

## **POLS 4280: Political Data Analysis**

### **3 Credit Hours**

*Prerequisite: POLS 2280*

This course teaches students advanced techniques in political and social research methods. The course covers both qualitative and quantitative methods, including hands-on training in computer-based analysis of large datasets and social science statistical methods.

## **POLS 4400: Directed Study**

### **1-3 Credit Hours**

*Prerequisite: POLS 1101; approval of instructor, advisor and department chair prior to registration.*

Covers special topics and seminars external to regular course offerings.

## **POLS 4402: Political Parties**

### **3 Credit Hours**

*Prerequisite: POLS 1101*

Examines the nature, structure and functions of political parties in differing national cultural contexts with particular attention to the electoral activity of political parties in the United States.

## **POLS 4405: Comparative Legal Systems**

### **3 Credit Hours**

*Prerequisite: POLS 1101*

An examination of the ways in which the courts and the law in different countries affect public policy. The source and methods utilized in different legal systems (both democratic and nondemocratic) as transforming agents of society and/or means for maintaining order within it are explored.

## **POLS 4410: American Legal System**

### **3 Credit Hours**

*Prerequisite: POLS 1101*

POLS 4410 is designed to be a capstone to the political science legal studies concentration. Potential topics include the structure and function of the U.S. legal system, as well as criminal justice and alternative dispute resolution, judicial behavior, and the connection between law and society.