

POLITICAL SCIENCE (PO)

PO211 American National Government (3 Credits)

Course materials present politics as a value allocation process constrained by the institutions and processes of American government. Major topics include the institutions of the federal government, civil liberties and civil rights, and elections. Particular focus is directed toward specific issues and problems at the discretion of the instructor and as the electoral and political cycles warrant. Course credit may be applied to the American Studies minor and the Politics, Law, and History minor.

PO221 State & Local Government in America (3 Credits)

This course examines politics at the state and local level, with a focus on New Jersey. The course covers general problems of federalism and specific issues drawn from a variety of topics including, but not limited to, law enforcement, taxation, local development/land use, and local election campaigns. Course credit may be applied to the American Studies minor and the Politics, Law, and History minor.

PO233 Modern Political Thought (3 Credits)

This course surveys political thought from the Renaissance to the present. Students will read and discuss major political thinkers and evolving articulations of liberalism, conservatism, utilitarianism, republicanism, Marxism, socialism, anarchism, fascism, and other political ideas. Feminist, religious, and environmentalist contributions to contemporary political debate will be explored.

PO250 International Relations (3 Credits)

This course surveys major theories, concepts, issues, and events in international relations. Topics include international relations theories; international organizations; international law; global war, peace, and security; terrorism and counterterrorism; international political economy; human rights; migration, global health; the environment; and past and current issues and challenges in world politics. Students will explore case studies and current issues and conflicts in the global arena.

PO275 Research Methods in Political Science (3 Credits)

This course prepares students to conduct their own research on various aspects of political systems, institutions or processes. Includes literature review, research design, research questions and hypotheses, quantitative and qualitative methods, data collection, drawing conclusions, and presentation of results in a research paper and orally. To satisfy the PO275 requirement for the political science major, students must earn a minimum of a C- (70%) on the research paper and earn a minimum of a C- (70%) in the course.

Prerequisite(s): MA103, SO201, PO211, and either EC180 or EC181.

PO310 U.S. Congress (3 Credits)

This course examines the organization, decision-making, and operation of the U.S. Congress and its relationship with the executive and judicial branches. It examines the leadership structure, committee system, legislative process, rules and procedures, and investigative powers of the House and Senate.

Pre/corequisite(s): PO211.

PO311 U.S. Presidency (3 Credits)

This course examines the powers, responsibilities, and operation of the presidency and executive branch in both domestic and international affairs. It explores the executive's relationship with the legislative and judicial branches, the bureaucracy, public opinion, and political parties. It also considers how the presidency has evolved and increased its power over time.

Pre/corequisite(s): PO211.

PO315 Parties & Elections (3 Credits)

This course explores U.S. political parties and presidential and congressional elections. It examines the evolution of major political parties, significant third-party movements, the nomination and election process, campaigns, interest groups, public opinion, and party machinery and activities.

Pre/corequisite(s): PO211.

PO330 N.J. Government & Politics (3 Credits)

This course examines state and local government and politics in New Jersey. Topics include the New Jersey Constitution; state government (governor, legislature, judiciary, bureaucracy); local government; independent authorities; lobbying and special interests; voters, elections, and parties; taxation and spending; elections; and New Jersey's role in the federal system.

Pre/corequisite(s): PO211.

PO350 Comparative Politics (3 Credits)

This course offers a comparative study of global politics within select nations and regions of the world. It examines political institutions and systems; political ideologies, policies, models, and developments; and political, economic, and social issues and challenges.

Pre/corequisite(s): PO211.

PO390 Special Topics in Political Science (3 Credits)

This course will offer an in-depth exploration and analysis of a topic in political science. The course may be repeated when different topics are offered.

Prerequisite(s): Permission of the instructor.

PO470 Internship in Political Science (3 Credits)

Students will complete this internship in a policy-making, legislative, campaign, constituency, or interest group setting. In addition to performing tasks assigned by their onsite supervisor, students will keep a daily journal, write a reflection paper, and complete a research project related to the internship. May be taken for 1-12 credits at a time and may be repeated up to a maximum of 12 credits, with a maximum of 3 credits of Internship applied toward the required 36 credits in political science. For 1 credit, complete 40 hours onsite.

Prerequisite(s): Junior or senior standing, 12 credits of political science, and permission of the instructor.

PO475 Seminar in Political Science (3 Credits)

This seminar is the capstone course for political science majors. Students will design, research, and write a major research paper and give an oral presentation based on this paper. To satisfy the PO475 requirement for the political science major, students must earn a minimum of a C- (70%) on the research paper and earn a minimum of a C- (70%) in the course.

Prerequisite(s): PO275 with a C- or higher.