

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

Department Chair: J.B. Lambert, Ph.D.

Faculty

M. Kubal, Ph.D.

J.B. Lambert, Ph.D.

E. Tillman, Ph.D.

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The department is strongly committed to the notion that an active, lifelong, and intelligent involvement in the political world is critical to democracy and social progress. Therefore, the educational objective is to maximize the students' capacity to analyze and interpret the significance and dynamics of political events and governmental processes. The political science major is immersed in subjects concerning political and social thought, social forces and political change, processes and the state, and governance and public policy.

The student is encouraged to relate his/her classroom learning to the political world by participating in one of several internship programs, Model United Nations, or a social action opportunity. Experiential learning not only expands classroom knowledge, but enables the student to actively participate in the democratic process.

The study of political science is an excellent preparation for various careers including government employment at all levels, the law, the diplomatic corps, multinational corporations, politics and graduate study.

Pre-Law Advisement

The department provides special advisement programs and workshops for students who plan to attend law school. See Dr. Brickman for further details.

Advisory System

The department is strongly committed to its advisory system. Advising begins during the summer orientation program prior to the first semester and continues throughout the academic career. The student is assigned to a political science faculty adviser and is encouraged to seek consultation on a regular basis. Valuable knowledge can be gained concerning course selection, graduate education, and career choices.

Internship Program

Believing that outside classroom experiences contribute to the expansion of knowledge in political science and to intelligent career choices, the department encourages student participation in the internship program. The following choices are available:

1. The student resides at St. Bonaventure and works eight hours per week at the local state senator's or state Assembly member's office as a staff member. Three credit hours.
2. The student resides in Albany under the New York State Assembly Internship Program for the spring semester. While in Albany, the student becomes a staff member of the Assembly and carries on the full responsibilities of that position.
3. The Department is an affiliate of the Washington Center for Internships and Academic Seminars. This allows our majors to spend

a semester in Washington participating in a wide variety of possible experiences including governmental affairs, broadcast and print journalism, executive branch, international relations and foreign trade. 15 credit hours.

4. The student may submit a proposal to the department chair for an individualized internship experience. Proposals involve a variety of experiences and must include an academic component. Credit hours vary.

Model United Nations

Each year the Model United Nations class competes in intercollegiate conferences and hosts a regional conference for high school students. Students register for the class:

Code	Title	Credits
POLS-104	MODEL UNITED NATIONS	3
POLS-208	INTERMEDIATE MODEL UNITED NATIONS	3
POLS-209	INTERMEDIATE MODEL UNITED NATIONS 2	3
POLS-308	MODEL UNITED NATIONS SECRETARIAT	3
POLS-309	MODEL UNITED NATIONS SECRETARIAT 2	3

(depending on the level of experience) in the fall, but the course lasts the entire academic year.

The National Political Science Honor Society

Pi Sigma Alpha, the national political science honor society, is open to all junior and senior political science majors and minors who have achieved a 3.25 grade point average in political science courses and a 3.0 overall grade point average.

- Political Science, BA (<https://catalog.sbu.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/political-science/political-science-ba>)
- Political Science, Minor (<https://catalog.sbu.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/political-science/political-science-minor>)

Political Science (POLS)

POLS-ELEC POLS (3 Credits)

POLS-102 AMERICAN POLITICS (3 Credits)

This course seeks to explain American politics as the interaction among political thought, economic, political, and social structures, and the struggle for human rights. Grounded in an understanding of the clash between the economic elites and democratic forces during the Constitutional period, the course then traces this dynamic into the basic governmental structure, political parties and elections, media influence, and political struggle for human rights. Finally, the course explores the possibilities for change under the current political/economic/social structures.

POLS-103 INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS (3 Credits)

This course is designed as an introduction to the study of international relations. Several important questions are addressed. What is the nature of the international system? What sources of powers are available? What are the strengths and weaknesses of the current state system? How are non-state actors influencing international relations? What are the links between individuals and world politics? Objectives of this course include increasing understanding of current international events, developing an appreciation for the challenges of political decision-making and diplomacy and the choice of tactics, augmenting familiarity with key political concepts and improving recognition of important international actors.

POLS-104 MODEL UNITED NATIONS (3 Credits)

This course is the entry to participation in MUN. The class is designed to familiarize the student with the following issues and materials: the structure and functions of the United Nations and its internal agencies; the salient issues that come before the UN; the rules of order and techniques of formal debates used at the UN; experience and participation in UN simulations; research methods and techniques for studying foreign nations; preparing position papers; and tasks related to planning and organizing a Model UN simulation. Students enroll in the course for the entire academic year, meeting the deadlines for the Fall semester. They receive an IP grade until the conclusion of the Spring semester. They prepare for participation at the Mid-Atlantic Model United Nations Conference day-long scrimmages at different times during the year, and participate in other conferences as scheduled. They also actively plan and implement the St. Bonaventure Model United Nations Conference for high school students held on the St. Bonaventure campus in the spring of each year.

POLS-104A MODEL UNITED NATIONS (1 Credit)**POLS-104B MODEL UNITED NATIONS (1 Credit)****POLS-104C MODEL UNITED NATIONS (1 Credit)****POLS-104D MODEL UNITED NATIONS (1 Credit)****POLS-203 COMP. POLITICAL SYSTEMS (3 Credits)**

A comparative analysis of the governments and politics of modern nation-states. First, a method of comparative analysis will be established. Then the student will analyze a selection of systems of government and politics from each area of the world. Areas will include advanced industrial states, developing regions and regimes in transition. Objectives of this course include increasing familiarity different types of political systems, structures, ideologies and conflicts.

POLS-204 POLITICAL THOUGHT (3 Credits)

This course addresses several fundamental questions of social and political life. Why do we follow rules? Is there a universal basis for judging behavior? Are there laws of human nature? If so, what kind of society do they encourage? What are the causes and justifications of inequality? What is the best way to organize society? We will read several attempts to address these questions during the class. The objectives of the course include gaining familiarity with some of the key concepts and thinkers in the history of political theory, developing an appreciation of the influences of political theory in shaping politics, improving the capacity to compare and analyze arguments, and developing skills in examining and presenting lines of reasoning.

POLS-205 LAW AND SOCIETY (3 Credits)

Law is a common and yet distinct element of daily life in modern societies. The creation, interpretation, and enforcement of laws occur in the context of historical changes, societal norms, and the subjective concerns and whims of those charged with its creation. This course will explore, from an American and comparative perspective, the nature of law as a set of social systems, central actors in the systems, legal reasoning, and the relationship of the legal form and reasoning to social change.

POLS-207 POLITICS AND RELIGION (3 Credits)

For so long, the theory and practice of secularism have dominated politics, but the last few decades have witnessed the 'resurgence' of religion in the public sphere and a sharp increase in religious influence in international and domestic politics. Indeed, it has become common knowledge that religious worldviews inform, influence and shape political behavior and attitudes of individuals, political parties, social movements, civil society, and even the foreign policies of nation states. What explains the 'resurgence' of religion and the emergence of religion political movements and organizations? Why do some states insist on a strict separation of religion and politics while others seeks their integration and fusion? Is secularism really declining? What is the relationship between the recent rise of the radical right and religion? Why do some religious actors resort to political violence while others employ peaceful means? The relationship between religion and politics is multifaceted and dynamic. This course aims at exploring this complex relationship in a wide variety of settings and countries from the Middle East, Europe, Africa and Latin America.

POLS-208 INTERMEDIATE MODEL UNITED NATIONS (3 Credits)

This course will have the responsibilities of POLS-104, plus additional presentations to the class and the requirement of running a committee for SBUMUN. Students will be expected to participate in at least three MAMUNC scrimmages or other conferences. Only three MUN credits at the POLS 210 level or higher will be acceptable as a political science elective for the major. The other MUN credits will be considered as general electives. Students enroll in the course for the entire academic year, meeting the deadlines for the Fall semester. They receive an IP grade until the conclusion of the Spring semester.

POLS-209 INTERMEDIATE MODEL UNITED NATIONS 2 (3 Credits)

This course will have the responsibilities of POLS-104, plus additional presentations to the class and the requirement of running a committee for SBUMUN. Students will be expected to participate in at least three MAMUNC scrimmages or other conferences. Only three MUN credits at the POLS 210 level or higher will be acceptable as a political science elective for the major. The other MUN credits will be considered as general electives. Students enroll in the course for the entire academic year, meeting the deadlines for the Fall semester. They receive an IP grade until the conclusion of the Spring semester.

Corequisite(s): TAKE POLS-104

POLS-221 CONGRESSIONAL POLITICS (3 Credits)

Congress is the first branch of government and the keystone of the Washington establishment. This course explores some of the most basic questions about the American political system. Does Congress adequately represent the American people? Why does Congress have difficulty making collective decisions in the national interest? How has the Republican takeover of Congress reconfigured the institution and altered its procedures? How can Congress and the president work together to make public policy? Topics covered include representation, campaign finance, elections, the legislative process, the committee system, members in their districts, Congressional investigations, party leadership, Congress and relations with the president.

POLS-240 CONTROVERSIES-PUBL POLICY (3 Credits)

This course introduces students to the fundamental concepts and debates in areas of policy analysis, policy formation, and specific policy issues. We will address questions like: Can we analyze public policies rationally and systematically? What criteria ought we use to analyze public policies? Is the policy making process rational and systematic, or is it political and arbitrary? Finally, what major policy issues confront Americans today, and what choices do we face?

POLS-251 AMERICAN URBAN CONFLICT (3 Credits)

The cities of the United States present critical political and social issues, including de-industrialization, inner city poverty, crime and suburbanization. These cities also represent centers of vital political and social developments including the civil rights movement, the new urbanism, urban enterprise zones, the new economy and cosmopolitan culture. This course explores the variety of problems and opportunities facing American cities today, while providing a close look at the politics and culture of major cities like New York, Los Angeles and Chicago.

POLS-261 PARTICIP'N IN AMER POLITICS (3 Credits)

Political participation is essential for American democracy. This course explores the variety of ways Americans participate politically and the promises and limitations of this activity. Traditional forms such as elections, campaigning, the courts and interest groups are examined as well as more radical forms such as the civil rights movement, feminism and protests.

POLS-300 QUALITATIVE METHODS FOR A GLOBALIZING WORLD (3 Credits)

In this course International Studies and Political Science students will learn how to develop a research question and choose the appropriate methods and evidence to answer the question and develop an argument. The basics of case study research will be presented along with methods such as process tracing and content analysis. Students will learn how to conduct interviews and find other primary source material from sources such as the United Nations website, the World Values Survey, and social media. Strategies for effectively organizing and writing a major research paper will be presented.

POLS-301 COMPARATIVE REVOLUTIONS (3 Credits)

A study of the role political ideology, leadership and environmental factors play in political revolutions. The student is first introduced to a variety of analytical framework utilized by political scientists in order to understand revolutionary processes. Then the course examines several revolutions, both successful. These may include the Chinese, Cuban, Irish, German, French, Russian and American revolutions.

POLS-302 AMERICAN POLITICAL THOUGHT (3 Credits)

This course traces liberalism, the dominant American ideology, from Puritanism to the present time. Special attention is given to the Constitutional period and the contrasting thought of Madison and Jefferson, the Industrial Revolution, and the Depression. Finally, the course considers the effect of liberal ideology on the current condition of American politics.

POLS-305 PRESIDENTIAL POWER (3 Credits)

Designed to provide a thorough understanding of the processes of the executive branch of the American government, its role in relationship to the other sectors of government and the public. Included for consideration are the Office of the President, his staff and cabinet; the policy making process and the bureaucracy.

POLS-306 COURTS IN AMER. POLITICS (3 Credits)

This course details the role of law within the larger political/economic system showing how it functions as a system of social control. Particular attention is given to the role of the government in maintaining the legal system through judicial appointments and prosecutors; the role of juries; and the public before the courts.

POLS-307 QUANTITATIVE RESEARCH METHODS IN POLITICAL SCIENCE (3 Credits)

This course introduces students to the methods and terminology used by political scientists. We will examine basic concepts used in research (such as theories, hypotheses, independent and dependent variables, reliability and validity, sampling, and generalizability). We will also examine basic statistical techniques that are used to examine data, with an emphasis on interpreting the results (ranging from descriptive statistics to crosstabs, correlation, and regression). This course provides the knowledge necessary to conduct objective investigations of political phenomena and to better understand and evaluate the research of others. Upon completion of this course, students should be able to understand and interpret most research published in political science journals, as well as public opinion polls, surveys, and research findings reported in the news. As a result, students who complete this course will become more sophisticated consumers of diverse research and be prepared for future coursework in political science, as well as for life as an educated and informed citizen.

POLS-308 MODEL UNITED NATIONS SECRETARIAT (3 Credits)

This course builds on the experience and responsibilities of POLS 210/211 but also requires key leadership positions and major preparations for the conference and conduct of the class. This entails extra planning meetings, and the execution of many of the logistical requirements of the SBUMUN conference. Members at this level will also help revise and make suggestions for the topic guides and other material for SBUMUN, help prepare the class for other conferences, and manage the SBUMUN website. Students enroll in the course for the entire academic year, meeting the deadlines for the Fall semester. They receive an IP grade until the conclusion of the Spring semester.

POLS-309 MODEL UNITED NATIONS SECRETARIAT 2 (3 Credits)

This course builds on the experience and responsibilities of POLS 210/211 but also requires key leadership positions and major preparations for the conference and conduct of the class. This entails extra planning meetings, and the execution of many of the logistical requirements of the SBUMUN conference. Members at this level will also help revise and make suggestions for the topic guides and other material for SBUMUN, help prepare the class for other conferences, and manage the SBUMUN website. Students enroll in the course for the entire academic year, meeting the deadlines for the Fall semester. They receive an IP grade until the conclusion of the Spring semester.

POLS-315 ENVIRONMENTAL POLITICS (3 Credits)

This course addresses the relationships among the environmental movement, their opponents and the political system. Students study political movements for and against environmental protection at the community, national and global level. It also investigates the principal policies and policy-making institutions, including major environmental legislation and regulations, state and federal environmental agencies, and international agreements.

POLS-320 AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY (3 Credits)

The United States emerged from the past millennium as the world's only "superpower." During the semester we will explore questions such as: How did the U.S. gain this undisputed advantage in the international arena? Does U.S. hegemony threaten world stability or is U.S. guidance the key to peace and prosperity in this millennium? How are other countries and groups reacting to U.S. power? Were the September 11 attacks the manifestation of a "clash of civilizations" or a reaction to U.S. imperialism? As we move chronologically through the major foreign policy events of the past fifty years we will consider traditional political science explanations for U.S. decisions, considering evidence for realist, liberal (or idealist), and critical viewpoints. By the end of the course students should have gained an appreciation of the difficulties involved in maintaining influence on a global scale and the, often conflicting, impact of U.S. foreign policy decisions on democracy at home and abroad.

POLS-328 POLITICS OF THE 60s (3 Credits)

The period commonly referred to as "the 60s" was a unique time in U.S. politics. The United States experienced political assassinations, a confrontation with the Soviet Union, a conflict in Vietnam, a civil rights movement, the largest student protest movement our country has seen, inner city riots, and prison uprisings. This course examines these events to understand their evolution as well as their lasting effects on U.S. political institutions and political behavior.

POLS-330 INT'L POLITICAL ECONOMY (3 Credits)

With the end of the Cold War and the acceleration of "globalization," economic issues have come to dominate the international agenda. This course examines the relationship between politics and economics in the international setting. It begins by looking at issues of trade and the international division of labor-focusing on the trend toward regional trading blocks. Issues of international finance and monetary policies are then explored looking at the political implication of financial integrations. Finally, students will be introduced to some new ways of thinking about the international political economy focusing on gender and environmental issues.

POLS-340 IDENTITY, EMOTIONS & DECISIONS (3 Credits)

This course examines the reasons for political behavior from a psychological perspective. The study of political behavior can be examined at the elite or mass levels, or even the nexus between elites and masses. This course uses insights and research from both psychology and political science to analyze a number of issues in the creation of political action. Particular emphasis will be placed on public opinion, persuasion heuristics, identification, intergroup conflict, tolerance, decision-making processes and the influence of small groups and personality of leaders on decision outcomes.

POLS-345 POLITICAL CONFLICT (3 Credits)

The study of politics revolves around conflict and compromise. Several scholars examine strategies used in the competitive quest for power or other values. Others study psychological factors of identity that influence group conflicts. Theorists attempt to develop models of decision making and political behavior that help explain the general processes of conflict. The course presents a set of tools useful in the study of conflict processes and examines the importance of gender in conflict. Further, we examine a number of case studies to compare how conflicts develop in different settings. An important aspect of the course is a research project in which you will analyze a conflict of your choice.

POLS-350 WESTERN EUROPEAN POLITICS (3 Credits)

This course is designed to introduce students to politics in Western Europe. Many of the countries have experienced drastic changes recently. The European Union continues to grow, thereby changing domestic as well as international politics. Ethnicity and nationalism threaten stability in much of the region. The course examines the effects of institutions and culture on political outcomes. The class combines country-specific case studies and cross-national comparisons focused on diverse political topics. The course examines politics within several countries of Western Europe, as well as in the European Union. We will address such questions as: What are the political effects of movements that seek the decentralization of the state and increased local autonomy? What are the effects of the movement toward increased integration of the European Union? What are the effects of different electoral systems on politics?

POLS-351 POLITICS OF SOCIAL POLICY (3 Credits)

Social policy is one of the most contentious and misunderstood topics in American politics today. The welfare state as such has come under attack, as those who depend upon its programs. This course addresses many of the contemporary scholarly and policy debates concerning the nature of the welfare state, the development of the American welfare state, the nature of poverty today and the impact of social policy upon divisions in American society. Traditionally, social policy has focused upon poverty, but this course is also interested in its impact on issues of race, social class and gender.

POLS-355 LATIN AMERICAN POLITICS (3 Credits)

Students will be introduced to the challenges facing Latin American countries as they develop politically, economically and socially. The course considers alternative theoretical explanations for patterns of politics in the region, analyzes the role of different social and state actors and reviews contemporary political trends in a number of Latin American countries. Major contemporary issues that will be examined include the role of the military in politics, the possibilities for democracy in the region, the challenge of bringing human rights abusers to justice, and the causes and consequences of international issues such as the debt crisis and drug trafficking.

POLS-356 LATIN AMERICA & THE U. S. (3 Credits)

This course examines contemporary issues in United States-Latin American relations, placing them in larger context of U.S. dominance in the region. Topics to be explored include the causes and consequences of Central American and Mexican immigration, free trade, the Andean region and drug trafficking (with a focus on recent Plan Colombia), and security issues related to Cuban revolution and the Panama Canal.

POLS-370 CANADIAN POLITICS (3 Credits)

This course is designed to introduce students to the culture and politics of Canada. The study of Canada is related to larger theoretic issues such as the interaction of political culture and institution and the relative importance of individuals and groups in multicultural democracies. Particular emphasis is placed on the question of Quebecois nationalism and regionalism.

POLS-375 WOMEN AND POLITICS (3 Credits)

Women in most societies have been traditionally considered apolitical. This course seeks to break this commonly held image of women in a number of ways. A primary goal of this course is to develop a broad and sophisticated understanding of politics that can reveal the multifaceted ways in which women are politically involved. A second goal of the course is to recognize the diversity political women. An understanding of the diversity of women in politics will be enhanced by consideration of women in a variety of political settings. The course seeks to develop an understanding of how different political and economic regime types- revolutionary, military, democratic, neoliberal, etc. have a distinct impact on women and men.

POLS-395 MEDIA AND POLITICS (3 Credits)

This course takes a broad view of the media and its impact on politics, as well as the attempts of politicians and bureaucrats to manipulate media messages. We begin the semester by exploring the origin of the division between "news" and "entertainment" media and the recent blurring of this distinction. We then look at the evolution of the PR industry to see how opinion makers (particularly politicians and business interests) have developed techniques to shape mass public opinion. With this background we consider the impact of modern media coverage on political campaigns and executive and legislative politics.

POLS-396 POLITICS OF THE MIDDLE EAST (3 Credits)

This course is a comprehensive survey of historical and contemporary events in the region and focuses on the period starting from the fall of the Ottoman Empire to the present. We will examine processes of state building, struggles for self-determination and the domestic, regional, and international factors shaping the foreign policies of key states in the Middle East, the politics of religion, particularly the rise of various violent and non-violent forms of Islamic fundamentalism, the Arab-Israeli conflict, and the fate of ethnic and religious minorities in the wake of the region's upheavals. The ultimate purpose is to provide students with historical and substantive knowledge of the region and the analytical tools necessary to critically evaluate events and political trends.

POLS-397 POLICING IN THE AMERICAS (3 Credits)

This course engages in a critical examination of "police power" in a wide range of contexts - from local instances of protesting policing to international police assistance. While police are often seen as "neutral" enforcers of the law without their own political interests, their roles in maintaining order, targeting certain populations for enforcement, collecting intelligence, and at times supporting particular politicians or political parties make them important political actors. The course provides a historical and theoretical perspective on the role of the police in liberal democracies, in particular the United States and Canada, as well as the efforts of these countries to "export" various policing models to Latin America.

POLS-398 TERRORISM & POLITICAL VIOLENCE (3 Credits)

This course is a survey of the phenomenon of political violence and an analysis of its causes, forms, and consequences. The course will focus on the following three forms of political violence: terrorism, genocide and assassinations. The course will explore several questions: why do individuals/organizations/states resort to violence instead of pursuing their goals peacefully through routine politics? What accounts for individual and mass support for political violence? What are the psychological, social, and political effects of violence? Is violence more effective in realizing an actor's objectives? The course will focus on current events and past events. This course employs an interdisciplinary approach and will cover both broad/general theories and specific cases from different regions and will include watching few movies and documentaries.

POLS-399 INTERNATIONAL SECURITY (3 Credits)

International security lies at the heart of international stability and prosperity. Understanding the fundamental security issues that the international community has to deal with nowadays is crucial for political order. In this course, we will examine the major social forces that shape political outcomes in various states, such as religion, nationalism, and ethnicity; we will also study actual threats such as terrorism, proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, civil wars and state failure. Finally, we will consider long-term trends such as the effects of information technology on security, changing role of states, international organizations, transnational movements and democratization. A major focus of the course will be on U.S. security policy given that we live in an age of American supremacy.

POLS-415 POLITICAL FICTION (3 Credits)

Many great works of fiction have been attempts to create settings for thought experiments in political science. This course examines works of fiction in light of works of political theory. The explorations of the relationship of human (and in some works, non-human) nature, the environment, and the social structures provide insight into the way in which societies legitimize power distribution.

POLS-420 CONS. LAW I. CIVIL RIGHTS (3 Credits)

This course engages the student in the debate concerning the parameters of freedom and political order within the legal system. It does so by examining the dynamics of Supreme Court decisions as related to the First Amendment rights of speech, press, religion; criminal due process; equal protection for minorities and women; and the right of privacy.

POLS-421 CONSTIT. LAW II: POL STRUCT. (3 Credits)

The behavior of American politics is largely determined by the governing structures existing within the system. In turn, each of these structures is grounded in Constitutional law. This course, by closely analyzing the Constitution itself and various Supreme Court decisions, explores the legal foundations of American politics. Subjects include the separation of powers, the federal system, executive privilege, the private economy, etc.

POLS-435 POLITICS OF DEV. AREAS (3 Credits)

This course focuses on the problems encountered by developing nations as they attempt to modernize their political and economic institutions. We will address questions such as why do some countries seem to have an easier time developing than others? How can we measure concepts such as development and democracy? Are economic development and political democratization mutually reinforcing process or do they conflict? In addition to exploring different theoretical explanations for political outcomes the course addresses important issues which policy makers in developing countries deal with on a daily basis including: environmental degradation, the status of women, racism, child labor, war and threats to national security.

POLS-445 SOCIAL MOVEMENTS (3 Credits)

This course introduces students to basic social movement theory and its relation to political events. We will explore questions such as: What motivates groups of people to organize to demand political change? Why does protest occur in some situations and not in others? When are social movements likely to be successful in achieving their demands? What is the role of the state in encouraging and suppressing social organizations? We will apply these theories to movements such as the civil rights movement, women's movements, indigenous movements, gay rights movements, peace movements, religious movements and the environmental movements. The particular groups studied will vary by semester.

POLS-450 SPECIAL TOPICS (3 Credits)

A specialized course pertaining to one of the four subfields of Political Science: American Politics, International Relations, Comparative Political Systems, Political Thought. The specific content of the course will be announced prior to the semester in which it is offered.

POLS-450A ADVANCED STUDIES (3 Credits)**POLS-450B SP TOP. POLICE, RACE & DEMOCRACY IN US (3 Credits)**

A specialized course pertaining to one of the four subfields of Political Science: American Politics, International Relations, Comparative Political Systems, Political Thought. The specific content of the course will be announced prior to the semester in which it is offered.

POLS-450C SP TOPIC: RACE & POLITICS IN THE US (3 Credits)

A specialized course pertaining to one of the four subfields of Political Science: American Politics, International Relations, Comparative Political Systems, Political Thought. The specific content of the course will be announced prior to the semester in which it is offered.

POLS-450D SP TOP. AMERICAN POLITICS IN THE AGE OF TRUMP (3 Credits)

A specialized course pertaining to one of the four subfields of Political Science: American Politics, International Relations, Comparative Political Systems, Political Thought. The specific content of the course will be announced prior to the semester in which it is offered.

POLS-450F SP TOP. PRES INAUGURATION (3 Credits)**POLS-450J SP TOP. INTERNATIONAL SECURITY (3 Credits)****POLS-451 SPECIAL TOPICS (3 Credits)**

A specialized course pertaining to one of the four subfields of Political Science: American Politics, International Relations, Comparative Political Systems, Political Thought. The specific content of the course will be announced prior to the semester in which it is offered.

POLS-451C SP TOP. POLITICS OF THE 60S (3 Credits)

A specialized course pertaining to one of the four subfields of Political Science: American Politics, International Relations, Comparative Political Systems, Political Thought. The specific content of the course will be announced prior to the semester in which it is offered.

POLS-455 DEMOCRATIC FUTURES (3 Credits)

Many academicians as well as the public have raised serious questions concerning the future of American democracy. This course contemplates the future, but by first understanding the present. We will explore the fields of psychology, technology, biology, media, government and economics to discover the sources of current concerns. Then with this grounding we will examine possible futures in such areas as deep ecology and anti-politics.

POLS-460 NATIONALISM & ETHNIC CONFLICT (3 Credits)

One of the greatest threats of state security in the post Cold War era has been the rise of nationalism and the role of ethnicity in political mobilization. We discuss the roots of ethnic and nationalistic sentiment, specifically whether ethnicity is a flexible social construct. We then move forward to consider the following questions. When does ethnicity become politicized? How and why do ethnic groups mobilize to engage the state? What are possible state responses to nationalist sentiment and ethnic conflict? Throughout the class case studies of recent ethnic conflict, such as Yugoslavia and the Rwandan genocide, will be used to illuminate the material.

POLS-491 WASHINGTON INTERNSHIP (3-15 Credits)

The student lives and works in Washington for a semester. The student expresses several choices as to a preferred experience and then is placed in one of these choices. Past student experiences have included the White House, State Department, Department of Justice, Congressional Offices.

POLS-491S WASHINGTON CENTER INTERNSHIP (3-15 Credits)**POLS-492 ALBANY INTERNSHIP (15 Credits)**

A student may participate in the New York State Assembly program in Albany offered each Spring semester. The student lives and works in Albany.

POLS-492A LEGISLATIVE INTERNSHIP (3 Credits)**POLS-493 LAW OFFICE INTERNSHIP (3 Credits)**

Awarded to deserving junior and senior students. Each student will spend eight hours per week working in a local law office experiencing the law as actually practiced. The student will be under the direct supervision of a lawyer. With permission of the department chair, the internship may be completed during the summer in the hometown of the student.

POLS-493A LAW OFFICE INTERNSHIP (3 Credits)**POLS-497 INDEPENDENT STUDY (1-6 Credits)**

Under the guidance of a professor, a student will engage in advanced reading or research in political science. May be taken more than once for a total of 6 credits.

POLS-497A IND ST: RELIGION AND POLITICS (1-6 Credits)

Under the guidance of a professor, a student will engage in advanced reading or research in political science. May be taken more than once for a total of 6 credits.

POLS-497B IND ST: REFUGEES & FORCED MIGRATION (1-6 Credits)

Under the guidance of a professor, a student will engage in advanced reading or research in political science. May be taken more than once for a total of 6 credits.

POLS-498 POLITICAL SCIENCE CAPSTONE (3 Credits)

The capstone course offers the senior political science major the opportunity to carry out in-depth research, guided by a professor, in a particular area of the field. The student presents to his/her peers in a seminar format the results of the research. Additionally, a major paper is completed.

Restrictions: RGM.115