

POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS GRADUATE COURSES for 2021 FALL

POSC 801-010 Redlawsk Scope and Methods in Political Science
Fri 1215-115 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 807-010 Oskooii American Political Behavior
Mon 200-500 pm

This seminar provides an introduction to the vast literature of American political behavior with the principal aim of formulating new research questions and assisting graduate students to effectively prepare for the American Politics comprehensive exam. We will review and discuss theoretical and empirical work on the antecedents of public opinion and political participation with a specific focus on topics such as values, ideology, partisanship, information processing, and the politics of gender, race, ethnicity, and sexuality. Given that this is a survey course, much depth will undoubtedly be sacrificed to cover as much ground as possible in just one semester. As such, it is imperative to read the optional reading recommendations at some point in the near future and to develop a more comprehensive reading list for the purposes of passing the American Politics field exam.

POSC 812-010 Rasmussen ProSeminar in Political Theory
Thr 200-500 pm

The subfield of political theory is perhaps the oldest in the discipline, spanning thousands of years and even more pages of text. This seminar does not attempt to provide a thorough history of the subfield but is instead a general course to introduce students to some of the most historically significant texts, current debates in the discipline, application of theoretical ideas in contemporary politics, and approaches to reading and interpreting texts. Students will get a grounding in the field that will provide a foundational understanding of the subfield for the purposes of teaching as well as serving as a base of knowledge for more advanced courses in political theory and political science. The course fulfills both the proseminar requirement and may be used towards the skills requirement.

POSC 813-010 Khan Seminar: American Foreign Policy
Tue 600-900 pm

The graduate seminar on American Foreign Policy will focus on strategy and statecraft. It will examine the history of US foreign policy and grand strategy. It will explore the theories and debates about the international system that shape ideas and ideologies that underpin foreign policy. A key component will be the definition of national interest, its sources from domestic politics, values, culture and history and its sources from foreign threats and opportunities. The course will examine the geopolitical competition of the US with global and regional adversaries like Russia and China, Iran and North Korea. American role as the global super power will be examined critically and US foreign policy will be examined from both American as well as postcolonial perspective. There will be a practical component with 2-3 lab sessions for hands on learning. Students will learn how to develop net assessments of geopolitical developments and challenges, learn to develop strategy and statecraft and to write Op-Eds, policy Briefs and policy papers.

POSC 815-010 Bagozzi Introduction to Statistical Analysis I
Wed 200-500 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 Miller Philosophy of Science and Research Design
Wed 600-900 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 825-010 Kaufman ProSeminar in International Relations
Mon 200-500 pm

This is the graduate 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 series of short papers and a take-home final exam as well as class participation.

The course provides an overview of the historical and current state of International Relations as a subfield. It does so by tracing the evolution of the field, and of world politics, through examination of important and pivotal debates that have shaped some of the field's more defining research agendas. In its introduction to the approaches and parameters of the field, students can also expect discussion and analysis of substantive and theoretical issues and politics associated with the structures and processes that contribute to competition and cooperation; economic interdependence and integration; transnational activism and governance; and the pursuit of both more just and more global world orders. Also considered will be the politics of change within the discipline, the theory-practice gap, and the prospects for a more truly "global IR".

POSC 827-010 Bauer Gender and Politics
Tue 200-500 pm

Introduction to the vast literature on gender and politics, including from other disciplines and interdisciplines such as history, sociology, Area Studies. Considers feminism in all its manifestations as undergirding our understanding of gender and politics. Considers gender and politics in practice across the world.

POSC 867-013 Kubota Prejudice, Stereotyping, and Discrimination
(cross listed with PSYC867-013 #18650) **T, R 200-315 pm**

Examine stereotyping, prejudice, discrimination, and minority experience from a social psychological perspective. Moreover, the course will highlight the impact of self-relevant identities and political ideologies from a scientific perspective. Review key theories and findings, focusing on classic papers, contemporary research, and current debates.

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