

POLS 4423: Great Political Thinkers

3 Credit Hours

Prerequisite: POLS 1101

A survey of classical, medieval, and modern political thinkers and their political thoughts. It discusses their impacts on the development of political processes and institutions.

POLS 4427: American Political Thought

3 Credit Hours

Prerequisite: POLS 1101

This course explores the diverse spectrum of American political thinking from the pre-revolutionary period to the present. Beginning with colonial discourse, this comprehensive review captures the depth and distinctiveness of American thought as expressed by and through the writings and actions of philosophers, politicians, radicals, and revolutionaries.

POLS 4428: Race, Gender, and the Politics of Difference

3 Credit Hours

Prerequisite: POLS 1101

This course examines contemporary theories and politics of "difference," broadly understood as institutionalized hierarchies which marginalize and oppress certain groups and inhibit their political power. Students use race, gender, sexuality, and class as intersecting analytical frameworks to understand how multiple hierarchies of difference are structured and reproduced in the political process. Using critical race, feminist, queer, and political theory, students explore how political dynamics are shaped by difference.

POLS 4429: Legal Theory & Philosophy

3 Credit Hours

Prerequisite: POLS 1101

This course examines different theories of jurisprudence and great thinkers of law. Students will learn about legal procedures, the stages of a trial, the appeals process. Students will also analyze core legal concepts such as habeas corpus, judicial power, judicial review, originalism, stare decisis, positivism, consequentialism, strict construction, judicial activism, judicial nominalism, and judicial restraint.