

Political Science

In the Charles and Louise Travers Department of Political Science, over fifty faculty and lecturers teach and conduct research in each of our eleven subfields on a variety of special topics. Additionally, our faculty and students work with over twenty specialized and interdisciplinary institutes and centers around campus on issues important to political science and our world today.

The Department at Berkeley admits graduate students only for the PhD degree.

Admission to the University

Uniform minimum requirements for admission

The following minimum requirements apply to all programs and will be verified by the Graduate Division:

1. A bachelor's degree or recognized equivalent from an accredited institution;
2. A minimum grade-point average of B or better (3.0);
3. If the applicant comes from a country or political entity (e.g. Quebec) where English is not the official language, adequate proficiency in English to do graduate work, as evidenced by a TOEFL score of at least 570 on the paper-and-pencil test, 230 on the computer-based test, 90 on the iBT test, or an IELTS Band score of at least 7 (note that individual programs may set higher levels for any of these); and
4. Enough undergraduate training to do graduate work in the given field.

Applicants who already hold a graduate degree

The Graduate Council views academic degrees as evidence of broad research training, not as vocational training certificates; therefore, applicants who already have academic graduate degrees should be able to take up new subject matter on a serious level without undertaking a graduate program, unless the fields are completely dissimilar.

Programs may consider students for an additional academic master's or professional master's degree if the additional degree is in a distinctly different field.

Applicants admitted to a doctoral program that requires a master's degree to be earned at Berkeley as a prerequisite (even though the applicant already has a master's degree from another institution in the same or a closely allied field of study) will be permitted to undertake the second master's degree, despite the overlap in field.

The Graduate Division will admit students for a second doctoral degree only if they meet the following guidelines:

1. Applicants with doctoral degrees may be admitted for an additional doctoral degree only if that degree program is in a general area of knowledge distinctly different from the field in which they earned their original degree. For example, a physics PhD could be admitted to a doctoral degree program in music or history; however, a student with a doctoral degree in mathematics would not be permitted to add a PhD in statistics.

2. Applicants who hold the PhD degree may be admitted to a professional doctorate or professional master's degree program if there is no duplication of training involved.

Applicants may only apply to one single degree program or one concurrent degree program per admission cycle.

Any applicant who was previously registered at Berkeley as a graduate student, no matter how briefly, must apply for readmission, not admission, even if the new application is to a different program.

Required documents for admissions applications

1. **Transcripts:** Upload unofficial transcripts with the application for the departmental initial review. Official transcripts of all college-level work will be required **if admitted**. Official transcripts must be in sealed envelopes as issued by the school(s) you have attended. Request a current transcript from every post-secondary school that you have attended, including community colleges, summer sessions, and extension programs. If you have attended Berkeley, upload unofficial transcript with the application for the departmental initial review. Official transcript with evidence of degree conferral **will not** be required if admitted.
2. **Letters of recommendation:** Applicants can request online letters of recommendation through the online application system. Hard copies of recommendation letters must be sent directly to the program, not the Graduate Division.
3. **Evidence of English language proficiency:** All applicants from countries in which the official language is not English are required to submit official evidence of English language proficiency. This requirement applies to applicants from Bangladesh, Burma, Nepal, India, Pakistan, Latin America, the Middle East, the People's Republic of China, Taiwan, Japan, Korea, Southeast Asia, and most European countries. However, applicants who, at the time of application, have already completed at least one year of full-time academic course work with grades of B or better at a U.S. university may submit an official transcript from the U.S. university to fulfill this requirement. The following courses will not fulfill this requirement: 1) courses in English as a Second Language, 2) courses conducted in a language other than English, 3) courses that will be completed after the application is submitted, and 4) courses of a non-academic nature. If applicants have previously been denied admission to Berkeley on the basis of their English language proficiency, they must submit new test scores that meet the current minimum from one of the standardized tests.

Normative Time Requirements

The Political Science department at Berkeley admits students only for the PhD degree. The PhD program has two major phases: coursework and examinations, and dissertation research and writing. The two phases typically take approximately six to seven years (three years to candidacy and three to four for dissertation research and writing).

Time to Advancement

Curriculum

Courses Required

POL SCI Electives (12 units may be upper division) per specialized study list, includes: 40

Preparation in 3 of 11 subfields

The coursework and examination phase requires 40 units (typically 10 classes) of graduate-level coursework and competence in three of nine subfields (<http://polisci.berkeley.edu/research-and-teaching/subfields>). Subfield competence is demonstrated through written exams offered each semester. The preliminary field exams are typically taken in the student's second and third years of the program. All students must pass one exam in a major subfield (Comparative, American, International Relations, or History of Political Theory) and a second exam in any subfield. Competency in the third subfield may be demonstrated by a third written exam or by taking a prescribed series of three courses in that field with a combined GPA of 3.5.

The particular sequence of courses that a student takes in preparation for the comprehensive exams is not prescribed. Rather, the faculty assist students with selection of courses that best meet their intellectual and academic interests. There are no formal foreign language or statistics requirements although many students will find that their program of study and dissertation research will require the engagement of particular foreign language or methodology coursework.

When the coursework and preliminary examination requirements have been met, the student prepares a prospectus for dissertation research. The student convenes a committee known as the qualifying exam committee. The qualifying exam committee advises on the prospectus and examines the student on specific research plans. Berkeley is highly committed to interdisciplinary scholarly engagement and this is codified in the requirement that both the qualifying exam committee and the dissertation committee include a faculty member from another department at Berkeley. Engagement with members of the faculty from other departments should commence during the coursework stage so that the advisement and input of the "outside member" is represented in the prospectus.

When sufficient preparation for the proposed research has been demonstrated to the qualifying exam committee, the student is advanced to doctoral candidacy. It is expected (and for most funding packages, required) that the student advance to doctoral candidacy within three years of beginning graduate study.

Dissertation Research and Writing

Doctoral candidacy initiates the second phase of the program during which the student normally devotes full attention to the research and writing of the dissertation. The student's dissertation committee is typically comprised of the members of the qualifying exam committee although there are sometimes changes in committee membership as the research evolves. The doctorate is awarded when the student submits a satisfactory dissertation to the dissertation committee. A reasonable estimate of the research and writing phase of the program is three years although students whose dissertations require more extensive research may take longer to earn their degree.

General Curriculum Guidelines

First Year

Students are required to complete 24 units of coursework in their first year of study. At least 12 of these units must be in political science graduate courses; the remainder may be in graduate or upper-division undergraduate courses in other departments. The first year is designed to allow the student the opportunity to engage in foreign language study, area specialization, and to meet and study with faculty from other departments who may become members of the Qualifying Exam or Dissertation Committees. The other major component of the first year curriculum is the First Year Essay. Students are evaluated at the completion of the first year on their overall academic performance. This overall evaluation will include GPA, successful completion of all 24 units, quality of the first-year essay, and evaluations of instructors. The Graduate Studies Committee weighs these factors to determine whether to invite the student to continue in the Ph.D. program.

Second Year

The second year is used to further narrow down one's interests and to continue exploring ideas and potential advisors for a dissertation topic. Coursework continues as students begin preparation for both preliminary field exams as well as to write the dissertation prospectus. In addition to the coursework, ongoing foreign-language or area study, and preparation for exams, students in their second year usually serve as a Graduate Student Instructors (GSIs) which are 20-hour per week positions.

Third Year

During the third year, most students continue to GSI and complete their coursework in addition to taking their preliminary field exams. Political Science graduate students must show competency in three subfield specialties to be eligible to sit for the oral prospectus defense (known formally as the Qualifying Exam). Instead of sitting for three field exams, students have the option to "course out" of one field specialty by taking a prescribed set of three courses in the subfield.

Students may sit for the field exams as early as the beginning of the second year, but if desired, students may sit for an exam in their second year and again in the third year. Field Exams are offered at the beginning of the Fall and Spring semesters. Students may also opt to take two exams in the same semester although leaving both exams for the spring of the third year is not recommended. All students are expected to have completed their two field exams, to have coursed out of a third field, and to have written and defended their dissertation prospectus by the end of the third year. All student funding packages include the Dean's Completion Fellowship (DCF), commonly known as the fourth year of funding in such packages. Successful defense of the research plan and submission of the necessary candidacy paperwork by June 30 of the third year confers the DCFF which, while known as the "fourth year," is redeemable any time (and does not need to be used in consecutive semesters) over the following three years.

Fourth Year

In the fourth year, many students choose to stay in Berkeley and serve as a GSI as they prepare for an extended research trip. Since the DCF is deferrable until the sixth year, students often find that saving that fellowship and teaching in the fourth year helps them conduct library and other research in Berkeley before embarking on extended trips away. The fourth year is also when some students begin to apply for extramural fellowships to support their dissertation research.

Fifth Year

Like the fourth year, the fifth is variable according to an individual's research schedule. Often this is a good year to use the DCF while in the field conducting research. This is also the time, if research is complete and writing has begun, to apply for finishing fellowships and extramural dissertation awards.

Sixth Year and Beyond

In the sixth year, students who do not have extramural or remaining campus or departmental fellowship support will return to the classroom to teach while completing the dissertation and entering the job market. Others teach as adjunct faculty at the many colleges and universities in the area, and some find research assistantships to fund the final year(s).

Subfields

American Politics

Subfield Coordinator: Eric Schickler

The study of American politics at Berkeley brings together faculty and graduate students who seek to tackle the most important questions confronting the field using diverse methodological approaches.

Among other topics, the faculty's research agenda encompasses the quality and meaning of representation in contemporary American politics, the political implications of rising economic inequality, the politics of immigration and of minority group representation, the meaning of American national identity, the sources and implications of party polarization, the development of American bureaucratic government and of the American welfare state, and the balance of power among Congress, the Presidency, and the Courts. Our program strives to train students to have a diverse methodological toolkit, including quantitative, historical/developmental, game theoretic, behavioral, and institutional approaches.

The Institute of Governmental Studies and Survey Research Center support several workshops and colloquia that foster this diverse intellectual community, including the American Politics Research Workshop, the Positive Political Theory seminar series, the Race, Ethnicity, and Immigration Colloquium, the American Political Development working group, and the Quantitative Methods Workshop. These research units also provide funding for graduate student research projects and for faculty-student collaboration. Faculty work closely with students to help each student carve out a research agenda that fits his or her interests, while addressing a substantively important problem.

Comparative Politics

Subfield Coordinator: M. Steven Fish

Berkeley has a longstanding tradition of distinction in comparative politics. Members of the department's comparative politics faculty are widely recognized as national and international leaders, and the department's strengths have grown in recent years.

Coverage of substantive themes, methodological approaches, and geographic expertise is extremely broad. Comparative political economy, political regimes and regime change, political parties and organizations, and social mobilization are the subject of great interest among faculty and graduate students. Some comparative faculty and graduate students rely largely upon formal theory in their work. Some are highly proficient in quantitative methods, while others use case studies and qualitative methods. Many faculty and graduate students use multi-method approaches. The faculty emphasizes rigor of method—whether

applied in formal, statistical, or qualitative work. All graduate students in comparative politics are expected to achieve proficiency in all methods prevalent in the field.

The faculty and graduate student population is diverse; no single theoretical orientation or methodology enjoys status as orthodoxy. Generally speaking, Berkeley comparativists pursue "big" questions that have broad implications for political life and public policy as well as social science. Such questions include when and why Chinese peasants resist unjust authority; why the Chinese economy has grown so rapidly and what other countries can learn from it; how transformations in the global economy are reshaping the welfare state in advanced industrialized countries; how economic structures and resource flows mold state and market institutions in the Middle East; why economic liberalization has proved difficult in Japan and how it may yet come about; why democracy is failing in Russia while working in Indonesia; why opposition forces succeed in forging electoral alliances in some African polities but not others; how party systems influence the provision of public goods across the Indian states; and how labor organizations are responding to transformations in economic policy in Latin America.

International Relations

Subfield Coordinator: Vinod Aggarwal

International Relations at Berkeley focuses on the study of contemporary and historical problems in world politics. Our faculty and graduate students work on an eclectic set of substantive issues that frequently cross over between international relations theory, security studies, and international political economy.

Current research interests pursued by our group include the causes and consequences of peace and war, the political economy of trade and finance, American foreign and national security policy, emerging issues in security, geopolitical order and change, the impact of technology and geography on world politics, the role of ideas and identities shaping international affairs, the link between business and politics, and the interaction between religion and global politics. In addition to resources in the political science department, our work is reflected and supported by various centers across campus: the Institute for International Studies (IIS), the Berkeley Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Study Center (BASC), the Berkeley Roundtable on the International Economy (BRIE), the Religion, Politics and Globalization Program (RPGP), and others. In addition, the journal *Business and Politics* is edited by one of our faculty members.

Our methodologies are equally eclectic, ranging from socio-historical analysis to quantitative empirics and formal modeling. Much of our research is interdisciplinary, drawing from fields as disparate as economics, psychology, ecology, theology or history. We take theory seriously but not to the exclusion of interesting and important global problems. Our overarching goal is to contribute to an understanding of how international politics is organized and how it functions around substantive issues that matter to political actors and human beings.

Methodology & Formal Theory

Subfield Coordinator: Jasjeet Sekhon

The Berkeley program in empirical methodology and formal theory offers rigorous training that is carefully integrated with major substantive agendas in political science.

The program builds centrally on innovative faculty research, which encompasses new methods for causal inference and program evaluation,

as well as statistical computing and survey analysis. The work on surveys has included path-breaking contributions to developing and refining experiments embedded in surveys and computer-assisted telephone interviewing; and innovations in measuring issue orientations and in multi-level modeling of political behavior. In formal theory, faculty have contributed to opening new lines of inquiry into strategic interactions where formal institutions are weak, and to modeling information and incentives in organizations—as they affect both the dynamics of institutions within the United States and those in authoritarian and democratizing regimes. Faculty in both traditions play a prominent role in developing empirical tests of formal theory, based on both laboratory experiments and observational data. The faculty has also done influential work on qualitative methodology, comparative-historical methods, and linking qualitative methods with both quantitative tools and with formal analysis.

The methods/formal faculty makes important institutional contributions on the Berkeley campus. They convene the Positive Political Theory Seminar, which draws together a national constituency of leading modelers for its biweekly meetings. They have led the campus Survey Research Center and helped to sustain its innovative research on survey methodology; and they were central to launching the Berkeley's NSF/IGERT training program in Politics, Economics, Psychology, and Public Policy (PEPPP). Berkeley's Institute of Governmental Studies, as well as the Survey Research Center, are important venues for convening scholars and graduate students, and they provide support for graduate students pursuing methodological and formal training.

Faculty members also play leading roles in the national political science profession. Their contributions have included serving as Chair of the Board of the American National Elections Studies (ANES); providing crucial leadership in launching the NSF program on the Empirical Implications of Theoretical Models (EITM); co-editing the new Oxford Handbook of Political Methodology; serving as President of the Political Methodology Society; and founding APSA's Organized Section for Qualitative and Multi-Method Research. The political science department maintains close ties with the national Institute for Qualitative/Multi-Method Research, and many graduate students attend the institute. Three of the methods/formal faculty are Fellows of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Political Theory & Philosophy

Subfield Coordinator: Shannon Stimson

Berkeley's department offers a full range of courses in political theory, including classical, modern, and contemporary political philosophy (both European and American).

In the history of political thought, faculty have particular strengths in ancient moral and political thought, renaissance and early modern political thought, Enlightenment social and political thought, and nineteenth and twentieth century Marxism, British and Continental theory, and critical theory. In contemporary political theory, their areas of expertise include liberal and democratic thought, sovereignty and multiculturalism, and postfoundational approaches to subjectivity and social inquiry.

The core curriculum for graduate study in the department involves those courses recommended in preparation for the qualifying exam in the history of political thought (such courses include POL SCI 212A History of Political Thought: Ancient and Medieval POL SCI 212B History of Political Thought: Early Modern (Renaissance to French Revolution), POL SCI 212C History of Political Thought: Modern (French

Revolution through World War II), POL SCI 213 Methodological Topics in the History of Political Thought, and POL SCI 214 Symposium in the History of Political Thought); and courses of special relevance to the qualifying exam in contemporary political theory (including POL SCI 215A Approaches to Contemporary Political Theory, POL SCI 215B Topics to Contemporary Political Theory, and POL SCI 216 Symposium in Contemporary Political Theory). The history of political thought exam has two parts. Part I queries students about the nature of the history of Western political thought as a field of knowledge, and/or about debates focused on particular periods or problems. Part II of the exam asks students to respond to questions about particular theorists or texts in each of three major time periods (ancient and medieval; early modern; modern). The contemporary political thought exam approaches twentieth and twenty-first century political theory from three angles: subfields of theory, theorists and approaches, and topics.

The research, writing, and pedagogical interests of faculty within political theory are impressively varied. Greater details about the work and interests of each faculty member may be found on their faculty web pages.

Models & Politics

Formal models are used in political science as abstract representations of political institutions and choices in order to focus attention on key logics and causal mechanisms in a political process. Good modeling requires fluency in technical fields such as game theory and social choice theory, as well as the substantive knowledge to craft an appropriate and insightful model for a specific application.

The Models & Politics subfield, instituted by the faculty in 2007, connects advanced training in formal modeling techniques (also commonly referred to as formal theory, positive political theory, or political economy) with innovative substantive research in political science. It is designed for students who plan to make significant use of formal modeling in their own research in American Politics, Comparative Politics, International Relations, or Political Theory. This subfield is appropriate for students who wish to use formal models to structure and inform their empirical research, as well as those who wish to become "pure" modelers.

Political Behavior

Political behavior at UC Berkeley serves as a bridge between political science on the one side and political psychology and political sociology on the other. Its focus is on the social and psychological processes by which individuals (and groups) engage in political life. Although the actual studies of these matters may occur within a particular geographical or institutional context and data are most often drawn from the American experience, the purpose is to generalize to a class of political phenomena or behavior beyond specific countries or specific institutions. Attention is also paid to problems of survey design and analysis, the development of scales, indices, and other measurement devices, questionnaire construction, interviewing, sampling, and other elements of systematic research that aim to yield data susceptible to statistical analysis. Among the substantive topics covered in the field are: public opinion; political leadership; political participation and protest and personality and politics.

Public Law & Jurisprudence

Public Law is concerned with the analysis of the actual behavior of legal decision-makers and the law-related behavior of citizens, as well as with the study of legal and constitutional doctrine. It seeks to develop an understanding of the role of law, legal theory and legal practice in the governmental process. Courses and faculty research focus primarily on how the actions of legal decision-makers (judges,

police, regulatory officials, bureaucrats, etc.) are shaped both by legal doctrine and philosophy and by political, organizational, economic, and social variables. Students are also expected to develop a knowledge of American Constitutional Law, its political ramifications, and its relation to public theory. Joint work with the UC Berkeley School of Law and its program in Jurisprudence and Social Policy is encouraged.

Public Policy & Organization

Public policy studies explore political responses to specific public problems, like environmental degradation, poverty, or disease. Faculty in this subfield are interested in the political dynamics of policy-making and policy implementation, including such topics as agenda-setting, regulatory decision-making, and federalism. Since public problems often ignore jurisdictions, a policy-oriented approach to political science is often concerned about the interplay between different levels of government (local, regional, national, and international). The Public Policy & Organization subfield therefore draws on, and contributes to, scholarship in urban politics, American politics, comparative politics, and international relations.

Policy outcomes are typically mediated by organizations that mobilize stakeholders, make authoritative decisions, administer programs, and enforce laws. These organizations range from complex government bureaucracies to professional associations and social movement organizations. The organizational and inter-organizational aspects of policy-making and policy implementation are a particular concern of this subfield. Important debates in this field often focus on understanding how specific institutional arrangements are created to govern policy arenas and on whether these institutions produce effective, efficient, and equitable governance.

Sophisticated explanations of policy-making and implementation call for specific analytical tools and intellectual frameworks. This subfield draws on theories of policy-making and implementation, governance, public administration, public law, institutionalism, and organization theory as a framework of analysis.

Political Science

POL SCI 200A Major Themes in Comparative Analysis 4 Units
Subject and texts to be studied vary with instructor. See departmental announcements.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Formerly known as: Political Science 200

POL SCI 200B Major Themes in Comparative Analysis: Research Design 4 Units

This course provides an introduction to research design in comparative politics; it is the second semester of the two-semester introductory graduate sequence for the comparative sub-field. We will focus on various topics relevant to doing research, such as how to formulate research questions; develop concepts and measures; bolster the validity of descriptive and causal inferences; and use various qualitative and quantitative methods in the service of diverse substantive agenda. Developing the ability to critique research is one important objective. However, the primary goal of the course is to provide a first foundation for actually doing research.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

POL SCI 201A Comparative Analysis of Industrial Democracies 4 Units

The comparative study of politics in Western societies. The place of parties, political structures, interest groups, and economic institutions. The relation between domestic political developments and the international system. The effect of economic development on political change. The effect of labor politics on national politics.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

POL SCI 201B Comparative Analysis of Industrial Democracies 4 Units

The comparative study of politics in Western societies. The place of parties, political structures, interest groups, and economic institutions. The relation between domestic political developments and the international system. The effect of economic development on political change. The effect of labor politics on national politics.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

POL SCI 201D Governance of the E-economy 4 Units

New digital technologies, changing market structures, and innovative business organizations are transforming the economic and social landscape of the advanced industrial countries. The policy issues associated with this transformation pose fundamental philosophical and political questions of how to organize our markets, polity, and society. The means of making and implementing these choices is politics. The necessarily global scope of the E-economy extends the political and policy challenges to the international arena. This course will explore the literature on the political economy of the Internet to determine what policy choices -- hence which political debates -- are and will be most important. We also will examine our conceptual understanding of the burgeoning digital economy and its impact on politics, law, and socio-economic relations.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

POL SCI 202A Theories of Development and Political Change 4 Units
Issues of social organization and political change. Theories of progress, development, modernization and dependence.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

POL SCI 203 Urban and Subnational Politics in Developing Countries 4 Units

Metropolitan areas in the developing world face enormous challenges. This course will consider the political and institutional environment in which efforts to address metropolitan problems are developed, the financial and institutional vehicles used to provide services of different types, and the role of political parties and other political organizations in the development and allocation of services. Readings will be drawn from Political Science, Sociology, Geography, and Economics.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Graduate student standing

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2-3 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

POL SCI C203 Urban and Subnational Politics in Developing Countries 4 Units

This course will consider the political and institutional environment in which efforts to address metropolitan problems are developed, the financial and institutional vehicles used to provide services of different types, and the role of political parties and other forms of political organization in the development and allocation of services. Emphasis will be placed upon fertile areas for research within the social sciences.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Graduate student standing

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2-3 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Also listed as: GMS C203

POL SCI 206 Comparative Party Systems 4 Units

Why are there political parties? The origins of parties in issue cleavages, legislatures, social movements, and personal followings. Types of parties. The political machine, the ideological party, third parties, flash parties. Federalism and political parties. Intra-party competition and selection of leaders. What do parties try to maximize: votes? ideological purity? personal security of party professionals? How parties change: reform movements, issue crises, external social movements.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

POL SCI 207 Political Violence 4 Units

This graduate seminar is designed to introduce students to the comparative study of political violence. The course examines two broad themes through a variety of theoretical and empirical approaches. The first theme focuses on why individuals choose to rebel: When does violence become a strategy for resolving conflict? Why do individuals participate in violence? How is violence organized? The second theme focuses on how states choose to repress citizens: When are human rights violations committed? When does a state use violence over other strategies? What are the effects of state violence?

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2-3 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

POL SCI 209A Comparative Political Economy 4 Units

This seminar provides an introduction to the major debates in comparative political economy. Although the empirical focus is on the affluent democracies, many of the debates and issues analyzed have implications for other regions. The course is divided into two main parts. The first part examines leading theoretical perspectives on political economy, such as Friedman, Marx, Weber, and Polanyi. The second part of the course is more topical. It probes a number of examples of economic development, crisis, and change, with an eye to assessing alternative theoretical perspectives.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 4 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

POL SCI 209B Post Fordism: New Patterns of Production, Time, and Meaning in Contemporary Capitalism 4 Units

With changes in technology, the internationalization of production and the massive increase in trans-border transactions of all kinds, it has been argued that we live and work in an era of substantively different capitalism. Were this true, it has deep implications for politics and for political economy. This graduate seminar explores the validity of this claim of a "new capitalism" through a variety of materials, starting with the question of whether "Fordism" ever existed, moving on to the question of whether "Post-Fordism" exists and ending with a variety of ethnographic studies that show how global production chains shape culture, gender, and hierarchy/power.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3-4 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Instructor: Chaundhry

POL SCI 210 Selected Topics in Comparative Politics 4 Units

See departmental announcements. Topic will vary with instructor.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Consent of instructor

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit with different topic and consent of instructor. Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

POL SCI 211 Special Topics in Political Theory 4 Units

See department web site for specific course offerings.

Rules & Requirements

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2-3 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

POL SCI 212A History of Political Thought: Ancient and Medieval 4 Units

A weekly seminar on political thought from the ancient Greeks to the Renaissance. Ancient and medieval political theorist, typically including Plato, Aristotle, St. Augustine, and Aquinas.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3-4 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

POL SCI 212B History of Political Thought: Early Modern (Renaissance to French Revolution) 4 Units

A weekly seminar on political thought from the Renaissance to the French Revolution. Early modern political theorist, typically including Machiavelli, Hobbes, Locke, Rousseau.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3-4 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

POL SCI 212C History of Political Thought: Modern (French Revolution through World War II) 4 Units

A weekly seminar on political thought in the 19th and early 20th centuries. Modern political theorists, typically including Tocqueville, Hegel, Marx, Mill, Nietzsche, and Weber.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3-4 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

POL SCI 213 Methodological Topics in the History of Political Thought 4 Units

A weekly seminar on approaches to the history of political thought. Theoretical topics, typically including the nature of meaning and textuality, validity, and historical explanation.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3-4 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

POL SCI 214 Symposium in the History of Political Thought 4 Units

An intensive examination of theorists, theories, or concepts in the history of political thought.

Rules & Requirements

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit. Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3-4 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

POL SCI 215A Approaches to Contemporary Political Theory 4 Units

A weekly seminar on contemporary approaches to political theory.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3-4 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

POL SCI 215B Topics to Contemporary Political Theory 4 Units

A weekly seminar on leading topics in contemporary political theory.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3-4 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

POL SCI 216 Symposium in Contemporary Political Theory 4 Units

An intensive examination of a contemporary theorist, debate, or issue.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3-4 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

POL SCI 220A Theories of International Relations 4 Units

Origin, application and utility of major concepts featured in the study of international relations. Relation of various strands of political and social theory to international relations.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Previous work in international relations

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

POL SCI 223 Selected Topics in International Relations 4 Units

See departmental announcements. Topic will vary with instructor.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Consent of instructor

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit with different topic and consent of instructor. Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

POL SCI 224 Sociological Traditions in International Relations 4 Units

This seminar traces the development of the constructivist program in international relations in order to better understand its elements, assumptions, and methods and apply those to current issues. We start by uncovering the roots of constructivism in sociology and philosophy and examine structuration theory, the English School, world systems theory, regime theory, and sociological institutionalism. The second part of this course focuses on the constructivist agenda in international relations, its boundaries and its critics. In the last part of the course we examine current research in IR that draws on sociological methods, including work on the role of norms, epistemic communities, transnational civil society, and the origins of the state.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3-4 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Instructor: Hassner

POL SCI 224A International Security 4 Units

The goal of this course is to introduce advanced political science graduate students to current debates in the field of international security and to prepare these students for conducting dissertation research in their own areas of interest within this field. This course is designed for advanced political science graduate students preparing to commence their dissertation research. Its orientation is theoretical rather than empirical and it is both reading and research.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2-4 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

POL SCI 225 Constructivism 4 Units

This seminar traces the development of the constructivist program in international relations in order to better understand its elements, assumptions, and methods and apply those to current issues. We start by uncovering the roots of constructivism in sociology and philosophy and examine structuration theory, the English School, world systems theory, regime theory, and sociological institutionalism. The second part of this course focuses on the constructivist agenda in international relations, its boundaries and its critics. In the last part of the course we examine current research in international relations that draws on sociological methods, including work on the role of norms, epistemic communities, transnational civil society, and the origins of the state.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3-4 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Instructor: Hassner

Formerly known as: 224B

POL SCI 225A The Empirical Analysis of International Security 4 Units

This course offers an introduction to the empirical analysis of International Security. The primary goals are 1) to acquaint students with the empirical knowledge in the field of International Security that has been produced with quantitative approaches and 2) to help students develop and hone their skills in empirical analysis. Therefore, particular emphasis will be given on how to go beyond being "consumers" of empirical research and how to become "producers" of novel empirical knowledge.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 4 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

POL SCI 226 Religion and International Relations 4 Units

How has religion shaped the structure of the international system? How should IR scholars approach the role that religion plays in contemporary affairs? How does religion constrain or motivate international conflict? This seminar seeks to guide students through readings in the social sciences, from psychology and sociology to anthropology and political science, that explore the intersection of religion and international relations. We will examine a variety of theoretical approaches to the topic of religion and global politics, explore religious origins of the modern state system, and analyze the influence of religion on historical and contemporary conflicts, with a particular focus on ethnic conflict, terrorism, and peacemaking.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2-3 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

POL SCI 226A International Political Economy 4 Units

The creation, maintenance, transformation, and decay of international arrangements designed to manage or regulate interstate activities relating to trade, money, resource use, technology, and physical environment.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Introductory courses (graduate or undergraduate) in international relations, foreign policy, international organizations and political economy

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

POL SCI 228 Civil Conflict and International Intervention 4 Units

Civil conflict, committed primarily by non-state actors, often results in international intervention

in some form. This course, then, focuses on two themes: first, why does civil conflict occur?

What motivates individuals and groups to resort to violence? What tactics do they use? How do

they expect to succeed? Second, why do international actors intervene in civil conflict? What are

their aims in intervening? Are they successful in those goals or in others?

Objectives & Outcomes

Course Objectives: Broaden your theoretical framework in international relations more generally

Engage with the existing work in the field and begin high-level research on civil conflict and international intervention

Think about the ways in which international actors intervene

Understand the causes, strategies, and outcomes of civil conflict

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

POL SCI 230 Essential Methodological Tools 4 Units

This course presents essential methodological concepts, ideas, and tools students need to know before beginning their study of the formal and quantitative methods tools used in political science research. Topics covered include functions, limits, continuity, calculus, optimization, probability and statistics, and linear algebra. Entire courses are often devoted to each of these topics (e.g., MATH 1A-1B, 53, 54; Stat 101, 134, 135), and this course clearly cannot provide an equally comprehensive treatment. Rather, the class selectively focuses on specific mathematical concepts that are most commonly used in applied formal and quantitative work in political science. The goal of the class is to ensure that students have a sufficiently firm understanding of these critical ideas and facility with them that subsequent methods course can build on the foundation.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Open only to graduate students. Consent of instructor and graduate adviser

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit. Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3-4 hours of lecture and 1-2 hours of discussion per week

Summer:

6 weeks - 8 hours of lecture and 2-5 hours of discussion per week

8 weeks - 6 hours of lecture and 1.5-3.5 hours of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

POL SCI 231A Quantitative Analysis in Political Research 4 Units
Introductory course in the analysis of political data.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: 132A-132B or Statistics 130A

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 4 hours of seminar and 1 hour of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

POL SCI 232A Formal Models of Political Science 4 Units

Mathematical models of politics with applications to political learning, bargaining, and democratic theory. Topics from game theory, collective choice theory, and mathematical psychology.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Instructor: Powell

Formerly known as: 232

POL SCI 232B Formal Models of Political Science 4 Units

This course emphasizes the application of the formal analytic tools to current or significant research in political science.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: 232A or consent of instructor

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Instructor: Powell

POL SCI 232H Public Policy and Business 4 Units

The course will study public policy in its connection with business. Policy is seen as an endogenous outcome of a game where diverse political forces try to shape public decisions to their advantage. The focus is broad, covering both theory and evidence. The aim is to analyze how a wide range of political institutions and processes affect public policy and economic performance. The ultimate goal of the course is to acquaint students with the topics at hand, and to consolidate their control of formal theory and quantitative techniques by discussing their application to the subject.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Graduate student

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2-3 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

POL SCI 234A Qualitative and Multi-Method Research 4 Units

This course introduces diverse methodological tools, following the premise that all methods are strengthened if linked to qualitative analysis. Explores alternative approaches to concept formation, measurement, and causal inference, based on large- and small-N analysis and case studies. Analytic tensions that motivate the course derive from, among other sources, the pressure on case-study and small-N researchers to strive for analytic rigor and generality; and the skepticism of some statisticians about quantitative inference - both descriptive and casual - in social science.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

POL SCI 235 Introduction to Research Methods 4 Units

Overview of methods of political research. Theories, concepts, variables, hypotheses. Research design, quantitative and qualitative methodology. Basic data collection techniques. Approaches to data analysis. Provides an overview of different statistical techniques, but does not teach statistics.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

POL SCI 236A The Statistics of Causal Inference in the Social Sciences 4 Units

Approaches to causal inference using the potential outcomes framework. Covers observational studies with and without ignorable treatment assignment, randomized experiments with and without noncompliance, instrumental variables, regression discontinuity, sensitivity analysis, and random inference. Applications are drawn from a variety of fields including political science, economics, sociology, public health, and medicine.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: One multivariate regression course

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3-4 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade. This is part one of a year long series course. A provisional grade of IP (in progress) will be applied and later replaced with the final grade after completing part two of the series.

Instructor: Sekhon

Formerly known as: Political Science 236

POL SCI 236B Quantitative Methodology in the Social Sciences Seminar 4 Units

A seminar on successful research designs and a forum for students to discuss the research methods needed in their own work, supplemented by lectures on relevant statistical and computational topics such as matching methods, instrumental variables, regression discontinuity, and Bayesian, maximum likelihood and robust estimation. Applications are drawn from political science, economics, sociology, and public health. Experience with R is assumed.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Political Science 236A or STAT 215A or equivalent

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture and 2 hours of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade. This is part two of a year long series course. Upon completion, the final grade will be applied to both parts of the series.

POL SCI C236A The Statistics of Causal Inference in the Social Science 4 Units

Approaches to causal inference using the potential outcomes framework. Covers observational studies with and without ignorable treatment assignment, randomized experiments with and without noncompliance, instrumental variables, regression discontinuity, sensitivity analysis and randomization inference. Applications are drawn from a variety of fields including political science, economics, sociology, public health and medicine.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture and 2 hours of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Also listed as: STAT C239A

POL SCI C237A Political Economics 3 Units

Tools of political economics: preferences and institutions, electoral competition, agency, partisan politics. Redistributive politics: general interest politics, special interest politics. Comparative politics: electoral rules, separation of powers, political regimes. Dynamic politics: fiscal policy, growth.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Also listed as: ECON C215A

POL SCI C237B Political Economics 3 Units

Tools of political economics: preferences and institutions, electoral competition, agency, partisan politics. Redistributive politics: general interest politics, special interest politics. Comparative politics: electoral rules, separation of powers, political regimes. Dynamic politics: fiscal policy, growth.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: ECON C215A is a prerequisite to ECON C215B, and POL SCI C237A is a prerequisite to POL SCI C237B

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Also listed as: ECON C215B

POL SCI 239 Selected Topics in Methodology 4 Units

See departmental announcements. Topic will vary with instructor.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Consent of instructor

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit as topic varies. Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

POL SCI 239T An Introduction to Computational Tools and Techniques for Social Science Research 2 Units

This course will provide students with necessary technology skills for the Political Science methods curriculum. It will introduce students to both the software programs and the basic computational and programming skills that students will need to be successful in further methods work. This course is not an introduction to statistics. Some familiarity with basic statistics or linear regression may be helpful, but is neither expected nor required.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Graduate student standing

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Offered for satisfactory/unsatisfactory grade only.

POL SCI 243B Political Authority and Economic Exchange in East Asia 4 Units

This course will compare how authority and exchange relations are combined to regulate political and economic activities in China, Taiwan, South Korea, North Korea, and Japan. The course will examine theoretical literature on state-society relations, market, world system, late development, as well as empirical case studies dealing with each nation covered.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

POL SCI 243C Japanese Politics 4 Units

Japanese domestic politics--issues in historical development; political bureaucratic and legal structures; studies in economic policymaking.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

POL SCI 244A Analysis of Contemporary China 4 Units

This is the first in a two-semester sequence designed to provide the incoming graduate student with a basic grounding in the politics of contemporary China. The focus will be on wide reading and comprehension of the available analytical literature; its sequel will be devoted to integrating that reading with primary source research materials. There are no prerequisites, though undergraduate course work in Chinese politics and/or some acquaintance with the Chinese language would be useful.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

POL SCI 244C Approaches to Chinese Politics 4 Units

This course has three main objectives: to expose students to debates in the study of post-1949 Chinese politics; to consider how research on contemporary China both draws from and informs political science; and to explore characterizations of the Chinese state and state-society relations. Emphasis on questions such as: What can we learn by examining Chinese culture and institutions? Do concepts such as fragmented authoritarianism, neotraditionalism, state "reach," civil society, and corporatism produce insights into the structure and dynamics of Chinese politics?

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

POL SCI 244D Collective Action in China 4 Units

This course will explore contentious politics in the People's Republic of China. Special attention to the current era and dissent by peasants, migrants, workers, religious groups, women, students, artists, and dissidents. How do concepts drawn from social movement theory help us understand popular activism? What are the consequences of protest for regime stability and the development of a more complete citizenship?

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

POL SCI 245A South Asian Politics 4 Units

Major themes of politics and international relations in India, Pakistan, Burma and the mountain kingdoms.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

POL SCI 245B International Relations in East Asia 4 Units

This seminar will focus on postwar relations among the countries in East Asia. Asia was long divided by colonialism, the Cold War, and America's "hub and spoke" alliance system. Nationalist sentiments and suspicions remain strong; one scholar characterized the region as "the cockpit of great power rivalries." Northeast Asia has seen no shooting wars between states since the Korean armistice in 1953; Southeast Asia has been at peace since the pullback of Vietnam from Cambodia in 1979.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2-3 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

POL SCI 246B Ethnic Politics 4 Units

This graduate seminar is designed to introduce students to the comparative study of ethnic politics. It provides an overview of theoretical questions and methodological innovations across five topics: the conceptualization and measurement of ethnicity; the sources of ethnic mobilization and cleavage choice; the consequences of ethnic mobilization for democratization and democracy; the impact of ethnicity on redistributive politics; and the relationship between ethnicity and patterns of violence ranging from urban riots to civil wars. Readings for each topic are drawn from various political science subfields as well as from other disciplines. They also reflect a range of regional contexts, including Eastern Europe, South Asia, and Sub-Saharan Africa. The purpose of the course is to provide graduate students with a basis for undertaking their own original research on questions relating to ethnic politics. It should enable them to critically engage recent scholarship, understanding which theories have yet to be adequately tested and which theoretically interesting questions have yet to be asked.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 4 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

POL SCI 247A Western European Politics 4 Units

Major themes of politics and international relations of Western Europe.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

POL SCI 247G The Comparative Politics of the Welfare State 4 Units

This course analyzes the politics of social protection in Western Europe and the United States. After describing different national welfare regimes, we turn to contemporary challenges, notably globalization, persistent poverty, and changes in family forms and gender roles. We also look at the politics of welfare retrenchment and adjustment, paying particular attention to the prospects for progressive social policy. Must reform inevitably scale back protections for the weak and vulnerable, or can equity be safeguarded while promoting efficiency?

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3-4 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Instructor: Levy

POL SCI 248A Latin American Politics 4 Units

Explores different analytical approaches to Latin American politics, focusing both on major concepts (clientelism, corporatism, the state, legitimacy, nationalism) and different explanatory approaches (focusing on factors such as dependency and imperialism, internal social order and economic change, political structure and institutions and political culture).

Rules & Requirements

Credit Restrictions: Either part of the 248A-248B sequence may be taken separately for credit.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

POL SCI 249A Special Topics in Area Studies 4 Units

See department web site for specific course offerings.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 4 hours of lecture per week

Summer: 6 weeks - 8 hours of lecture and 1.5 hours of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

POL SCI 249B Special Topics in Area Studies 4 Units

See department web site for specific course offerings.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 4 hours of lecture per week

Summer: 6 weeks - 8 hours of lecture and 1.5 hours of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

POL SCI 249C Special Topics in Area Studies 4 Units

See department web site for specific course offerings.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 4 hours of lecture per week

Summer: 6 weeks - 8 hours of lecture and 1.5 hours of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

POL SCI 249L Special Topics in Area Studies 4 Units
See department web site for specific course offerings.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 4 hours of lecture per week

Summer: 6 weeks - 8 hours of lecture and 1.5 hours of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

POL SCI 249O Special Topics in Area Studies 4 Units
See department web site for specific course offerings.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 4 hours of lecture per week

Summer: 6 weeks - 8 hours of lecture and 1.5 hours of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

POL SCI 249P Special Topics in Area Studies 4 Units
See department web site for specific course offerings.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 4 hours of lecture per week

Summer: 6 weeks - 3 hours of lecture and 1.5 hours of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

POL SCI 249R Special Topics in Area Studies 4 Units
See department web site for specific course offerings.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 4 hours of lecture per week

Summer: 6 weeks - 8 hours of lecture and 1.5 hours of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

POL SCI 249S Special Topics in Area Studies 4 Units
See department web site for specific course offerings.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 4 hours of lecture per week

Summer: 6 weeks - 8 hours of lecture and 1 hour of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

POL SCI 250 Courts and the State 4 Units

The course is a political science graduate seminar that will focus on courts' relationship to other political institutions, particularly but not exclusively in the American separation of powers context, with an emphasis on readings from institutionalist (both historical and rational choice) perspectives.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2-3 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

POL SCI 252 Legal Theory and Institutions 4 Units

The organization and behavior of legal institutions, with particular reference to American courts and administrative agencies. Institutional responses to problems of legality, authority, policy choice, and the organization of enforcement and decision-making processes. Readings include empirical studies, judicial opinions, jurisprudential writings and organization theory.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

POL SCI 257 Constitutional Law 4 Units

Fundamental principles of constitutional law, leading cases, judicial decisions affecting the liabilities, rights, duties and procedures of governmental officers and agencies, causes and consequences of legal decision, judicial behavior.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

POL SCI 259 Selected Topics in Public law 4 Units

See departmental announcements. Topic will vary with instructor.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Consent of instructor

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit as topic varies. Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

POL SCI 261 Political Behavior 4 Units

A comprehensive review of the major topics in political behavior through intensive examination of the theories, findings, and proceedings of the most significant studies in the field.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

POL SCI 262 Voting Behavior and Public Opinion 4 Units

Examination of the basic literature on American voting behavior, public opinion and student research on individually selected topics in this field.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

POL SCI 263 Mass Politics in Advanced Industrial Democracies 4 Units

Theories and evidence concerning political conflict in advanced industrial societies. The empirical focus is on mass politics: the beliefs, attitudes, and behaviors of ordinary citizens rather than of activists or elites. The principal theoretical focus is on how changes in social structure, culture, and political institutions influence patterns of political cleavages. The analysis is largely comparative, with attention to the issue of American exceptionalism versus cultural and policy convergence.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

POL SCI 269 Selected Topics in Political Behavior 4 Units

See departmental announcements. Topic will vary with instructor.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Consent of instructor

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit as topic varies. Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

POL SCI 271 American Government and Political Field Seminar 4 Units

This seminar is designed to acquaint students with current research approaches in various subfields of American Politics. Particular attention will be given to debates over theory, methodology, and substance. The seminar is not designed to provide a complete survey of the field. Students planning to be examined in American Politics are expected to master recommended readings on their own and should review additional readings included in versions of this seminar offered in the past years.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

POL SCI 273 Urban Politics 4 Units

Politics and policy-making in American cities. Historical, economic and social context of cities. Major urban political institutions, other levels of government in urban affairs.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

POL SCI 274 American Political Development 4 Units

This course will consider several broad themes in American political development. The objective is to extract the central conditions, processes, and controversies that scholars have found running through American political development and try to come to terms with possible relations among them.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

POL SCI 279 Selected Topics in American Government 4 Units
See departmental announcements. Topic will vary with instructor.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Consent of instructor

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit as topic varies. Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

POL SCI 280A Public Organization Theory 4 Units
A survey of the literature of organization and management theory, emphasizing the major writers and distinctive contributions of various disciplines.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

POL SCI 284 Strategies of Contemporary Governance 4 Units
This course explores the implications of new strategies for coping with social problems and managing public programs. In response to growing criticism of government bureaucracy, public skepticism of expert authority, and an explosion of advocacy groups, a variety of new governance strategies have been developed. These new strategies are characterized by five broad themes: the use of markets or market mechanisms to increase efficiency; an emphasis on holding public agencies accountable and making them more transparent; the development of coordinating networks to link public agencies with each other and with stakeholders; the extensive involvement of non-state organizations in all aspects of governing; and renewed attention to the civic role of individuals and communities. The course investigates the extent to which these new strategies succeed in making the governance process more efficient, accountable, effective, representative, and civic.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2-3 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Instructor: Ansell

POL SCI 289 Research Topics in Public Organization 4 Units
See departmental announcements.

Rules & Requirements

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit as topic varies. Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

POL SCI 290 Dissertation Research 4 Units
Seminar to aid students in initiating, carrying out, and completing dissertation research. Problems of planning dissertation research, the preparation of research designs and proposals for outside funding, field work, and writing and presenting the results of completed research. Presentations by graduate students working on their dissertations.

Rules & Requirements

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit. Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Offered for satisfactory/unsatisfactory grade only.

POL SCI 290A Research and Writing 4 Units

The goal of this yearlong course is to provide a forum in which students propose, develop, and complete a research project that produces a journal-length paper of publishable quality. It is primarily oriented towards second-year Ph.D. students in any subfield (students in other years may participate with the professors' consent). The course meets regularly during parts of the fall semester and irregularly during the spring semester. In the first few weeks of the course, we discuss the process of moving from research topic to research question; and we survey published articles by recent Ph.D. students/assistant professors, focusing on the structure and nature of the writing and presentation as well the quality of the argument and evidence.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Course is primarily oriented towards second-year Political Science Ph.D. students in any subfield (students in other years may participate with the professors' consent)

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2-3 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade. This is part one of a year long series course. A provisional grade of IP (in progress) will be applied and later replaced with the final grade after completing part two of the series.

POL SCI 290B Research and Writing 4 Units

The goal of this yearlong course is to provide a forum in which students propose, develop, and complete a research project that produces a journal-length paper of publishable quality. It is primarily oriented towards second-year Ph.D. students in any subfield (students in other years may participate with the professors' consent). During the spring semester, students meet individually with the course instructors and their advisors, develop and revise drafts of their papers, and present their work at a department "APSA-style" conference.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Students must take POL SCI 290A. In order to complete the course and receive credit, students must complete the requirements for both semesters

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2-3 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade. This is part two of a year long series course. Upon completion, the final grade will be applied to both parts of the series.

POL SCI 291 Research Workshop in American Politics 1 or 2 Units

A forum for the presentation and discussion of research in progress by graduate students. To receive two units of credit, a student must make at least one presentation of work in progress and serve as a discussant for another student's presentation. To receive one unit of credit a student must regularly attend class and participate in discussion, but will not be required to make a presentation. Appropriate works in progress include (but are not limited to) a paper in preparation for submission to a journal, a dissertation prospectus (including early drafts), a dissertation chapter, or a job market paper. Anyone working on American politics, political behavior, public law, or public administration is welcome.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Graduate student standing (second year or above)

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit. Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2-3 hours of directed group study per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Offered for satisfactory/unsatisfactory grade only.

Instructor: Schickler

POL SCI 291AS Research Workshop in Area Studies 2 Units

A forum for the presentation and discussion of research in progress by graduate students (second year and above). To receive credit for the course, the student will make at least one presentation of work in progress per semester and to serve as a discussant for another student's work. Appropriate works-in progress include (but not limited to) a paper in preparation for submission to a journal a dissertation prospectus (including early drafts), dissertation chapter, or a job market paper. Anyone working on Area Studies is welcome.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Graduate student (second year or above)

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit. Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2-3 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Offered for satisfactory/unsatisfactory grade only.

POL SCI 291F Research Workshop in Formal Modeling 1 - 3 Units

A forum for the presentation and discussion of research in formal modeling. Anyone working on formal modeling or empirical testing of formal models is welcome to attend. To receive credit for the course, a student must attend regularly, participate actively, and make at least two presentations per semester. Presentations can be of the student's own work-in-progress or of work by other scholars (including both influential/classic works or interesting current working papers).

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Graduate student standing

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit. Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2-3 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

POL SCI 291IR Research Workshop in International Relations 2 Units

A forum for the presentation and discussion of research in progress by graduate students (second year and above). To receive credit for the course, the students will make at least one presentation of work-in-progress per semester and to serve as a discussant for another student's work. Appropriate works-in-progress include (but not limited to) a paper in preparation for submission to a journal a dissertation prospectus (including early drafts), dissertation chapter, or a job market paper. Anyone working on International Relations is welcome.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Graduate student (second year or above)

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit. Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2-3 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Offered for satisfactory/unsatisfactory grade only.

POL SCI 291T Research Workshop in Theory 2 Units

A forum for the presentation and discussion of research in progress by graduate students (second year and above). To receive credit for the course, the student will make at least one presentation of work in progress per semester and to serve as a discussant for another student's work. Appropriate works-in-progress include (but are not limited to) a paper in preparation for submission to a journal, a dissertation prospectus (including early drafts), a dissertation chapter, or a job market paper. Anyone working on theory is welcome.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Graduate student (second year or above)

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit. Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2-3 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Offered for satisfactory/unsatisfactory grade only.

POL SCI 292 Directed Advanced Study 2 - 12 Units

Open to qualified graduate students wishing to pursue special study and research under direction of a member of the staff.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Consent of instructor and graduate adviser

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit. Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2-12 hours of independent study per week

Summer:

6 weeks - 2-8 hours of independent study per week

8 weeks - 2-8 hours of independent study per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

POL SCI 296 Directed Dissertation Research 4 - 12 Units
Open to qualified students advanced to candidacy for the Ph.D. degree.

Rules & Requirements

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit. Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 0 hours of independent study per week

Summer:

6 weeks - 4-12 hours of independent study per week

8 weeks - 4-12 hours of independent study per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Offered for satisfactory/unsatisfactory grade only.

POL SCI 299 Special Study in Political Science 1 - 12 Units
Special individual study for qualified graduate students.

Rules & Requirements

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit. Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 1-12 hours of independent study per week

Summer:

6 weeks - 4-8 hours of independent study per week

8 weeks - 4-8 hours of independent study per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate

Grading: Offered for satisfactory/unsatisfactory grade only.

POL SCI 375 Graduate Student Instructor Training Seminar 2 Units
This course is intended for all new graduate student instructors (GSI) in the Department of Political Science, and is meant to be taken simultaneously with the first semester of teaching as a GSI. The course functions as a participatory workshop. Although the course is intended for first-time GSIs, it is not a course in "how to be a GSI," but rather, how to be an effective political science teacher, now and at later steps in professional careers. Workshop time will be divided among presentations by the instructor, discussion of required readings, and discussion of weekly assignments in relation to challenges encountered by GSIs in the course of their teaching.

Rules & Requirements

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit. Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of seminar per week

Summer:

6 weeks - 5 hours of seminar per week

8 weeks - 3.5 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Professional course for teachers or prospective teachers

Grading: Offered for satisfactory/unsatisfactory grade only.

Formerly known as: Political Science 301

POL SCI 398 Professional Preparation for Graduate Student Instructors. 4 Units

Special study under the direction of a staff member with emphasis on the teaching of undergraduate courses in political science.

Rules & Requirements

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit. Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 0 hours of independent study per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Professional course for teachers or prospective teachers

Grading: Offered for satisfactory/unsatisfactory grade only.

POL SCI 404 Research Skills 1 - 4 Units

Individual research work under supervision of faculty members. Open to students engaged in supervised research projects in Political Science.

Rules & Requirements

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit. Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 1-4 hours of independent study per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Other professional

Grading: Offered for satisfactory/unsatisfactory grade only.

POL SCI 602 Individual Study for Doctoral Students 4 - 12 Units

Individual study in consultation with the major field adviser, intended to provide opportunity for qualified students to prepare themselves for the various examinations required of candidates for the Ph.D. May not be used for unit or residence requirements for the doctoral degree.

Rules & Requirements

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit. Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 0 hours of independent study per week

Summer:

6 weeks - 4-12 hours of independent study per week

8 weeks - 4-12 hours of independent study per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Political Science/Graduate examination preparation

Grading: Offered for satisfactory/unsatisfactory grade only.