

GRADUATE CLASSES

POSC 801-010 SCOPE AND METHODS IN POLITICAL SCIENCE

Redlawsk

18154

FRIDAY 1215-0115 PM

This class is an introduction to the wide range of research that makes up our field. You will meet most, if not all, of our departmental faculty as we hear about their research. We will get a sense of the wide range of epistemologies and methods represented in our department, and get a feel for the work people are doing as you embark on your own academic career.

POSC 811-010 TOPICS IN COMPARATIVE POLITICS: DEMOCRATIC EROSION AND POPULISM

Carrion

9098

TUESDAY 0600-0900 PM

This seminar is devoted to studying the recent trends in democratic erosion and authoritarian reversions. We will start the seminar by examining the 1970s literature on democratic breakdowns and assess how relevant it is to current debates. We will then examine the rise of hybrid regimes and competitive authoritarianism. The third part of the seminar is devoted to analyzing the impact of populism in power on democratic erosion and authoritarian reversions. The last part of the seminar discusses the processes of transition from competitive authoritarian/populist regimes to democracy.

Students will be required to write five short response papers and a final term paper.

POSC 815 - 010 INTRODUCTION TO STATISTICAL ANALYSIS FOR POLITICAL SCIENCE

Bagozzi

4382

WEDNESDAY 0200-0500 PM

This course is designed to acquaint students with the basics of statistical analysis, and to introduce students to the quantitative study of political science. The class is the first of two required research methods courses, and it is designed to lay the foundation for Statistical Analysis for Political Science II. As such, we will begin with elementary statistics and probability and will then move through hypothesis testing and (multivariate and bivariate) regression analysis. No particular background in math or statistics beyond the high school

level is assumed. The format of the course is varied and will include lectures, discussions, and work in the computer lab. Grading will be based on lab-oriented homework assignments, class participation, and a final paper/project.

POSC 816-010 PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE AND RESEARCH DESIGN

Miller

9102

WEDNESDAY 0600-0900 PM

This seminar is designed to offer graduate students in political science an opportunity to learn the skills necessary to write a research design and conduct advanced social research. The seminar begins with a discussion of issues related to the philosophy of science and the conduct of inquiry in the social sciences, and then moves to the study of conceptual issues associated with research design and the use of qualitative, survey, experimental, and quasi-experimental methods, with an emphasis on causal inference. A major objective of the seminar is to write a research design that could be a first draft of the dissertation proposal or to complete the long paper. Students will be responsible for producing a research design, several analytical briefs, as well as an oral presentation.

**POSC 822-010 TOPICS IN POLITICAL THEORY:
CONTEMPORARY THEORY CONTESTING THE CANON**

Rasmussen

13316

THURSDAY 0200-0500 PM

From Socrates's self-identification as a gadfly, political theory has always been a discipline casting a skeptical eye on any given political moment, speaking from a position of evaluative incredulity. Critical theory, in particular, has positioned itself outside of the mainstream to diagnose the various insufficiencies of dominant traditions. From the exhaustion with modernity after the world wars or the premature triumphalism at the end of the Cold War, political theory has lurched from crisis to crisis trying to think about how we think about a century of political upheaval. This course examines a history of theoretical gadflies from the second half of the 20th century to the present in traditions ranging including (but not limited to) Marxist/post-Marxist, feminist theory, post-colonial theory, post-structuralism, and post-humanism. Organized topically the course will examine the ways different traditions have grappled with contemporary political issues including liberalism and neoliberalism, (im)migration, populism, inequality, and climate change. The course will include some more "classical" works from the 20th century as well as a selection of more recently published work in the field. Students will be expected to complete regular response papers and will have the opportunity to write a longer paper on a topic of their choice.

POSC 825-010 PRO SEMINAR IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Green

18556

MONDAY 0600-0900 PM

This is the grad seminar that introduces the field of international relations to students. It is a survey course of topics in the current IR literature and some theories. Grades are determined by performance on a couple of written exams and a paper.

POSC 826-010 ISLAM IN GLOBAL AFFAIRS

Khan

9100

THURSDAY 0600-0900 PM

This graduate seminar explores the role of Islam in global affairs. It examines how Islam and politics have been historically intertwined. The course will explore Islamic political philosophy and contemporary Islamic political thought. What is an Islamic State? Are Islam and democracy compatible? What do Islamic movements want? Where does the phenomenon of Jihadism emerge? Al Qaeda, ISIS and then what? Why are Muslim states failing? These are some of the key questions that will be explored. The seminar will explore the radical, the orthodox and the mystical interpretations of Islam. The goal is to empower students with the ability to teach undergraduate courses on Islam and politics and conduct research on how Islam is implicated in global politics.

POSC 867-010 RACE, ETHNICITY AND POLITICS

Oskooii

20080

MONDAY 0200-0500 PM

Some of the most enduring divisions and tensions in American social and political life center on race and ethnicity. This course aims to examine and better understand the relationship between perceptions of racial/ethnic identity, attributions of racial/ethnic difference, and politics, broadly defined. We begin by first posing the question of whether racial and ethnic hierarchies are built into the foundation of American history, politics, and policy, or simply eradicable flaws in an otherwise just and democratic society. We then examine what role, if any, racial or ethnic attachments play in shaping decision making and behavior across a range of political arenas. As we grapple with the central theoretical and thematic debates that have characterized the study of race and ethnic politics, we will also strongly consider the significance of identity politics more generally.

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