The discipline of political science focuses on issues of power and governance and, in particular, on political institutions, both formal and informal. It also focuses on political behavior, political processes, political economy, and state-society relations.

The field consists of four substantive subfields: American politics, which covers such topics as national and local politics, elections, and constitutional law; comparative politics, which aims at understanding the political systems of other countries, both by studying individual states and by engaging in cross-national comparisons; international relations, which deals with the ways that states and other political actors behave in the international arena, including such issues as security, foreign policies, international organizations, and international economic relations; and political theory, which analyzes the history of normative political thought as well as of analytic concepts such as the nature of justice or liberty.

Other broad topics, such as “political economy,” or the study of the relationships between economic and political processes, overlap with the subfields, but also constitute a separate program (see below). Methodology, including statistical analysis and formal modeling, also occupies an important place in the discipline.

Advanced Placement

The department grants credit toward the major for work completed under the College Entrance Examination Board (CEEB) Advanced Placement Program. Students receive 3 academic credits and exemption from POLS UN1201 INTRO TO AMERICAN POLITICS or POLS UN1501 Introduction to Comparative Politics for scores of 5 in the United States and Comparative Government and Politics AP Exams.

Advising

The Department of Political Science offers a variety of advising resources to provide undergraduate majors and concentrators with the information and support needed to successfully navigate through the program. These resources are described below.

Undergraduate Advising Office

Students should take questions or concerns about the undergraduate program to the department’s undergraduate advising office first. If advisers cannot answer a student’s question, they then refer the student to the appropriate person.

The undergraduate advising office is staffed by political science Ph.D. students who hold open office hours each week (the schedule can be found online at https://polisci.columbia.edu/content/undergraduate-advising). During open hours, advisers are available to respond to questions and concerns about requirements, course selection, course of study, transfer and study abroad credit, and any other aspect of the program. Students may also reach advisers by email at polisciadvising@columbia.edu.

Students should also consult the undergraduate advisers for assistance in completing the political science program planning form (available online at https://polisci.columbia.edu/content/undergraduate-forms-library). The advisers must sign and date this form in the approval column next to any listed class that requires approval to fulfill program requirements (transfer courses, non-traditional courses, etc.). Each student’s planning form is kept on file in the department, so that each semester they may meet with an adviser to update it.

The advisers are also available to speak with students about academic and professional issues, including research interests, internships, and post-college plans. Since the advisers have been through the graduate school application process, they are great resources with whom students may discuss the process. Also, as current Ph.D. students in the department, they are familiar with the research interests of political science faculty and can therefore refer students to a professor whose research aligns with the students’ interests for focused thesis advice, information about academic, professional, and research opportunities, or professional development.

Requesting a Faculty Adviser

Often the best way for students to obtain advising from a faculty member is to contact a professor with whom they have taken a class in an area of interest. Students also have the option of having a faculty adviser assigned by the department. To request a faculty adviser, students should complete the Faculty Adviser Request Form and submit it to the undergraduate coordinator during the first two weeks of the semester. The link to the current adviser request form may be found in the undergraduate forms library on the department website.

Students may consult with their faculty adviser for any substantive issue, but still must visit walk-in advising hours to have courses approved, to have planning forms reviewed and approved, and to discuss departmental requirements and regulations.

Director of Undergraduate Studies

The director of undergraduate studies oversees the department’s undergraduate programs and is available during office hours. While a student’s first stop for advising should be the undergraduate advising office, the director of undergraduate studies is available to answer any questions that the undergraduate advisers or the undergraduate coordinator cannot.

Economics—Political Science Adviser

Economics—political science majors may consult with the economics-political science adviser during office hours. However, students should
also see an undergraduate adviser to discuss major requirements and fill out a planning form.

**Political Science–Statistics Adviser**
Political science–statistics majors may consult with the political science-statistics adviser during office hours. However, students should also see an undergraduate adviser to discuss major requirements and fill out a planning form.

**Faculty At-Large**
All faculty are available for consultation with students during office hours or by appointment to discuss interests in political science, course selection, and other academic or post-college matters. The faculty may provide advice about graduate schools, suggest literature that the student might consult as sources for research, recommend specific courses or professors based on the student’s interests, or offer information about research opportunities with faculty. However, students should note that any issues surrounding departmental regulations and requirements, major certification, course approvals, etc., should be addressed initially with the undergraduate advisers.

**Honors Program**
The department offers the Honors Program for a limited number of seniors who want to undertake substantial research projects and write honors theses. The honors thesis is expected to be about 75 pages in length and of exceptional quality.

Honors students perform research as part of a full-year honors seminar (POLS UN3998–POLS UN3999, 8 points total) during their senior year, in place of the seminar requirement for majors. Honors students may, however, take additional seminars to fulfill other course requirements for the major. Theses are due in late March or early April. To be awarded departmental honors, the student must satisfy all the requirements for the major, maintain a 3.6 GPA in the major, and complete a thesis of sufficiently high quality to merit honors.

The honors seminar director provides general direction for the seminar and supervises all students. Each student also works with a faculty member in his or her major subfield (American politics, comparative politics, international relations, or political theory) and a teaching assistant. The honors seminar meets weekly for part of the year and addresses general issues involved in research and thesis writing, such as how to develop research questions and projects, methodology, sources of evidence, and outlining and drafting long papers. The sessions are also used for group discussions of students’ research and thesis presentations. Students are also expected to meet periodically with the supervising professor and preceptor.

Students who wish to apply to the Honors Program must notify the department in writing by the end of the spring semester of the junior year. Please check the department website for the official deadline. Normally no more than 10% of graduating majors receive departmental honors in a given academic year. Applicants are required to have already completed the methods requirement for the major.

**Application Materials**
Applications to the Honors Program must include the following:

1. A cover page with the student’s name, CUID number, e-mail address, and school (Columbia College or General Studies);
2. An official transcript, which may be obtained from the Office of the Registrar in Kent Hall, or from Student Services Online (SSOL);
3. A writing sample, preferably a paper written for a political science course;
4. A brief description (no more than one page) of a possible thesis topic.

Completed applications should be sent to:

Department of Political Science  
Attn: Departmental Honors  
420 West 118th Street  
Mail Code 3320  
New York, NY 10027

In addition, students are encouraged to find a faculty sponsor for their thesis proposal. Students who have identified a faculty sponsor should indicate the sponsor in the proposal; students without a faculty sponsor should identify a faculty member with whom they would like to work. Research areas for the political science department faculty are listed on the department’s website. Students will be notified by e-mail of the decision taken on their applications before fall registration.

Students who are not accepted into the honors seminar or who decide after the application deadline that they would like to write an honors thesis may take one or two semesters POLS UN3901 INDEPENDENT RESEARCH I and POLS UN3902 INDEPENDENT RESEARCH II in order to write a thesis to submit for honors consideration. Any member of the department’s full-time faculty may sponsor independent study courses. Part-time faculty are not obligated to sponsor these courses.

For registration information and more details about this process, students should contact the Academic Affairs Coordinator. Note that most honors theses are about 75 pages in length. All theses must be submitted along with a confidential assessment of the paper by the supervising instructor in order to be considered for departmental honors. Students who choose this path must also complete all the requirements for the major and maintain a minimum major GPA of 3.6. Theses are due in late March or early April, and decisions about departmental honors are announced in May.

**Departmental Prizes and Fellowships**
The Department of Political Science administers the following prizes and awards. Unless otherwise noted, students do not play an active part in the nomination process. Rather, faculty members nominate students at their own discretion. Departmental prizes are reserved for political science majors.

**Charles A. Beard Prize**
A cash prize awarded every other year to the student who writes the best paper in political science during the academic year.

**Caroline Phelps Stokes Prize**
A cash prize established at the bequest of Caroline Phelps Stokes is awarded to a student who has been a degree candidate at Columbia College or Barnard College for at least one academic year, and who has written the best essay in course or seminar work on the general subject of human rights.

**Allan J. Willen Memorial Prize**
A cash prize awarded to the Columbia College student who writes the best seminar paper on a contemporary American political problem.
**Edwin Robbins Academic Research/Public Service Fellowship**

The Robbins Fellowship provides a stipend each summer for at least two political science students in Columbia College who will be engaged in research in important matters of politics or policymaking or who will be working, without other compensation, as interns in a governmental office, agency, or other public service organization. Each spring, the department invites students to submit fellowship proposals. Awards are announced in late April or early May.

**The Arthur Ross Foundation Award**

A cash prize awarded to GS students for excellence in the field of political science.

**Phyllis Stevens Sharp Fellowship in American Politics**

The Phyllis Stevens Sharp Endowment Fund provides stipends each year during the summer for one or more Columbia College or School of General Studies students majoring or concentrating in political science to support research in American politics or policy making, or otherwise uncompensated internships in a government office, agency, or other public service organization. Each spring, the department invites students to submit fellowship proposals. Awards are announced in late April or early May.

**Early Admission to the Master's Degree Program in Political Science for Columbia and Barnard Political Science Undergraduates**

While the Department of Political Science does not offer a joint bachelor of arts/master's degree, it does allow Columbia and Barnard undergraduates to apply for early admission to its master's degree program.

Students should apply during the fall semester of their senior year for admission to the M.A. program in the following fall semester, after completion of the B.A. degree. The department and the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences may award up to one-half residence unit of advanced standing and/or up to three courses (nine to twelve credits) of transfer credit for graduate courses (4000-level and above) taken at Columbia in excess of the requirements for the Columbia bachelor’s degree, as certified by the dean of the undergraduate school awarding the bachelor’s degree.

For further information about the application process and minimum qualifications for early admission, please contact the director of undergraduate studies.

For further information about requirements for the M.A. degree, see [https://gsas.columbia.edu/degree-programs/ma-programs/political-science](https://gsas.columbia.edu/degree-programs/ma-programs/political-science).

**Professors**

Richard K. Betts  
Jagdish Bhagwati (also Economics)  
Alessandra Casella (also Economics)  
Partha Chatterjee (Anthropology)  
Jean L. Cohen  
Michael Doyle (University Professor)  
Robert Erikson  
Virginia Page Fortna  
Timothy Frye  
Ester Fuchs (School of International and Public Affairs)  
Andrew Gelman (also Statistics)  
Donald P. Green  
Bernard Harcourt (Law)  
Fredrick Harris  
Jeffrey Henig (Teachers College)  
Shigeo Hirano  
John Huber  
Macartan Humphreys  
David C. Johnston  
Ira Katznelson (also History)  
Sudipta Kaviraj (Middle Eastern, South Asian, and African Studies)  
Jeffrey Lax  
Mahmood Mamdani (Anthropology)  
Karuna Mantena  
M. Victoria Muriello (also School of International and Public Affairs)  
Andrew J. Nathan  
Sharyn O’Halloran (also School of International and Public Affairs)  
Justin Phillips  
Kenneth Prewitt (School of International and Public Affairs)  
Robert Y. Shapiro  
Jack Snyder  
Michael Ting (also School of International and Public Affairs)  
Nadia Urbinati  
Gregory Wawro (Chair)  
Andreas Wimmer (also Sociology)  
Keren Yarhi-Milo (also School of International and Public Affairs)

**Associate Professors**

Allison Carnegie  
Daniel Corstange (also School of International and Public Affairs)  
Sarah Daly  
Turkuler Isiksel  
Kimuli Kasara

**Assistant Professors**

Naoki Egami  
Nikhar Gaikwad  
Junyan Jiang  
Eunji Kim  
John Marshall  
Andrew McCall  
Carlo Prato  
Yamil Velez

**Lecturers**

Kevin Funk  
Elise Giuliano  
Clara Maier  
Lara Nettelfield  
Michael Parrott  
Tsveta Petrova  
Chiara Superti
Guidelines for all Political Science Majors, Concentrators, and Interdepartmental Majors

Planning Forms
Major Planning forms are available on the department website.

Policy on Double-Counting Courses
• Policies about double-counting courses to fulfill requirements in more than one major may be found here:
  - Columbia College
  - School of General Studies
• Courses in the Core Curriculum do not fulfill requirements for the Political Science major.

Policy on Counting Credits outside the Department of Political Science
• Courses taken at other institutions or other Columbia departments may not be used to meet the requirement of a major or concentration in political science without the approval of the Director of Undergraduate Studies or the department’s undergraduate adviser. Students should secure such approval in advance of registration.

Pass/D/Fail and Grading Policy
• A grade of “Pass” is acceptable only for the first course taken toward the major or concentration.
  • The course used to fulfill the research methods requirement cannot be taken Pass/D/Fail.
• Students must receive a grade of at least C- in order for a course to count towards the major or concentration.

AP Credit Policy
• Students who receive transfer credit for one or more AP exams in political science may count a maximum of one AP course toward the major or concentration, contingent upon completing an upper-level (3000 or higher) course with a grade of C or higher in the subfield in which the AP exam was taken. All transfer credits must be approved by the Director of Undergraduate Studies or the undergraduate adviser (polisciadvising@columbia.edu).

Transfer Credit Policy
• For the political science major, a maximum of three courses in political science may be transferred from other institutions, including study abroad and AP credit. For the political science concentration as well as the economics-political science and political science-statistics interdisciplinary majors, a maximum of two courses in political science may be transferred from other institutions.

Guidelines for all Political Science Majors, Concentrators, and Interdepartmental Majors

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Major Planning forms are available on the department website.

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**Course Requirements**

For the political science part of the major, students must choose a **Primary Subfield** and a **Secondary Subfield** to study. The corresponding introductory courses in both subfields must be taken, plus two electives in the Primary Subfield and one in the Secondary Subfield. The subfields are as follows:

- American Politics (AP)
- Comparative Politics (CP)
- International Relations (IR)
- Political Theory (PT)

The economics–political science major requires a total of 59 points: 22 points in economics, 17 points in political science, 6 points in mathematics, 6 points in statistical methods, 4 points in a political science seminar, and 4 points in the interdisciplinary seminar as follows:

### Core Requirements in Economics

Students must take all of the following core economics courses:

- **ECON UN1105** Principles of Economics
- **ECON UN3211** Intermediate Microeconomics
- **ECON UN3213** Intermediate Macroeconomics
- **ECON UN3412** Introduction To Econometrics
  or **POLS GU4712** PRINC OF QUANT POL RESEARCH 2
- **ECON GU4370** Political Economy

### Core Requirements in Mathematics and Statistics

Students must take all of the following core mathematics and statistics courses:

- **MATH UN1101** Calculus I
- **MATH UN1201** Calculus III
- **STAT UN1201** Calculus-Based Introduction to Statistics

### Economics Electives

Students must take two electives at the 3000 level or higher in the Department of Economics.

### Political Science Courses

Students must choose a Primary Subfield and a Secondary Subfield to study. The subfields are as follows: American Politics (AP), Comparative Politics (CP), International Relations (IR), and Political Theory (PT).

**Primary Subfield**: Minimum three courses, one of which must be the subfield’s introductory course.

**Secondary Subfield**: Minimum two courses, one of which must be the subfield’s introductory course.

### Seminars

Students must take the following two seminars:

- **ECPS GU4921** Seminar In Political Economy
- and a Political Science Department seminar, in the student’s Primary Subfield. Please select one of the following:
  - **POLS UN3911**
  - **POLS UN3921** AMERICAN POLITICS SEMINAR
  - **POLS UN3951** COMPARATIVE POLITICS SEMINAR
  - **POLS UN3961** INTERNATIONAL POLITICS SEMINAR

* Students who wish to count toward the political science seminar requirement a course that is not in the above list of approved seminars must obtain permission from the political science Director of Undergraduate studies. Barnard colloquia may not be used to fulfill the seminar requirement. Note that admission to Barnard colloquia is by application to the Barnard political science department only.
Political Science-Statistics

Political Science-Statistics

The interdepartmental major of political science—statistics is designed for students who desire an understanding of political science to pursue advanced study in this field and who also wish to have at their command a broad range of sophisticated statistical tools to analyze data related to social science and public policy research.

Students should be aware of the rules regarding the use of the Pass/D/ Fail option. Courses in which a grade of D has been received do not count toward the major requirements.

Political science—statistics students are eligible for all prizes reserved for political science majors.

The political science-statistics major requires a minimum of 15 courses in political science, statistics, and mathematics, to be distributed as follows:

**POLITICAL SCIENCE**

Primary Subfield

- Students must choose a Primary Subfield to study. Within the subfield, students must take a minimum of three courses, including the subfield’s introductory course. The subfields and their corresponding introductory courses are as follows:
  - American Politics:
    - POLS UN1201 INTRO TO AMERICAN POLITICS
  - Comparative Politics:
    - POLS UN1501 Introduction to Comparative Politics
  - International Relations:
    - POLS UN1601 INTERNATIONAL POLITICS
  - Political Theory:
    - POLS UN1101 POLITICAL THEORY I

- Additionally, students must take one 4-point 3000-level seminar in their Primary Subfield.

Research Methods

- Students must take the following two research methods courses:
  - POLS GU4710 PRINC OF QUANT POL RESEARCH 1
  - or POLS UN3704 RESEARCH DESIGN: DATA ANALYSIS
  - POLS GU4712 PRINC OF QUANT POL RESEARCH 2

**STATISTICS**

- Students must take one of the following sequences:
  - Sequence A — recommended for students preparing for graduate study in statistics
    - MATH UN1101 CALCULUS I
    - MATH UN1102 CALCULUS II
    - MATH UN2010 LINEAR ALGEBRA
    - STAT UN1201 Calculus-Based Introduction to Statistics
    - STAT GU203 PROBABILITY THEORY
    - STAT GU204 Statistical Inference
    - STAT GU205 Linear Regression Models
    - STAT GU406 Statistical Computing and Introduction to Data Science
  - or
  - Sequence B — recommended for students preparing to apply statistical methods to other fields
    - STAT UN1101 Introduction to Statistics
    - STAT UN2102 Applied Statistical Computing
    - STAT UN2103 APPLIED LINEAR REG ANALYSIS
    - STAT UN2104 Applied Categorical Data Analysis

**Statistics Elective**

- Students must take an approved elective in a statistics or a quantitatively oriented course in a social science.

1. Students taking Statistics Sequence A may replace the mathematics requirements with both MATH UN1207 Honors Mathematics A and MATH UN1208 HONORS MATHEMATICS B.

Concentration in Political Science

Program of Study

To be planned with the department as soon as the student starts to register for courses toward the concentration. Students should not wait until they formally declare the concentration before meeting with an undergraduate adviser during the registration period to plan their programs for the concentration.

Concentration Requirements

Students must choose a Primary Subfield and a Secondary Subfield to study. The subfields are as follows:

- American Politics (AP)
- Comparative Politics (CP)
- International Relations (IR)
- Political Theory (PT)

The concentration in political science requires a minimum of 7 courses in political science, to be distributed as follows:

**Introductory Courses**

- Students must take two of the following introductory courses:
  - POLS UN1201 INTRO TO AMERICAN POLITICS
  - POLS UN1501 Introduction to Comparative Politics
  - POLS UN1601 INTERNATIONAL POLITICS
  - POLS UN1101 POLITICAL THEORY I

**Research Methods**

- Students must take one of the following courses:
  - POLS GU4710 PRINC OF QUANT POL RESEARCH 1
  - POLS GU4712 PRINC OF QUANT POL RESEARCH 2
  - POLS GU4720 QUANT METH 1 APPL REG CAUS INF
  - POLS GU4722 QUANT METH 2 STAT THE@CAUS INF
  - POLS GU4724 QUANT METH 3 EXPERIMENTAL METH
  - POLS GU4762 Politics in the Lab
  - POLS GU4764 Design and Analysis of Sample Surveys
POLYS GU4790 Advanced Topics in Quantitative Research

POLYS GU4790 Advanced Topics in Quantitative Research

POLYS GU4792 Quantitative Methods: Research Topics

Political Science Electives

Minimum two courses (in any subfield).

* A student may take another course inside or outside the department that provides relevant training in research methods to satisfy this requirement only with the written permission in advance of the Director of Undergraduate Studies or the department’s undergraduate adviser. If a course outside the political science department is used to satisfy the research methods requirement, this same course cannot be used toward other majors/concentrations or programs.

Recommended Courses

In addition to courses in political science, students are strongly advised, but not required, to take six credits in a related social science field.

American Politics

POLYS UN3208 State Politics. 3 points.

This course is intended to provide students with a detailed understanding of politics in the American states. The topics covered are divided into four broad sections. The first explores the role of the states in America’s federal system of government. Attention is given to the basic features of intergovernmental relations and the historical evolution of American federalism. The second part of the course focuses on state-level political institutions. The organization and processes associated with the legislative, executive, and judicial branches are discussed in depth. The third section examines state elections, political parties, and interest groups. Finally, the course concludes by looking closely at various policy areas. Budgeting, welfare, education, and morality policy are among those considered.

Spring 2022: POLYS UN3208

<table>
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<th>Times/Location</th>
<th>Instructor</th>
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<td>POLYS 3208</td>
<td>001/13109</td>
<td>T Th 10:10am - 11:25am 501 Schermerhorn Hall</td>
<td>Justin Phillips</td>
<td>3</td>
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</table>

POLYS UN3210 Judicial Politics. 3 points.

Law and courts as political institutions. Considers the role of the judiciary within the American system of government, power relations within the judicial hierarchy, politics of decision making on the Supreme Court, the politics of Supreme Court nominations, the role of interest groups and public opinion in shaping judicial doctrine, the social impact and legitimacy of courts, and the political history of the legal system.

POLYS UN3225 American Constitutional History. 4 points.

This Course is intended to look at key developments of American History through the prism of Supreme Court decisions and their aftermath. In essence, this Course will address three questions: 1. How did the Supreme Court reflect, and affect, historic patterns of U.S. development, and how did it impact the legal and economic framework of the United States? 2. How did the Supreme Court respond to, or worsen, crises in U.S. history? 3. How did the perception of individual and collective rights and liberties, and of the function and role of Governments -- both Federal and State -- evolve over time?

Spring 2022: POLYS UN3225

<table>
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<th>Course Number</th>
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<tr>
<td>POLYS 3225</td>
<td>001/13112</td>
<td>T Th 1:10pm - 2:25pm 337 Seeley W. Mudd Building</td>
<td>Robert Tortorello</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>17/27</td>
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POLYS UN3245 Race and Ethnicity In American Politics. 3 points.

This course examines the role of race in American politics and the political behavior of racial and ethnic minorities in the United States. Topics will include, but are not limited to, minority political participation, segregation, gentrification, group identity, implicit bias, political representation, media effects, and the role of race in political campaigns. This course examines the role of race in American politics and the political behavior of racial and ethnic minorities in the United States. Topics will include, but are not limited to, minority political participation, segregation, gentrification, group identity, implicit bias, political representation, media effects, and the role of race in political campaigns. The course focuses on the historical and contemporary roles of various racial and ethnic groups; and on the initiation, demands, leadership and organizational styles, orientation, benefits, and impact on the structures and outputs of governance in the United States.

POLYS UN3260 LATINO POLITICAL EXPERIENCE. 3 points.

This course focuses on the political incorporation of Latinos into the American polity. Among the topics to be discussed are patterns of historical exclusion, the impact of the Voting Rights Act, organizational and electoral behavior, and the effects of immigration on the Latino national political agenda.

POLYS UN3285 Freedom of Speech and Press. 3 points.

Examines the constitutional right of freedom of speech and press in the United States. Examines, in depth, various areas of law, including extremist or seditious speech, obscenity, libel, fighting words, the public forum doctrine, and public access to the mass media. Follows the law school course model, with readings focused on actual judicial decisions.

Fall 2022: POLYS UN3285

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<th>Course Number</th>
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<td>Lee Bollinger</td>
<td>3</td>
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POLYS UN3290 Voting and American Politics. 3 points.

Elections and public opinion; history of U.S. electoral politics; the problem of voter participation; partisanship and voting; accounting for voting decisions; explaining and forecasting election outcomes; elections and divided government; money and elections; electoral politics and representative democracy.

Fall 2022: POLYS UN3290

<table>
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<th>Course Number</th>
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<td>Robert Erikson</td>
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<td>106/120</td>
</tr>
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</table>
American Politics Seminars

POLS UN3921 AMERICAN POLITICS SEMINAR. 4.00 points.
Priority given to senior majors, followed by junior majors, then all other students.

Prerequisites: the instructor’s permission. Pre-registration is not permitted.
Prerequisites: the instructors permission. Pre-registration is not permitted. Seminar in American Politics Seminar. Students who would like to register should join the electronic wait list. For list of topics and descriptions see: https://polisci.columbia.edu/content/undergraduate-seminars

Third, what different institutional forms does democratic government take? Finally, are some institutions more likely than others to produce desirable social outcomes such as accountability, redistribution, and political stability?

Comparative Politics

POLS UN1501 Introduction to Comparative Politics. 4 points.
This course provides a broad overview of the comparative politics subfield by focusing on important substantive questions about the world today. The course is organized around four questions. First, why can only some people depend upon the state to enforce order? Second, how can we account for the differences between autocracies and democracies? Third, what different institutional forms does democratic government take? Finally, are some institutions more likely than others to produce desirable social outcomes such as accountability, redistribution, and political stability?

POLS UN3921

Priority given to senior majors, followed by junior majors, then all other students.

Prerequisites: the instructor’s permission. Pre-registration is not permitted.
Prerequisites: the instructors permission. Pre-registration is not permitted. Seminar in American Politics Seminar. Students who would like to register should join the electronic wait list. For list of topics and descriptions see: https://polisci.columbia.edu/content/undergraduate-seminars

This course examines political institutions and elite behavior from a political economy relating to political elite and institutions. Second, the methodological goal is to empower students to implement research designs that can effectively address the substantive questions driving their research. Third, the professionalization goal is to expose students to the academic processes of writing reviews, replicating and extending others’ studies, presenting research projects, and writing original research designs or academic papers

POLS UN3528 New and Old Forms of Political Protest. 3 points.
This course will introduce the students to the important topic of political protest. Each week we will address different aspects of the phenomenon: from the determinant to the actors and strategies of protest. We will discuss how the forms of protest have changed and the current role of the internet in general and social media in particular. Finally, we will discuss the role of the state and state repression, in particular censorship in the dynamics of protest. Since this is a comparative politics course, we will cover a range of different countries, including the United States, as well as both democratic and authoritarian regimes.

POLS GU4423 POLITICAL ECONOMY ANALYSIS OF ELITES & INSTITUTIONS. 4.00 points.
This course examines political institutions and elite behavior from a political economy perspective. This course has three core goals. First, the substantive goal is to familiarize students with foundational theoretical arguments and frontier empirical evidence pertaining to central questions in political economy relating to political elite and institutions. Second, the methodological goal is to empower students to implement research designs that can effectively address the substantive questions driving their research. Third, the professionalization goal is to expose students to the academic processes of writing reviews, replicating and extending others’ studies, presenting research projects, and writing original research designs or academic papers
POLS GU4472 JAPANESE POLITICS. 4.00 points.
This course begins by studying the late Soviet era—the 1970s through
the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991—in order to understand what
kind of political system and political culture Russia inherited. We spend
some time analyzing why and how the Soviet Union—a superpower
for 75 years—disintegrated suddenly and for the most part, peacefully.
Then, the bulk of the course focuses on state-building in the Russian
Federation. Russia’s effort to construct new political institutions, a
functioning economy, and a healthy society represents one of the
greatest political dramas of our time. Beginning with Yeltsin’s presidency
in 1991 and continuing through the current eras of Putin, Medvedev,
and Putin again, we consider phenomena such as economic reform,
nationalism, separatism, federalism, war, legal reform, civil society, and
democratization. The third part of the course addresses Russia’s foreign
relations. Like its predecessor states, the Russian Empire and the Soviet
Union, Russia is concerned with what kind of state it is (or should be)
and where it stands in the international order. We will study how Russian
elites make sense of Russia’s identity, as well as Russia’s policies toward
the US, Europe, its “near abroad,” the Middle East, and China.

POLS GU4476 CONTEMPORARY AFRICAN POLITICS. 3.00 points.
This course aims to teach students what, if any, answers social scientists
have to the questions that concern anyone with an interest in African
politics: 1) Why have democratic governments flourished in some
countries and not others? 2) What institutions may enable Africans to
hold their leaders accountable? 3) How do people participate in politics?
4) In what ways do aspiring African political leaders build public support?
5) To what extent does persistent poverty on the continent have political
causes? and 6) Why is violence used to resolve some political disputes
and not others?

Comparative Politics Seminars
POLS UN3951 COMPARATIVE POLITICS SEMINAR. 4.00 points.
Priority given to senior majors, followed by junior majors, then all other
students.

Prerequisites: POLS V1501 or the equivalent, and the instructor’s
permission. Pre-registration is not permitted. Please see here for
detailed seminar registration guidelines: http://polisci.columbia.edu/
undergraduate-programs/seminar-registration-guidelines.

POLS GU4495 PRINCIPLES OF POLITICAL SCIENCE—SPECIAL TOPICS. 3.00 points.
This course gives students a taste of the breadth of political science.

POLS GU4497 GERMAN POLITICS. 3.00 points.
This course focuses on the political and economic development of
Germany and its neighbors. The first half of the course reviews the
patterns and dynamics of political development in Germany, focusing
mainly on the last two hundred years, during which the country has been
on a rugged yet fascinating path toward modernity. We will examine
major political events including the collapse of the Imperial China, the
rise of the Communist Party, the Cultural Revolution, and the post-Mao
shift toward reform and opening. The second half of the course will look
various special topics, including the structure of the party and the state,
the relationship between state and society, the modes of economic
development, and the governance of the media and the Internet.

Throughout the course, special attention will be paid to how China’s
domestic political and economic processes intersected with major world
events and transnational forces, such as imperialism, world wars, and economic globalization
International Relations

POLS UN1601 INTERNATIONAL POLITICS. 4.00 points.
This introductory course surveys key topics in the study of international politics, including the causes of war and peace; the efficacy of international law and human rights; the origins of international development and underdevelopment; the politics of global environmental protection; and the future of US-China relations. Throughout the course, we will focus on the interests of the many actors of world politics, including states, politicians, firms, bureaucracies, international organizations, and nongovernmental organizations; the interactions between them; and the institutions in which they operate. By the end of the semester, students will be better equipped to systematically study international relations and make informed contributions to critical policy debates.

Spring 2022: POLS UN1601
Course Number: 1601
Section/Call Number: 001/13250
Times/Location: M W 4:10pm - 5:25pm
Instructor: Alexander de la Paz
Points: 4.00
Enrollment: 252/263

Fall 2022: POLS UN1601
Course Number: 1601
Section/Call Number: 001/13032
Times/Location: T Th 1:10pm - 2:25pm
Room: TBA
Instructor: La Paz
Points: 4.00
Enrollment: 100/100

POLS UN3648 Governing the Global Economy. 4 points.
Who governs the world economy? Why do countries succeed or fail to cooperate in setting their economic policies? When and how do international institutions help countries cooperate? When and why do countries adopt good and bad economic policies? This course examines how domestic and international politics determine how the global economy is governed. We will study the politics of trade, international investment, monetary, immigration, and environmental policies to answer these questions. The course will approach each topic by examining alternative theoretical approaches and evaluate these theories using historical and contemporary evidence. There will be an emphasis on applying concepts through the analysis of policy-relevant case studies designed specifically for this course.

Spring 2022: POLS UN3648
Course Number: 3648
Section/Call Number: 001/13118
Times/Location: M W 10:10am - 11:25am
Instructor: Nikhar Gaikwad
Points: 4
Enrollment: 57/67

POLS GU4814 GLOBAL ENERGY: SECURITY/GEOPOL. 3.00 points.
The course focuses on the nexus between energy and security as it reveals in the policies and interaction of leading energy producers and consumers. Topics include: Hydrocarbons and search for stability and security in the Persian Gulf, Caspian basin, Eurasia, Africa and Latin America; Russia as a global energy player; Analysis of the impact of Russia’s invasion of Ukraine on energy markets, global security, and the future of the energy transition; Role of natural gas in the world energy balance and European energy security; Transformation of the global energy governance structure; Role and evolution of the OPEC; Introduction into energy economics; Dynamics and fundamentals of the global energy markets; IOCs vs NOCs; Resource nationalism, cartels, sanctions and embargoes; Asia’s growing energy needs and its geo-economic and strategic implications; Nuclear energy and challenges to non-proliferation regime; Alternative and renewable sources of energy; Climate change as one of the central challenges of the 21st century; Analysis of the policies, technologies, financial systems and markets needed to achieve climate goals. Climate change and attempts of environmental regulation; Decarbonization trends, international carbon regimes and search for optimal models of sustainable development. Special focus on implications of the shale revolution and technological innovations on U.S. energy security.

Fall 2022: POLS GU4814
Course Number: 4814
Section/Call Number: 001/12759
Times/Location: M W 10:10am - 11:25am
Instructor: Albert Bininachvili
Points: 3.00
Enrollment: 30/30
POLLS GU4845 National Security Strategies of the Middle East: A Comparative Perspective. 4 points.
At the crossroads of three continents, the Middle East is home to many diverse peoples, with ancient and proud cultures, in varying stages of political and socio-economic development, often in conflict. Following the Arab Spring and subsequent upheaval in Egypt, Syria, Iraq, Yemen, Libya and more, the region is in a state of historic flux. The Sunni-Shia rivalry, especially between Saudi Arabia and Iran, growing Iranian-Israeli conflict, population explosion, poverty and authoritarian control, Russian ascendance and US retrenchment, are the primary regional drivers today. Together, these factors have transformed the Middle Eastern landscape, with great consequence for the national security of the countries of the region and their foreign relations. The primary source of the world’s energy resources, the Middle East remains the locus of the terror-WMD-fundamentalist nexus, which continues to pose a significant threat to both regional and international security. The course surveys the national security challenges facing the region’s primary players (Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Iran, Iraq, Syria, Lebanon, Jordan, Israel, the Palestinians and Turkey) and how the convolutions of recent years have affected them. Unlike many Middle East courses, which focus on US policy in the region, the course concentrates on the regional players’ perceptions of the threats and opportunities they face and the strategies they have adopted to deal with them. It thus provides an essential vantage point for those interested in gaining a deeper understanding of a region, which stands at the center of many of the foreign policy issues of our era. The course is designed for those with a general interest in the Middle East, especially those interested in national security issues, students of comparative politics and future practitioners, with an interest in “real world” international relations and national security.

POLLS GU4843 INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL ECONOMY OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. 4 points.
This course examines how domestic and international politics influence the economic policies of developing countries. We will critically evaluate different theoretical debates related to foreign economic policymaking in emerging markets, and introduce chief methodological approaches used in contemporary analyses. We will focus attention on different types of cross-border flows: the flow of goods (trade policy), the flow of people (immigration policy), the flow and location of production (foreign investment policy), the flow of capital (financial and monetary policy), and the flow of pollution (environment policy). In the process, we will address several themes that are central to understanding the politics of economic policymaking in emerging economies, including, the legacies of colonialism, trade protectionism and liberalization, globalization and the race to the bottom, the relationship between economic policy and culture, and development and redistribution. There will be an emphasis on applying concepts through the analysis of policy-relevant case studies designed for this course.

Spring 2022: POLLS GU4863

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<th>Course Number</th>
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Fall 2022: POLLS GU4865

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POLLS GU4895 War, Peace, and Strategy. 4 points.  
Discussion Section Required
Survey of the causes of war and peace, functions of military strategy, interaction of political ends and military means. Emphasis on 20th-century conflicts; nuclear deterrence; economic, technological, and moral aspects of strategy; crisis management; and institutional norms and mechanisms for promoting stability.

Fall 2022: POLLS GU4895

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<th>Course Number</th>
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International Relations Seminars

POLS UN3961 INTERNATIONAL POLITICS SEMINAR. 4.00 points.
Priority given to senior majors, followed by junior majors, then all other students.

Prerequisites: POLS UN1601 or the equivalent, and the instructor’s permission.
Prerequisites: POLS UN1601 or the equivalent, and the instructor’s permission. Seminar in International Politics. Students who would like to register should join the electronic wait list. For list of topics and descriptions see: https://polisci.columbia.edu/content/undergraduate-seminars

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<th>Spring 2022: POLS UN3961</th>
<th>Course Number</th>
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<td>W 10:10am - 12:00pm</td>
<td>1302 International Affairs Bldg</td>
<td>Keren Yarhi-Milo</td>
<td>4.00</td>
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<td>POLS 3961</td>
<td>002/13277</td>
<td>T 2:10pm - 4:00pm</td>
<td>401 Hamilton Hall</td>
<td>Gideon Rose</td>
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<td>POLS 3961</td>
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<td>1302 International Affairs Bldg</td>
<td>Rajan Menon</td>
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<td>POLS 3961</td>
<td>004/13147</td>
<td>Th 2:10pm - 4:00pm</td>
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<td>David Sahakyan</td>
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Political Theory

POLS UN1101 POLITICAL THEORY I. 4.00 points.
This course considers key questions at the foundation of political thought. What is justice? How do we justify the coercive power of states? Do we have an obligation to obey the government? Who should make and enforce the law? What basic rights and liberties should governments protect? How should our economic system produce and divide wealth and material resources? What are the claims of excluded or marginalized groups and how can these claims be addressed? We explore these questions through the works of several classical and contemporary political thinkers. A major goal of the course is to practice the skills needed to understand a political thinker’s arguments and to construct one’s own

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<th>Spring 2022: POLS UN1101</th>
<th>Course Number</th>
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<td>POLS 1101</td>
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<td>202 Altschul Hall</td>
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POLS UN3100 Justice. 3 points.
An inquiry into the nature and implications of justice in areas ranging from criminal justice to social justice to the circumstances of war and peace, considering issues such as abortion, the criminalization of behavior, the death penalty, climate change, global poverty, civil disobedience, and international conflict.

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<th>Spring 2022: POLS UN3100</th>
<th>Course Number</th>
<th>Section/Call Number</th>
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<td>209 Havemeyer Hall</td>
<td>David Johnston</td>
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POLS UN3112 GANDHI, KING # POLS OF NONVIOLENCE. 4.00 points.
Since Gandhi's experiments in mass satyagraha over a century ago, nonviolence has become a staple of protest politics across the globe. From the Occupy movements to the Arab Spring to Movement for Black Lives, it might even be entering a new phase of revitalization. At the same time, what exactly nonviolence is and what it can accomplish in politics is very much under debate. This course aims to understand the politics of nonviolence by examining the political ideas and political careers of its most well-known twentieth-century advocates, M.K. Gandhi and Martin Luther King, Jr. Though still venerated as founding figures of nonviolent protest, Gandhi and King have come to be remembered in ways that can misconstrue how they understood and practiced nonviolent politics. To many, Gandhi is a saintly idealist, who wanted to imbue politics with the spirit of ahimsa, truth, and conscience. Likewise, King is taken to be a spokesman for interracial brotherhood and Christian love. While partly true, these images also downplay the political side of their nonviolence — the techniques of organizing and strategies of protest that made their movements successful. We will examine the evolution of Gandhi's and King's political thinking in relation to the movements they led – the Indian independence movement and the civil rights movement in the US. We will consider how the theory and practice of nonviolence evolved and changed as it moved from one context to another. We will be especially focused on understanding the dynamics of nonviolent protest.

POLS GU4132 POLIT THOUGHT-CLASSICL AND MEDEVAL. 3.00 points.
Prerequisites: Contemporary Civilization or a comparable introduction to political theory course.
Prerequisites: Contemporary Civilization or a comparable introduction to political theory course. The course examines the historical and theoretical foundations of democracy. The underlying assumption is that political arrangements and institutions are the embodiment of political ideas and theories. The course will investigate the historical emergence of democracy as a form of government based on equality before the law and equal access to all citizens to the deliberative, decisional and control processes. The historical starting point is identified in Solon's reforms in Athens which dramatically broke the hegemony of ancient nobility; we will then study Cleisthenes' reforms and their redefinition of citizenry; in the context of the new political ideal of isonomy. We will proceed to examine the theoretical debate of the fifth century BCE, which includes Herodotus (III, 80-82), Thucydides and Protagoras. We will then examine the criticism levelled at democracy by Socrates, Plato and Aristotle: their thought enables us to compare the ancient idea of democracy to our own. Finally, we will study the Roman contribution to the theory of democracy, namely Cicero's ideal of 'republic' and the role that ius, codified law, played in it.

POLS UN3704 RESEARCH DESIGN: DATA ANALYSIS. 3.00 points.
This course examines the basic methods data analysis and statistics that political scientists use in quantitative research that attempts to make causal inferences about how the political world works. The same methods apply to other kinds of problems about cause and effect relationships more generally. The course will provide students with extensive experience in analyzing data and in writing (and thus reading) research papers about testable theories and hypotheses. It will cover basic data analysis and statistical methods, from univariate and bivariate descriptive and inferential statistics through multivariate regression analysis. Computer applications will be emphasized. The course will focus largely on observational data used in cross-sectional statistical analysis, but it will consider issues of research design more broadly as well. It will assume that students have no mathematical background beyond high school algebra and no experience using computers for data analysis.

Political Theory Seminars
Research Methods
POLS UN3704 RESEARCH DESIGN: DATA ANALYSIS. 3.00 points.
This course examines the basic methods data analysis and statistics that political scientists use in quantitative research that attempts to make causal inferences about how the political world works. The same methods apply to other kinds of problems about cause and effect relationships more generally. The course will provide students with extensive experience in analyzing data and in writing (and thus reading) research papers about testable theories and hypotheses. It will cover basic data analysis and statistical methods, from univariate and bivariate descriptive and inferential statistics through multivariate regression analysis. Computer applications will be emphasized. The course will focus largely on observational data used in cross-sectional statistical analysis, but it will consider issues of research design more broadly as well. It will assume that students have no mathematical background beyond high school algebra and no experience using computers for data analysis.
POLS UN3720 RESEARCH DESIGN: SCOPE AND METHODS. 4 points.
This class aims to introduce students to the logic of social scientific inquiry and research design. Although it is a course in political science, our emphasis will be on the science part rather than the political part — we’ll be reading about interesting substantive topics, but only insofar as they can teach us something about ways we can do systematic research. This class will introduce students to a medley of different methods to conduct social scientific research.

POLS UN3768 Experimental Research. 4 points.
Randomized experimentation is an important methodology in political science. In this course, we will discuss the logic of experimentation, its strengths and weaknesses compared to other methodologies, and the ways in which experimentation has been – and could be – used to investigate political phenomena. Students will learn how to interpret, design, and execute experiments.

POLS GU4700 MATH # STATS FOR POLI SCI. 4.00 points.
This course presents basic mathematical and statistical concepts that are essential for formal and quantitative analysis in political science research. It prepares students for the graduate-level sequence on formal models and quantitative political methodology offered in the department. The first half of the course will cover basic mathematics, such as calculus and linear algebra. The second half of the course will focus on probability theory and statistics. We will rigorously cover the topics that are directly relevant to formal and quantitative analysis in political science such that students can build both intuitions and technical skills. There is no prerequisite. The course is aimed for both students with little exposure to mathematics and those who have taken some courses but wish to gain a more solid foundation. NOTE: This course does not satisfy the Political Science Major/Concentration research methods requirement.

POLS GU4702 Methods of Inquiry and Research Design. 4 points.
This course will cover research methods and research design in political science. We will focus on concrete and practical issues of conducting research: picking a topic, generating hypotheses, case selection, measurement issues, designing and conducting experiments, interviews, field work, archival research, coding data and working with data sets, combining quantitative and qualitative methods, etc.

The course is designed for several audiences, including: (1) PhD students in Political Science, (2) MAO students undertaking a major research project, and (3) advanced undergrads contemplating an honors thesis, or another major research project.

POLS GU4710 PRINC OF QUANT POL RESEARCH 1. 4.00 points.
We will go through the first half of the book, Regression and Other Stories, by Andrew Gelman, Jennifer Hill, and Aki Vehtari (Cambridge University Press). There is a follow-up course, Principles of Quantitative Political Research 2 (POLS 4712), which covers the second half of the book, including logistic regression, generalized linear models, poststratification, design of studies, and causal inference. Topics covered in the course include: • Applied regression: measurement, data visualization, modeling and inference, transformations, and linear regression. • Simulation, model fitting, and programming in R. • Key statistical problems include adjusting for differences between sample and population, adjusting for differences between treatment and control groups, extrapolating from past to future, and using observed data to learn about latent constructs of interest. • We focus on social science applications, including but not limited to: public opinion and voting, economic and social behavior, and policy analysis.
POLS GU4712 PRINC OF QUANT POL RESEARCH 2. 4.00 points.
Prerequisites: POLS W4710 or the equivalent.
Prerequisites: POLS W4710 or the equivalent. We will go through the second half of the book, Regression and Other Stories, by Andrew Gelman, Jennifer Hill, and Aki Vehtari (Cambridge University Press). This is a follow-up to the course, Principles of Quantitative Political Research 1 (POLS 4710), which covers the first half of the book, including measurement, data visualization, modeling and inference, transformations, and linear regression. Topics covered in the course include: • Applied regression: logistic regression, generalized linear models, poststratification, and design of studies. • Causal inference from experiments and observational studies using regression, matching, instrumental variables, discontinuity analysis, and other identification strategies. • Simulation, model fitting, and programming in R. • Key statistical problems include adjusting for differences between sample and population, adjusting for differences between treatment and control groups, extrapolating from past to future, and using observed data to learn about latent constructs of interest. • We focus on social science applications, including but not limited to: public opinion and voting, economic and social behavior, and policy analysis

Spring 2022: POLS GU4712
Course Number Section/Call Number Times/Location Instructor Points Enrollment
POLS 4712 001/13157 M W 8:40am - 9:55am 313 Fayerweather Andrew Gelman 4.00 29/70

POLS GU4720 QUANT METH 1 APPL REG CAUS INF. 4.00 points.
Fitting and understanding linear regression and generalized linear models, simulation, causal inference, and the basics of design of quantitative studies. Computation in R. Textbook: Regression and Other Stories by Gelman, Hill, and Vehtari
Fall 2022: POLS GU4720
Course Number Section/Call Number Times/Location Instructor Points Enrollment
POLS 4720 001/12747 M W 11:40am - 12:55pm Room TBA Benjamin Goodrich 4.00 4/50

POLS GU4722 QUANT METH 2 STAT THEO#CAUS INF. 4.00 points.
This course is the second course in the graduate-level sequence on quantitative political methodology offered in the Department of Political Science. Students will learn (1) a framework and methodologies for making causal inferences from experimental and observational data, and (2) statistical theories essential for causal inference. Topics include randomized experiments, estimation under ignorability, instrumental variables, regression discontinuity, difference-indifferences, and causal inference with panel data. We also cover statistical theories, such as theories of ordinary least squares and maximum likelihood estimation, by connecting them to causal inference methods. This course builds on the materials covered in POLS 4700 and 4720 or their equivalent (i.e., probability, statistics, linear regression, and logistic regression)

POLS GU4730 Game Theory and Political Theory. 4 points.
Prerequisites: POLS GU4700 or equivalent level of calculus. Introduction to noncooperative game theory and its application to strategic situations in politics. Topics include solution concepts, asymmetric information, and incomplete information. Students should have taken POLS GU4700 or have equivalent background in calculus. Permission of instructor required.

Spring 2022: POLS GU4730
Course Number Section/Call Number Times/Location Instructor Points Enrollment
POLS 4730 001/13160 T Th 4:10pm - 5:25pm 307 Pupin Laboratories John Huber 4 13/30

Senior Honors Seminar
POLS UN3998 Senior Honors Seminar. 4 points.
Prerequisites: admission to the departmental honors program. A two-term seminar for students writing the senior honors thesis.
Fall 2022: POLS UN3998
Course Number Section/Call Number Times/Location Instructor Points Enrollment
POLS 3998 001/12737 Th 2:10pm - 4:00pm Room TBA John Huber 4 10/20

POLS UN3999 Senior Honors Seminar. 4 points.
Prerequisites: admission to the departmental honors program. A two-term seminar for students writing the senior honors thesis.
Spring 2022: POLS UN3999
Course Number Section/Call Number Times/Location Instructor Points Enrollment
POLS 3999 001/13154 T 4:10pm - 6:00pm 711 International Affairs Bldg Macartan Humphreys 4 16/16

Independent Reading and Research
POLS UN3901 INDEPENDENT RESEARCH I. 1.00-6.00 points.
Fall 2022: POLS UN3901
Course Number Section/Call Number Times/Location Instructor Points Enrollment
POLS 3901 001/12711 1.00-6.00 0/1

POLS UN3902 INDEPENDENT RESEARCH II. 1.00-6.00 points.
Spring 2022: POLS UN3902
Course Number Section/Call Number Times/Location Instructor Points Enrollment
POLS 3902 001/13120 1.00-6.00 1/1

Of Related Interest
Economics
ECPS GU4921 Seminar In Political Economy
Human Rights
HRTS UN3001 Introduction to Human Rights
HRTS W3930 International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights