

Department of Political Science Spring 2023
Undergraduate Courses

Most up to date course list can be found in Schedule of Classes or in iGPS

P302	13193	Course Title: The Politics of Economics Crisis and Reform Day and Time: M/W 1:15-2:30pm Location: PH 013	Winecoff
X471	3276	Course Title: Undergraduate /Teaching Assistantship Day and Time: ARR	Spechler
X476	6058	Course Title: POLS Practicum III, (Model EU participants)	Zajac
X477	7309	Course Title: Field experience in Political Science Day and Time: TBD Location: TBD	Dalecki
X477	9067	Course Title: Washington DC Internship Political Sciences Day and Time: TBD Location: ARR	Barbour
X490	7308	Course Title: Undergraduate Readings in Political Science Day and Time: ARR	Dalecki
Y100	13258	Course Title: American Political Controversies Day and Time: MW 3:00-4:15pm Location: WH 101	Dalecki
Y103	14475	Course Title: Introduction to American Politics Day and Time: TR 1:15-2:30pm Location: WH 101	Cruz-Nichols
Y105	3271	Course Title: Introduction to Political Theory Day and Time: MW 10:10-11:00am Location: WH 120	Scheurman
Y105	30964	Course Title: Introduction to Political Theory Day and Time: MW 6:30pm-7:45pm Location: BH 307	Cruzatti
Y107	13178	Course Title: Introduction to Comparative Politics Day and Time: TR 11:30am-12:45pm Location: WH 004	Wu
Y107	33679	Course Title: Introduction to Comparative Politics Day and Time: TBD Location: OA 100%	Razo
Y109	3272	Course Title: Introduction to International Relations Day and Time: TR 4:45-6:00pm Location: FA 102	Spechler

Y109	5965	Course Title: Introduction to International Relations Day and Time: Location: FA 102	Khanna
Y110	34154	Course Title: Mathematics and Politics Day and Time: MW 11:30am-12:15pm Location: AD A152	Razo
Y200	32986	Course Title: Politics and Comedy Day and Time: MW 1:15-2:30pm Location: LH 130	DeSante
Y200	13181	Course Title: Contemporary Political Topics Day and Time: MW 1:50-2:40pm joint Location: GY 1045	Zajac
Y204	10688	Course Title: Institutional Analysis and Governance Day and Time: TR 9:45am-11:00am Location: GY 1043	Bianco
Y205	3663	Course Title: Analyzing Politics Day and Time: TR 3:00-4:15pm Location: OP 111	Wu
Y208	31083	Course Title: Leadership, Civil Society, and Public Policy Day and Time: MW 3:00-4:15pm Location: WH111	Craiutu
Y211	4774	Course Title: Introduction to Law Day and Time: MW 11:30am-12:45pm Location: WH 101	Dalecki
Y249	14353	Course Title: Religion, Politics and Public Policy Day and Time: TR 9:45am-11:00am Location: WH 106	Weinman

Y300	9068	Course Title: Topics in Current Politics and Governance Course for students taking IU POLS DC internship in Washington DC Location: Off Campus	Barbour
Y300	33007	Course Title: Russia at War Day and Time: MW 6:00-7:15pm Location: WH 120	Smyth
Y302	9992	Course Title: Public Bureaucracy In Modern Society Course for students taking IU Pols DC Internship Registration requires permission from the department	Gerrity
Y305	3273	Course Title: Constitutional Rights and Liberties Day and Time: TR 11:30am-12:45pm Location: SE 140	Failer
Y307	3274	Course Title: Indiana State Government and Politics Day and Time: TBA Location: TBA	Byrne
Y320	13185	Course Title: Judicial Politics Day and Time: TR 3:00-4:15pm Location: GA 1106	Braman

Y321	6806	Course Title: Media and Politics Day and Time: TR 11:30am-12:45pm Location: BH 008	Cruz Nichols
Y324	13186	Course Title: Women and Politics Day and Time: TR 11:30am-12:45pm Location: BH 005	Braman
Y348	31077	Course Title: The Politics of Genocide Day and Time: TR 9:45am-11:00am Location: WY 005	Bielasiak

Y350	4213	Course Title: Politics of the European Union Day and Time: MW 3:00-4:15pm Location: GY 1043	Zajac
Y364	13197	Course Title: International Organizations: Political and Security Aspects Day and Time: TR 9:45am-11:00am Location: BH 330	Koren
Y368	6287	Course Title: Russian and Soviet Foreign Policy Day and Time: TR 1:15-2:30pm Location: WH 004	Spechler
Y375	5340	Course Title: War and International Conflict Day and Time: MW 3:00-4:15pm Location: GA 1128	Ganguly
Y379	5623	Course Title: Ethics and Public Policy Day and Time: TR 3:00-4:15pm Location: WH 120	Failer
Y382	4161	Course Title: Modern Political Thought Day and Time: MW 9:45am-11:00am Location: WY 015	Craiutu
Y384	3275	Course Title: Developments in American Political Thought Day and Time: MW 3:00-4:15pm Location: GA 1134	Eber-Schmid
Y399	6290	Course Title: Politics of the UN Contact Professor Spechler for permission to register at spechler@indiana.edu	Spechler
Y490	9925	Course Title: Senior Seminar in Political Science- Muslims in the West Day and Time: R 4:45-7:15pm Location: PY 113	Sinno
Y490	3850	Course Title: Senior Seminar in Political Science- Day and Time: W 11:00am-1:30pm Location: TE F106	Eber-Schmid
Y490	13623	Course Title: Senior Seminar in Political Science-Democracy and Revolution Day and Time: M 3:30-6:00pm Location: GA 0007	Smyth
Y499	3277	Course Title: Honors Thesis, Active research and honors thesis defense Day and Time: W 3:15-5:15pm Location: BH 317	Razo

Course Descriptions

POLS-P302

Instructor: Winecoff

Course Description:

The Politics of Economic Crisis and Reform

Economic crises have been a recurrent feature of global capitalism since its beginning. These crises have significant effects on economic and political systems. Recent research suggests that crises are increasing in both frequency and severity, as evidenced by contemporary instability in North America, Europe, and the Arab World. Crises are frequently followed by calls for reform. Some reform efforts target specific market activities while others involve modifications to political institutions. Some reform efforts are instigated by international institutions while others are initiated by domestic politics. This course will consider the politics of crisis and reform from a comparative and international political economy perspective. In addition to learning general theories of crisis and reform, we will study in-depth "case studies" of important crisis episodes in the era of industrial capitalism and seek to understand both the causes and consequences of crisis events. We will examine the impact of various crisis responses, conducted under different political and economic systems.

POLS-X471

Instructor: Spechler

Course Description:

Undergraduate Teaching Assistantship

Consent of Instructor. Faculty-directed participation in the various aspects of academic teaching and research. Students will assist a faculty member in such activities as directing simulations, mentoring students and providing feedback on their work, teaching discussion sections, doing research. Individual assignments will vary by instructor. May be repeated for a maximum of 6 credits.

POLS-X476

Instructor: Zajac

Course Description:

POLS Practicum III, pass/fail

(Used for Model EU participants)

POLS-X477

Instructor: Dalecki

Course Description:

Field Experience in Political Science

Credit can be used for internship experiences; students can register for 1-6 graded credit hours working with a Political Science faculty sponsor.

POLS-X477

Instructor: Barbour

Course Description

Field Experience in Political Science

“This 6-hour section of X477 is reserved for interns in the IU POLS Dc Program Only”

POLS-X490

Instructor:

Course Description:

Undergraduate Readings

Individual Readings and research. No more than 6 credits total may be taken. May be taken only by consent of instructor.

POLS-Y100

Instructor: Dalecki

Course Description:

American Political Controversies

This course examines several controversies that have permeated American politics, ranging from contentions over the essence of public policies through debates about civil rights and liberties and disagreements over how political information should be communicated. We will focus on *what* types of arguments have been used to endorse/reject specific views and *how* arguments in favor of/against these views have been produced. The goal of the course is thus two-fold: to examine key debates present in American politics and appreciate the art of making effective political arguments.

Required Readings

All readings will be posted on Canvas.

POLS-Y103

Instructor: Cruz-Nichols

Course Description:

Introduction to American Politics

This course is an introduction to American national politics. The central premise is that nothing in politics happens by accident – everything you see is the result of the choices people make. The goal is to understand American politics by (a) explaining why people act as they do, and (b) understanding the consequences of these choices. The overriding assumption is that people are rational actors, meaning that they sensible reasons for preferring one choice over another.

The secondary emphasis is on facts, both to provide basic information about American politics and to demonstrate that there is evidence behind the theories and arguments presented in the class. The class will be ruthlessly contemporary, emphasizing the political issues, campaigns, and controversies that are part of our everyday life.

While the class covers both the science of politics and the politics of the real world, it does not put a partisan spin on events. The class will focus on explaining how politics works without taking a position on whether one set of opinions or preferences are better than another. You are expected to follow this rule in your class participation and assignments.

POLS-Y105

Instructor: Scheuerman

Course Description:

Introduction to Political Theory

Political discourse seems both confused and terribly heated in the contemporary USA. If you want to understand what political theories such as “liberalism,” “democracy,” “socialism,” “feminism,” “conservatism,” and “populism” actually entail, this course can help you do so.

The course opens by addressing the most basic question of political existence: why should we obey government? More specifically: if we are obligated to obey government, what can we legitimately expect from government in return?

After examining how a host of thinkers throughout history tackled these questions, we turn to the most influential recent answers, as formulated by thinkers associated with what later became described as “liberalism.” Considering the possibility that liberalism represents a failed political theory, we subsequently examine major critics, on both the left and right, who have argued that it never sufficiently explains why people should obey their governments. In this context, we consider “feminism,” “socialism,” and (contemporary) “conservatism.” Finally, we discuss how the political theories examined in this course can help us make sense of recent “nationalist” and/or “populist” leaders around the world.

The course format is relatively old-fashioned: you read, discuss, and write about a diverse collection of political thinkers, including Plato, John Locke, Thomas Jefferson, John Stuart Mill, Karl Marx, M.L. King, and Friedrich Hayek. The aim is to provide you with a basic introduction to some of the most important political arguments, ideas, and theories, as well as help you become a more informed citizen.

POLS-Y105

Instructor: Cruzatti

Course Description:

Introduction to Political Theory:

The course provides an overview of the evolution of political thought through the analysis of some of the most relevant classical, modern and contemporary thinkers. Throughout the course, we will examine the fundamental ideas that shape the Western political tradition, principally in its North Atlantic form, through the analysis of selected texts.

The course will study, analyze and problematize three of the central questions of political philosophy. According to the philosopher Norberto Bobbio, political philosophy would be, in the first place, a normative theory that is concerned with the description and theorization of the optimal republic, a model of state founded on ultimate ethical postulates. The second central question addressed by political philosophy is the search for the ultimate foundation of power, the reason why it should be obeyed. The third aims to determine the general concept of "politics," as an autonomous activity distinct from religion, morality or economics. From the current political and social context of deep ethical criticism of real politics, we want to add a fourth question: the virtues, duties and responsibilities of rulers and citizens and the way we should respond to an unjust government.

The course seeks to develop three competencies in the students. The first - cognitive - consists of transmitting fundamental aspects of Western political philosophy. Secondly, it seeks to promote critical reading skills, enlightened deliberation and autonomous participation in the classroom. Finally, it seeks to promote educated citizens who know how to advocate for the vindication of the public sphere.

POLS-Y107

Instructor: Wu

Course Description:

Introduction to Comparative Politics

This course will introduce students to comparative politics – the study of domestic political institutions, processes, behavior, and outcomes across and within countries. We will study concepts such as democracy and autocracy, political and electoral institutions, political violence, and identity. Cases will be drawn from around the world to give students a grounding in the method of comparative analysis. This course is recommended for those thinking about a major or minor in political science and for anyone interested in learning more about the politics of developed and developing countries.

POLS-Y107

Instructor: Razo on-line

Course Description:

Introduction to Comparative Politics:

This online course introduces students to World Politics and International Studies through the lens of *Comparative Politics*. Comparative Politics is a branch of Political Science that examines internal features of political systems for international comparisons. By taking this course, you will learn to appreciate how political, social, and historical processes shape societies over time. This historical understanding coupled with examination of current political system fosters global learning for professional and personal goals—like international travel and business—and other cross-cultural activities.

POLS-Y109

Instructor: Spechler

Course Description:

Introduction to International Relations

Poverty. Inequality. Scarce resources. Ethnic identity. Territorial ambitions. Ideology. Political aspirations. As we move farther into a new millennium, nearly every area of the world is beset by violent conflict arising from these and many other sources. This course will provide you with basic conceptual tools and information to help you understand some of the major problems in world politics in recent decades and think critically about possible solutions to those problems. The primary focus will be on the causes of conflict and war; the relative advantages and disadvantages of relying on military measures, economic instruments, or diplomacy for achieving foreign policy goals; and ways of preventing or reducing the likelihood, severity, and duration of war. The course will include a simulation of the United Nations General Assembly in which all students will participate as delegates, representing a country of their choice.

Prerequisites: none.

Search terms: international relations, world politics, international affairs, conflict, war, peace, economic sanctions, diplomacy, foreign policy, United Nations, UN, simulation

POLS-Y109

Instructor: Aashna Khanna

Course Description:

Introduction to International Relations:

Causes of war, nature and attributes of the state, imperialism, international law, national sovereignty, arbitration, adjudication, international organization, major international issues. Credit not given for both Y109 and Y219.

POLS-Y110

Instructor:

Course Description:

Mathematics and Politics

"We are very familiar with the notion of "democracy" as a system that reflects the will of the people. But how exactly can we figure out the "will of the people"? Does it matter which voting systems are used for group decisions? Does democracy guarantee group choices? You can get answers to these types of questions in this course that uses simple mathematical concepts and logical analysis to examine democratic decisions.

As a 100-level class, the course only requires a solid knowledge of high school algebra and a willingness to learn and use new mathematical concepts, symbols, and diagrams. Especially drawing from finite mathematics, the class will use simple mathematical concepts to formulate simple models that clarify the most important aspects of various group choice scenarios.

With available mathematical representations of real-world phenomena, students will then apply basic logical analysis to carefully examine the consequences of various democratic decision-making scenarios, especially to assess the extent to which outcomes represent the inputs of participants. This combined approach of representation and logical analysis will be applied to a variety of contemporary political decisions so students can readily see the advantages and practical limitations of democratic procedures in the real world. "

POLS-Y200

Instructor: DeSante

Course Description:

Politics and Comedy

Contemporary Political Topics: From Aristophanes to South Park

This course comprises the following broad themes: humor theory, how humor is political, and ethics in comedy. The first third of this course explores the theory of humor, and asks: why do we laugh, and what are the universal aspects of humor? The second part of the course is *political* in nature, focusing on humor theory through the lens of politics: how does social standing (superiority/inferiority) relate to humor, and when does performative humor become an explicitly political act? The third and final theme has to do with ethical questions surrounding comedians providing social commentary: does how a comedian presents dictate the jokes the can (should) or cannot (should not) tell? Course pre-requisite: a sense of humor.

POLS-Y200

Instructor: Zajac

Course Description:

Contemporary Political Topics: Security, Diplomacy, and Governance

The course compromises three parts. The first part focuses on examining the origins and development of the contemporary global order from theoretical and practical perspectives. It will cover the pattern of hegemonic wars till WWII, and the complexity of the West-East competition and cooperation during the Cold War. The second section examines changes in international politics in the post-Cold War era with special emphasis on the phenomenon and implications of the US global domination. The last part focuses on forging a new world order, and it will explore the US-China-Russia rivalry and cooperation, international competition in Arctic, and the global environmental governance, among other topics. Not least at all, the question of how the world should be ruled in view of climate change, pandemics, and the digital revolution will be also discussed.

POLS-Y204

Instructor: Bianco

Course Description:

Institutional Analysis and Governance – techniques for modeling (that is, predicting or explaining) the choices that individuals make in situations where they interact with other and have a stake in the outcome. Game theory is a fundamental tool for making sense of many aspects of politics, from campaigns to governing, as well as the behavior of organizations and nations. It is also a source of intuitions about how to make real-world decisions in a wide range of situations.

POLS-Y205

Instructor: Wu

Course Description:

Analyzing Politics

This course focuses on the question of how political science is done. We will walk through the frameworks guiding our thinking about politics and review descriptive, experimental, and observational approaches to research. Students will learn how to evaluate normative and empirical claims and practice constructing research questions and hypotheses. We will also consider the challenges of interpreting data and making inferences about politics.

POLS-Y208

Instructor: Craiutu

Course Description:

Leadership, Civil Society, and Public Policy

Liberal democracy is in crisis. The social media has changed the political landscape in a way that was unimaginable only 20 years ago. Our political life is highly polarized at a moment when the political center is weaker than ever, and the traditional left/right political categories cease to apply. Tribalism and sectarianism drive our political scene, marked by overheated and hyperbolic political rhetoric. Paradoxically, this is also a good time to revisit old theories and ideas about civil society and leadership. The topics of polarization and leadership will be the core issues in our class. The difficult question is how to promote good leadership in a highly complex and divided environment, marked by high polarization and ideological intransigence. We will examine polarization through a variety of perspectives that bring to light related and relevant concepts such as disagreement, free speech, civility, incivility, moderation, and radicalism.

The class combines sources from several disciplines (political science, history, philosophy, and public policy) and combines theory and practice. Throughout the course, discussion about specific individuals and issues will be used to illustrate the roles of leaders and institutions at all levels (local, state, federal) of American public and political life. By focusing on the relationship between politics and civil society, we will also try to highlight the skills of effective political and civic engagement, deliberation, advocacy, and action.

The class will use a combination of traditional lectures, guest lectures, discussions, and student presentations. The requirements include short papers and group projects in lieu of traditional exams. The midterm will ask students to act as political consultants to a federal or state representative and write a memorandum on a specific political or public policy topic relevant to our contemporary concerns. The final exam will be group projects on revising the constitution.

POLS-Y211

Instructor: Dalecki

Course Description:

Introduction to Law

The goal of Introduction to Law is to provide an overview of the basic concepts of law and encourage students to appreciate law as a foundation of individual and group liberties and social order. Additionally, this course will introduce students to legal reasoning: how to make arguments on any side of legal questions, how to choose among competing legal arguments, and how to think with precision, rigor, and care. The implicit goal of this course is also to reflect on a more pointed question: Is law neutral and objective or is law like a spider web through which the big flies pass and the little ones get caught?

Required Readings

All readings will be posted on Canvas.

Keywords

Law, history of law, rule of law, the United States court system

POLS-Y249

Instructor: Weinman

Course Description

Religion, Politics, and Public Policy

This course offers a critical introduction to the effects of religious belief, behavior, and institutions on political processes and public policy. We will focus on competing conceptions of what it means in practice that modern, liberal societies are secular, meaning that the state is understood to maintain a position of neutrality regarding the religious beliefs and practices of citizens. We aim to understand how controversies arise in this light if and when religion serves as an alternative source of public legitimacy in contemporary societies, liberal democracies in particular. We will proceed in three units, which taken together will offer a comparative lens on the ways such controversies present themselves in (i) the United States; (ii) the United Kingdom and Commonwealth nations and (iii) Continental Europe, specifically France and Germany. In this way, we hope to apprehend to what extent the differences we will find are based on the ways the political systems of these societies practice secularism, and to what extent they are the effect of the religious institutions and practices of different faith communities in these societies.

POLS-Y300

Instructor: Barbour

Course Description

Topics in Current Politics and Governance

Course for students taking IU POLS DC internship in Washington DC

Off Campus

POLS-Y300

Instructor: Smyth

Course Description

Russia at War

Course description: Russia's decision to escalate to full scale war against Ukraine in 2022 has profoundly influenced Russian domestic politics, economics, and society. This course, which will include outside speakers from the policy and academic communities, focuses on how war has changed the trajectory of Russian development and international standing. Students will choose an area of change of the greatest interest to them (the military, Putin and the leadership, the effect of sanctions, activism and protest) and study that topic throughout the semester. Grades will be based on participation in the talks and mastery of the reading, short papers, and oral presentation.

POLS-Y302

Instructor: Gerrity

Course Description

Public Bureaucracy in Modern Society

Course for students taking IU POLS DC Internship

Registration requires permission from the department

POLS-Y305

Instructor: Failer

Course Description:

Constitutional Rights and Liberties

Extent and limits of constitutional rights; selected supreme Court decisions interpreting American constitutional system.

POLS-Y307

Instructor: Byrne

Course Description:

Indiana State Government and Politics:

Constitutional foundations, political development, organizational, and functional process and growth, and current problems of Indiana government.

POLS-Y320

Instructor: Braman

Course Description:

Judicial Politics

In this class we will be examine at the American judicial system. We will study the foundations of law and the many assumptions behind conceptions of judicial authority. We will delve into federal and state court organization, the selection of judges and the role of other players in the legal system. We will cover civil and criminal trial procedure as well as the various factors that influence judges' decision-making. Students should come away with a better understanding of how our court system operates and the philosophy underlying specific legal practices.

Key Words: Courts; Legal System

POLS-Y321

Instructor: Cruz-Nichols

Course Description:

Media and Politics

Edmund Burke asserts in *The Sublime and The Beautiful*, "No passion so effectually robs the mind of all its powers of acting and reasoning as fear." Yet, the media and political mobilizers often seek to garner support and encourage participation by pointing to the looming catastrophe at hand, often triggering a sense of urgency. What kinds of dilemmas do constant fear tactics pose to the health of American democracy? This course examines the role of whistleblowers in American politics, with a critical lens on the political psychology behind persuasive (and potentially problematic) communication strategies exercised by the media and political elites. Topics vary and may include social movements, public opinion, identity politics, campaign tactics and the politics of representation. With a particular focus on race and ethnicity, we will examine the ways in which the media impact the civic engagement of groups in the United States as well as the discourse surrounding immigration, healthcare, crime and campaigns. Students will practice analyzing contemporary campaign coverage, interpreting data from recent surveys on social and political attitudes and they will design an original content analysis based on a topic of their choice.

POLS-Y324

Instructor: Braman

Course Description:

Women and Politics: Women and the Law

In this course we will examine the status and political action of women throughout the history of our nation. We will consider how state and federal laws, constitutional amendments, and Supreme Court decisions impact the rights and obligations of women in society, and how society, in turn, affects laws pertaining to women. We will discuss issues related to political activism, reproductive rights, family law, women in the workplace, and violence against women. Our primary focus will be the law as it pertains to women in the United States but we will look at the status in women in other nation-states for comparison where appropriate.

NOTE: Those who have already taken Y200 with Professor Braman should not register for this class.

POLS-Y348

Instructor: Bielasiak

Course Description:

Politics of Genocide

Why do people kill other racial, religious, or ethnic groups in the name of a better tomorrow? What are the justifications and who is responsible for mass murder? To “understand” genocide, we examine the major cases of collective violence in the 20th century and beyond, e.g., the Holocaust, Rwanda, the war in Ukraine.

We cover the political conditions and ideological arguments leading to mass destruction, through the eyes of perpetrators, victims, and bystanders. We look at the responses of neighbors, nation-states, and the international community. Key themes include human rights, prevention and intervention, judicial punishment, and legacies of genocide.

To facilitate understanding, we use historical accounts and survivors' testimonies, documentary and fictional sources, films and poems. The point is to account for the tragedy in a way that confronts our humanity and our commitments to be more than bystanders to history.

Course requirements are brief in-class and Canvas assignments, two exams, and a short paper on contemporary mass violence.

POLS-Y350

Instructor: Zajac

Course Description:

Politics of the European Union

What is the European Union (EU)? Why was it established? What are the principal EU institutions? What policies does the EU pursue? How does it make decisions? What challenges does it face? What is the EU's role in global politics? The purpose of this course is to help students untangle these puzzles. To do so, the course has been divided into three parts. The first part focuses on history and theory of European integration from its beginning in 1950s through today. The second section examines the main institutions of the EU and the role of the most influential EU member states in fostering and hampering European integration. The third part explores the key policies of the EU such as a single market, economic and monetary union, environmental policy, EU's external relations and foreign policy, among others, as well as challenges facing the EU such as C-19 pandemic, the refugee crisis, and relations with the US, Russia, and China. The overriding goal of the course is to help students advance their knowledge of European integration and enhance their analytical skills by examining the practical aspects of the EU governance.

POLS-Y364

Instructor: Koren

Course Description

International Relations: Political and Security Aspects

International relations are an integral part of our modern world and have a crucial effect on shaping our everyday life. Conflict and peace, physical and environmental security, prosperity and economic development are all affected as the interactions between different states and actors create new “winners” and “losers.” Who are the actors that shape the international arena? What factors govern the way in which it is being shaped? This course will systematically analyze different ways of international organization, with a focus on international security and the instruments that enable and facilitate international relations. Particular attention will be given to the contemporary role of international institutions, as well as their historical structuring and functioning; to security motivations and economic relations; to the requisites and limits of cooperation; and to emerging zones of international security. 3 credits.

POLS-Y368

Instructor: Spechler

Course Description:

Russian and Soviet Foreign Policy

After decades of Cold War, for a while it seemed possible that the bitter enmity between Russia and the West might give way to an amicable partnership that could address many pressing world problems. Instead, hostility and suspicion between the two sides are now as profound as they have been at any time since the Bolshevik Revolution.

This course will attempt to understand the reasons for this deeply disappointing and dangerous outcome. We will examine the evolution of Soviet foreign policy in the period since World War II and the foreign policy of Russia since the collapse of the Soviet state, focusing in particular on Russia's relations with the West. Russian policies toward the countries of the Former Soviet Union, including Ukraine, Belarus, and those in Central Asia and the Caucasus will also be considered, as will Russian interactions with China, South Asia, and the Middle East.

Topics may include the competing views on foreign policy held by various Russian elites, the persistent legacy of the Russian past and of Soviet experience in international affairs before 1945; the impact of ideology on Soviet and Russian decisions and actions; and the institutions and individuals involved in the making of Moscow's foreign policy. Readings, lectures and discussions will analyze Soviet conduct during the Cold War, the changes in Soviet foreign and military policies that led to the end of the Cold War, and Russia's policies in the post-Cold War era. Students will participate in a role-playing exercise, simulating debates in the Russian Foreign Ministry.

Search terms: Russia, USSR, Soviet Union, Ukraine, foreign policy, Cold War, foreign relations, simulation, nationalism, international relations

POLS-Y375

Instructor: Ganguly

Course Description:

War and International Conflict

This course will focus on the sources of conflict and cooperation in the global order. To that end, it will explore the stable conditions of peace, the origins of inter-state wars, the sources of terrorism and political violence and the causes of civil wars. NO prior knowledge of security studies is assumed but an interest in questions of international security is desirable.

POLS-Y379

Instructor: Failer

Course Description:

Ethics and Public Policy

Examines questions at the intersection of ethics and public policy. What morally problematic means are justified in pursuing political ends? What should be the ends of public policy? What are the moral responsibilities of public officials when they try to answer the first two questions? Uses ethical theory to examine concrete cases in public policy and concrete cases

POLS-Y382

Instructor: Craiutu

Course Description:

Modern Political Thought

In this class, we shall take a new look at the following concepts: leadership, constitutionalism, democracy, liberty, and free speech. The class will be organized around three main clusters:

- I. What do we mean when we say that someone is a good or bad politician? What are the requirements of effective leadership in politics and public life? What is political power and how must power be exercised? Can we successfully combine ethical behavior with worldly success? Is compromise desirable in politics? How can we distinguish between opportunism and integrity in politics?
- II. What is necessary in order to have political order? What is sovereignty? What is constitutionalism and how can its principles be applied to practice?
- III. What is democracy and what are its real virtues and limitations? Does it promote real freedom? Why do we care about democracy? Is this the best form of government? What is the relation between democracy and free speech? Is democracy compatible with political correctness?

The required readings include Machiavelli's *The Prince*, Hobbes' *Leviathan*, Locke's *Second Treatise on Government*, Rousseau's *On the Social Contract*, selections from Montesquieu's *The Spirit of the Laws*, *The Federalist Papers*, Tocqueville's *Democracy in America*, and J.S. Mill's *On Liberty*. The class will use a combination of lecture and discussions; hence, participation in class and online along with regular attendance will be essential in calculating the final grade. The requirements include several quizzes, a midterm and final exam, along with short, required memos (that will count toward class participation).

POLS-Y384

Instructor: Eber-Schmid

Course Description:

Developments in American Political Thought

Developments in American Political Thought explores the many ways in which Americans from the end of the Civil War down to our own day have thought, argued, and fought about the meaning of their own community. These debates have covered a variety of important topics, including the rights that Americans ought to enjoy; who should count as a citizen; the appropriate relationship between religion and politics; the nature of freedom, liberty, and self-government; the relationship between labor and capital; and the qualities (if any) that make the United States distinctive among the nations of the world. We will explore these issues through different eras of significant, cultural, political, technological, and economic change from the post-Civil War eras of Reconstruction and the Gilded Age to the first quarter of the 21st century.

POLS-Y399

Instructor: Spechler

Course Description

Politics of the United Nations:

Are you thinking about becoming a diplomat or an expert on international law? Are you hoping to study or work abroad? Do you have a strong interest in international affairs? This course will give you an opportunity to participate in a simulation of the United Nations General Assembly. Readings will focus on the origins and evolution of the UN; principal UN bodies, how they operate and what they do; who finances the UN; controversies and voting patterns in the UN; and UN activities and programs, such as peace keeping and peace enforcement, preventing weapons proliferation, facilitating economic development and promoting human rights. The centerpiece of the course will be the simulation. Participants will research and write several short papers, ranging in length from 3-8 pages each. Some of the papers will deal with the development, activities, authority and impact of the UN. The other papers will focus on the country the student will represent in the model UN. They will analyze that country's major foreign policy concerns, its principal economic and social problems and the chief regional or international issues that affect it. Students will also write two resolutions their country might wish to submit for consideration by the UN General Assembly and will prepare written comments on the resolutions submitted by other participants in the simulation. There will be one or two short quizzes, but no examinations.

Interested students should contact the professor as soon as possible in the fall semester (spechler@indiana.edu).

Search terms: United Nations, UN, international relations, international organizations, international law, simulation, diplomacy, conflict, peace, human rights, foreign policy

POLS-Y490

Instructor: Sinno

Course Description:

Senior Seminar in Political Science – Palestine and Israel:

This writing-intensive course examines the history of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict from the mid-nineteenth century to the present day. The course consists of both an overview of the conflict as well as deep dives into important political topics. Topics covered include Ottoman Palestine, Zionism, WWI, the British Mandate in Palestine, the Holocaust and WWII, the creation of the Jewish state of Israel and of the Palestinian diaspora, the Arab-Israeli wars of 1967 and 1973, the First and Second Intifadas, and related social, political, and cultural developments, Palestinian divisions and Israeli domestic politics, Israeli Arabs and Jewish hierarchies within Israel, distribution of attitudes within Palestinian and Jewish populations over time, prospects for peace, pro-Israel lobbying in the United States and on campus, Palestinian strategies to gain their freedom and Israeli strategies of controlling Palestinians. Students are expected to attend all class meetings and to participate in discussions. Students will write a long paper to meet the IW requirements, among other assignments.

POLS-Y490

Instructor: Eber-Schmid

Course Description:

Senior Seminar in Political Science

This seminar will examine the development of democratic theory as it emerged from four periods of revolution: the Athenian Revolution, the English Civil Wars, the American Revolution, and the French Revolution. We will explore the historical context of these major revolutions and examine key works of contemporaneous democratic theory written by political actors during moments of crisis and revolution. By examining these periods of revolution, and interrogating the political thought that emerged from them, we will survey some of the most important questions, concepts, and paradoxes of democratic political thought, questions that are still relevant and endure to our modern day.

POLS-Y490

Instructor: Smyth

Course Description:

Senior Seminar in Political Science -

Why are some countries governed by democrats, while other countries are ruled by autocrats? Is the contemporary world shifting from its commitments to democracy to embrace populist and autocratic solutions? We examine political, economic, and sociocultural factors that explain democratic and authoritarian regimes around the world. The emphasis is on different paths of democratic decline, including populism, personalism, polarization, and misinformation.

As the capstone seminar in political science, the primary requirements are active participation in discussion, and a research paper on contemporary democratic erosion or authoritarian strengthening in selected countries.

POLS-Y499

Instructor: Razo

Course Description:

Honors Thesis: Active research and honors thesis defense

Note: enrollment in this Y499 section requires prior approval of a complete prospectus by December 2022.

During the spring semester, you will focus on implementing your prospectus with original research and thesis writing. We will initially have monthly meetings during January and February to discuss your progress and brainstorm solutions to common problems that students face during this active research phase. After spring break, we can schedule a few group meetings for student presentations to receive collective feedback before you start preparing final revisions and your thesis defense. Throughout the whole session, you will be working closely with a faculty advisor who will be supervising your individual thesis project, especially during the active research phase of spring 2023.

The final defense should be scheduled for the second half of April in consultation with the advisor. Please plan on scheduling this event as early as possible to secure a room and ensure the availability of your faculty advisor.

Your formal defense of a final version of your thesis will consist of a 10- to 15-minute oral presentation, followed by 45-50 minutes of Q & A. In some cases, revisions might be required before theses are approved. The revisions will have to be completed before the final deadline for submitting the official grades to the Registrar's office.