, historically and today

Learning Outcomes

1. Examine core ideas in studies of terrorism (theoretically and factually)

2. Introduce and develop an understanding about the causes of terrorism and possible solutions
3. Acquire abilities to gain knowledge, think critically, analytically, and synthetically of countries and violence, and varieties of terrorism over time and throughout the world.

POLS 568. Advanced Issues in Human Security**3 Credits (3)**

Advanced study of major theories, concepts and issues in the study of human security, such as environmental crises, public health, and cybersecurity of the virtual self.

Learning Outcomes

1. Identify and critically evaluate the major concepts and practices in human security;
2. Define, identify and critically think about key issue areas in human security.
3. Develop a coherent body of research in regard to a human security topic of your interest; engage with complex knowledge about human security and apply your analysis to a specific phenomenon.
4. Investigate current, global efforts and challenges in regard to human security.

POLS 569. Advanced Issues in Globalization**3 Credits (3)**

Analysis of the globalization process. Covers theories of globalization; global economy; political globalization; global culture; transnational social movements; transnational migration and world labor market; global cities; local-global linkages. Same as SOCI 5460. May be repeated up to 3 credits.

POLS 570. Seminar in Comparative Politics**3 Credits (3)**

Examination of methods used for comparing various types of political entities. Investigation of criteria needed to examine a concept across cultures or national boundaries. MA students taking POLS 570 as part of their core requirements must complete the class with a B- or better.

POLS 574. Contemporary Comparative Studies**3 Credits (3)**

Major topical, theoretical, and regional issues in international politics. May be repeated once.

POLS 578. Seminar in the U.S.-Mexican Border**3 Credits (3)**

An analysis of the political environment along the United States-Mexico border and a survey of the literature available for a number of contemporary issues.

POLS 579. Seminar in Mexican Politics**3 Credits (3)**

Advanced research on politics and government of Mexico.

POLS 580. Seminar in Political Theory**3 Credits (3)**

Examination of major issues in political theory, including democracy, sovereignty, classical and modern traditions of thought. May be repeated with different subject matter. MA students taking POLS 580 as part of their core requirements must complete the class with a B- or better.

POLS 587. Seminar in Religion and Politics**3 Credits (3)**

Historical, theoretical and comparative analyses of the interaction between politics and religion.

POLS 593. Issues in Public Law**3 Credits (3)**

Selected issues in public law. May be repeated under a different subtitle for a total of 6 credits.

POLS 596. International Law

3 Credits (3)

Nature, growth and scope of law of nations; rights and obligations of states in peace and war; current issues.

POLS 598. Special Research Programs

1-3 Credits

Individual investigations either theoretical, analytical or experimental. Three credits may be taken per semester for a total of 6 credits for thesis students, and 9 credits for non-thesis students. Consent of instructor required.

POLS 599. Master's Thesis

1-15 Credits

Thesis.