




Department of Political Science

COURSE BROCHURE

Spring 2025

 *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	1/13/25 - 5/10/25	25839-010 LEC	Darrell Carter	MWF 12:30-1:20 PM	HIKS G980D
Full Term	1/13/25 - 5/10/25	18362-008 LEC	Martin Sweet	TR 10:30-11:45 AM	WTHR 104

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	1/13/25 - 5/10/25	11574-001 LEC	Michael Brownstein	TR 4:30-5:45 PM	BRNG 2290
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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	1/13/25 - 5/10/25	11328-004 LEC	Kyle Haynes	MWF 9:30-10:20 AM	MSEE B012
Full Term	1/13/25 - 5/10/25	30241-009 DIS	William Dory	ASYNCR 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	1/13/25 - 5/10/25	22680-004 LEC	William Dory	MWF 12:30-1:20 PM	MATH 175
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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	1/13/25 - 5/10/25	30392-009 LEC	Mary Scudder	TR 10:30-11:45 AM	KNOY B033
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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	1/13/25 - 5/10/25	30250-001 DIS	Dwayne Woods	ASYNC ONLINE	
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POL 22200A - 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	1/13/25 - 5/10/25	16281-001 DIS	Rosalee Clawson	ASYNC ONLINE	
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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	1/13/25 - 5/10/25	25835-007 LEC	David Yu	TR 1:30-2:45 PM	STEW 314
Full Term	1/13/25 - 5/10/25	22682-005 LEC	Reed Kurtz	MWF 3:30-4:20 PM	LILY G126

POL 22800 - Data Science and Public Policy

This course is an introduction to the politics and policies of data science and "big data". Students will (1) gain an understanding of how public policy is made, including the role of data in policymaking; (2) learn about whether and what policies govern the use of data in various applications (such as autonomous vehicles, ownership of health care data, etc.); and (3) explore the ethical, legal, and social implications of data science and big data.

Full Term	1/13/25 - 5/10/25	28935-SC1 LEC	Kaylyn Schiff	MWF 8:30-9:20 AM	BRNG 1245
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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	1/13/25 - 5/10/25	30251-002 DIS	Darrell Carter	ASYNC ONLINE	
Full Term	1/13/25 - 5/10/25	13977-001 LEC	Darrell Carter	MWF 8:30-9:20 AM	HAMP 1252

POL 23400 - The Politics of Terrorism

This class examines the phenomenon of terrorism and counterterrorism. Why do terrorists do what they do? What can governments do to stop them? We will begin with issues of definition, and theoretical and empirical approaches to the study of terrorism. We will then delve into the history and evolution of the tactic (taking time to study some of the more notorious organizations). At this point in time it is critical that we look at both domestic--particularly in the United States--and transnational forms of terrorism. The study of terrorism is rife with puzzles that we will explore. Why resort to violence in the first place? How and why do groups evolve over time? How and why do some groups end, and others continue for years? Why are some individuals/groups not classified as terrorists? What are the consequences of terrorism? We will also look closely at counterterrorism policy. What are the most effective ways to respond to terrorism? What doesn't work? How do policies differ between states? To what extent is there global cooperation on counterterrorism? We will conclude the class by taking a critical look at US counterterrorism policy and the massive counterterrorism apparatus that has developed in the aftermath of the attacks of September 11, 2001. Should counterterrorism dominate US national security priorities to the degree it does?

Full Term	1/13/25 - 5/10/25	21607-001 LEC	Melissa Will	TR 9:00-10:15 AM	BRNG 2280
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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	1/13/25 - 5/10/25	27605-002 LEC	Tyler Girard	TR 3:00-4:15 PM	WTHR 172
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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	1/13/25 - 5/10/25	10785-001 LEC	Keith Shimko	TR 3:00-4:15 PM	SMTH 108
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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	1/13/25 - 5/10/25	69958-005 LEC	Eric Waltenburg	MWF 12:30-1:20 PM	BRNG 2280
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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	1/13/25 - 5/10/25	24375-004 LEC	Reed Kurtz	MWF 2:30-3:20 PM	WTHR 104
Full Term	1/13/25 - 5/10/25	14662-005 DIS	Reed Kurtz	ASYNC ONLINE	

POL 33500 - China Globalization

Globalization is a very popular topic, resulting in a lot of loose and poorly thought-through talk and writing around the subject. The view taken in this course is that to understand current processes of globalization we need to examine it in less broad and amorphous ways by focusing on its specific manifestations. Thus, this course focuses on how China has managed the challenges of globalization. China is a particularly useful case study because it failed the challenges of globalization in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. For an ancient civilization such as China, this failure had tremendous impact on its national pride. The Chinese refer to this historical juncture as the "century of shame." Towards the end of the 20th century and the onset of the 21st, China faced again the challenges of globalization and has arisen to the tasks in a spectacular fashion, transforming a largely rural and agriculture economy into the world's second largest economic power. This amazing transformation is leading some to proclaim that the 21st century will belong to China!

Full Term	1/13/25 - 5/10/25	30254-001 DIS	Dwayne Woods	ASYNC ONLINE	
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POL 36000 - Women and the Law

An introductory survey of women's legal status in America. Topics include constitutional law, marriage and divorce, reproductive rights, employment discrimination, and crimes of violence.

Full Term	1/13/25 - 5/10/25	25859-001 LEC	Linda Kampe	MWF 9:30-10:20 AM	BRWN 1154
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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	1/13/25 - 5/10/25	22741-001 DIS	Christopher Kulesza	ASync ONLINE	
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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	1/13/25 - 5/10/25	30731-001 LEC	Bryce Dietrich	TR 1:30-2:45 PM	BRNG 1245
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POL 40300 - 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	1/13/25 - 5/10/25	30967-003 EX	Linda Kampe
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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	1/13/25 - 5/10/25	30968-004 EX	Linda Kampe
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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	1/13/25 - 5/10/25	24495-001 EX	Linda Kampe
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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	1/13/25 - 5/10/25	30774-002 EX	Linda Kampe
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POL 41300 - Analysis of Political Behavior

A broad-based survey of human political attitudes and behavior and the forces that underlie them, utilizing contemporary research tools to examine and evaluate theoretical claims. Examines how people respond to information about politics, communicate about politics, form attitudes and preferences about politics, and their political interactions with other individuals, groups, and nations. Introduces survey research methodology, its uses, and its challenges in measuring political attitudes and behavior.

Full Term	1/13/25 - 5/10/25	30256-001 LEC	Michael Brownstein	TR 3:00-4:15 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.

WKS 9-15	3/10/25 - 5/3/25	12122-001 LEC	Reed Kurtz	MWF 10:30 AM – 11:20 AM	BRNG 1245
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POL 42800 - Politics Of Regulation

Politics and policies of federal and state regulatory agencies. Explanations of regulatory agency behavior, arguments for and against government regulation, and alternatives to government regulation.

Full Term	1/13/25 - 5/10/25	14311-001 LEC	Logan Strother	TR 10:30-11:45 AM	BRNG 1245
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POL 42900RC - Research Collaboratory - Contemporary Political Problems

Contemporary political problems in the United States affecting the interpretation of democracy, human rights and welfare, social pressures, and intergovernmental relations.

“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 December 6th, 2024.”

Full Term	1/13/25 - 5/10/25	29788-004 LEC	Eric Waltenburg	F 10:30-11:20 AM	BRNG B206
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POL 43000CT - Counter Terrorism

This course will study the concept and occurrence of political violence with a focus on non-state actors and unconventional warfare. We will examine political violence in the context of civil conflict, trans-national terrorism, and government repression, at multiple levels of analysis. This course examines theories about sources, strategies, and outcomes of political violence. This course explores questions about the rationality of choosing political violence, collective action problems in rebellion, and effective responses. We will discuss the role of gender in rebel groups and civilian violence. The course will also examine counterterrorism policies and outcomes. Political violence by non-state actors occurs frequently in conflicts around the world. A deeper understanding of political violence also improves our understanding of international relations, foreign policy, state repression, civil war, and terrorism.

Students will read core scholarship on political violence, terrorism, and intrastate conflict, discussing these concepts in detail. After completing this course students will be able to classify and contrast theories on the sources of political violence, identify and evaluate trends in different types of non-state actor political violence, discuss the relationship of political violence by the state to terrorist or rebel organizations, and evaluate pros and cons of policies addressing political violence. This course provides students with broad understanding of multiple aspects of political violence by non-state actors.

Full Term	1/13/25 - 5/10/25	14004-002 LEC	Anthony Hustedt	MWF 1:30-2:20 PM	HAAS G066
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POL 43801 - International Human Rights

This course exposes students to the politics of international human rights through reading, lectures, film, discussion, and student research. Topics include the concept of human rights, international law related to the protection of human rights, empirical research on political and economic causes of human rights violations in individual countries, and research on prevention efforts and remedies for past violations. This political science course is also part of Purdue's Human Rights Minor program.

Full Term	1/13/25 - 5/10/25	18387-001 LEC	William Dory	MWF 11:30-12:20 PM	HAAS G066
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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	1/13/25 - 5/10/25	28461-001 LEC	Linda Kampe	MWF 11:30-12:20 PM	LYLE 1160
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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	1/13/25 - 5/10/25	23540-003 LEC	Martin Sweet	TR 12:00-1:15 PM	WTHR 160
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POL 49100KH - Global Power Politics

This course provides an introduction to the many roles played by the Supreme Court in American politics and policymaking. Topics include the nature and purpose of courts, the internal processes used by the Court to conduct its work, and how the Court interacts with other political actors and institutions to make law and policy. The course will focus on key theoretical models for understanding the Court and will cover much recent scholarship. We also frequently engage news and current events in order to see how these theories help us understand the Court and its work.

Full Term	1/13/25 - 5/10/25	14008-004 LEC	Logan Strother	TR 3:00-4:15 PM	SCHM 103
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POL 49100MP - Media, Equity, Elec Vehicles

We are witnessing a dramatic transformation toward an electrified transportation future. We will learn about various aspects of this transformation and explore the context in which this revolution is occurring by investigating media coverage of electric vehicles. We will pay particular attention to issues of equity and environmental justice. Students will be expected to do significant reading to prepare for class, lead and participate actively in class discussion, conduct original research, and present their research. The instructor is affiliated with the Advancing Sustainability through Powered Infrastructure for Roadway Electrification (ASPIRE) Engineering Research Center. ASPIRE's goal is to achieve a sustainable and equitable electrified transportation future, <https://aspire.usu.edu/>.

Full Term	1/13/25 - 5/10/25	14017-006 LEC	Rosalee Clawson	MWF 9:30-10:20 AM	BRNG 1245
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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 53200 - Nuclear Strat and Proliferation

"Nuclear Strategy and Proliferation" is designed to teach students about 1) the conceptual elements and operational requirements of nuclear deterrence and 2) the historical dynamics of nuclear proliferation and nonproliferation. The goal of the class is to enable students to 1) evaluate the deterrent effects of different nuclear weapons and various configurations of nuclear arsenals and 2) analyze the technological, political and legal incentives and obstacles for acquiring nuclear weapons.

Full Term	1/13/25 - 5/10/25	18067-001 LEC	Keith Shimko	TR 9:00-10:15 AM	BRNG B206
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POL 60500 - Research Design & Methods

Selection of research problems involving political phenomena; formulation of concepts and hypotheses; research design; data collection techniques; data processing, analysis, and interpretation, with attention to uses of high-speed facilities. Students will design a research project and, as appropriate, carry out the project in the laboratory or in the field. Prerequisite: POL 50100.

Full Term	1/13/25 - 5/10/25	25970-001 LEC	Tara Grillos	T 1:30-4:20 PM	BRNG B206
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POL 60800 - Qualitative Methods in Political Science

This course is an introduction to the use of qualitative methods in political science. In addition to a detailed consideration of several leading qualitative approaches to political research, the course will also consider the distinctive issues of research design for qualitative research as well as the relationship of qualitative and quantitative methods. Prerequisite: POL 50100 Political Science Methodology or equivalent or consent of instructor.

Full Term	1/13/25 - 5/10/25	18067-001 LEC	Tyler Girard	T 10:30-1:20 PM	BRNG B206
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POL 60900 - Research Design II

The main goal of this seminar is to guide graduate students when preparing their Ph.D. dissertation proposals. The seminar aims to do two things. The first is to provide an overview of the crucial research design tools and research planning considerations that can help students plan and carry out better dissertation projects. The second is to offer a structured forum where students can present and receive feedback on their dissertation proposals. With permission from the Director of Graduate Studies, this course may be repeated and used to support the development of a grant proposal or research publication. Pre-requisite: POL 60000 with a grade B or better.

Full Term	1/13/25 - 5/10/25	27423-001 LEC	James McCann	R 1:30-4:20 PM	BRNG B206
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POL 62000 - Seminar In Public Policy & Processes

An introduction to public policy and processes as a field of graduate study with an emphasis on the literature.

Full Term	1/13/25 - 5/10/25	21534-001 LEC	Shan Zhou	R 10:30-1:20 PM	BRNG B206
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POL 63100 - Research Seminar In International Relations

Topics vary. Permission of department required.

Full Term	1/13/25 - 5/10/25	31410-001 LEC	Kyle Haynes	M 11:30-2:20 PM	BRNG B206
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POL 64000 - Proseminar In Comparative Political Systems

An introduction to comparative political systems, processes, and behavior as a field of graduate study with an emphasis on literature.

Full Term	1/13/25 - 5/10/25	17991-001 LEC	Andrew Baker	M W 10:30-1:20 PM	BRNG B206
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POL 64100 - Research Seminar On Comparative Politics

Topics vary. Prerequisite: POL 64000.

Full Term	1/13/25 - 5/10/25	30203-002 LEC	Benjamin Broman	M 8:30-11:20 AM	BRNG B206
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POL 68500 - Professionalization Practicum

This course examines the ethics, norms, and expectations of the profession of political science and public policy for those engaged in doctoral level study. The course explores topics of professional development to support progress in the degree and building a successful career. Permission of department required.

Full Term	1/13/25 - 5/10/25	28129-001 LEC	James McCann	F 3:30-4:20 PM	BRNG B206
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POL 68600 - Placement Practicum

Provide practical guidance and workshops to help students plan job searches, prepare application materials, and develop skills in public presentations such as video interviews, in-person interviews, job talks, teaching talks, and other public talks. Permission of department required.

Full Term	1/13/25 - 5/10/25	29306-001 LEC	James McCann	F 3:30-4:20 PM	BRNG B206
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POL 69900 - Research PhD Thesis

Research PhD Thesis. Permission of instructor required.