This course introduces students to the fundamentals of American politics. We will focus on three main areas: (1) how the Constitution sets up the “rules of the game” that citizens and government officials have to follow; (2) what kinds of input the American public gives to our democratic system; and (3) how government institutions like Congress, the President, and the courts make policy in response. Throughout, we will be focusing on what representative democracy is and how it works in this country. After successfully completing the course, you will have a better understanding of politics, the skills to think critically about why government produces the policy outcomes it does, and — hopefully! — A greater interest in learning more about American politics in the future.
This course will introduce 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 detail.

Oskooii

POSC 230-010 Introduction to Politics and Social Justice Mon, Wed, Fri 1:25 - 2:15 PM

**Cross-listed with AFRA 230, WOMS 230**

In order to challenge discrimination and oppression, it is vital to understand how systems of discrimination develop, perpetuated and challenged. This class will familiarize students with key concepts and issues in social justice, including social construction, discrimination, privilege, systemic oppression, implicit bias and social activism. Because issues of social justice span the globe, this class will emphasize the links between both American and global social justice issues.

Green

POSC 240-010 Introduction to Global Politics Mon, Wed 11:15 AM - 12:05 PM

**Satisfies the College of Arts & Sciences Group C: Social & Behavioral Sciences Breadth Requirement.**

Discussion Sections:

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This introduction to the politics of the global system has three parts. First, we look in a summary fashion at the history of international relations over the past few hundred years. Then we spend three weeks reviewing six of the key theories of international relations, which order what we see in the world and tell us what is right, wrong, and appropriate in international behavior. Finally, the bulk of the course considers the basic concepts and methods by which we may study international relations as relations in a global society, and provides a survey of key issues. We consider the dynamics of global conflict, including everything from individual acts of terror to world wars, as well as cooperative interdependence and various forms of global economic interaction. Assignments will include both traditional exams and class discussions of case studies. This course design provides students with the conceptual tools necessary to understand both the past and present functioning of the world system.

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 some countries are more economically developed than others are? 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.
The purpose of this course is to introduce you to statistical data analysis. The skills acquired in this course will allow you to conduct and critically evaluate scientific research. These skills are applicable to almost any profession and will be a good addition to your future resume. Students will develop their own research questions, review the existing scholarly literature, propose a theory to answer that question, and evaluate their hypothesis with an American public opinion survey. Our focus will be on interpreting and using statistics to answer these questions, rather than the math that goes into it. Weekly lab sessions will provide you with hands-on training in SPSS (a popular and user-friendly statistical software package) that does the math for you. While this course can be intimidating and challenging, weekly lab sessions and extensive office hours are available to provide guidance and ensure that everyone who puts in the effort can succeed.
Redlawsk

POSC 301-010  State and Local Government  Tue, Thu 3:30 - 4:45 PM

While we tend to focus on national and international politics, for most Americans, most of the time, what happens in their local communities and state capitals matters more in terms of day-to-day living? In the course, we will focus on the levels of government closest to the people as we examine how state and local governments affect people's daily lives. The states called the Laboratories of Democracy, where the most innovative policies are often first developed and tested. In addition to reading about state and local government, we will meet with local and state officials. Throughout, we will have a particular focus on how local governments operate as entities of state government as they carry out the necessary functions that make communities work.

A significant part of the course will be a simulation of a local government, where each student will take on a key role in the community, either in elected office, appointed office, or as interest group leaders, journalists, or one of the many other players in local politics. This simulation will operate for a number of weeks during the semester.

This course will be particularly useful to anyone who expects to become involved in his or her community, whether as a citizen or an official, or expects to live in a community sometime during their lives! In particular, journalism students should find this course especially useful for understanding the context of how local government works.

Denemark

POSC 316-010  International Political Economy  Tue, Thu 11:00 AM -12:15 PM

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 usually 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
Look What’s Happening Spring 2020

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.

**Bauer**

**POSC 317-010**  
Gender and Politics  
Wed, Fri 8:40 - 9:55 AM

**Cross-listed with WOMS 317**  
**Satisfies the College of Arts & Sciences Group C: Social & Behavioral Sciences Breadth Requirement**

This class aims to introduce students to current issues in gender and politics around the world. Some of the questions we address include what it means for politics to be gendered. Why are men overrepresented in politics? Why is the USA ranked so low in terms of women’s representation in Congress? Why are more women than ever running for political office in the USA? What is a feminist foreign policy – as followed in Sweden? What are other ways of understanding gender, for example, in Nigeria, and participation in politics? What do women do in war, for example, in Liberia? Has democracy failed women? The class relies on significant student participation and interaction and includes visits from politicians and other practitioners from the field.

**Cassese**

**POSC 318-010**  
Public Opinion  
Mon, Wed, Fri 2:30 - 3:20 PM

In this class, we will investigate the origins of public opinion, its measurement, and its political consequences. We will cover theories of attitude formation and investigate how stable political attitudes are over time. In addition, we will examine the factors thought to shape or influence public opinion – including the media, political campaigns, and social movements. We will also investigate systematic group differences in opinion based on Americans’ racial, regional, religious, class, and gender identifications. The theoretical component of this class often paired with applied in-class exercises in which students construct surveys, criticize articles, and analyze survey data.
This course is for anyone interested in exploring Blacks' struggle for inclusion into the social, political, and economic arenas of America. The first objective is to provide students with an insight and understanding of the complex role that the Black experience has played in the political development of American society. The second objective is to discuss racial inequality and inequity as a political phenomenon in America. The final objective is to explore the legal challenges and political responses to Blacks’ quest for social, political, and economic rights as a racial minority. Among the areas explored are: 1) Blacks' political activity and behavior as a racial minority and Whites' response as the political majority, and 2) Blacks' legal challenges to the application of the rule of law in America and the implications for “minority rights.”

Ideologies—systemized sets of ideas—are an essential part of our political life. Ideologies help us make sense of our experience of the world that 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 prominent political ideologies and the debates surrounding them. We will begin with liberalism, conservatism, and socialism, and then consider various perspectives that challenge those traditional doctrines, including colonialism, feminism, critical race theory, and environmentalism. 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.
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 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 is an honors course. The class will be run like a graduate seminar, with an emphasis on discussion and various writing/research assignments. Please contact the instructor for details.*

Broadly, this course examines the political roles of the media in socialization, political competence, agenda setting, the electoral process, and political crises. The purpose of this course is to examine the intersecting roles of political actors, the media, and citizens in and beyond political campaigns, with a primary focus on the United States. We will be examining how politicians use the news media to get their messages to citizens; how journalists interpret this information and provide it to news audiences; and how citizens receive and make sense of this information from the news media. There will be a special focus on new technology and nontraditional media; the use of language and symbols in political discourse; and political socialization. Topics will be applied to current events.
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.
Feminist political theory offers a gender-centric approach for understanding, analyzing, and reimagining politics. Feminists offer a broad understanding of politics, ranging from formal political institutions within the state, to the operation of gendered power relations in our everyday lives. At the same time, understanding feminist political theory requires us to dive into a series of debates about each of its component parts. What is feminism, and who are (or should be) its beneficiaries? What is the proper ambit of feminist politics? What are appropriate foundations for feminist theorizing? In this course, we will address key questions, concepts, and controversies in feminist political theory. Through assigned reading, class discussion, presentations, and written papers, we will explore liberal, intersectional, radical, poststructural feminisms, and how these different perspectives address questions of identity, equality, justice, and freedom.

This course introduces students to international law (IL) primarily through international and domestic case law. We will cover a range of topics, including the sources of IL, immunity, jurisdiction, state responsibility, compliance and enforcement, dispute settlement, and international courts and tribunals, as well as discrete sub-fields of international law such as law and the use of force, humanitarian law, human rights, atrocity crimes, law of the sea, and the environment.

**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 waitlist, will NOT be permitted to add this course.
The United States frequently described as a “melting pot” or “salad bowl” of people from diverse and varied backgrounds with differing histories, experiences, and beliefs. As the U.S. continues to diversify, these differences often conflict and intersect in meaningful ways. In this course, we will tackle questions about when, why, and to what extent group differences—particularly along lines of race/ethnicity, class, and gender, and sexuality—take on significance in American politics. In doing so, we will interrogate the historical and contemporary processes that create difference and differential access to resources, engage with theories of identity construction and development, and assess empirical approaches to the study of identity groups in American politics.

Hamilton called the courts the least dangerous branch of government but our legal system looms large in our political system, our popular culture, and our everyday lives. This course offers a broad introduction to the American legal system and to the different ways that political scientists study it. Designed to expose students to the demands of legal reasoning, the practices of the legal system, and debates in legal scholarship.

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. It will also include an examination of broader themes such as the relationship between laws and (in)justice, the historical role of the courts in American politics, everyday experiences with the law, and ways popular culture represents and shapes the legal system.
**Satisfies the College of Arts & Sciences and University Group B: History & Cultural Change Breadth Requirement**

This course 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 placed upon a variety of theoretical positions and traditions concerning such concepts as rights, representation, and the appropriate structure and scope of the government.

**Danberg**

POSC 401-010  
Topics in Law and Politics: CRIMINAL PROCEDURES  
Tue 6:00 - 9:00 PM

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 waitlist, will NOT be permitted to add this course.
M. McDonough

POSC 401-011  Topics in Law and Politics: HUMAN TRAFFICKING  Wed 6:00 - 9:00 PM

**Students are required to attend the first class meeting**

This course will provide an overview of labor and sex trafficking, but will primarily focus on sex trafficking. It will include a look at international as well as domestic trafficking. Along with an overview, the course will cover the federal and state laws in the United States that apply to the crime of human trafficking, and the challenges faced by law enforcement. It will also address approaches tried by other countries, in particular, the Nordic model. The course will also address the stigma attached to these particular crime victims, and efforts to reduce/eliminate it. A book written by a survivor of sex trafficking about her experiences and escape from “the Life” will be included to provide insights through the lens of a trafficking survivor.

Batchis

POSC 403-010  Civil Liberties  Mon, Wed, Fri  2:30- 3:20 PM

This constitutional law course explores the right to liberty and due process under the 5th and 14th Amendments, the guarantees of equality under the Equal Protection Clause, and the protection of property rights under the Takings Clause. We will delve into a broad range of associated subjects, including race and gender equality, sexual and bodily autonomy, economic and property rights, the right to education, the right to die, abortion, desegregation, and affirmative action. These are among the most debated and controversial topics in constitutional law; students will be expected to engage with a wide array of perspectives.

The format of the class is similar to what one would expect in a law school setting. That said, an interest in attending law school is by no means a prerequisite. All students interested in the subjects covered are welcome. However, please be aware that we will be using the case method. This means that students will be required to closely read and parse Supreme
Court decisions, will be called on randomly throughout the duration of each class, and will be required to consistently come to class prepared to discuss the assigned cases and material. Participation is mandatory.

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.

S. Rennie

POSC 404-010 The Judicial Process Wed 6:00 - 9:00 PM

Although the courts are by design the least democratic of major American political institutions, they are also essential to maintaining the rule of law and basic rights necessary to a functioning democracy. However, what is the role of politics in the judicial process and what role does the judicial system play in our politics? This course begins with an examination of the structure, process and personnel of our judicial system. Among other topics, we will critically evaluate the judicial nomination process and judicial review. We then explore how courts make decisions, the challenges to their implementation, and the influence they have on public opinion and American Politics. Students who complete this course will have a sophisticated understanding of how Interest Groups, Congress, the President, the Public influences are persuaded by judicial decisions.
The Presidency has evolved into the most powerful institution in American politics. While the Founders envisioned a glorified clerk executing the will of Congress, the Modern President expected to enhance the safety, stability, and prosperity of the nation largely on his own. Presidential power has expanded considerably to accomplish these goals, but so too has their ability to sidestep the checks and balances system – posing serious questions for the future of our Democracy. Through an examination of key moments in presidential history, this course will explain this evolution and its political implications. In particular, we will explore the contexts in which these expansions of power have occurred and how presidents built legitimacy for these changes among the public. We will also consider the effect that these changes have had on elections, political polarization, and the general functioning of our government.
Conspiracies, Misinformation, and Rumors

Why do people believe in conspiracy theories, hold on to misinformed beliefs even in the face of mounting evidence to the contrary, and/or spread conspiracy theories that may have little basis in fact? Who is most vulnerable to these various forms of misinformation? What are the normative and political consequences of misperceptions (if any)? This course will explore the political and psychological approaches to the study of the causes, consequences, and tenacity of conspiracy beliefs and misinformation.

**Satisfies the University Discovery-Learning requirement**

This course 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 the president, 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. Students will be graded on exams, written assignments and participation in the simulation and activities.
This class will consider politics in Africa, from the pre-colonial period to the present, through literature. We will read six novels by African writers (and view films by African filmmakers) that will help us to understand pre-colonial and colonial Africa, the early years of independence, strife and war on the continent, the roles of ethnicity and religion, particular issues facing women and girls, the hope of more recent political and economic transitions and the increasing place of ‘new diasporas’ across the continent and beyond. There will be a significant amount of reading and writing and students will assist in leading class discussion and participate in group-based class presentations.

The primary focus of this course is the region south of the Saharan Desert on the African continent. Sub-Saharan Africa is rich in natural resources, and it is a region of great cultural and geographic diversity. Yet it is the part of the world that shares the misfortune of having some of the poorest countries in the world. This class will take a critical look at the character of development and governance in sub-Saharan Africa. While on the one hand, sub-Saharan Africa is a continent that is at risk economically and politically; on the other it is poised for what many refer to as the “African Renaissance.” This is not a class about politics and political systems in Africa per se, rather it is about: 1) understanding the social, political, and economic issues confronting post-colonial Africa, 2) understanding the issues associated with human development and poverty reduction in Africa, and 3) identifying and discussing strategies to improve governance and human development on the continent.
The growth of China as a regional and world power has potentially transformative effects for all those who encounter it. Yet, China itself also remains a highly challenged power – one challenged by fast-paced domestic change, the shifting ground of political legitimacy, and rising domestic and international expectations and concerns. These challenges are now compounded by heightened great power conflict with the United States.

How will China navigate these tensions? What have been the domestic, ideological, historical and international sources of Chinese foreign policy? How does China’s past inform its contemporary search for security, development, and recognition in the 21st century? What foreign policy actors matter in the making of Chinese foreign policy? In addition, just how important or different is China’s President Xi Jinping compared to his predecessors, especially when it comes to foreign policy? This upper-level course offers students the opportunity to investigate these questions as applied to China’s changing policies the United States, its regional neighbors, global governance, and developing regions. Broadly, our goal will be to investigate China is evolving foreign policy, as well as the how, why, and in what ways its relationships with regional and global communities being changed.

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.
Kaufman

POSC 458-010                                      Post-Soviet Union                       Tue, Thu    9:30 - 10:45 AM

Russia long been seen as an enigma. What is Putin really trying to accomplish? Is there anything left of democracy in Russia? What does Russia want from the U.S. and the rest of the world? These are the questions this class aims to answer. It will begin with a brief survey of Russian and Soviet history up to the leadership of former Presidents Gorbachev and Yeltsin, to learn about the sources of the problems faced by President Putin's Russia. We will also cover the details of the new Russian political system, and the differences between the rules on paper and how the system really works. Issues to be discussed include corruption and the economy, foreign policy, Russian nationalism and Russia's wars in Chechnya and elsewhere.

Rasmussen

POSC 459-010                               Sexuality and Law            Mon, Wed 3:35 - 4:50 PM

**Satisfies Arts & Sciences Second Writing Requirement**
**Cross-listed with WOMS 459**

Just over thirty years ago, the Supreme Court upheld a Georgia law banning sexual contact between individuals of the same-sex, an act that enabled the criminalization of gay men and lesbians by defining them as outlaws. Today marriage equality is the law of the land and a frontrunner in a major party's Presidential primary is openly gay. What accounts for this dramatic shift? This course will examine the legal regulation of sexuality and the political movement to challenge that regulation, framed by an examination of the role of the courts in social change. Topics will include: sodomy laws, interracial marriage, the relationship between citizenship, public and military service, and sexual orientation, marriage equality, trans* rights, anti-discrimination law, and the regulation of public sex. We will examine the ways that sexual orientation and gender identity have become central political issues in American politics. Students will learn how to read and analyze court cases, will explore the history of the regulation of sexuality, and will learn how to conduct research. The course will conclude with a final research project.
The term “human trafficking” is used to refer to a variety of illicit activities, including sexual exploitation, forced labor, debt bondage, slavery and slavery-like practices, serfdom, and forced marriage. The meaning of human trafficking—also referred to as trafficking in persons, trafficking in human beings, and modern-day slavery—is further fragmented by the wide range of approaches used to study the issue. Trafficking is variously represented as 1) a threat to state security, 2) a violation of human rights, 3) irregular migration, 4) prostitution, and 5) exploitative labor. Underlying these different understandings of human trafficking, however, are questions concerning gender. In this course, we will use a gender perspective to investigate the contemporary practice and politics of human trafficking, paying particular attention to the consequences of gendered conceptualizations of work, migration, exploitation, and victimhood.

We are witnessing a global decline in the quality of governance. States are failing, democracies have become fragile, the difference between fake news and reality is disappearing, and disharmony and inequity are on the rise everywhere. This course seeks to address this failure of governance by exploring the idea of governance and good governance. The key questions that it will seek to answer are; how can governments govern better, how can they be more inclusive, law abiding, transparent and effective? The course will include both theoretical and practical study of the challenges that governments face in delivering public goods and services. An additional focus of this course will be an exploration of what is “smart” about smart cities and the role of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) and Artificial Intelligence in enhancing governance. The seminar will also explore how innovation and critical thinking expand both the scope and scale of good governance. Will cities replace/marginalize states as the world adjusts to rapid large-scale urbanization and the emergence of technocratic “smart governance”? How can we resolve the tension between technocracy and democracy? These are some of the key questions we will try to answer in this seminar.
Bagozzi

**POSC 464 - 010**  
Internship in Political Science and International Relations

**Fulfills the University Discovery Learning Experience Requirement**  
**Requires permission of Internship Director**

Internship Director – Dr. Benjamin Bagozzi - bagozzib@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 current advertised internship opportunities.

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

Acharya

**POSC 467-012**  
Seminar: Cultivating Entrepreneurship

**Cross-listed with ENTR 467**

Tue, Thu 3:30 - 4:45 PM

The process of making public policy in the United States and around the world is dynamic where catalysts and innovators can help shape change. This course helps develop the skills of cultivating an entrepreneurial mindset with a specific focus on the impact of entrepreneurship within governance structures of public institutions and in all stages of the policymaking process. The course will investigate the key ingredients that drive success specifically suited to institutional governmental actors. You will gain insight into how entrepreneurs innovate with new ideas and bring them to market, while learning how a model that accompanies a successful venture can be implemented within public institutions to develop forms of innovative governance. Investigating case studies of newly implemented projects of developing startup communities or investing in innovation in the EU, and emerging countries like India and China, you will learn about the various institutional actors involved in the policymaking process in the US and discover where you can use the entrepreneurial skills you learn about to bring about change.
Contemporary democracies are rife with troubling signs—citizens' institutional trust is at an all-time low, growing economic insecurity and inequality are creating widespread fear and resentment, a sharply polarized political climate is making public deliberation exceedingly difficult, and even some of the most basic democratic norms seem to be openly challenged by so-called populism. However, in order to make sense of these signs, we first need to understand what democracy is and how it may be 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 democracy's historical evolution, and end with contemporary debates over deliberative democracy, neoliberalism, and populism.
Much of the class will focus on court decisions interpreting these rules. This will involve a deep dive into a wide range of election-related topics including voting rights and representation, freedom of speech in campaigns, redistricting and gerrymandering, the role of political parties and primaries, campaign finance law, and election administration.

**Batchis**

POSC 476-080  
Election Law  
Mon, Wed, Fri 11:15 AM - 12:05 PM

**Honors Section**

**Students are required to attend the first class meeting**

Who has the right to vote or become a political candidate in America, and why? What does it mean to be fairly represented? What kinds of limits placed on what is said during a campaign, or how money is raised or spent? What happens when elections go wrong? This course explores the legal rules that govern elections and the political process in America. Some of these legal rules derived directly from the U.S. Constitution, others from laws passed by Congress or state legislatures.

Much of the class will focus on court decisions interpreting these rules. This will involve a deep dive into a wide range of election-related topics including voting rights and representation, freedom of speech in campaigns, redistricting and gerrymandering, the role of political parties and primaries, campaign finance law, and election administration.

**Green**

POSC 482-010  
America in the Middle East  
Mon, Wed 3:35- 4:50 PM

**Cross-listed with JWST482010**

Examines the history of America's engagement with an emphasis on issues since 1979. After a brief intro portion on the mechanics of American foreign policy-making and America's global political and strategic position over time, we will spend most of the semester on America's involvement in regional oil politics, Middle East peace process, first and second Iraq Wars, relations with Iran, plans for Middle East democratization and the Bush II administration. Evaluation will be based upon a mid-term and final exam, a medium-length research paper, and one or two short writing assignments.
In this course, students will tackle a difficult political problem of their own choosing and develop a multimedia campaign to advocate for a solution. Students will research an important political problem, develop a multimedia campaign, and present their campaign to the class at the conclusion of the seminar. As a capstone experience, this course intended to serve as an expression of the totality of a political science and international relations student's growth, development, and learning as an undergraduate. The course focuses on problem-based learning.