




Department of Political Science

COURSE BROCHURE

Fall 2024

 *Subject to Change*

FALL 24 | Political Science Course Descriptions

POL 10100 - American Government and Politics

This course explores the institutions, processes, and actors in the American political system. It will integrate understanding about political figures' current behavior with the more abstract constitutional framework adopted in 1789. Emphasis will be placed on explaining the actions and inactions of government with regard to current policy issues, and on knowledge of American foundational principles and the basic aspects of political science. A number of brief reflective written assignments will be asked of each student. The final grade will also be based, in part, on multiple online assessment activities.

Full Term	8/19/24–12/7/24	005-15952 LEC	John Megson	TR 03:00 PM-04:15 PM	RHPH 172
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POL 12000 - Introduction to Public Policy and Public Administration

Policy making is at once a problem-solving process and a fundamentally political process. Topics include why some social issues or problems become “public,” how some issues become priorities while others get ignored, how political institutions interact to produce policy, the role of citizen preferences in informing public policy, the role of interest groups in policy making, and how government agencies implement and enforce policy. In this course we will explore key concepts and theoretical models to understand how policy is made, but we will also closely study real world policy areas in order to see how these theories help us understand the actual political world.

Full Term	8/19/24–12/7/24	001-27245 LEC	Michael Brownstein	MWF 09:30 AM-10:20 AM	WTHR 104
Wk9-15	10/16/24-12/07/24	002-30368 DIS	Samuel Grubbs	Async Online	

POL 13000 - Introduction to International Relations

This course teaches you tools for analyzing global politics. Who are the relevant players? What motivates their decision making? How has the international system evolved? What are the prospects for future peace and cooperation? How do global politics impact our personal, day-to-day lives? We will begin with some background on the historical development of the current state system and a sampling of the various approaches to and theories of international relations. As we move through this material, we will carefully identify and explore key concepts and terms that will help us in our analysis. Then—having established an initial vocabulary and theoretic framework—we will delve into more concrete, contemporary issues of war, transnational terrorism, failed states, nuclear weapons, globalization and economic development, and environmental degradation and global warming.

Full Term	8/19/24–12/7/24	008-20057LEC	Kyle Haynes	MWF 11:30 AM-12:20 PM	SC 239
Full Term	8/19/24–12/7/24	009-14777 DIS	Melissa Will	Async Online	

POL 14100 - Governments Of The World

The course introduces students to politics in countries outside the United States. It will cover (1) political concepts; (2) contemporary political issues around the globe; and (3) the politics of three specific country cases: France, China and Peru. The course aims to spark your interest in the politics and cultures of other countries and make you a better-informed citizen.

Understanding the domestic politics of other nations is essential for you to understand American foreign policy decisions. The perspective you will gain from studying politics in other countries will also give you new insights into politics here at home in the United States. On a more every-day level, this class will help you understand global events better. Instead of skipping over news articles on Asia, Europe, or Latin America because they are unfamiliar, you will have the background from this course to follow issues around the world.

Full Term	8/19/24–12/7/24	001-14789 LEC	Joan Timoneda	TR 4:30 PM – 5:45 PM	BRNG 2290
Full Term	8/19/24–12/7/24	002-19291 DIS	John Megson	ASYNC	ONLINE

POL 15000 – Introduction to Political Thought

A study of classical, modern, and contemporary political arguments from across the globe. Students will learn to read and interpret complex theoretical materials with greater facility, to assess the arguments they make, and to develop written and oral arguments about them.

Full Term	8/19/24–12/7/24	001-27964 LEC	Mary Scudder	TR 12:00PM -1:15PM	BRNG 2290
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POL 20000 – Introduction to the Study of Political Science

Introduction to basic concepts and methods of political science. Basic concepts including, among others, power, justice, authority, ideology, and democracy, and a variety of quantitative and qualitative methods of analysis will be explored.

Full Term	8/19/24–12/7/24	001-20195 DIS	Dwayne Woods	ASYNC	ONLINE
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POL 20400 – Spies and Lies

This course examines the role that the collection, analysis, and dissemination of intelligence plays in US foreign policy and national security. We will unpack the missions and methods of the US Intelligence Community. Who does what? What are the different challenges for those engaged in the different aspects of intelligence? Why is the intelligence community configured like it is? We will also spend time with more contemporary topics in intelligence. What role does intelligence play in meeting future national security and foreign policy challenges? What is the role of intelligence in modern warfare, including cyber-warfare? What role does intelligence play in a liberal democracy? What should intelligence oversight look like?

Full Term	8/19/24–12/7/24	001-14935 LEC	Will, Melissa	WF 4:30PM – 5:45PM	BRNG 2280
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POL 22200 - Women, Politics and Public Policy

This course is an Introduction to women’s participation in politics, with an emphasis on the American political system. We will discuss structural and attitudinal conditions that disadvantage women as a social group, and efforts to change women’s status in society through politics.

Full Term	8/19/24–12/7/24	001-19355 LEC	Rosalee Clawson	TR 10:30AM -11:45AM	BRNG 2290
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POL 22300 - Introduction to Environmental Policy

How do modern societies cope with complex environmental and natural resource issues? In this online summer course, we’ll explore approaches to solving environmental policy problems. Students will gain an understanding of core policies that shape environmental issues both in the United States and around the world. With an emphasis on case studies, we will begin to tackle some of the key debates still raging in environmental policymaking today: Are there limits to growth? What is the appropriate role for markets? Where do scientists and science fit in? How do differing environmental worldviews shape the terms of debates like these? Finally, we will learn how we can become involved in the policy process - and in doing so, help promote a more sustainable environment for future generations to come.

Full Term	8/19/24–12/7/24	009-13518 LEC	Tara Grillos	MW 4:30 PM – 5:45 PM	STEW 320
Full Term	8/19/24–12/7/24	Y01-64505 DIS	Reed Kurtz	ASYNC	ONLINE

POL 22900D – Social and Political Philosophy (xlist PHIL24000)

This course focuses on problems and issues that are beginning to be recognized as worthy of public discussion or policy action, or that may be new areas of expertise and interest for our faculty members. We use it to introduce new topics and approaches, including experimental pedagogies, courses that involve travel, and the like. The content of the course varies from one offering to the next.

Full Term	8/19/24–12/7/24	SC1-28935 LEC	Leonard Harris	MWF 1:30PM - 2:20PM	BRNG 1230
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POL 23100 - Intro to US Foreign Policy

This course is designed to introduce students to the major themes and issues in both historical and contemporary U.S. foreign policy. Lectures, discussion, and readings will examine such areas as U.S. relationships with the major powers, the Third World, and international organizations.

Full Term	8/19/24–12/7/24	001-15685 LEC	Darrell Carter	TR 10:30 AM-11:45 AM	WALC 2087
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POL 23500 - Rich and Poor Nations

An introduction to the major themes in international political economy among rich and poor nations. We will examine such areas as international trade, finance, multi-nationals and intellectual property rights and how they connect to the theme of Rich/Poor nations, international organizations, and global development.

Full Term	8/19/24–12/7/24	004-19338 DIS	Dwayne Woods	ASYNC	ONLINE
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POL 23700 - Modern Weapons and International Relations

Whether it was the "smart weapons" used by the United States or the weapons of mass destruction it was looking for, the recent Iraq War confirmed, once again, the central importance of weapons technology and capabilities in international relations. Many argue that we are at a critical turning point where rapid advances in certain critical technologies are fundamentally altering the way nations (especially the United States) prepare for, and fight, wars. This, in turn, can have profound social and political implications for American society, for its military, and for U.S. relations with the rest of the world. In this course we will explore what has become known as the "Revolution in Military Affairs" (RMA) from an historical and contemporary perspective. We will compare the current RMA to previous military revolutions, particularly the Gunpowder Revolution of the 1400s and 1500s and the changes in warfare wrought by the Industrial Revolution. The bulk of the course, however, will focus on the debates and challenges of the current military revolution.

Full Term	8/19/24–12/7/24	001-11981 DIS	Keith Shimko	ASYNC	ONLINE
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POL 30000 - Introduction to Political Analysis

This course introduces the formal process of scientific political research. We will study research design, statistical analysis, and the interpretation of results. The course will center on understanding the problems and limits of statistical analysis. To that end, we will place more emphasis on proper application and interpretation than on the memorization of mathematical equations. There will be regular homework assignments involving analysis of data, and students will write a review of the social science literature on some specified research topic.

Full Term	8/19/24–12/7/24	005-15358 LEC	Miriam Barnum	TR 3:00 PM – 4:15 PM	BRNG 2280
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POL 30000A - Introduction to Political Analysis

Research intensive introduction to the formal process of scientific political research. We will study research design, statistical analysis, and the interpretation of results. The course will center on understanding the problems and limits of statistical analysis. Small class size creates opportunities for direct interaction with instructors. *Fulfills one requirement of the undergraduate research certificate.*

Full Term	8/19/24–12/7/24	006-32047 LEC	Eric Waltenburg	MWF 12:30 PM – 1:20 PM	BRNG B254
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POL 31400 – Presidential Political Process (xlist HIST 41005)

A study of presidential leadership as the embodiment of social forces and as reflective of the personality of the incumbent; the president as national leader reflecting national myths and ideologies; the growth of the presidency; issues and forces affecting the continuity of presidential leadership; the degree of institutionalization of the presidency.

Full Term	8/19/24–12/7/24	001-11474 LEC	Kathryn Brownell	MWF 1:30 PM – 2:20 PM	SCHM 317
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POL 32600 – Black Political Participation in America

An examination of African American political participation in the United States. Analyzes political culture and socialization, with a focus on the interaction between African Americans and actors, institutions, processes, and policies of the American system of politics and governance.

Full Term	8/19/24–12/7/24	001-21498 LEC	Sharonda Woodford	TR 9:00 AM – 10:15 AM	GRIS 103
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POL 32700 - Global Green Politics

This course examines many challenges central to global environmental politics and enables students to identify and analyze his/her own values regarding these problems while looking at a variety of solutions to these problems. Recognizing the increasing set of challenges created by human-environment interactions from the individual to the global scale, this course explores the political dynamics of global environmental affairs, introducing a range of different political actors, their power sources and strategies.

Full Term	8/19/24–12/7/24	001-15697 LEC	Reed Kurtz	MWF 3:30 PM – 4:20 PM	KRAN G016
Full Term	8/19/24–12/7/24	002-27989 DIS	Reed Kurtz	ASYNCR	ONLINE

POL 37200 - Indiana Government and Politics

A rigorous introduction to the major themes, theories and concepts in Indiana state and local government. This class will have a strong comparative component to understand Indiana politics. We will be reading from the leading and most influential scholars in the state and local politics subfield to accomplish this. We will also be hearing interviews from state and local government officials to hear about their experiences in public service. By the end of the semester, you should be able to understand major concepts in Indiana politics and public policy. You will also understand multiple facets and variables that influence state politics, elections, and federalism. Most importantly, you should be able to think and write critically on policies that have been enacted by state and local governments.

Full Term	8/19/24–12/7/24	001-18700 DIS	Christopher Kulesza	ASYNCR	ONLINE
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POL 37300 – Campaigns and Elections

This course analyzes the role of political parties, issues, candidates, media, funding, and electoral and campaign strategies in presidential, congressional, and state campaigns. Contemporary election examples will be utilized.

Full Term	8/19/24–12/7/24	001-20594 LEC	Martin Sweet	TR 12:00 PM – 1:15 PM	BRNG 2280
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POL 40200 – Experimental Methods in the Social Sciences

Students must complete POL 30000 before taking this course. The class will begin by covering fundamental experimental methodology and laboratory experiments. Next, we will learn about experiments conducted outside of the laboratory: from conducting audit studies on hiring managers to fielding survey experiments in nationally representative samples (and everything in between).

The first 8 weeks of the course focus on experimental methodology and design; i.e. what types of experiments are possible and how to design and conduct methodologically sound studies. We will read exemplar research articles throughout the semester alongside methodological pieces, illustrating the diverse and contemporary topics that are currently being studied with experimental methods.

An additional goal of the course is to introduce you to the experimental research that is currently being conducted at Purdue. The second 8 weeks of the course focus on applied research in the Kernan Experimental Social Science lab (BRNG 2208). We will learn about the lab and the studies being conducted by faculty and graduate students this semester.

Full Term	8/19/24–12/7/24	001-28420 LEC	Tara Grillos	MWF 11:30 AM – 12:20 PM	BRNG B206
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POL 40300GRD - Field Experience in Political Science

Students earn credit for internships in federal, state, and local government offices as well as with political parties, campaign organizations, nonprofit organizations, legislative bodies, and interest groups. Credit and course requirements to be arranged with the instructor. All internships for credit must be approved by the Department of Political Science through the application process. **Graded option.**

Full Term	8/19/24–12/7/24	002-29288 EX	Cherie Maestas
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POL 40300PNP - Field Experience in Political Science

Students earn credit for internships in federal, state, and local government offices as well as with political parties, campaign organizations, nonprofit organizations, legislative bodies, and interest groups. Credit and course requirements to be arranged with the instructor. All internships for credit must be approved by the Department of Political Science through the application process. **Pass/No Pass option**

Full Term	8/19/24–12/7/24	001-29287 EX	Cherie Maestas
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POL 40302 – Self-Initiated Internship in Political Science

Employers recognize that the most qualified college graduates come into the workforce with a combination of strong academic preparation and practical on-the-job experience. Internships strengthen resumes and law and graduate school applications. All internships for credit must be approved by the Department of Political Science through the application process.

Full Term	8/19/24–12/7/24	001-29945 EX	Cherie Maestas
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POL 40302CA - Self-Initiated Internship in Political Science - Capstone

Employers recognize that the most qualified college graduates come into the workforce with a combination of strong academic preparation and practical on-the-job experience. Internships strengthen resumes and law and graduate school applications. All internships for credit must be approved by the Department of Political Science through the application process. Students wishing to complete a Capstone project select the CA option.

Full Term	8/19/24–12/7/24	002-29946 EX	Cherie Maestas
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POL 41100 - Congress Structure

This course examines the national legislative branch of government with an in-depth look at the modern lawmaking process. Emphasis is placed on the evolution of the process, the importance of the committee system, the budget process, and the influence of individual Member goals and policy preferences on the policy process.

Full Term	8/19/24–12/7/24	001-13604 LEC	Robert Browning	TR 12:00 PM-01:15 PM	BRNG 1245
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POL 42300 – International Environmental Policy

Students will engage with leading theoretical approaches to the sources of international environmental problems, including theories of collective action and the commons, as well as critical theories of capitalism and environmental exploitation. Then, we will analyze some of the solutions proposed for tackling these problems, including the roles of public and private governance, intergovernmental institutions and regimes, market-based policy instruments, globalization, and sustainable development.

Full Term	8/19/24–12/7/24	001-12122 LEC	Reed Kurtz	MWF 10:30 AM – 11:20 AM	GRIS 103
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POL 42900M – American Political Communication (xlist COM 46400)

This course examines the content, processes, and effects of communication within the American political system. Designed for students to experience the breadth of the field of political communication, the course emphasizes relevant theories and practical skills.

Full Term	8/19/24–12/7/24	014-16842 LEC	Diana Zulli	M 11:30 AM - 02:20 PM	BRNG 2275
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POL 42900RC – Research Collaboratory

The Collaboratory provides a small-group educational experience for students who seek to hone their research skills and gain hands-on experience in an academic research environment. Collaboratory students will constitute a pool of potential research assistants who will be matched with a faculty member or advanced graduate student seeking research support on a project. Collaboratory members might be engaged in such activities as data collection and processing, survey design, and data analysis and visualization. Collaboratory members who are not working on a faculty or graduate student project will work on one of several ongoing research projects of the Collaboratory itself.

Students must apply via the Purdue Political Science Research Collaboratory page and be accepted and matched with a researcher before enrolling in the course. Applications are found on the Political Science website. The application deadline is August 5, 2024.



POL 43000CT – Terrorists, Freedom Fighters, and Government Actors

A study of marginalized populations mobilizing for action, specifically of those which chose violent action. A holistic approach to countering extremist violence; analyzing at the individual, group, and system levels, from inception through their eventual end, including success at times. Understanding the complex dynamics and inflection points of these patterns are crucial for successful engagement, prevention, and termination.

Full Term	8/19/24–12/7/24	013-29979 LEC	Darrell Carter	MWF 2:30 PM – 3:20 PM	BRNG B268
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POL 43300 - International Organization

A study of the structure and functions of the United Nations and associated agencies, with an emphasis on the role of this system in contemporary international relations.

Full Term	8/19/24–12/7/24	001-28077 LEC	Ann Marie Clark	TR1:30 PM – 2:45 PM	BRNG 2290
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POL 46100 - Constitutional Law I

This class will introduce the student to the work of the United States Supreme Court in a number of areas. These include the power of the Court to interpret the Constitution, standing, presidential and congressional powers, federalism, and elections.

Full Term	8/19/24–12/7/24	001-17567 LEC	Martin Sweet	TR 10:30 AM – 11:45 AM	BRNG 2290
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POL 46200 - Constitutional Law II

An Examination of the development of individual rights and civil liberties through constitutional law and interpretation of the Bill of Rights and Civil War Amendments. Both doctrinal and political pressures will be discussed to illustrate the evolution of these rights.

Full Term	8/19/24–12/7/24	001-20666 LEC	Linda Kampe	MWF 11:30 AM – 12:20 PM	BRNG 1245
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POL 46400 – Legal Professionalism, Writing and Ethics

This class is designed to provide students with the practical skills and knowledge they will need to embark on an internship or career in the legal environment. The class will focus on legal ethics, writing and research skills. We will focus both on writing technique and the sorts of documents that lawyers produce, as well as the practical skills and ethical concerns that commonly arise in dealing with clients.

Full Term	8/19/24–12/7/24	001-27876 LEC	Linda Kampe	MWF 9:30 AM – 10:20 AM	BRNG 1245
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POL 49100CA – Conservatism in America

The modern American conservative movement began in the mid-1930s largely as a reaction against the liberalism of Franklin Roosevelt’s New Deal during the Great Depression, which many saw as undermining the economic and political foundations of the republic. Since then an incredibly diverse, and often colorful, range of figures have shaped the evolution of conservatism as an intellectual and political force in American life. In this seminar we will examine the ideas, sentiments and policies that have united, divided and animated American conservatives over the decades. Focusing on some of the most important conservative intellectuals and political actors — from Friedrich Hayek to Milton Friedman, Willam F. Buckley to Ayn Rand, and Robert Taft to Barry Goldwater to Ronald Reagan to Donald Trump — we will emphasize two central issues/questions. First, what does it mean to be a “conservative” in the American context? Second, how has the meaning and understanding of conservatism in the United States changed since the end of WW II?

Full Term	8/19/24–12/7/24	010-32568 LEC	Keith Shimko	TR 1:30 PM – 2:45 PM	SCHM 315
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POL 49100G – Electioneering in the World

This is a variable-title seminar focusing on contemporary issues in political science at the senior level. It is part of the Capstone experience for political science majors.

Full Term	8/19/24–12/7/24	009-24432 LEC	Mollie Cohen	TR 3:00 PM – 4:15 PM	BRNG 1245
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POL 49100PPP - Digital Technology & Politics: Money, Machines, and Modern Empires

How do new digital technologies affect the global political economy? From Big Tech to artificial intelligence to Bitcoin, new digital technologies and technology firms are disrupting how the global economy operates and who has power within it. This course introduces students to the many ways the digital economy intersects with global governance, trade, and finance. By connecting these changes with our everyday lives, the course will unpack the uneven effects of the digital economy across global, racial, ethnic, and gendered lines. No prior knowledge of economics is expected; instead, students will learn the key concepts and theories used by political scientists to explain the political conflicts that structure the global digital economy and shape our daily lives.

Full Term	8/19/24–12/7/24	008-21644 LEC	Tyler Girard	MWF 10:30 AM – 11:20 AM	BRNG 1245
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POL 49300/JWST 33000/HIST 30200 - Introduction to Jewish Studies

An introductory and interdisciplinary course touching on the full range of Jewish experience from antiquity to present, and representing such fields as anthropology, history, language, literature, philosophy, politics, religion, and sociology. There are no prerequisites for this class. (This course is part of the University Core Curriculum (Humanities), and also fulfills the College of Liberal Arts (CLA) Racial and Ethnic Diversity Core Requirement)

Full Term	8/19/24–12/7/24	003-10550 LEC	Olga Lyanda-Geller	TR 10:30 AM – 11:45 AM	GRIS 102
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Note: 500-Level Courses

According to the Graduate council, only students with classifications of five or higher will be considered eligible for enrollment in 500-level courses, unless they have consent of instructor.

POL 50100 – Political Science Methodology

The main goal of this course is to learn how careful research design and data analysis can shed light on different questions in political science. This course will introduce basic principles of research design and quantitative methods. These tools will help students to analyze data in their own research and to become critical consumers of statistical claims made in academic research. The course will also teach students how to use the statistical program R for data analysis. Permission of instructor required.

Full Term	8/19/24–12/7/24	001-27292 LEC	Joan Timoneda	Th 1:30PM – 4:20 PM	BRNG B206
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POL 52000F – Transportation Equity

This class focuses on how to create a sustainable and equitable transportation future. Taking an interdisciplinary approach, students will learn about historical issues around transportation justice, individual biases and how they affect transportation issues, contemporary structural inequities, environmental justice, technology and societal impact, and public policy. Students will be expected to do significant reading to prepare for class, participate actively in class discussion, take quizzes, write a group paper, and present the paper in class. This is a graduate level class appropriate for advanced undergraduates and graduate students. Students are welcome from any discipline.

Full Term	8/19/24–12/7/24	001-27292 LEC	Rosalee Clawson	Th 1:30PM – 4:20 PM	BRNG B206
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POL 52601 – Technology, AI and Ethics in Policy

Examines how emerging technologies like artificial intelligence (AI), automated decision systems, and digital platforms are being adopted in the public sector. It explores the benefits as well as ethical risks and challenges associated with implementing these technologies in areas like healthcare, education, child welfare, and criminal justice. Students will analyze governance strategies, policies, and administrative procedures to promote responsible technology use in government.

Full Term	8/19/24–12/7/24	001-29848 LEC	Daniel Schiff	MWF 8:30AM – 9:20 AM	BRNG 1245
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POL 52701 – Technology, Data, and AI in Governance/POL62200A/POL63100A

This course introduces students to the institutions and governing systems at the subnational, national, supranational, and international levels that regulate emerging technology, AI, and data. Focusing on laws, standards, and best practices, students will examine comparative case studies of regulation of big tech in differing governing environments. Students will explore how social, economic, and political factors shape differences in technology regulation across the globe.

Full Term	8/19/24–12/7/24	001-30839 LEC	Swati Srivastava	M 4:30PM – 7:20 PM	RHPH 162
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