POLITICAL SCIENCE (POLT)

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

POLT 401 - Politics and Society
Credits: 4
Introduces the nature of politics and political institutions. Emphasizes political behavior and continuing issues of modern politics, such as power, authority, legitimacy, freedom, and order.
Attributes: Humanities(Disc)
Equivalent(s): POLT 401H

POLT 402 - American Politics and Government
Credits: 4
Foundational course to help students understand the institutions and actors of American politics and government, the decision-making process of government, and the political considerations that drive American government.
Attributes: Social Science (Discovery)
Equivalent(s): POLT 402H
Mutual Exclusion: No credit for students who have taken PS 402.

POLT 403 - United States in World Affairs
Credits: 4
Introduces students to key concepts, actors, and events in U.S. foreign policy. After examining the early foundations of American foreign policy, this course concentrates on the United States’ international engagement from the Cold War to the present. Students develop the analytical skills they need to form their own opinions on contemporary issues in U.S. foreign policy, and defend these opinions articulately based on a solid knowledge of historic and current events.
Attributes: Historical Perspectives(Disc)
Equivalent(s): POLT 403H, POLT #403W

POLT #403W - United States in World Affairs
Credits: 4
Introduces students to key concepts, actors, and events in U.S. foreign policy. After examining the early foundations of American foreign policy, this course concentrates on the United States’ international engagement from the Cold War to the present. Students develop the analytical skills they need to form their own opinions on contemporary issues in U.S. foreign policy, and defend these opinions articulately based on a solid knowledge of historic and current events. Writing intensive.
Attributes: Historical Perspectives(Disc); Writing Intensive Course
Equivalent(s): POLT 403, POLT 403H

POLT 407 - Law and Society
Credits: 4
Introduces the ways in which law operates in modern society: its forms, functions, underlying values, and the consequences of its application in particular regimes. Topics include the psychological bases for legal obligation, the evolution of particular legal doctrines, the philosophical underpinnings of legal responsibility, the relationship of law to social structures, the relationship of law to morality, the nature of legal reasoning, and critiques of law.
Equivalent(s): POLT 407H, PS 407

POLT 440A - Honors/Global Justice
Credits: 4
The course exposes students to different understandings of global justice and the institutions and approaches used to address genocide and mass human suffering. Students explore several modern conflicts and different cultural understandings of these conflicts and views on justice. The class also examines the political dynamics of international and domestic institutions, power politics, and international activism. Students also examine the globalization of accountability and post-conflict transitions from violence to peace.
Attributes: Honors course; World Cultures(Discovery)

POLT 444 - Politics and Policy in a Warming World
Credits: 4
Uses the issue of climate change to explore the relationships between scientific and technical research and debate, policymaking at the international and domestic (U.S.) levels, and public understanding and interpretation of complex technical issues. The course is interdisciplinary. Writing intensive.
Attributes: Environment,TechSociety(Disc); Inquiry (Discovery); Writing Intensive Course

POLT 444B - Cruel and Unusual in a Federal System
Credits: 4
This course is an exploration of the US/state constitutional language of ‘cruel and unusual’ as an important limitation on governmental power. Students study its historical origins, interpretations, and applications across time periods and types of regimes. Particular attention will be paid to its association with the death penalty in the contemporary United States.
Attributes: Social Science (Discovery); Inquiry (Discovery); Writing Intensive Course

POLT 500 - American Public Policy
Credits: 4
Foundational public policy course examining policy choices and conflicts, how policy decisions are made, how policies are assessed, the development of potential policy solutions, and the politics of policy making. Students engage in a task force project that simulates public policy processes and culminates in a policy recommendation at the end of the semester. Writing intensive.
Attributes: Writing Intensive Course
Mutual Exclusion: No credit for students who have taken PS 500.

POLT 502 - State and Local Government
Credits: 4
Examines power, policies, political culture, and constitutional settings of state and local governments in the United States. Students study how state legislatures, governors, courts, political parties, and interest groups interact to shape political outcomes at the state and local levels.

POLT 504 - American Presidency
Credits: 4
The President as administrator, policy maker, and political leader. The relationship between the President and the public, the media, and other governmental institutions. Historical and constitutional background of the Presidency, role, and powers of the President in domestic and foreign affairs.

POLT 505 - American Congress
Credits: 4
Role and powers of Congress as national lawmaker and check on the executive branch: committee structure, concepts of representation, legislative oversight and party cleavage, federal budget control, and foreign policy involvement.
POL 506 - Parties, Interest Groups, and Voters  
Credits: 4  
Role of political parties as organizers and managers of social conflict. Role of voters in controlling parties and government. Influence of interest groups in the electoral process and in governmental decision making.

POL 507 - Politics of Crime and Justice  
Credits: 4  
Criminal justice in theory and practice; contemporary role of police, prosecutors, judges, juries, counsel, and interest groups in the administration of criminal justice. Writing intensive.

Attributes: Writing Intensive Course

POL 508 - Supreme Court and the Constitution  
Credits: 4  
Supreme Court treated as a political institution whose historic mission is to decide all controversies arising under the Constitution between the nation and the states, the President and Congress; the role of the judiciary in defining its own powers, rights, and duties. Writing intensive.

Attributes: Writing Intensive Course

Equivalent(s): PS 508

POL 509 - Managing Bureaucracy in America  
Credits: 4  
Growth and development of the bureaucratic state. Roles and powers of administrative officials, decision making in bureaucratic settings, citizen participation, and the influence of interest groups on bureaucratic policymaking.

POL 510 - Media and Politics  
Credits: 4  
Contemporary review of media in politics; major roles of media today in providing news, setting public agenda, influencing public opinion; government regulations vs. media responsibility; future developments and consequences for American democracy.

Equivalent(s): POLT 610

POL 512 - Public Opinion in American Politics  
Credits: 4  
Relationship of mass and elite opinion within the context of American political culture. Impact of public opinion on American governmental policies, especially with respect to major issues facing the President and Congress. Appraisal of responsiveness to influence and responsibility to lead.

Attributes: Social Science (Discovery)

POL 513 - Civil Rights and Liberties  
Credits: 4  
Analysis of four major areas of constitutional rights and liberties, political freedom, equal protection of the laws, and due process with particular attention to their impact on such problems as political protest, discrimination, school segregation, students' rights and the relationship between government and religion.

POL 520 - Politics, Justice, and Morality  
Credits: 4  
Origin of the idea of justice; relationship between politics, justice, and morality; selections from Plato, Aristotle, Roman, Islamic, and Christian political philosophers.

POL 521 - Rights and the Political Community  
Credits: 4  
Human rights and the quality of communities as expressed in Hobbes, Locke, Mandeville, Rousseau, and others.

POL 523 - American Political Thought  
Credits: 4  
Introduces the student to the key questions about politics and government asked and answered by American thinkers and actors, as well as the ways in which those "answers" have shaped our institutions and political processes. Emphasizes the idea of property. Writing intensive.

Attributes: Writing Intensive Course

Equivalent(s): POLT 623

POL 524 - Politics and Literature  
Credits: 4  
This course examines classical and contemporary works of literature to explore perennial issues in the study of politics, such as: exceptionalism, individualism, justice, and equality.

Attributes: Humanities(Disc)

POL 524W - Politics and Literature  
Credits: 4  
This course examines classical and contemporary works of literature to explore perennial issues in the study of politics, such as: exceptionalism, individualism, justice, and equality. Writing intensive.

Attributes: Humanities(Disc); Writing Intensive Course

POL 544 - Of Dictators and Democrats  
Credits: 4  
Why are some countries democratic, while others are ruled by dictators? This course answers this question by examining leading theories of democratization, then testing these theories empirically through case studies of ancient Greece, the United States, Germany, Chile, and South Africa. The course concludes with an overview of contemporary political change in the Middle East, and the potential for popular protest to culminate into democratic practices.

Attributes: Writing Intensive Course

Equivalent(s): POLT 644

POL 545 - People and Politics in Asia  
Credits: 4  
This course is an introduction to Northeast Asia, with special emphasis on the politics of the region’s major actors. Will China be the next global hegemon? Is Japan moribund? Is Taiwan an independent country? Is Hong Kong a democratic bastion? Why does Kim Jong-un keep threatening to attack the United States? This is a mid-level, writing intensive course that will prepare students for more advanced courses on the nations and issues of the Asia-Pacific rim.

Attributes: Writing Intensive Course

POL 546 - Wealth and Politics in Asia  
Credits: 4  
Different paths to modernization, industrialization, and development in nations of the Asia-Pacific Rim. In-depth examinations of the challenges faced by Japan, China, Hong Kong/Macao, Taiwan, and the Koreas in their search for the correct path to economic growth and prosperity, with special emphasis on each nation's distinct society and history. Companion course to POLT 545, but either may be taken separately. Writing intensive.

Attributes: Writing Intensive Course
POLT 548 - Drug Wars
Credits: 4
The Americas have hosted several wars against drugs, but these militarized campaigns have not curtailed the global consumption of opiates, cocaine, and cannabis. Perhaps even more sobering, the drug wars have coincided with spiraling rates of violent crime. Given this track record, policymakers have begun to reevaluate drug policies in the US and abroad. This course evaluates these contemporary changes, particularly in light of the successes and failures of past drug control policies.

POLY 549 - The Politics of Markets
Credits: 4
This course surveys some major debates in comparative political economy, focusing especially on the creation, evolution, and reform of market institutions. The course emphasizes the ways in which the market is embedded in social and political institutions. Main topics include: 1) Theoretical foundations of political economy; 2) Patterns of industrialization, 3) Capitalist institutions in contemporary industrialized countries, 4) Challenges of development, 5) Transitions from communism to a market economy, and current challenges facing capitalism.

POLY 550 - Comparative Government and Society
Credits: 4
Introduces students to key concepts and themes in comparative politics through the study of revolutions, ideologies, institutions, and/or social movements. This course compares interactions between citizens and their governments in various types of democracies as well as authoritarian regimes, and spans industrialized and developing countries.

POLY 551 - Comparative Identity Politics: Ethnic Diversity, Democracy, and Conflict
Credits: 4
What is ethnic identity and why do ethnic differences result in violence? Are diverse societies prone to conflict? The course provides a broad perspective to these questions by examining diversity and conflict in the Middle East, Europe, Africa, Asia, Latin America and the US. Racial and ethnic politics in the US, while not a primary focus, are compared to identity and conflict in other countries. Students will understand how identity evolves and shapes the world.

POLY 552 - Contemporary European Politics
Credits: 4
Analyzes politics, governments, and societies in contemporary Europe; focuses on basic characteristics of political life in different countries as well as pressing economic, political, and social issues.

POLY 554 - Revolution and Protest in Latin America
Credits: 4
Throughout Latin American history, economic and political models have been heavily contested. Advocates of state intervention in the economy have clashed with free market forces, and these clashes have often spilled into the political arena where they have been further complicated by divisions between dictators and democrats. This course examines these twin processes in Latin American politics, tracing economic and political development from the time of independence to the present.

POLY 556 - Politics in China
Credits: 4
Dynamics of China’s domestic political and economic policy processes - from massive starvation of the Great Leap Forward and the ideological upheavals of the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution to the "Opening of China to the Outside World." Writing intensive.

POLY 558 - Government and Politics of Canada
Credits: 4
This course examines the political culture, partisan dynamics, political institutions and processes of modern Canada. Selected policy issues as well as U.S. - Canadian relations are also discussed. Writing intensive.

POLY 559 - Comparative Politics of the Middle East
Credits: 4
Examines the dynamics of political and economic change in states and societies of the Middle East. Covers state formation, nationalism and colonialism, authoritarianism and opposition movements, and the origins of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

POLY 560 - World Politics
Credits: 4
The course explores the primary issues of world politics with a focus on conflict, cooperation and development. Students are introduced to the principal theories and concepts in the analysis of world politics and encouraged to apply these theories and concepts to contemporary global issues. Writing intensive.

POLY 561 - Introduction to International Political Economy
Credits: 4
Designed for students with little or no knowledge of economics; the course develops the relationships between political and economic policy and behavior in international affairs. A major focus is on the conflict between the primary values of the international economic system (efficiency and growth) and other societal and political values. Among the topics are: international trade and finance, economic and non-economic globalization, growth and human development, illicit trade, and economic governance.

POLY 562 - Strategy and National Security Policy
Credits: 4
This course develops an understanding of: 1) strategy and its relationship to national security policy and 2) American national security issues and the process of creating and implementing American national security policies. A primary theoretical and practical consideration is the relationship between the use of force and diplomacy. Among the specific issues are: the nuclear world, the U.S. defense posture, military interventions, and the broadening definition of security.

POLY 563 - The Global Information Grid's Disruptive Impact on Government, Politics, and Society
Credits: 4
Disruptive networking technologies, collectively called the Global Information Grid or GIG, are facilitating revolutionary changes in government, politics, and society. The course is designed to provide students with a framework for understanding and addressing issues that spring from the application of technology.

Equivalent(s): POLY 592B
POL 556 - United States Policy in Latin America
Credits: 4
Frequently U.S. policymakers portray the United States as a benevolent neighbor, seeking to help the countries in their "backyard". Many Latin Americans disagree with this view, and think more critically about the motivations and legacies of U.S. intervention in the Western Hemisphere. To understand these disagreements, this course applies theories of international relations to analyze pivotal events in the history of U.S. - Latin American relations from the time of independence to the present, including Spanish-American War, creation of Panama Canal, Cuban Missile Crisis, Iran Contra Affair, War Against Drugs, Washington Consensus.
Equivalent(s): POLT 665

POL 556 - Asian Challenge to Global Order
Credits: 4
Asian international relations continue to challenge global power structures. As the world's most vital region, Asia is characterized by explosive economic growth, diverse political systems, modernizing militaries, and advanced technologies. This course explores the regional political and economic dilemmas, starting with the breakdown of the old imperialist order, Japan's expansion, the Asian Cold War, Korean and Chinese unification, China's post-1978 emergence, North Korea nuclear weapons, and the growing conflict over the Pacific Ocean's marginal seas. Writing intensive.
Attributes: Writing Intensive Course

POL 556 - Introduction to Intelligence
Credits: 4
The purpose and practice of intelligence in the national security process. Concentration on the role of intelligence in the United States involving the C.I.A., military intelligence agencies, and the practice of intelligence in other countries.
Equivalent(s): POLT 568W

POL 559 - The Rise of China
Credits: 4
Analysis of China's struggle for political and economic power in Asia and the world. Examines the legacy of China's historical encounters with the outside world, interactions with the international system since 1949, domestic determinants of foreign political and economic policies, and theories of decision making. Writing intensive.
Attributes: Writing Intensive Course
Equivalent(s): POLT 660

POL 570 - Counterterrorism: Nation states' responses to terrorist activity
Credits: 4
This course explores nation states' responses to terrorism or "counterterrorism." Students learn to define terrorism and use models to understand responses. Case studies are used to highlight the challenges and successes resulting from different response strategies. Students analyze questions facing government counterterrorism decision makers. For example, what is the risk of a terrorist organization acquiring and detonating a nuclear weapon and what response could governments deliver following such an event?

POL 580 - Selected Topics Am Politics
Credits: 4
Special topics such as politics and public affairs in New Hampshire, women in politics, and civil liberties. Not offered every semester. See departmental listings for semester offerings. Writing intensive. 4 cr.
Attributes: Writing Intensive Course
Repeat Rule: May be repeated for a maximum of 12 credits.
Equivalent(s): POLT 600

POL 584 - Selected Topics in Political Thought
Credits: 4
Special issues in political theory, such as liberalism and conservatism, radical political thought, the American character, and others. Not offered every semester. See departmental listings for semester offerings. Writing intensive. 4 cr.
Attributes: Writing Intensive Course
Equivalent(s): POLT 620

POL 588 - Selected Topics in Comparative Politics
Credits: 4
Attributes: Writing Intensive Course
Equivalent(s): POLT 651

POL 592 - Selected Topics in International Politics
Credits: 4
Examines specialized issues in international politics. Topics may include ethnic conflict, non-proliferations and global security, economic and political globalization, etc. Not offered every semester. See departmental listings for semester offerings. Writing Intensive. 4 crs.
Attributes: Writing Intensive Course
Equivalent(s): POLT 660

POL 595 - Smart Politics
Credits: 4
An introduction to empirical research methods in political science, both qualitative and quantitative. Students study all aspects of the research process, including hypothesis-building, concepts and variables, measurement, research design, sampling, and empirical observations. Special attention paid to the use of statistical software. Writing intensive.
Attributes: Inquiry (Discovery), Writing Intensive Course
Mutual Exclusion: No credit for students who have taken PS 595.

POL 602A - Internship
Credits: 4
Field experience in a governmental or nongovernmental organization at the local, state, national, or international level. Arrangements must be made through the political science department. Open to juniors and seniors with at least a 3.2 GPA. Permission of the undergraduate curriculum committee of the department is required prior to the internship.

POL 602B - Washington Center Internship
Credits: 4
A four-credit independent study designed to work in conjunction with the University's Washington Center Internship program. Requirements: major in political science. Junior or senior research component to be discussed with faculty sponsor. For details on the Washington Center Internship, please contact Paula DiNardo, Coordinator National Student Exchange and Washington Center Internships, 114 Hood House, 603-862-3485 (V/TTY 862-2607), email: paula.dinardo@unh.edu. Prereq: POLT 402.

POL 602C - Concord Internship Program
Credits: 12
Provides students with field experience in state government in Concord (State Senate, House of Representatives, Office of the Governor, etc.). Students will spend three days weekly in Concord and attend a weekly practicum in Durham. Open to juniors and seniors with a 3.2 or better GPA. Applications accepted in the fall semester and can be found on department's website. Permission required. Students may sign up any four (4) credit course along with 602C for a total of 16 credits. Cr/F.
POLT 742 - Politics of Afghanistan, Pakistan, and India
Credits: 4
Afghanistan, Pakistan, and India are strategically important states and potential flashpoints of conflict. Nuclear neighbors, India and Pakistan have been in conflict for 70 years while Afghanistan remains internally unstable. The politics of these countries are also intimately involved with each other. The class will focus both on the internal politics of these states and their foreign relations with each other and the United States. Students will develop expertise in a crucial world region.
Attributes: Writing Intensive Course

POLT 748 - Food and Wine Politics
Credits: 4
Food and wine politics provides a lens through which to analyze contrasting perspectives on production organization, market structures, quality constructs, consumer preferences, and health and safety regulation. This course draws upon texts from economic history, political economy, economic sociology, and public policy to shed light on comparative political and market organization across Europe, the United States, and emerging market economies. Writing intensive.
Attributes: Writing Intensive Course

POLT 750 - Politics of Poverty
Credits: 4
Why are some countries rich while others are so poor? This course answers this question by examining several theories of economic development: political culture, modernization, dependency, regime types, urban bias, rent-seeking institutions, and international aid. The immediate goal of this course is for students to understand the causes of international inequality in the distribution of wealth. Students also improve their ability to evaluate theoretical arguments and empirical evidence critically, and develop reading and writing skills. Writing intensive.
Attributes: Writing Intensive Course

Mutual Exclusion: No credit for students who have taken PS 750.

POLT 751 - Comparative Environmental Politics and Policy
Credits: 4
Environmental policies and policy across national boundaries and at different levels of governance. Comparison of the U.S. and European Union environmental policies to build a foundation for comparisons across national boundaries and sub-national authorities. Students improve their understanding of how and why comparative methods are used to gain insight into politics and policymaking. Central concepts and debates addressed include the roles of expertise, sustainability, precautionary principle, the use of market mechanisms in policy, environmental justice, policy devolution and flexibility, environmental performance assessment, NGO roles, activism, and social movements. Using a range of theoretical approaches and historical and contemporary events and case studies, evaluating the claims and explanatory power of various concepts and theories. Includes ethical issues emerging from the theory and practice of environmental politics. Writing intensive.
Attributes: Writing Intensive Course

POLT 760 - Theories of International Relations
Credits: 4
Theoretical approaches of international politics, international organization, and international political economy with particular emphasis on systems theories, domestic determinants of foreign policy and theories of decision making. Writing intensive.
Attributes: Writing Intensive Course
POLT 762 - International Political Economy  
**Credits:** 4  
This course has been designed to introduce advanced undergraduates and graduate students to the current theoretical discussions in international political economy. The course analyzes the development of current international economic regimes, as well as looks at systemic theories (interdependence, hegemonic stability), domestic determinants (bureaucratic, interest group), and decision-making theories (rational choice). By monitoring current economic and political news, students are challenged to apply these ideas to explain the current problems in political economy.  
**Attributes:** Writing Intensive Course

POLT 765 - Security Intelligence Study  
**Credits:** 4  
The goal of the Security Intelligence Study course is to provide an opportunity for students to apply research and analysis models used by intelligence professionals to a real world problem. Using unclassified public sources, students research and present an analytical product to help limit risk for a government decision maker. Participants learn about and use publicly available data and intelligence analysis models. Writing intensive.  
**Attributes:** Writing Intensive Course

POLT 778 - International Organization  
**Credits:** 4  
This course is about cooperation at the international level. With a focus on international organizations, we examine what roles international institutions (both IGOS and NGOS) play in global governance and their effects in various issue areas. We examine their historical origins, functions, and the international and domestic political forces that impact their effectiveness. The course also considers the role of international organizations on world order including conflict resolution, peacekeeping, development, and human rights. Writing intensive.  
**Attributes:** Writing Intensive Course

POLT 795 - Advanced Study  
**Credits:** 1-4  
Senior POLT majors, with a cumulative average of 3.20 or greater, may undertake advanced study (political science), in an area of their choice, in consultation with member(s) of the faculty. Normally, the result of the project is a significant written product of a quality comparable to that done at the 700 course level. Student must initiate the project discussion and obtain approval of the undergraduate curriculum committee of the department before undertaking the project. Writing intensive.  
**Attributes:** Writing Intensive Course

POLT 796 - Advanced Study  
**Credits:** 4  
Senior POLT majors, with a cumulative average of 3.20 or greater, may undertake advanced study (political science), in an area of their choice, in consultation with member(s) of the faculty. Normally, the result of the project is a significant written product of a quality comparable to that done at the 700 course level. Student must initiate the project discussion and obtain approval of the undergraduate curriculum committee of the department before undertaking the project. Writing intensive.  
**Attributes:** Writing Intensive Course

POLT 797C - Seminar in Comparative Politics  
**Credits:** 4  
Advanced analysis focusing on government and politics in foreign nations or regions. Areas of interest may include: constitutional structures, political parties and interest groups, legislatures, bureaucracy, and public policy. Topics address such concerns as religion and politics, patterns of economic development, ethnic strife, and political leadership. Prereq: senior standing. Writing intensive.  
**Attributes:** Writing Intensive Course

POLT 797E - Seminar in International Politics  
**Credits:** 4  
Advanced analysis focusing on problems of theory and contemporary issues in international politics. Areas of interest may include: democratic norms in international relations, NATO expansion and European security, the peace process in the Middle East, etc. See department listings for semester offerings. Prereq: senior standing. Writing intensive.  
**Attributes:** Writing Intensive Course

POLT 797I - Seminar in Political Thought  
**Credits:** 4  
Advanced treatment and individual research. Prereq: senior or graduate standing. Writing intensive.  
**Attributes:** Writing Intensive Course

POLT 798B - Seminar in American Politics  
**Credits:** 4  
Advanced analysis and individual research. Prereq: senior standing. Writing intensive.  
**Attributes:** Writing Intensive Course

POLT #798C - Seminar in Comparative Politics  
**Credits:** 4  
Advanced analysis focusing on government and politics in foreign nations or regions. Areas of interest may include constitutional structures, political parties and interest groups, legislatures, bureaucracy, and public policy. Topics address such concerns as religion and politics, patterns of economic development, ethnic strife, and political leadership. Prereq: senior standing. Writing intensive.  
**Attributes:** Writing Intensive Course

POLT 799 - Honors Thesis  
**Credits:** 4  
Senior POLT honors-in-major students (see department for honors-in-major requirements), with a cumulative average of 3.20 or greater, may undertake a special honors project in an area of their choice. The result of this special project is a significant written product constituting an honors thesis, under the supervision of a faculty sponsor. Students must initiate the project discussion and obtain approval of the undergraduate curriculum committee before undertaking the project. The honors thesis constitutes the tenth course in the major. Writing intensive.  
**Attributes:** Honors course; Writing Intensive Course

POLT 799B - Seminar in American Politics  
**Credits:** 4  
Advanced analysis and individual research. Prereq: senior standing. Writing intensive.  
**Attributes:** Writing Intensive Course