POLITICS

The Department of Politics offers a vibrant and balanced program of study that prepares students to exercise leadership, teamwork and civic engagement to make a difference in local, national and international affairs. The curriculum introduces students to the major political science subfields of American politics, comparative politics, international relations and political theory, while offering several avenues for professional development, including methods, service learning, field experiences, and internships.

Through its internship director, the Politics Department works closely with students to prepare for, identify, and approve internships locally and in state government, Washington, DC, and international placements. Special competitive opportunities include PO 0296 State Legislature Internship and PO 0297 Washington Semester Internship, as well as internships through designated study abroad programs.

The curriculum's upper level electives are grouped thematically around courses on law and justice, power and political action, and globalization and inequality. Students choose one upper level course in each subfield in any combination within or across these three themes. Students complete their major with a culminating seminar that prepares them for professional writing, research, analysis and presentation. Students choose a culminating seminar to work with faculty in their areas of expertise.

Politics professors are closely involved with International Studies, American Studies Asian Studies, Environmental Studies, Irish Studies, Humanitarian Action, Latin American and Caribbean Studies, Peace and Justice Studies, and other interdisciplinary programs. Many Politics courses count toward majors or minors in these programs. The politics curriculum is appropriate for many career orientations, including law, government, media, teaching, consulting, business, and non-profit organizations, as well as for graduate and professional degree programs in many fields.

Politics professors are closely involved with International Studies, American Studies Asian Studies, Environmental Studies, Irish Studies, Humanitarian Action, Latin American and Caribbean Studies, Peace and Justice Studies, and other interdisciplinary programs. Many Politics courses count toward majors or minors in these programs. The politics curriculum is appropriate for many career orientations, including law, government, media, teaching, consulting, business, and non-profit organizations, as well as for graduate and professional degree programs in many fields.

Programs

- Politics Major (http://catalog.fairfield.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/politics/politics-major)
- Politics Minor (http://catalog.fairfield.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/politics/politics-minor)

Courses

PO 0101 Introduction to American Politics 3 Credits
Attributes: ASGW American Studies: Gateway, ASPO American Studies: Politics, PMAP Politics Major: American Politics
Students examine the American political system and the American political culture; consider the major political institutions in relation to policy perspectives; examine the ability of the political system to deal with societal problems; and analyze proposals for reform of the political system. Previously PO 0011.

PO 0102 Introduction to Comparative Politics 3 Credits
Attributes: PMCP Politics Major: Comparative Politics, WDIV World Diversity
This course introduces students to the concepts and theories used to understand the structures and processes of diverse political systems. Comparing similarities and differences between different political systems will enable students to identify interesting questions about politics in specific countries, and to make systematic comparisons across countries. Previously PO 0012.

PO 0103 Introduction to Political Ideas That Shape the World 3 Credits
Attributes: PMPT Politics Major: Political Theory
This course introduces students to the field of Western political theory. It analyzes the liberal political theories of Thomas Hobbes, Jean-Jacques Rousseau, John Locke, J.S. Mill, and Karl Marx, and compares and contrasts them to a variety of communitarian, socialist, and anarchist political theories. Previously PO 0014.

PO 0104 Introduction to International Relations 3 Credits
Attributes: HACA Humanitarian Action Minor Context Course, PJST Peace and Justice Studies, PMIR Politics Major: International Relations
This course introduces International Relations (IR) theories to students, providing concepts, frameworks and approaches that will help them make sense of global politics historically and today in a systematic and critical manner. The goal of the course is to familiarize students with these tools and to help them use them to understand and address challenges at a global scale, particularly different manifestations of violence, development and social injustice, including from war to economic, social, gendered, and political marginalization. Previously PO 0130.

PO 0201 Introduction to Peace and Justice 3 Credits
This course introduces students to the concepts of peace and justice, the connections between them, and the relationship of these concepts to the idea of faith. The course focuses on case studies beginning with an analysis of the crisis of America’s cities and finds the causes in de-industrialization and its resulting poverty. In both cases, the course views poverty as the effect of unjust economic and social structures including exaggerated military budgets at home and the militarization of developing countries. Examining these fundamental problems in peace and justice, according to the principles of Marxism, liberalism, and Catholicism, provides a theoretical basis for the study. Each of these traditions has its own perspective for understanding these problems and for responding to them. In this way the course provides an awareness of the major problems in peace and justice as well as an understanding of the different ways to think about them. Previously PO 0115.

PO 0202 Urban Politics 3 Credits
Attributes: ASPO American Studies: Politics, PMAP Politics Major: American Politics
This course examines structures and processes of urban politics and considers the major participants and policy areas of urban political processes. It sets the evolution of urban areas in historical perspective, discusses major contemporary problems, and analyzes alternative solutions. Previously PO 0150.
PO 0203 Public Administration  
Attributes: ASPO American Studies: Politics, PMAP Politics Major: American Politics  
The course focuses on the role of the bureaucracy within the political process, examining the problems of efficiency and accountability, and studying the classic models of bureaucratic organization and function in juxtaposition to the reality of bureaucratic operation. It analyzes proposed reforms to determine the viability of change. Previously PO 0155.

PO 0204 American Presidency  
Attributes: ASGW American Studies: Gateway, ASPO American Studies: Politics, ASUP American Studies Upper Level, PMAP Politics Major: American Politics  
The course will examine the expansion of presidential powers by 20th and 21st century modern presidents, focusing on the constitutional and political development in the President's role as chief executive, legislative leader, and administrative head of state. It will also explore and seek explanations for differences and patterns among presidents in their foreign and domestic policy success, evaluating changes in the recruitment process (primaries, conventions, and elections), issues of psychology, race, religion, economic forces, political parties, 'political time,' and media. Previously PO 0161.

PO 0205 United States Congress  
Attributes: ASPO American Studies: Politics, ASUP American Studies Upper Level, PMAP Politics Major: American Politics  
This course firstly examines the development of rules, procedures, and structures of Congress as the foremost institution of representation within American democracy, exploring its place in contemporary American politics and its often contentious relationship with the other branches of national government, the Presidency and Courts. It will also introduce some primary theoretical approaches to the study of Congress as a deliberative body designed to produce national policy outcomes. Finally, it will develop students' understanding of individual members of Congress: their relationship to constituents, their differing styles of representation, and the effects of race, gender, ideology, and money on their legislative work. Previously PO 0162.

PO 0206 Supreme Court I  
Attributes: ASPO American Studies: Politics, ASUP American Studies Upper Level, PMAP Politics Major: American Politics  
This examination of the politics of the Supreme Court analyzes the relationship between the Court and the remainder of the political system; examines the Court's treatment of government power including commerce clause, taxing power, and relations between the branches; and emphasizes the political consequences of Court decisions. Previously PO 0163.

PO 0207 Supreme Court II  
Attributes: ASPO American Studies: Politics, ASUP American Studies Upper Level, PMAP Politics Major: American Politics  
This examination of the individual and the Court pays direct attention to Supreme Court decisions regarding civil liberties, including freedoms of speech, press, religion, and assembly. It also examines the rights of accused persons and the 14th amendment equal protection, emphasizing the political implications of these decisions as well as the political environment in which the Court functions. Previously PO 0164.

PO 0208 Political Parties and Interest Groups  
This course examines various linkage models that describe representation of citizens by leaders. Moreover, it examines political parties, interest groups, and public opinion in terms of their contributions to popular control of American politics. What mechanisms do citizens have to gain compliance for their policy preferences? How responsive are decision makers in the American system to citizens' demands? The course considers these and other questions. Previously PO 0165.

PO 0209 American Public Policy  
Attributes: ASPO American Studies: Politics, ASUP American Studies Upper Level, PMAP Politics Major: American Politics  
This course examines the policy process in the United States by assessing a variety of contemporary policy issues. Students investigate different policy domains to uncover the politics and societal myths affecting different stages of the complicated policy process, paying special attention to people and institutions that formally and informally influence public policy in the United States, including media, elected officials, bureaucrats, consumers, private citizens, workers, political activists, corporations, interest groups, lobbyists, and political parties. Previously PO 0166.

PO 0211 Media and Politics  
Attributes: ASPO American Studies: Politics, PMAP Politics Major: American Politics  
This course examines the impact of the media on the American political system and, conversely, how government attempts to influence the media for its purposes, and implications of the electronic media for a democratic and informed society. The course pays close attention to the media's impact on national elections and analyzes the media as an agent of political socialization. Previously PO 0167.

PO 0212 United States Environmental Politics and Policy  
Attributes: ASPO American Studies: Politics, ASUP American Studies Upper Level, EVME Environmental Studies Major Elective, EVPE Environmental Studies Elective, EVSS Environmental Studies: Social Science, PMAP Politics Major: American Politics  
This course introduces students to the processes, actors, casual factors, and theoretical approaches central to the creation and implementation of US environmental policy. The first section examines the history of US environmental politics, the policy process, and prominent theories that seek to explain that process. The second examines the role of key institutions, including the President, Congress, courts, federal agencies, environmental groups, and corporations. The third section examines key current issues, including risk assessments, economic tools, air and water pollution, toxic chemicals, public lands endangered species, water shortages, and climate change. Previously PO 0169.

PO 0213 State and Local Politics  
Attributes: PMAP Politics Major: American Politics  
This course examines the role of state and local governments within the United States. State and local governments are unique subnational governments with their own political culture and identity and very greatly within and across the American political system. This course explores the political processes and the institutions of state and local governments. The course highlights the multifaceted, and often difficult, issues facing sub-national governments; the philosophies of state and local governments; their responsibility and function regarding election administration and voting; and their role within the larger national government. Previously PO 0171.
PO 0214 Public Opinion and Polling  
Attributes: PMAP Politics Major: American Politics  
A central feature to American democracy is that the public must play an active role in governing. This course invites students to think about and reflect on the role of public opinion, the tools used to measure it, and its impact on policies and elections, in American democracy. Students will examine what public opinion is, publics’ knowledge of politics, how citizens are socialized politically, group differences in public opinions, and various methods employed to measure public opinion. By the end of the course, students will be able to determine when and how public opinion influences various aspects of American politics. Previously PO 0172.

PO 0215 Campaigns and Elections  
Attributes: PMAP Politics Major: American Politics  
In a democratic political system, elections are the means by which the transition of power occurs. Thus, understanding the nature of American elections and campaigns is necessary to understand our political system. This class focuses on American elections: discussing how the actions of the players influence outcomes, the behavior of voters, the politics of election administration, and the laws that govern the rules to the game. We will observe and analyze both empirical research and the reality of campaigns today as both have significant implications for our democracy. Previously PO 0173.

PO 0231 21st Century Power Politics  
Attributes: PMPT Politics Major: Political Theory  
How does power operate in the 21st century? This course engages this question by focusing on how contemporary thinkers from the Global North and South assess the world in which we live. The course will take on issues of globalization, democratization, cosmopolitanism, poverty, race, gender, citizenship, and environmentalism. The work of key thinkers such as Karl Marx, Hannah Arendt, Franz Fanon, Julius Nyerere, Michel Foucault, Kwame Anthony Appiah, Judith Butler, and Wendy Brown will be examined. These theorists present a critical assessment of the nature and value of contemporary society’s cherished ideals of social and economic progress, secularization, and scientific reason, and individual autonomy and liberty. This course explores and evaluates these controversial critiques of life that shape our understanding power in the 21st century. Previously PO 0112.

PO 0232 Utopian Politics  
Attributes: PMPT Politics Major: Political Theory  
This course examines the nature and function of utopian thinking and utopian communities. What is the value of utopian reflection? What forms of critical thinking and imaginative speculation does it enable? What are the limits to or dangers of utopian thought and practice? What kinds of challenges do utopian communities face? This course explores and critically assesses utopian, and dystopian themes from utopian fiction, political theory, science fiction, and popular culture. The course involves students in building model utopias that resolve major world problems. Previously PO 0116.

PO 0233 American Political Thought  
Attributes: ASGW American Studies: Gateway, ASPO American Studies: Politics, PMPT Politics Major: Political Theory  
This course considers the philosophical roots of American political thought and the influence of the American revolutionaries, constitution-makers, Federalists, Jeffersonians, Jacksonians, Alexis de Tocqueville, examiners of the welfare state, pragmatists, and new frontiersmen on the contemporary American mind and institutions. The course also covers challenges and reform of the American political system within the scope of political science through an application of the concepts of human nature, idealism, constitutional power, and nationalism. Previously PO 0118.

PO 0234 Sex, Sexuality, and Gender  
Attributes: ASGW American Studies: Gateway, ASPO American Studies: Politics, PJST Peace and Justice Studies, UDIV U.S. Diversity, WSGF Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies: Gender Focused  
This course focuses on how men and women ally together and separately to alter the landscape of sex, sexuality, and gender in the U.S. as part of a global wave of political change. The course examines how race, class, religion, age, disability, and other identity variables intersect with male and female, masculine and feminine, and the full range of sexualities in order to understand the theories and practices related to identity that shape twenty-first century politics. Previously PO 0119.

PO 0235 Modern Political Ideologies  
Attributes: ISIC Italian Studies: Italy Component, PJST Peace and Justice Studies, PMPT Politics Major: Political Theory  
This course primarily examines the political belief systems in the United States including conservatism, liberalism, democratic socialism, and the idea of industrial policy. It analyzes these “isms” with reference to democracy’s ability to deal with the contemporary problems of American society. It also explores Marxism in terms of the basic political and economic ideas of Marx and Engels as well as the modifications made in their system by Lenin; discusses the basic concepts of racism; and briefly analyzes the meaning of totalitarianism. Previously PO 023.

PO 0236 Politics of Race, Class, and Gender  
This course investigates how race, class, and gender function in American political culture. Students explore how the theoretical ideas of central thinkers such as Thomas Jefferson, Martin Luther King Jr., and Susan B. Anthony shape the political practices of the people who express themselves in songs, speeches, art, and music. The focus on race, class, and gender enables students to engage with historically challenging questions about equality, freedom, individualism, republicanism, liberalism, and American exceptionalism from alternative perspectives. The course does so by assessing whether or not the contemporary Hip Hop movement can overcome the barriers of race, class, and gender. Previously PO 0153.

PO 0250 European Politics and the European Union  
Attributes: ISIC Italian Studies: Italy Component, ISIF Italian Studies: Italy-Focused, PMCP Politics Major: Comparative Politics  
This analysis of political institutions and dynamics of Great Britain, France, Germany, and Italy emphasizes the relationship between the political culture and the political system and analyzes alternate methods of dealing with societal problems. Previously PO 0139.

PO 0251 Islam and Muslim Politics  
Attributes: PMCP Politics Major: Comparative Politics, WDIV World Diversity  
Islam is most often treated as a monolithic force when in fact the relationship between Islam, politics, and society is varied and dynamic. The aim of this course is to introduce students to the pluralism of Islam-influenced practices (such as in politics, education, charitable aid, and business) drawing on examples from Turkey, Indonesia, Central Asia, and China. Previously PO 0140.
PO 0252 African Politics 3 Credits
Attributes: BSFC Black Studies Focus Course, BSSS Black Studies: Social and Behavioral Sciences, HACA Humanitarian Action Minor Context Course, PMCP Politics Major: Comparative Politics, WDIV World Diversity
This course examines political patterns in Africa with an emphasis on the relationships between politics and culture, and politics and economy. Themes and concepts, not country studies, structure the course, which extracts patterns that are universal or typical in sub-Saharan Africa, examines the colonial legacy on which contemporary states build, and considers the political problematic that the colonial experience imparts with respect to cultural issues of identity, tribalism, and ethnicity in Africa. The course also examines the role of force and violence in consolidating political rule, the economic constraints that fetter Africa, and considers prospects for Africa’s politics. Previously PO 0141.

PO 0253 Latin American Politics 3 Credits
Attributes: LCEL LACS Minor: Elective, PMCP Politics Major: Comparative Politics, WDIV World Diversity
This course examines contemporary Latin American politics, with particular attention to the challenges and opportunities for democracy and human rights in the region. In order to do this, the course provides a historical background that examines the challenges and opportunities presented by domestic and international dynamics in the region. The course covers the causes and consequences of democratic breakdowns in the region and the transition to democracy in the later part of the twentieth century. It also addresses the difficulties these young democracies face today and the continuous and uneven efforts to advance human rights in the region. Previously PO 0142.

PO 0254 Caribbean Politics 3 Credits
Attributes: BSCC Black Studies Component Course, BSSS Black Studies: Social and Behavioral Sciences, LCEL LACS Minor: Elective, PMCP Politics Major: Comparative Politics, WDIV World Diversity
Racism and ethnic conflict, colonialism and neocolonialism, grating poverty and bustling tourism all have their impact on the politics of these struggling countries. This course examines migration across the first world’s borders in countries that include Cuba, Puerto Rico, the Dominican Republic, Haiti, Jamaica, Trinidad, Guyana, and Suriname. Students will complete a research project. Previously PO 0143.

PO 0255 Middle Eastern Politics 3 Credits
Attributes: PJST Peace and Justice Studies, PMCP Politics Major: Comparative Politics, WDIV World Diversity
This course examines the modern Middle East by familiarizing students with the most significant contemporary problems and controversies in the region. Themes and concepts, not individual country studies, structure the course. Some of the topics covered are youth, war, revolution, oil, political Islam, economic reform, and the Arab spring. Previously PO 0144.

PO 0256 Asian Politics 3 Credits
Attributes: PMCP Politics Major: Comparative Politics, WDIV World Diversity
This course examines the domestic politics of Asian countries. Asia is a vibrant region politically and economically, and is very important to the United States for international security and economic stability. Given its importance, this course provides broad and essential knowledge about Asian nations. The course begins with historical background of various countries in Asia, and then examines politics in selected Asian countries. Country studies are intended to introduce major issues in comparative politics such as democracy, economic development, ideology and political conflict. Previously PO 0145.

PO 0257 Northern Ireland: Politics of War and Peace 3 Credits
Attributes: CAOT Catholic Studies: Non-Religious Studies, PJST Peace and Justice Studies, PMCP Politics Major: Comparative Politics
This course focuses on “the Troubles” in Northern Ireland from 1969 to the present beginning with historical background that emphasizes England’s role from the 17th century through the present. It examines the 20th century conflict primarily as a national liberation struggle against a sectarian regime in the North supported by England. The course follows a chronological format starting with the civil rights marches in the late 1960’s, the state repression that followed and subsequent community responses including the hunger strikes and electoral campaigns. It concludes with the peace process and grassroots efforts by former paramilitaries from both Catholic and Protestant communities to work together on issues of common concern. Previously PO 0147.

PO 0258 Political Violence 3 Credits
Attributes: PMCP Politics Major: Comparative Politics
This course offers a comparative study of political violence including civil war, terrorism, and separatist movements. We will examine a variety of theoretical and empirical approaches to violence. The course is designed to introduce students to core debates as well as cutting edge research on violence. Students will also learn about political violence across the globe through single country studies. Previously PO 0148.

PO 0259 The Development Gap 3 Credits
Attributes: PJST Peace and Justice Studies, PMCP Politics Major: Comparative Politics
This course introduces a comparative approach to studying the forces affecting development in the Third World. Examples are selectively drawn from Asia, Africa, Latin America, and the Middle East. It examines the roots of wealth and poverty, obstacles to development, responses to globalization, and current debates over the development prospects of the Third World. Previously PO 0149.

PO 0261 Authoritarianism and Film 3 Credits
Attributes: PMCP Politics Major: Comparative Politics
Almost half of the world population lives under authoritarian or totalitarian regimes. Moreover, several democracies around the world are far from consolidated and exist at risk of democratic breakdowns. This is an interdisciplinary course that combines politics and film studies to introduce students to the enduring phenomena of authoritarianism and totalitarianism. Political science furthers our understanding of the causes and enduring legacies of authoritarianism and totalitarianism, while film studies help us understand how cinema communicates specific narratives in such a way that they strengthen or challenge these regimes.

PO 0271 United Nations Security Council Crisis Simulation 3 Credits
Attributes: HACA Humanitarian Action Minor Context Simulation, PMIR Politics Major: International Relations, WDIV World Diversity
This course gives students a hands-on learning experience in world diversity by simulating a United Nations Security Council crisis in international peace and security. The objective is to introduce students to the challenges of global governance in light of the different perspectives they encounter representing different constituencies of the UN Security Council who come from diverse cultural, historical, and geo-political regions of the world. A key goal of the course is to bring to light whether and how power disparities limit the global South’s effective representation, and the stakes in reform of the Security Council. While the topic of the simulation will vary, the focus is on a crisis in a non-Western region of the world. Previously PO 0127.
This course introduces students to complex humanitarian crises and the challenges of responding. Students explore why the often-troubled governance practices of humanitarian intervention makes this a highly contested, yet indispensable arena of global politics. The course examines enduring political and normative tensions at the core of the international humanitarian system run by states, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), the United Nations and its lead agencies, and increasingly, the private sector. Students use critical theories, ethical frameworks and other skill sets to explore questions such as the accountability of humanitarian actors to the people they aid in risk-laden operational environments. Previously PO 0129.

This course offers training in humanitarian action and disaster response in collaboration with local emergency response agencies and related regional, national, and global networks. Students acquire training and certification in humanitarian standards, become registered volunteers with the American Red Cross, learn from local FEMA Community Emergency Response Teams, and participate in immersion experiences and simulations on international humanitarian crises. The course contextualizes aid work through a range of critical, ethical and moral theories. The course first introduces competing paradigms, second explores principles and field training, and third concludes with intersectionality and other critical perspectives on responding to needs.

This course examines important issues in the practice and study of international environmental policy. The course consists of four interrelated sections designed to provide the factual knowledge and conceptual frameworks required for working in this field: the process and difficulty of creating effective International environmental policy; factors that assist effective policy; history, trends, and actors; and key current issues including climate change, biodiversity, toxic pollution, trade and the environment, sustainable development, and environment and security, among others. Previously PO 0131.

This course examines key political, scientific and economic issues surrounding global climate change. Topics include: the causes and impacts of climate change; policy-making under uncertainty; key technological, energy and economic issues; and, in particular, climate policy at the global, national, state and local levels; Students will gain the ability to understand and analyze climate policy options at the global, national and local levels. Previously PO 0132.

How is foreign policy made in the United States? This course examines the impact of domestic and international actors and processes in the formation and conduct of United States foreign policy. It also provides a historical background on the basis of which it analyzes contemporary United States economic foreign policy, security foreign policy, environmental and energy foreign policy, and the promotion of democracy and human rights in different regions of the world, including Asia, Latin America, Western Europe, Africa, and the Middle East. Previously PO 0133.

In a globalizing world, understanding the link between wealth and power is increasingly important. This course seeks to explore the international and global context of the intersection of politics and the economy today. It examines the impact of globalization on states, markets, societies, businesses, and people by posing such questions as "In whose interest?" and "Who benefits?" Previously PO 0134.

This course introduces students to complex humanitarian crises and the challenges of responding. Students explore why the often-troubled governance practices of humanitarian intervention makes this a highly contested, yet indispensable arena of global politics. The course examines enduring political and normative tensions at the core of the international humanitarian system run by states, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), the United Nations and its lead agencies, and increasingly, the private sector. Students use critical theories, ethical frameworks and other skill sets to explore questions such as the accountability of humanitarian actors to the people they aid in risk-laden operational environments. Previously PO 0129.

This course offers training in humanitarian action and disaster response in collaboration with local emergency response agencies and related regional, national, and global networks. Students acquire training and certification in humanitarian standards, become registered volunteers with the American Red Cross, learn from local FEMA Community Emergency Response Teams, and participate in immersion experiences and simulations on international humanitarian crises. The course contextualizes aid work through a range of critical, ethical and moral theories. The course first introduces competing paradigms, second explores principles and field training, and third concludes with intersectionality and other critical perspectives on responding to needs.

This course examines important issues in the practice and study of international environmental policy. The course consists of four interrelated sections designed to provide the factual knowledge and conceptual frameworks required for working in this field: the process and difficulty of creating effective International environmental policy; factors that assist effective policy; history, trends, and actors; and key current issues including climate change, biodiversity, toxic pollution, trade and the environment, sustainable development, and environment and security, among others. Previously PO 0131.

This course examines key political, scientific and economic issues surrounding global climate change. Topics include: the causes and impacts of climate change; policy-making under uncertainty; key technological, energy and economic issues; and, in particular, climate policy at the global, national, state and local levels; Students will gain the ability to understand and analyze climate policy options at the global, national and local levels. Previously PO 0132.
PO 0280 Border Politics 3 Credits
Attributes: HACA Humanitarian Action Minor Context Course, PJUST Peace and Justice Studies, PMIR Politics Major: International Relations, WDIV World Diversity
This course explores how border politics have evolved from historical practices of territoriality and the rise of the nation-state system, including the social construction of "imagined communities" and the boundaries that define them. Yet this system faces many challenges. Drawing from critical theories of identity, state formation and intersectionality, students explore erosions of state sovereignty through globalization, climate change, crisis migration, refugee flows, asylum seekers, transnational crime and terrorism. As case studies from the global north and south illustrate, states are increasingly turning to global and domestic disciplinary regimes to wall up, fence out, surveillance, detain and deport the "other." Students examine these trends in the context of the moral, political, security, corporeal and human rights questions at stake. Previously PO 0138.

PO 0281 International Human Rights 3 Credits
Attributes: HACA Humanitarian Action Minor Context Course
This course explores human rights, actors, and advocacy in a global context. It covers the origin and development of international human rights, the need to apply and enforce legal obligations and establish accountability for human rights violators, and procedures used by the international community to contest human rights violations. In this context, students learn about the progress as well as gaps and erosions of human rights on a range of issues, such as women's rights, disability rights, or protection of human rights defenders in higher education. Students apply these understandings to strategic thinking and advocacy on human rights cases.

PO 0295 Research Methods 3 Credits
Attributes: PMAP Politics Major: American Politics
This course is designed to help students understand the methodological process to scientific inquiries. Students will learn how to properly study and think scientifically about political science and politics. This class will teach students how to identify research questions about the political world, generate meaningful measurements of the concepts being studied, create a research design for collecting data (i.e. evidence), construct testable hypotheses, conduct the necessary statistical analysis to test the hypotheses, interpret the results of the statistical analysis, and apply these results to the original theory of inquiry in a meaningful way.

PO 0296 State Legislature Internship 6 Credits
Prerequisites: PO 0101; two other politics courses.
Politics majors participate in the Connecticut General Assembly Legislative Internship Program, where students become acquainted with the legislative process by serving as aides to a legislator. Students complete a required research paper. Students must have a GPA of 3.0 or higher. Enrollment by departmental permission only.

PO 0297 Washington Semester Internship 3-15 Credits
Prerequisites: PO 0101; two other politics courses.
Politics majors work full-time as interns in a variety of public and private sector positions in the nation's capital, giving them the opportunity to experience governmental problems firsthand and apply what they have learned. Students earn nine credits for working as an intern, three for a course taken in Washington, DC, and for a major research paper. Students must have a GPA of 3.0 or higher. Enrollment by departmental permission only.

PO 0298 Internship 3 or 4 Credits
Prerequisites: Three politics courses.
Politics majors gain firsthand experience working off campus in fields related to their major. Typically, an internship requires 10 to 12 hours per week on site. The internship requires a journal and a term paper. An on-site supervisor and a politics professor evaluate student work. Students must have a GPA of 3.0 or higher. Enrollment by departmental permission only.

PO 0299 Special Topics (Shell) 3 Credits
Prerequisite: six hours of politics credits or permission of instructor.
This course offers a focused examination of a significant political issue or topic chosen from the areas of American Politics and Public Policy, Political Theory, Comparative Politics, and International Relations. Content will vary in successive offerings of this course. May be repeated for credit when topic varies. Previously PO 0190.

PO 0300 Politics Seminar 3 Credits
This course offers an in-depth investigation of a significant political issue or topic and is conducted in a seminar format and contains a significant research component. Open only to juniors and seniors by permission of the instructor. Previously PO 0390.

PO 0301 The Battle Over Family Values in American Politics 3 Credits
Attributes: ASPO American Studies: Politics, ASUP American Studies
This course explores how border politics have evolved from historical context and previous ideological battles that characterize the tumultuous relationship between the family and the American state. Previously PO 0170.

PO 0302 Seminar on Feminist Theory 3 Credits
Attributes: ASPO American Studies: Politics, ASUP American Studies
This course offers an in-depth investigation of a significant political issue or topic chosen from the areas of American Politics and Public Policy, Political Theory, Comparative Politics, and International Relations. Students must have a GPA of 3.0 or higher. Enrollment by departmental permission only.

PO 0303 Gender, War, and Peace 3 Credits
Attributes: HACA Humanitarian Action Minor Context Course, PMIR Politics Major: International Relations, WDIV World Diversity, WSGF Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies: Gender Focused
This course examines the complexities of the gendered impact of war on men, women, families and children. Students learn about the gendered dimensions of war institutions, social structures and narratives of war. They explore the topic especially from the voices and perspectives of women in war zones and post-conflict settings around the world, including historical memories. Students learn how the forces of globalization and existing conditions of structural violence make women extremely vulnerable as societies slide toward war. Previously PO 0136.
PO 0304 Sem on Global Environ Politics 3 Credits
Attributes: EVME Environmental Studies Major Elective, EVPE Environmental Studies Elective, PMIR Politics Major: International Relations
The causes, consequences and potential solutions to environmental problems are increasingly important subjects in global politics. This seminar explores critical, current issues in the theory and practice of global environmental politics. Readings and class discussion examine important new debates, including those on: reason for policy effectiveness; international regimes; accountability; the 2015 Paris climate agreement; why global ozone policy remains a relatively unique example of effective global environmental policy; the most prominent theoretical lenses employed by researchers and policy-makers; and the activities of international institutions. Previously PO 0210.

PO 0305 Seminar on the Middle East 3 Credits
Attributes: PMCP Politics Major: Comparative Politics
The affairs of the Middle East continue to engage a great deal of international attention. This course offers the opportunity to examine a significant problem or issue concerning politics in the MENA (Middle East and North Africa) region conducted in a seminar format. In various semesters the seminar may be taught with a different focus. Previously PO 0344.

PO 0398 Independent Study 1-3 Credits
Prerequisites: PO 0101, two other politics courses.
Upon request and by agreement with an individual professor in the department, a politics major may conduct a one-semester independent study on a defined research topic or field of study. Students must have a GPA of 3.0 or higher. Enrollment by departmental permission only.

Faculty

Professors
Boryczka
Cassidy
Leatherman
Nemec

Associate Professors
Alphonso
Downie, chair

Assistant Professors
Alberda
Garcia Iommi
Weinstein (Visiting)

Professors Emeriti
Dew
Greenberg
Katz
Patton