

POLITICS AND SOCIETY (PS)

Course numbers with the # symbol included (e.g. #400) have not been taught in the last 3 years.

PS 407 - Politics, Law and Contemporary Society

Credits: 4

This course examines the foundation and structure of the American legal system and the complex relationship between law, politics, and contemporary social structures, including the philosophical and historical origins of law and the concept of sovereignty. Using case studies and United States Supreme Court decisions, the course considers the philosophical, historical, economic, environmental, and sociological underpinnings of contemporary legal and politics issues.

Attributes: Social Science (Discovery); Social Science GP 7

PS #501 - Social and Political-Economic Theory

Credits: 4

Classics of sociological and political economic theory, as well as contemporary thinking in conservative, classical liberal, modern liberal, and radical political economy. Emphasis on the historical context in which these ideas emerge, and the links among them. Readings and discussions include such thinkers as Comte, Spencer, Weber, Durkheim, Locke, Marx, Smith, Riccardo, J.S. Mill, Shumpeter, Keynes, Hayek.

Attributes: Historical Perspectives(Disc); Social Science GP 7

PS 502 - Political Psychology

Credits: 4

Political opinion, identity, and belief-formation and reinforcement. The roles of cognition and emotion in how political identities, opinions and beliefs form, change and resist change. The implications of idea-framing in the acceptance and rejection of political concepts and ideologies. The role of social contexts and the media in creating conceptual boundaries in contemporary politics. Writing intensive.

Attributes: Social Science (Discovery); Social Science GP 7; Writing Intensive Course

PS #503 - Political Theory and Historical and Social Context

Credits: 4

Course analyzes and evaluates the roles of political philosophy and historical circumstances in politics through the readings of selected works by political philosophers and political leaders whose writings combine political philosophy with historical analysis. Special attention given to the nature of argument, choice, and leadership in political behavior. Authors studied include Machiavelli, Madison, Marx, and Lincoln. Writing intensive.

Attributes: Historical Perspectives(Disc); Historical Perspectives GP 4; Writing Intensive Course

PS #504 - Empire, Democracy and War

Credits: 4

The United States, the worlds oldest and most prominent constitutional democracy, is frequently characterized as an American empire, and empire maintained not only by its political ideals and its economic strength, but also by war. Through the reading of selected ancient and modern works by major political philosophers, historians, and political leaders, this course examines empire, democracy, and war as recurrent political concerns and as the actual experience of different regimes throughout history, including the United States. Works by, among others, Aristotle, Thucydides, Machiavelli, Hobbes, Kant, Clausewitz, and Lincoln are supplemented by selected historical studies and by analyses of American policy since World War II.

Attributes: Humanities(Disc); Literature, Phil, Ideas GP 8

PS 505 - Political Violence and Terrorism

Credits: 4

This course provides an interdisciplinary approach to the study of political violence and terrorism. It covers the psychological and sociological roots of terrorism, the organizational patterns of cells, groups and networks, and the role of ideology and identity in shaping goals, targets, and tactics. No credit for students who have previously taken PS 651 Special Topics: Political Violence and Terrorism.

Attributes: Social Science (Discovery); Social Science GP 7

PS 506 - Civil Society and Public Policy

Credits: 4

Explores how grassroots advocacy organizations and social movements mobilize human and material resources in order to shape public policy and what tactics and organizational and communication strategies lead to success. Provides students with hand-on learning through service learning project at a local organization. Policy areas may include immigration, environmental conservation, women's issues and more. Instructor permission required.

PS 507 - Justice Law and Politics

Credits: 4

This course examines the relationships among law, politics, and social structures and how much relationships shape our conceptions of justice. We explore philosophical and historical origins of US law and such concepts as due process and sovereignty. We examine the foundations and economic, environmental, and sociological underpinnings of contemporary legal and political issues.

Attributes: Social Science (Discovery); Social Science GP 7

PS 508 - Supreme Court in US Society

Credits: 4

This course examines Supreme Court legal holdings from the creation of the American Republic to the present, with attention to the social and historical contexts in which holdings have been made. We examine Constitutional issues, the process by which the Court examines such issues, the ways in which political and social context has framed and influenced Court decisions, as well as how the Court has influenced politics and the broader society.

Attributes: Historical Perspectives(Disc); Historical Perspectives GP 4

PS 509 - Political and Social Change in Developing Countries**Credits: 4**

Overview of the pressing social, political, and economic issues in the developing world. Analysis includes: political development, including different forms of authoritarianism and democracy; international political economy and models of macro-economic development; international and national aid programs aimed at reducing poverty. Case studies include China, India, Iraq and more.

Attributes: World Cultures(Discovery); Foreign Culture GP 5

PS 510 - Politics of Food**Credits: 4**

This course examines the politics of how food is produced, marketed and distributed in the United States, with attention to how the American food system has changed since World War II. The ethics and nutritional and public health implications of current agricultural policies and practices are looked at carefully, as are the environmental impacts of current practices. The impact on international food prices and markets and world hunger are also examined.

Attributes: Environment,TechSociety(Disc); Technology GP 3T

PS 511 - Women and War**Credits: 4**

Explores impact of war on women as both victims (i.e. refugees, rape victims) and participants (i.e. warriors). Covers issues such as women in combat as soldiers and terrorists, women's rights, sexual violence and rape during warfare, women's roles during peace-building etc. Case studies include Bosnia, Liberia, Afghanistan, USA, Colombia, and more.

Attributes: World Cultures(Discovery); Foreign Culture GP 5

PS 512 - People on the Move: Immigration and Refugee Policy in Global Perspective**Credits: 4**

Migration affects nearly every country in the world. It is an important dimension of globalization and compels us to reflect on notions of state sovereignty, nationhood, citizenship, human rights, tolerance and international relations. This course offers a multi-disciplinary, comparative overview of current issues in the field of international migration, including refugee policy. It aims to help students develop the knowledge and analytical tools to participate in today's often contentious debates about people on the move.

PS 514 - Model United Nations**Credits: 4**

The highlight of this experiential learning course is a trip to participate in a Model United Nations conference. Students will develop solutions to contemporary global problems (including human rights, terrorism, climate change, etc.), and will learn the art of debate and compromise. The class will serve as a particular country's delegation during a simulation of the United Nations, where it will promote the UN, the issues before the UN, and the assigned country's role in global affairs. Open to students of all majors. Instructor permission required. Contact Prof. Negron-Gonzales, melinda.negron@unh.edu. Special fee.

PS 515 - New Hampshire Politics in Action**Credits: 4**

A hands-on course on New Hampshire politics and policymaking, in which students will identify a Bill currently active in the NH General Court and develop and execute a step-by-step plan for helping get it enacted or defeated. Periodic travel to the State Capitol in Concord will be required. Writing intensive.

Attributes: Inquiry (Discovery); Writing Intensive Course

PS 520 - Globalization: Politics, Economics and Culture**Credits: 4**

Globalization is a complex web of interwoven processes that affect virtually all facets of our daily lives, from pop culture to economics to politics and everything in between. But what exactly is globalization, anyway? And does increased interconnectedness and interdependence do more harm than good? What are the effects of globalization on our society and on others around the world? How can we solve problems, such as climate change, that transcend national boundaries? This course covers different dimensions of globalization, exploring everything from free trade and global supply chains in business to the global hip-hop phenomenon to the problem of international terrorism, and many other issues.

Attributes: World Cultures(Discovery); Foreign Culture GP 5

PS 651 - Selected Topics Politics and Society**Credits: 4**

Interdisciplinary treatment of selected topics in politics and society.

Topics may include democracy, empire and war, gender roles in electoral process, the sociology and psychology of terrorism, the political economy of hunger and poverty, the social origins of dictatorship and democracy, and others. May repeated for a maximum of 8 credits. Topic: Empire, Democracy, and War is Writing intensive.

PS 651W - Selected Topics Politics and Society**Credits: 4**

Interdisciplinary treatment of selected topics in politics and society.

Topics may include democracy, empire and war, gender roles in electoral process, the sociology and psychology of terrorism, the political economy of hunger and poverty, the social origins of dictatorship and democracy, and others. May repeated for a maximum of 8 credits. Topic: Empire, Democracy, and War is Writing intensive. Writing intensive.

Attributes: Writing Intensive Course

PS 695 - Politics and Society Independent Study**Credits: 1-4**

Independent study on specific topics in Politics and Society. Project must be approved by the project supervisor Politics and Society Program.

PS 701 - Senior Project and Interdisciplinary Seminar in Politics and Society**Credits: 4**

Students undertake internships or other approved field projects with organizations such as political campaigns, media organizations, government offices, business or community groups. The seminar component enables students to share and analyze these experiences, employing readings, discussions, collective behavior games, and speakers. Permission required. Writing intensive.

Attributes: Writing Intensive Course

PS 702 - International Relations: Interdisciplinary Approach**Credits: 4**

This course explores International Relations Theory as developed by political scientists, subjected to critical insights from other disciplines, including psychology, anthropology, political economy and history. Course first surveys the historical development of International Relations Theory, beginning with Thucydides and Macchiavelli, and proceeding through 20th and 21st century realist, liberal, Marxist and constructivist theories. These theories are then examined critically in the light of insights from psychology, anthropology and political economy. Pre or Coreq: PS #501 or PS 401 or permission of instructor. Special fee.

Attributes: Writing Intensive Course

PS 703 - Dictatorship and Democracy

Credits: 4

This course examines the theoretical debates in comparative politics and political sociology regarding the social and economic bases of dictatorship and democracy, as well as the transition from authoritarianism to democracy. The course considers different conceptualizations of democracy, as well as competing theoretical arguments regarding the causes of democratization. Readings draw on case studies from different regions, including Europe, Latin America, Africa, and Asia.