POSC 150-011 Introduction to American Politics

Jones # 3638 MWF 1010-1100 AM

** Course meets University Group C breadth requirement and College of Arts & Sciences Group C breadth requirement **

This course introduces students to fundamental issues of American government and politics. We will examine the underlying framework of government, the structure of political institutions, the participants in the system, and the ultimate source of power in a mass democracy – the American people themselves. The objective of the course is to provide students with a solid understanding of how the political system works, and to teach them to think critically about how and why it produces the outcomes it does. By the end of the course, students should feel comfortable analyzing day-to-day politics in the U.S. as well as understanding enduring questions such as: Do Americans know enough about politics to cast rational and informed votes? Why does the U.S. have only two major parties? How much influence do the media have on politics? Are politicians becoming more polarized and extreme? How do judges decide exactly which rights and freedoms we are guaranteed under the constitution?

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This course will provide an introduction to the players and institutions of American politics. We will examine the behavior of both governmental officials—elected and unelected—and extra-governmental actors such as the news media, interest groups, and political parties. Since this is a survey course, we will aim for breadth rather than depth. Among the questions considered are (but not limited to) why the U.S. has only two major parties; why Congress tends to move slowly; why bureaucratic agencies use lots of formal rules; why the mass media cover certain stories and not others; and how polls attempt to measure public opinion. This course will also place emphasis on the role of race, ethnicity, and income inequality in American politics. For most of these topics, what we cover would serve as a useful gateway to more specialized courses that address them in greater detail.

This course provides an introduction to the study of world politics and international relations by surveying the concepts and ideas that have defined and distinguished global politics and the evolution of the international system through the 20th and 21st centuries. Among the topics and concepts that students will discuss are - issues of power in relation to global order and its priorities, questions of intervention in world politics; globalization and interdependence; the variety of actors in world politics; and the roles played by international institutions. By offering a broad introduction to world politics, this course aims to give students elementary tools and frameworks for understanding both the changes and continuities of international life.
This course provides an introduction to global politics and international relations (IR). In the course of the semester we will examine essential concepts and ideas, needed for understanding and studying the global system and its processes, review the fundamental literatures, and consider the major theories of international relations. We will trace the emergence of new political actors (such as non-state actors) and evaluate their importance for the processes of globalization and democratization. Additionally, we will focus on the evolution of the state, as well as the newer political tools governments use to reassert their power. Finally, we will investigate real-world events and problems that face the international society today and in the future. Course requirements will include multiple-choice exams to assess knowledge of the assigned readings, response papers to further critical thinking and writing skills, and class discussions. Regular attendance is critical; the students will be required to read news online; a few extra credit opportunities will be provided.

The discipline of comparative politics has two primary aspects. The first is comparative politics proper, and as the name suggests, involves comparing aspects of different countries, such as their political institutions, economic systems, cultures, etc., in an attempt to answer important questions about politics and society. The idea is that by comparing the similarities and differences between countries we can determine the root causes of certain outcomes. Why are some states democracies and others dictatorships? What types of political institutions are there? What effects do different types of electoral systems have on politics? Why are some countries more economically developed than others? Why do some states experience social revolutions, while others do not? Why are some revolutions successful, while others fail? The other aspect of comparative politics is area studies, which involves becoming an expert on a particular country, or region, including its language and culture. In essence area studies provide the material for comparison. While we focus on both aspects of comparative politics in this course, our primary focus will be on comparative politics proper.
This course will introduce the basic techniques of research design and data
analysis. Completion of this course will provide the student with a firm grasp of how to carry
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The purpose of this course is to introduce you to statistical data analysis. This is one of the
most important classes you will take while here at the University of Delaware. Statistics is a
tool that can be useful in almost any field, and as a result, statistics will probably come up in
your chosen profession. Thus, having a basic understanding of statistics will make you more
marketable to employers. In other words, this course seeks to provide you with a line on
your resume that will help you stand out from your competition. To accomplish this, the
focus of the course will be applied data analysis. This means we will focus on interpreting
and using statistics, and not be overly concerned with math. To facilitate this we will have a
lab once a week that introduces you to a popular statistical software package, SPSS. SPSS
will do the math for you. Every one of you is capable of grasping this material, some of you
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POSC 304-010  Islam, Identity and Governance
Khan  # 14946  MW 0335-0450 PM

** Course meets University Group B breadth requirement and College of Arts & Sciences Group B breadth requirement **

**Course satisfies University multicultural requirement**

The class focuses on three distinct aspects surrounding Islam; Islam as a faith with particular attention to its mystical (Sufi) dimension, Islam as identity with particular attention to Islam as political mobilizing identity and finally on governance in the Muslim World and the role of Islam in the public sphere. The class will use simulations and community engagement projects as key learning tools.

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POSC 311-010  Politics of Developing Nations
Staff  # 3656  MWF 0125-0215 PM

** Course meets University Group B breadth requirement and College of Arts & Sciences Group B breadth requirement **

Discusses major political and economic trends in the developing world in recent decades, including struggles with neoliberal economic development policies and efforts to establish working democracies. Country cases from Latin America, Africa, the Middle East and South/East Asia.
Today it is common to hear that we live in a critical time for U.S. foreign policy. ISIS in the Middle East, Russians in the Ukraine, an expanding China. It often feels like we are sitting at a cross roads where the continued well-being of our country is at stake. However, is this really true? Not that long ago, the United States and the Soviet Union were locked in an existential struggle where nothing less than the very continued existence of the entire human race hung in the nuclear balance. Compared to the threat of nuclear extinction, the current threat of global terror (while still very, very real) seems to pale in comparison. This course will review the history, theory, and current challenges of U.S. foreign policy, as we try to place today's foreign policy environment into an understandable context.

All markets, even so-called "free" markets, depend for their existence on certain political contexts. Economic progress requires political inputs like law, police, roads, schools, and money. Likewise, political structures almost always rest upon economic foundations. In this course the complex and dynamic interaction of politics and economics at the global level will be the topic of analysis. We begin with an examination of ideas about the international political economy. We then turn to a consideration of the development of systems to facilitate monetary, trade, and financial relations among competing powers. We conclude with a consideration of some serious challenges to the global political economy including underdevelopment, systemic gender discrimination and the extension of our understanding of "property" to include things like ideas.

This course explores public opinion and the role it plays in democratic politics. We'll approach the topic from several angles, each asking different questions, and requiring different skills to answer them. We'll examine:

- The role of public opinion in a democracy. We will discuss normative theories of what the public's job is in a democracy, and evaluate what we should make of the attitudes citizens say they have in surveys.
• The measurement of public opinion by polls. We will dissect all the choices that go into a scientific survey — which people to interview, what questions to ask, and how to collect and weight their responses.

• The sources and structure of public opinion. We will learn how to analyze quantitative survey data to test theories that try to explain why Americans think and feel the way they do about politics.

At the end, we'll re-assess what role the public can and should play in a democracy. Do we want politicians to lead or follow public opinion? Can they do either? How do policymakers use polls? How should they?

Students are expected to have taken POSC 150 and 300 or their equivalents.

Enrollment requires Instructor’s consent after February 8, 2017

POSC 322-010 Politics and the African-American Experience

Davis # 9946 TR 0930-1045 AM

**Cross-listed with BAMS 322**

This his course is for anyone interested in racial minorities' struggle for inclusion into the social, political, and economic arenas of America and the politics of race. The first objective is to provide students with insight and understanding of the complex role that race plays in the political process. The second objective is to discuss politics and racial minorities' pursuit of equality in America from a socio-political perspective. The final goal is to explore the legal challenges and responses of racial minorities' to their social, political, and economic plight. The role of race in U.S. politics will be examined primarily through the political experiences of black Americans.

The events surrounding the shooting deaths of several Blacks at the hands of law enforcement and the rise of the Black Lives Matters Movement will serve as the basis for discussion: 1) political activity/behavior (i.e., representation, apathy, mobilization, unequal justice, issue framing by the media and political operatives, etc.) and 2) differences in standards of living (i.e., employment, housing, health, poverty, life expectancy, etc.) as a result of race and politics. Class activities will include lectures, discussions, and a research project.

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Ideologies—systemized sets of ideas—are an essential part of our political life. Ideologies help us make sense of our experience which is often too complicated; they enable us to set priorities and make judgments; and they motivate us to take action. In this course, we will examine some of the most influential political ideologies and the debates surrounding them. We will begin with liberalism, conservatism, and socialism, and then proceed to more recent perspectives such as anticolonialism, antiracism, and contending views about globalization. We will focus on the theoretical foundations of various ideologies, paying close attention to the ways in which those ideologies are appropriated and mobilized in contemporary politics.

This course seeks to provide students with a foundational understanding of environmental politics and policy, both in the U.S.-context and globally. To do so, we will examine a number of specific contemporary environmental challenges, discuss the individual basis for environmentalism (motivations, values, and perception), and explore the roles played by key political institutions and actors (the President, Congress, states, courts, interest groups, and international organizations) within the environmental policymaking process. The course itself includes two essay exams, a group research project, and an individually written paper related to the group research topic.

Are you interested in learning about how social identities like race, class, gender, and sexuality affect political processes? Do you want to know more about how our own identities are constructed and ultimately impact political participation and action? As the concepts of ‘diversity’ and ‘politics’ are both challenging to define and discuss, this class is dedicated to identifying and complicating how the social construction of difference informs
our understanding, access to and engagement with social forms of diversity. In other words, what do we mean when we say “difference’ or ‘diversity”? We will focus on four key structures of difference and their interaction: ethnicity/race, class, gender, and sexualities. The overarching goal is to understand the historical and contemporary processes that create difference and differential access to material and symbolic resources. The course uses social science to familiarize students with empirical context with and research about today’s pressing societal issues.

POSC 380-010 Introduction to Law

Batchis # 8376 MWF 1115-1205 PM

**Course meets College of Arts and Sciences Group C breadth requirement**

*Cross-listed with LEST 380*

This course offers a broad introduction to the American legal system. It is designed to expose students to the demands of legal reasoning and provide some insight into what it may be like to attend law school.

The class explores the sources, objectives, and content of American law, the structure and processes of federal and state courts, and the functions of the various players who make up the legal system. It includes an overview of select substantive topics, such as criminal, contract, tort and property law. Like a law school classroom, participation is mandatory. Students will be called on at random and will be expected to discuss the assigned cases and materials. It is thus essential that students come to class prepared.

**Note: ALL students who would like to register for this course MUST attend the first class. Students who do not attend the first class, including those on the waiting list, will NOT be permitted to add this course.**

This section DOES NOT meet the A&S Second Writing requirement.

POSC 387-010 American Political Thought

Martin # 7270 MWF 1220-0110 PM

**Course meets University Group B breadth requirement and College of Arts & Science Group B breadth requirement**

This course is designed as a seminar class. The course will explore in-depth the basic principles, concepts and traditions of American Political Thought. The course will proceed historically, covering material from the founding of the country to more recent controversies
associated with the New Deal/The Great Society, and beyond. Emphasis will be placed upon a variety of theoretical positions and traditions concerning such concepts as rights, representation, and the appropriate structure and scope of the government.

This section **DOES NOT** meet the A&S Second Writing Requirement.

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**POSC 401-010**  
**Topics in Law and Politics: Criminal Procedure**

Danberg  
# 4978  
T 0600-0900 PM

**Not Open to Freshman**

This course examines the constitutional law of criminal procedure as it has developed through decisions of the United States Supreme Court. Topics of discussion will include due process of law, arrest, search and seizure, electronic surveillance, the right to counsel, self-incrimination, trial by jury and sentencing. Students will learn how to read, analyze and brief Supreme Court cases. In-class participation is a substantial component of the final grade. This course should be informative for any student considering attending law school or for anyone with an interest in our criminal justice system. There are no prerequisites, and no prior experience is required.

**Note:** ALL students who would like to register for this course **MUST** attend the first class. Students who do not attend the first class, including those on the wait list, will **NOT** be permitted to add this course.

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**POSC 403-010**  
**Civil Liberties**

Batchis  
# 10328  
MWF 0230-0320 PM

**Not open to Freshmen**

This course explores the fundamental rights implicitly guaranteed by the 14th Amendment of the United States Constitution, the constitutional guarantees derived from the equal protection clause, and the property rights protected by the takings clause of the 5th Amendment. Using the case-study method, students will closely read and parse court decisions and other materials addressing a wide range of topics in constitutional law.

Among other subjects, the course will explore constitutional rulings addressing race and gender equality, economic and property rights, sexual and bodily autonomy, the right to education, the right to die, abortion, desegregation, and affirmative action.

Participation is mandatory. Students will be called on randomly throughout the duration of each class. Students are required to consistently come to class prepared to discuss the assigned cases and materials.
Note: **ALL** students who would like to register for this course **MUST** attend the first class. Students who do not attend the first class, including those on the waiting list, will **NOT** be permitted to add this course.

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**POSC 404-010**  
**Topics in Law and Politics: Judicial Process**

Danberg  
# 16876  
R 0600-0900 PM

**Not Open to Freshman**

This course examines the structure, process and personnel of American courts. Factors influencing decisions and judicial policy making are emphasized. United States Supreme Court case studies will be utilized. Additional topics of discussion include due process, the right to counsel, self-incrimination, trial by jury and sentencing. Students will be required to read, analyze and brief Supreme Court cases. In-class participation is a substantial component of the final grade. There are no prerequisites, and no prior experience is required.

Note: **ALL** students who would like to register for this course **MUST** attend the first class. Students who do not attend the first class, including those on the wait list, will **NOT** be permitted to add this course.

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**POSC 408-010**  
**International Organization**

Weinert  
# 16135  
TR 1100-1215 PM

**Satisfies the Arts and Sciences second writing requirement**

Since the mid-19th century, international organizations—defined as formal bureaucracies voluntarily formed by states to achieve a particular set of collectively defined objectives—and multilateral forums—defined as coordinated action between three or more states guided by generalized principles of conduct—have become permanent features of international political life. This advanced level course surveys a range of institutional types, including universal-membership, regional and sub-regional, and functionally-specific organizations. The course is organized around three themes. First, it exposes students to logics of organizational design and justification. Second, it examines ways that states have collectively, though organizations, attempted to grapple with challenges (related to international peace and security, poverty, underdevelopment, the environment, and the global economy). Third, it exposes ways that international organizations have conditioned sovereignty.
POSC 410-010  Islam in Global Affairs

Khan  # 10502  MWF 0125-0215 PM

This course is a senior seminar and focuses on the role that Islamic agencies, political movements, non-state actors, and states play in global politics. The role of Islamic states such as Saudi Arabia and Iran, Islamic movements such as the Muslim Brotherhood, non-state actors such as ISIS and Al Qaeda, will be explored in depth. This course will also look at how US foreign policy engages with the Muslim World. Guest speakers from the State Department and the FBI will be additional features of this course.

POSC 411-010  Politics and Poverty

Davis  # 7782  TR 0330-0445 PM

This course is for political science majors or any student interested in studying politics of inequality, poverty and the development of antipoverty policies and programs in the U.S. It is designed to help students focus on poverty in America as a political phenomenon. The aim of this course is to increase students understanding of our reluctant welfare state and the role that politics has played in creating it. Among the objectives of this course are: 1) to examine the historical foundations of inequality poverty in America; 2) to examine the social, political, and economic causes and consequences of inequality poverty; 3) to discuss and identify practical solutions to inequality and poverty in the current social, political, and economic environments; and 4) conclude with a brief discussion global poverty and reduction strategies. Class activities will include lectures and class discussions on various topics. Your professor will serve as the class manager, but you will be expected to do the assigned readings and take part in class discussions.

POSC 417-010  National Security Policy

Kaufman  # 14950  TR 1100-1215 PM

National security issues are often at the top of the world’s agenda. Major issues that caught the world’s attention in 2015 include the nuclear agreement with Iran, the civil war in Syria, Russian intervention in Ukraine, and a Chinese buildup in the South China Sea. This course will address head-on the policy questions that such issues raise. What options does the US have for dealing with these problems? What do we know about what is likely to work? The first segment of the course will focus on nuclear weapons, including the Cold War arms race, nuclear proliferation and Iran’s current program. Other units include the overall national security strategies of Bush and Obama, and the dilemmas of terrorism and counterterrorism.
This course analyzes patterns and key developments in international relations history. Its main purpose is to present a “global” international relations history, from several civilizational perspectives, going back to the late eighteenth century. It also seeks to provide a background for discussing some of the most pressing "big picture" issues facing the global political system today: Is our global future one of the inevitable spread and triumph of liberal democracy? Are we in for a coming "clash of civilizations" between the West, Islam, and East Asian Confucianism? Is America on the decline? If so, with what implications, and who will be the next leading country? Are we heading toward world government or fragmenting, fighting nationalism? In the first part of the semester, we will review some of the key concepts from international relations needed to pick apart these questions, discuss frameworks for dealing with them, and look at the history of the international system from 1815 to today to provide a historical context for where we are today.

This course does NOT meet the A&S second writing requirement.

Have you ever wondered why people do what they do in politics? Why do we believe what we believe? Why do we feel what we feel? These questions, and more, are explored in the exciting interdisciplinary field of political psychology. Political psychology brings research in social and cognitive psychological processes to bear on important political issues like inequality, race and ethnicity, identity, political decision making, leadership, and many more. We live in very complicated political times, and in Spring 2017 will have just come off a U.S. presidential election that held surprises at every turn. It may be that political psychology perspectives will help us better understand what happened. This course will provide an overview of the key research in the field while exploring how political psychology can be applied to contemporary political life. Applications may include socialization and identity, personality characteristics in the public and among political leaders, policy views, prejudice, stereotyping, ethnocentrism, nationalism and their political impacts, and the influences of emotion and cognition on voting decisions. This course will be of particular interest to political science students, but also to international relations, psychology, economics, communications, and sociology students, as all of these fields have contributed to the field of political psychology.

While not absolutely required, students will do well to have taken POSC 300 prior to or at the same time as enrolling in this course.
This course is designed to provide an in-depth examination of the foundations, organization, and practices of the U.S. Congress. The purpose of this class is to provide students with an understanding of Congress and its members. We will explore how members of Congress can balance competing interests in making policy while seeking reelection. In this course we will tackle important questions about Congress and the policymaking system including how Congress makes policy, Congress’s relationship with President Obama, and how the Congress provides oversight to bureaucratic agencies.

This Discovery Learning Experience course will integrate content on the U.S. Congress with a semester-long congressional simulation and related activities. Students will take on the role of a member of Congress and work together to pass legislation. The simulation will be used to test theories of congressional behavior. Students should expect heavy participation in and out of class.

This course requires a basic understanding of American government and Congress’s role in the institutional structure. I expect all students to have a POSC 150-level understanding of Congress before taking this class. As this is an upper-level course the reading load is quite heavy. Students will be graded on exams, quizzes, written assignments and participation in the simulation and activities.

In East Asia, a major strategic transition has been in train. Moved not least by the growing capacities, as well as confidence, of China in East Asia, this transition has generated much debate about the US role in East Asia. This course examines this transition but treats the transition as more than a military power transition and also more than a China-centric process. Rather, the transition from a US-centric order reflects a complex set of changes that have been ongoing at least since the late 1980s. Those changes involve other regional powers, both large and small; it has also involved important economic and institutional dimensions that today both facilitate and condition China’s role in East Asia’s transition. As such, the transition offers students the opportunity to learn about East Asia’s regional changes and its multiple dimensions.
This course provides students with a broad overview of contemporary politics and society in Sub-Saharan Africa. The course begins with a brief examination of pre-colonial and colonial Africa, before moving on to the rise of nationalism in the 1950s and the overthrow of colonial rule beginning in the 1960s. The course analyzes the post-independence era including the rise of one party states, political centralization, and economic socialism. The course then examines the political transitions of the last three decades and engages in critical discussions on emerging security threats, the role of regional institutions, and post-conflict resolution. The course also investigates the prosperity of Africa through examining the ‘Africa Rising’ narrative in political, economic, and social life. Finally, the course examines the impacts of social identities including religion, ethnicity, and gender. The course relies upon films, novels, scholarly journal articles and social media resources; it concludes with student presentations of critical issues facing Africa today such as China in Africa, Africa’s natural resources, information and communication technologies in Africa, the role of diasporas and more.

This course does NOT meet the A&S second writing requirement.

This course will focus on the politics and political thinking surrounding a number of populist movements during American history, culminating in an in-depth consideration of contemporary populist challenges (from both ‘left’ and ‘right’) to the ‘status quo,’ and the prevailing ‘establishment.’ The course is designed to look closely into the political (group) bases, and the political formation of these social movements. We will look closely at the variety of specifically political expressions and thinking that inheres within these social movements. Subsequent concrete accomplishments and changes, as well as failures and potential dangers, associated with populism will be addressed directly. And, finally, as essentially all expressions of populism are a claim to better represent the original purpose of America’s creation and creed, considerable time will be spent considering how conflicting visions of America’s founding itself play themselves out over time, up to this very day.
Theories of International Relations

We will approach IR theory in three ways. First, we will study the nature of empirical theory and theory-building as a general activity. We cannot understand IR theory until we know what ‘theory’ is. Second, we will consider a theory as it is being built. To that end we will consider a book that introduces and seeks to substantiate a new theory of IR. Finally, we will consider the elements of between 6 and 10 major IR theories that have developed over the last few centuries.

This section **DOES NOT** meet the A&S Second Writing Requirement.

Comparative Political Economy

This seminar immerses us in the world of business and politics. It is based on two key assumptions: first, the economy is political. Second, there is not necessarily one best way to organize a capitalist economy. This class examines the institutional underpinnings of different socio-economic systems or “Varieties of Capitalism” in depth. What are the benefits and costs of the “social market” capitalism of northern Europe, based on high taxes, expansive welfare states and powerful unions? Can these economies survive in an increasingly integrated and competitive world, or are they converging on a leaner and meaner market model? How can we understand the rise of finance during recent decades?

In this seminar, we will probe these issues both empirically and theoretically. We will read at least eight cutting edge academic books (including star economist Thomas Piketty’s 700-page blockbuster “Capital in the Twenty-First Century”) and dozens of scholarly articles. All participants will be expected to do the readings, participate actively in class discussion and write two response papers as well as a long research paper. This is an intense and challenging course, but if you’re willing to pay the ‘costs of entry,’ it should be well worth your effort.
POSC 464-010  
**Internship in Political Science and International Relations**  
# 13000  

**Fulfills the University Discovery Learning Experience Requirement**

**Requires permission of Internship Director**

Internship Director – Dr. Phillip Jones - pejones@udel.edu

See the department website at www.poscir.udel.edu/ - Undergraduate “Internships” for forms and Student Responsibilities.

On the “Internships” page, you will find a listing of places students have interned in the past, and also current advertised internship opportunities.

You may also find opportunities on the Career Services Center web site – www.udel.edu/CSC

POSC 472-010  
**Democratic Theory**  
Son  
# 14954  
TR 0930-1045 AM  

**Satisfies the Arts and Sciences second writing requirement**

Today democracy is often celebrated as a universal value. It is far from clear, however, what democracy means or how it is best practiced in contemporary contexts. Taken literally, the term democracy means rule by the people. Do some of the institutions we are familiar with—a constitution, elections, and the representative system—adequately realize that ideal? Why or why not? What should we do to further the democratic ideal? In this course, we will examine some of the most influential theories of democracy that provide different answers to these questions. We will begin with the foundational texts of Rousseau and Tocqueville, examine such major concepts as representation, constitutionalism, and liberalism in light of the development of democratic theory in the 20th century, and end with contemporary debates over deliberative democracy, pluralism, and globalization.
This course examines the processes of diplomacy and representation in the United Nations through simulations and position papers on current global debates. Students will gain valuable insights on the political perspectives of UN member states and the operations of the United Nations as an international organization. Throughout the semester students will also become familiar with the fundamentals of international law and diplomatic protocols.