Government

Wesleyan’s Department of Government is dedicated to exploring “who gets what, when, and how,” as Harold Lasswell defined political science in 1935. The department might well be called a department of political science or a department of politics; it is called the Department of Government for historical reasons. Department faculty today uphold a tradition, more than a century old, of distinction in scholarship and teaching. Each tenured or tenure-track Department of Government faculty member is affiliated with a concentration representing one of the four major subfields of political science: American politics and public policy, comparative politics, international politics, and political theory. We offer introductory courses to each of these four concentrations (American is GOVT151; international, GOVT155; comparative, GOVT157; and theory, GOVT159), a range of upper-level courses (201-368), and specialized research seminars (369-399). In addition, we offer courses in research methodology, individual and group tutorials, and tutoring of senior honors theses. Courses numbered 201-368 are ordered according to field of study, not level of difficulty.

FACULTY

Joslyn Barnhart Trager
BA, Reed College; MA, Claremont McKenna; PhD, University of California LA
Assistant Professor of Government

Sonali Chakravarti
BA, Swarthmore College; MA, Yale University; PhD, Yale University
Associate Professor of Government; Tutor, College of Social Studies

Logan M. Dancy
BA, University Puget Sound; PhD, Univ. of Minnesota Twin Cities
Assistant Professor of Government

Marc A. Eisner
BA, University of Wisconsin; MA, Marquette University; MBA, University of Connecticut; PhD, University of Wisconsin
Dean of the Social Sciences; Henry Merritt Wriston Chair in Public Policy; Professor of Government; Professor, Environmental Studies

Douglas C. Foyle
AB, Stanford University; MA, Duke University; PhD, Duke University
Associate Professor of Government; Tutor, College of Social Studies

Erika Franklin Fowler
BA, St Olaf College; MA, Univ of Wisconsin Madison; PhD, Univ of Wisconsin Madison
Associate Professor of Government

Giulio Gallarotti
BA, Hunter College; PhD, Columbia University
Professor of Government; Co-Chair, College of Social Studies; Tutor, College of Social Studies; Professor, Environmental Studies

Mary Alice Haddad
BA, Amherst College; MA, University of Washington; PhD, University of Washington
Professor of Government; Chair, College of East Asian Studies; Professor, East Asian Studies; Professor, Environmental Studies

Ioana Emy Matesan

James W. McGuire
BA, Swarthmore College; MA, University of California, Berkeley; PhD, University of California, Berkeley
Professor of Government; Chair, Government; Professor, Latin American Studies

J. Donald Moon
BA, University Minnesota Mpls; MA, University of California, Berkeley; PhD, University Minnesota Mpls
Ezra and Cecile Zilkha Professor in the College of Social Studies; Professor of Government; Professor, Environmental Studies; Tutor, College of Social Studies

Justin Craig Peck
BA, Brandeis University; MA, University of Virginia; PhD, University of Virginia
Assistant Professor of Government

Peter Rutland
BA, Oxford University; DPHIL, York University
Colin and Nancy Campbell Professor in Global Issues and Democratic Thought; Professor of Government; Director, Allbritton Center for the Study of Public Life; Professor, Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies; Tutor, College of Social Studies

Nancy L. Schwartz
BA, Oberlin College; MAA, Wesleyan University; PhD, Yale University
Professor of Government

Yamil Ricardo Velez
BA, Florida State University; PhD, SUNY at Stony Brook
Assistant Professor of Government

Sarah E. Wiliarty
BA, Harvard University; MA, University of California, Berkeley; PhD, University of California, Berkeley
Associate Professor of Government; Tutor, College of Social Studies; Associate Professor, Feminist, Gender, and Sexuality Studies; Associate Professor, German Studies

AFFILIATED FACULTY

Louise S. Brown
BA, Mount Holyoke College; PhD, University Mass Amherst
Dean for Academic Advancement/Dean for the Class of 2021; Adjunct Lecturer, Government

Robert Cassidy
BA, Fitchburg State; MA, Boston University; MA, Tufts University; PhD, Tufts University
Retired Officer Teaching Fellow, Government; Retired Officer Teaching Fellow

Joan Cho
BA, University of Rochester; MA, Harvard University; PhD, Harvard University
Assistant Professor of East Asian Studies; Assistant Professor, Government

VISITING FACULTY

Kathleen Klaus
AB, Smith College; MA, University Wisconsin Madison; PhD, University Wisconsin Madison
Visiting Assistant Professor of Government

Benjamin Thomas Krupicka
BA, Willamette University; MA, University of California, Berkeley; PHD, University of California, Berkeley
Visiting Assistant Professor of Government

Liza Barclay Williams
BA, Dartmouth College; MA, Columbia University; PHD, Brown University
Visiting Assistant Professor of Government

EMERITI

Richard W. Boyd
BA, University of Texas Austin; MAA, Wesleyan University; PHD, Indiana University Bloomington
Professor of Government, Emeritus

Barbara H. Craig
BA, University Maine; MAA, Wesleyan University; MPA, University of Connecticut; PHD, University of Connecticut
Professor of Government, Emerita

Martha Crenshaw
BA, Newcomb College Tulane U; MA, University of Virginia; MAA, Wesleyan University; PHD, University of Virginia
Colin and Nancy Campbell Professor in Global Issues and Democratic Thought, Emerita

John E. Finn
BA, Nasson College; JD, Georgetown University; PHD, Princeton University
Professor of Government, Emeritus

Russell D. Murphy
BA, St Johns College; MA, Boston College; MA, Yale University; MAA, Wesleyan University; PHD, Yale University
Professor of Government, Emeritus

DEPARTMENTAL ADVISING EXPERT

James McGuire

- Undergraduate Government Major (catalog.wesleyan.edu/departments/govt/ugrd-govt)

GOVT108 Public Opinion and American Democracy
Central to the concept of a representative democracy is the idea that citizens hold elected officials accountable for the policies they enact (or fail to enact). Yet ordinary American citizens know little about politics and often appear as if they have few consistent opinions. Still elected officials, aspiring candidates, media, and organized interests spend considerable time scrutinizing political polls, which are increasing in number. Can citizens be uninformed and public opinion informative at the same time? If so, what are the implications for democratic representation? This seminar will introduce the ways in which public opinion is measured, where opinions or attitudes come from and how they are changed, the determinants of vote choice, and the relationship between public opinion and policy outcomes. This course does NOT count toward the Government major.
Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00

Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOV, SBS-GOV
Prereq: None

GOVT110 The American Constitutional Order: An Introduction
This course introduces students to the American constitutional order and to key concepts associated with constitutional design and governance.
Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOV, SBS-GOV
Prereq: None

GOVT120 Cold War International Relations
Lasting from 1945–1991, the Cold War was a seminal era in world history with a major impact on the study and conduct of international relations. The world we live in today is greatly shaped by the experience of the Cold War. Many of the issues and topics that preoccupy the world today, from Afghanistan to the uprisings in the Middle East, the political unification on Europe, and the dominance of the U.S., were all greatly influenced by the Cold War. This course will provide students with an understanding of the origins, evolution, and end of the Cold War. This course will examine the U.S.-U.S.S.R. relationship and how it impacted different world regions through decolonization, neoimperialism, globalization, and political integration around the world.
Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOV, SBS-GOV, SBS-GOV
Prereq: None

GOVT121 Great Powers and Great Debates in International Relations
Great powers—such as the Napoleon’s France, the British Empire, the U.S.S.R., and the U.S.—have been the focal point of international relations since the creation of the international system in 1648. This course offers students an introduction to the study of great powers and some of the critical debates in international relations. It will look at the evolution of the Westphalian system and the modern state system. The course also examines how contemporary challenges of world politics are changing how we conceptualize great power. Major topics include conceptualizing great powers, the role of great powers in war and peace, the structure of international order by the great powers, the rise of “new” great powers such as China and India, the rule of law under great powers, the effect of globalization on great power status, and the role of great powers in the Cold War and post-Cold War era.
Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOV, SBS-GOV, SBS-GOV
Prereq: None

GOVT151 American Government and Politics
An introduction to American national institutions and the policy process, the focus of this course is on the institutions and actors who make, interpret, and enforce our laws: Congress, the presidency, the courts, and the bureaucracy. The course will critically assess the perennial conflict over executive, legislative, and judicial power and the implications of the rise of the administrative state for a democratic order. This course is designed specifically for first-year students.
Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOV, SBS-GOV
Prereq: None

GOVT155 International Politics
This introduction to international politics applies various theories of state behavior to selected historical cases. Topics include the balance of power,
change in international systems, the causes of war and peace, and the role of international law, institutions, and morality in the relations among nations. 

Offering: Host  
Grading: A-F  
Credits: 1.00  
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT  
Prereq: None

GOVT157 Democracy and Dictatorship: Politics in the Contemporary World  
In this introduction to politics, we compare the capitalist and socialist development trajectories and explore the interplay between economic interests, social movements, and political institutions. Key concepts such as law and democracy are debated, as is the utility of competing grand theories of political evolution. The course includes many case studies of particular countries, both well-known and obscure.  

Offering: Host  
Grading: A-F  
Credits: 1.00  
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT  
Prereq: None

GOVT158 Writing the World  
How do U.S. newspapers and magazines frame world politics? How adequate is their coverage of ongoing crises and breaking stories around the world?  
The course will involve reading some classic texts of political journalism and some political novels (such as Orwell's HOMAGE TO 1984 and Vargas Llosa's THE FEAST OF THE GOAT). We will also read current articles on contemporary politics from a variety of sources. Students will be assigned to write alternative sources, both reporting and opinion, on current events of their choice. The topics covered will include military conflicts, elections and political crises, and economic stories. We will of course assess the impact of the Web (blogs, YouTube, etc.) on news coverage.  

Offering: Host  
Grading: A-F  
Credits: 1.00  
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT  
Prereq: None

GOVT159 The Moral Basis of Politics  
An introduction to upper-level courses in political theory, the course considers the basic moral issues that hedge government and politics: Under what, if any, circumstances ought one to obey the laws and orders of those in power? Is there ever a duty to resist political authority? By what values and principles can we evaluate political arrangements? What are the meanings of terms like freedom, justice, equality, law, community, interests, and rights? How is our vision of the good society to be related to our strategies of political action? What are the roles of organization, leadership, compromise, and violence in bringing about social change? Readings will include political philosophy, plays, contemporary social criticism, and modern social science.  

Offering: Host  
Grading: OPT  
Credits: 1.00  
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT

GOVT201 Applied Data Analysis  
In this project-based course, you will have the opportunity to answer questions that you feel passionately about through independent research based on existing data. Students will have the opportunity to develop skills in generating testable hypotheses, conducting a literature review, preparing data for analysis, conducting descriptive and inferential statistical analyses, and presenting research findings. The course offers unlimited one-on-one support, ample opportunities to work with other students, and training in the skills required to complete a project of your own design. These skills will prepare you to work in many different research labs across the University that collect empirical data. It is also an opportunity to fulfill an important requirement in several different majors.  

Offering: Crosslisting  
Grading: A-F  
Credits: 1.00  
Gen Ed Area: NSM-QAC, NSM-QAC, NSM-QAC, NSM-QAC  
Identical With: QAC201, SOC257, PSYC280, NS&B280, QAC201, SOC257, PSYC280, NS&B280, QAC201, SOC257, PSYC280, NS&B280, QAC201, SOC257, PSYC280, NS&B280, QAC201, SOC257, PSYC280, NS&B280, QAC201, SOC257, PSYC280, NS&B280, QAC201, SOC257, PSYC280, NS&B280, QAC201, SOC257, PSYC280, NS&B280, QAC201, SOC257, PSYC280, NS&B280, QAC201, SOC257, PSYC280, NS&B280

Prereq: None

GOVT203 American Constitutional Law  
This course is an examination of the historical development and constitutional principles of American government including inquiries into federalism, national and state powers, separation of powers, checks and balances, and due process. The primary focus will be on case law of the Supreme Court from the Marshall Court to the present.  

Offering: Host  
Grading: A-F  
Credits: 1.00  
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT  
Prereq: None

GOVT205 The Judicial Process  
This course is an introduction to the judicial process in the United States. It introduces students to the nature of legal reasoning and the structure of the legal process, both at the federal and state level. We shall examine how the legal process works to resolve private disputes between citizens, how the participants in the process understand their roles, and how the logic of legal reasoning influences not only the participants, but the wider community as well. It is an introductory-level course.  

Offering: Host  
Grading: A-F  
Credits: 1.00  
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT  
Prereq: None

GOVT206 Public Policy  
This course will provide a survey of several public policies. It will begin with a discussion of the logic of public choice within the context of political institutions, competing interests, and the implications for constitutional and policy design. The remainder of the course will be devoted to the examination of several public policy areas including criminal justice, education, welfare, and regulation. By integrating theoretical literature with case studies of different policies written from a variety of perspectives, the course aims to develop analytical skills as well as an appreciation for the technical and political complexities of policy making.  

Offering: Host  
Grading: A-F  
Credits: 1.00  
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT  
Identical With: ENVS206, ENVS206, ENVS206, ENVS206, ENVS206, ENVS206, ENVS206, ENVS206

Prereq: GOVT151
GOVT214 Media and Politics
Mass media play a crucial role in American politics, as citizens do not get most of their information about the workings of government from direct experience, but rather from mediated stories. This course examines the evolving relationship between political elites, mass media, and the American public.
Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT
Prereq: None

GOVT215 Congressional Policy Making
An introduction to the politics of congressional policy making—how the way we elect our members of Congress affects the way they perform in Congress. We will focus our attention on changes in the legislative process over the last several decades and how these changes have influenced the relations between members and their constituents, between the two parties, between the House and Senate, and between Congress and the president.
Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT
Prereq: None

GOVT217 The American Presidency
This course has three aims: to survey the institutional development and current operation of the presidency; to examine the politics of presidential leadership, including the processes of selection of governance; and to consider the interaction of the two. Topics to be addressed include the constitutional framework, the American ambivalence toward executive power, historical development of the office and its relation to party systems, the process of nominating and electing the president, and the relationship of the office to the other branches.
Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT
Prereq: GOVT151

GOVT220 American Political Economy
Political economy addresses a wide range of issues, including the ways in which public policies and institutions shape economic performance and the distribution of economic power, the impact of public policies on the evolution of economic institutions and relationships over time, and the ways in which economic performance impinges upon governmental decision making and political stability. This course examines the American political economy. We are thus concerned with examining the above-mentioned issues to better understand how patterns of state-economy relations have changed over the course of the past century and the ways in which this evolutionary process has affected and reflected the development and expansion of the American state. The course will begin with an examination of competing perspectives on property rights, markets, the state, labor, and corporations. It will turn to an exploration of the political economy as it evolved in the past century and end with a discussion of contemporary challenges.
Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT
Prereq: None

GOVT221 Environmental Policy
This course explores the history of U.S. environmental regulation. We will examine the key features of policy and administration in each major area of environmental policy. Moreover, we will examine several alternatives to public regulation, including free-market environmentalism and association- and standards-based self-regulation. Although the course focuses primarily on U.S. environmental policy, at various points in the course, we will draw both on comparative examples and the challenges associated with coordinating national policies and practices on an international level.
Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT
Identical With: ENVS221, ENVS221, ENVS221, ENVS221
Prereq: None

GOVT222 Regulation and Governance
Regulation describes an array of public policies explicitly designed to govern economic activity and its consequences at the level of the industry or firm. This course will begin with an examination of the history of economic regulation and deregulation. It will turn to explore the rise of the new social regulation in environmental policy and occupational safety and health policy. The course will conclude with an examination of regulation as governance. Understanding the limits of traditional regulation and the need to address a host of emerging problems, analysts have focused on various means of integrating regulatory and nonregulatory policies, corporate practices, and the activities of nongovernmental organizations (e.g., trade associations, standard-setting organizations, and environmental groups). To what extent can changes in governance create a context for social learning and the generation of solutions to problems that fall outside of standard political jurisdictions (e.g., global climate change, occupational safety, and health in international markets)?
Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT
Identical With: ENVS222, ENVS222
Prereq: None

GOVT230 Political Communication
This course examines the evolving nature of political communication in American politics and the statement it makes on the nature and state of American democracy.
Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT
Prereq: None

GOVT232 Campaigns and Elections
This course introduces students to the style and structure of American campaigns and what they have changed over time. We also consider academic theories and controversies surrounding campaign “effects” and whether or not parties, media, campaigns, and elections function as they are supposed to according to democratic theory. Students will read, discuss, and debate classic and new scholarship in the field of political and electoral behavior.
Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT
Prereq: None

GOVT238 American Political Parties
This course explores the origins, purposes, roles, and consequences of political parties in the American political system. After a brief consideration of the broader theories behind political party systems, we will turn our focus to the party system in the United States. V. O. Key (1964) presented a tripartite definition of political parties that we will use to structure our exploration of parties for the rest of the course: party as organization, party in government,
and party in the electorate. In these sections, we will address political party polarization, party identification, parties fund-raising, and many other related topics. From this rich examination of political parties in the U.S. context, we will discuss why parties exist and enable democracy, but also discuss their potential flaws and failures.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT
Prereq: None

GOVT239 Racial and Ethnic Politics
This course is a historic and contemporary examination of the role of race in American politics and the political behavior of African Americans, Asian Americans, and Latinos in the U.S. Topics will include, but are not limited to, racialization and the persistence of racial segregation in the 21st century, racial and ethnic group identities and consciousness in shaping minority political attitudes and behavior, challenges of minority representation, the role of race in campaigns, and the complex relationship between minorities and America’s two major political parties.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT
Prereq: GOVT151

GOVT242 Gay and Lesbian Politics
In the past 15 years there has been a meteoric and unprecedented shift in attitudes in the United States toward gay marriage and toward lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) individuals, yet many obstacles to LGBT equality remain. This course will include a broad discussion of public opinion, its formation, and how it is affected by the news media; contemporary opinion toward LGBT individuals in the U.S. context; a history of the LGBT movement; and a focus on institutional constraints on issues like marriage equality, adoption rights, employment non-discrimination, and transgender equality.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT
Prereq: GOVT151

GOVT245 Development of the American Welfare State
What exactly is the American welfare state? What does it look like? Why do we have the policies that we do, and not others? In this course students will be divided into teams and assigned a city that they will study to find all the benefits available to a poor household in terms of housing assistance, income assistance, medical assistance, and nutrition assistance. In short, we will map out the current American welfare state, along the way seeing that it differs (sometimes dramatically) depending on where one lives. This course will also cover the history of how Americans have cared for themselves and others in times of need, starting in the colonial era and moving forward.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT
Prereq: None

GOVT246 Public Opinion in American Politics
This course examines public opinion in contemporary American politics. Central to the concept of a representative democracy is the idea that citizens hold elected officials accountable for the policies they enact (or fail to enact). However, this vision of democracy assumes the public holds relatively stable and meaningful political attitudes. This course turns our focus to the essential democratic linchpin of public opinion. We will discuss how to conceptualize and measure public opinion, where opinions or attitudes come from and how they are changed, the determinants of vote choice, and the relationship between public opinion and policy outcomes.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT
Prereq: None

GOVT247 Intersecting Identities in Policy and Public Opinion
In our increasingly diverse society, most Americans identify with more than one group. These multiple identities often align with conflicting policy choices, such as when a Democratic parent may support increased social services spending from a partisan perspective, but may also worry about the increasing national debt as a parent. Democracies rely on citizens to freely express preferences (Dahl 1989). Given the significance of identity, political elites often work to prime identities that will win over the most supporters. While political scientists have investigated the role of identity and identity strength in shaping political preferences, less is known about how these identities compete with one another.

This course will introduce social identity theory as well as in depth discussions of the major identities that affect political and social behavior, including but not limited to race and ethnicity, gender, income and class, sexual orientation, and partisanship. We will then turn to how these identities can overlap and conflict with each other and how the intersections of these and other identities can shape political discourse and rhetoric, media/information consumption, attitude formation, and political behavior.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT
Prereq: None

GOVT248 U.S. Immigration Politics
This course examines the interaction of African, Asian, European, and Latino immigrants in the U.S. with the American political system since the 19th century and the role of civic and political institutions, political parties, and candidates/candidates/representatives as they attempt to incorporate America’s newest arrivals and future citizens.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT
Prereq: None

GOVT250 Civil Liberties
This course, the politics of civil liberties, introduces students to a uniquely American contribution (one that other Western democracies have freely emulated) to the practice of politics: the written specification of individual liberties and rights that citizens possess against the state. Civil liberties is not, however, a course on law. It is, instead, a course in political science that has as its subject the relationship of law to some of the most fundamental questions of politics. Topics covered will include privacy, due process, equal protection, freedom of expression, and freedom of religion.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT
Prereq: GOVT203

GOVT252 National Security Law
This course explores the legal questions raised by historical and contemporary national security issues and policies. We will focus on how to approach national security questions by understanding the fundamental legal tenets of national
security policies, the analyses used by courts and administrations to confront various intelligence and terrorism issues, and theories of how to balance the interests of national security with civil liberties. Topics covered include: presidential power; intelligence collection and covert action; the Fourth Amendment and electronic surveillance; and the detention, interrogation, and trial of suspected terrorists.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT
Prereq: None

GOVT253 The American National Security State
In this seminar we will focus on the rise of the United States' national security apparatus through the second half of the 20th century. This topic deals with political issues that are often characterized as "intermestic" because they occur at the point of intersection between domestic and international politics. Accordingly, we will examine the ways in which external forces influence internal state-building. We will also consider the choices and implications of policies designed to provide for what President Roosevelt famously called "freedom from fear.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT
Prereq: None

GOVT265 Growth and Conflict in Asia
Rapid economic growth in East and South Asia is rearranging power structures in the region and in the world. This course will explore the causes of economic growth and political change in regions of the world. It will focus on the consequences of such economic and political change for regional and global security. The course will address such questions as, Why has China achieved such rapid economic growth, and what implications for regional and global security? What are the roots of the conflict between India and Pakistan, and what are the prospects for reconciliation? Why is poverty so widespread in South Asia, and what might be done to alleviate it?

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT
Identical With: CEAS265, EAST265
Prereq: None

GOVT270 Comparative Politics of the Middle East
This course introduces students to aspects of the cultures, politics, religions, and economies of the modern Middle East. What is everyday life like for millions of Middle Easterners? Why is an "us vs. them" dichotomy facile and reductionist? How has the region been formed and shaped by colonialism, political Islam, democratization, oil, the Palestinian-Israeli conflict, revolution, and war? What conditions and circumstances led to civil war in Syria and to regime change in Egypt?

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT
Identical With: CEAS270, EAST270
Prereq: None

GOVT272 International Relations of the Middle East
This course will consider the international relations of the Middle East, including U.S. foreign policy in the region, inter-Arab relations, the Arab-Israeli conflict, and foreign economic policy. Course readings will include general international relations theory, region-specific/mid-range theories, and primary source/descriptive accounts specific to the region.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT
Prereq: None

GOVT274 Russian Politics
The course begins with a brief review of the dynamics of the Soviet system and the reasons for its collapse in 1991. The traumatic transition of the 1990s raised profound questions about what conditions are necessary for the evolution of effective political and economic institutions. The chaos of the Yeltsin years was followed by a return to authoritarian rule under President Putin, although the long-run stability of the Putin system is also open to question. While the focus of the course is Russia, students will also study the transition process in the other 14 states that came out of the Soviet Union. Topics include political institutions, social movements, economic reforms, and foreign policy strategies.

The course will include a role-playing simulation of Kremlin decision making that will run over several weeks.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT
Identical With: REES280, REES280, REES280, REES280
Prereq: None

GOVT275 Contemporary Indian Politics
A survey of Indian politics since 1990, examining India's political and economic development in historical and comparative context and evaluating how Indian citizens have fared in the face of domestic and global changes since the end of the Cold War. Since the 1991 general elections, Indian politics has been characterized by coalition governments and economic liberalization, but poverty and other social divisions and dilemmas persist despite rapid economic growth, increased trade, financial globalization, and a burgeoning middle class. What have been the successes and failures of the Indian political system, and how have political and economic gains been distributed?

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT
Prereq: None

GOVT276 Arab Spring and Aftermath
The course explores the complexities of political change in the Middle East and North Africa by narrowing in on the series of protests that became collectively known as "the Arab Spring." Drawing from theories of democratization and contentious politics, the readings examine both general patterns across the region and the political dynamics of individual cases. We will ask, for instance,
GOVT281 Democracy and Social Movements in East Asia

Despite East Asia’s reputation for acquiescent populations and weak civil society, the region has been replete with social movements. This course assesses the state of civil society in East Asia by surveying contemporary social movements in the region. We will examine the rise of civil society and its role in political and social changes in both authoritarian and democratic societies in East Asia.

Offering: Crosslisting
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-CEAS, SBS-CEAS
Identical With: CEAS280, EAST280, CEAS280, EAST280
Prereq: None

GOVT286 European Integration

Today’s European Union is a study in contrasts. Since its creation in the Treaty of Paris in 1951, the EU has grown from a six-country coal and steel community into a policymaking behemoth whose 28 member states form the largest economy in the world. Along with an unprecedented degree of international
integration, however, the Union now also faces growing skepticism from some of its oldest member states and a common-currency project in a state of apparently perpetual crisis. In this course, we will survey the history, theory, and institutions of European integration with an eye to analyzing the present and guessing the future of the EU. Why did the European Union come about? How does it operate? And what will remain of the European project twenty or fifty years from now?

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOV, SBS-GOV, SBS-GOV, SBS-GOV, SBS-GOV
Prereq: None

GOVT291 Environmental Advocacy Strategies That Work
This seminar will study a wide variety of advocacy strategies that are working around the world. The first few weeks of the semester will lay the groundwork for the common constraints and opportunities that advocates face in different countries, and the remainder of the semester will be spent exploring a variety of strategies that have been found to work. In class, discussion will focus on what the strategies are, where they are most often used, and the contexts in which they are most popular and effective. Students will also be required to do a participant/observation exercise in which they observe/participate in an organization that utilizes one of the strategies discussed in class.

Offering: Crosslisting
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-ENVS, SBS-ENVS, SBS-ENVS
Identical With: ENV5291, CEAS291, ENV5291, CEAS291, ENV5291, CEAS291, EAST2921, ENV5291, CEAS291, CEAS291, ENV5291, CEAS291, ENV5291, EAST2911
Prereq: None

GOVT292 Representing Gender in Politics and the Media
This course examines the representation of gender in media coverage of politics. The course begins with the political theory literature on the act of representation. What does it mean to represent someone? Political scientists have considered substantive and descriptive representation, among other types. Under what circumstances is one approach preferable for representing gender? How might these concepts be linked? The course extends these questions to the realm of news media, investigating differences in how female and male politicians are portrayed in the media, how viewers and readers react to these portrayals, and how politicians themselves attempt to craft a gender strategy that will enable their political success. The course examines these issues in cross-national perspective with the goal of understanding how representations of gender vary according to cultural context.

Offering: Crosslisting
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-CHUM, SBS-CHUM
Identical With: CHUM348, FGSS347, CHUM348, FGSS347, CHUM348, FGSS347, CHUM348, FGSS347
Prereq: None

GOVT293 New Strategies in Political and Economic Development
This seminar explores several novel strategies in economic development. In particular, the course assesses the strengths and weaknesses of local-based efforts to alleviate poverty. Microfinance, property titling efforts, the fair trade movement, and an overall emphasis on sustainability are primary examples of such efforts and will occupy center stage in this course. These strategies receive considerable accolades in the media, but scholars and practitioners understand much less about how well the programs actually alleviate poverty. Furthermore, the political hurdles limiting or preventing implementation of many economic strategies are poorly understood. This seminar fills the gap as we perform in-depth research and analysis to solidify students' understanding of novel strategies in development and the political context in which they exist.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOV, SBS-GOV
Identical With: LAST293, CEAS293, LAST293, EAST293
Prereq: GOVT157

GOVT295 Korean Politics Through Film
This course explores the contemporary politics of Korea. Through course readings and films, we will examine how the tumultuous history of modern Korea has contributed to present political conditions in South and North Korea. Topics covered include Japanese colonialism, the Korean War, economic development under military dictatorships, democratization, and inter-Korean relations.

Offering: Crosslisting
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: HA-CEAS, HA-CEAS, SBS-CEAS, HA-CEAS
Identical With: CEAS206, CEAS206, CEAS206, CEAS206, CEAS206, CEAS206, CEAS206, CEAS206, CEAS206, CEAS206, CEAS206, CEAS206, CEAS206, CEAS206
Prereq: None

GOVT296 Politics in Japan
This course is an introductory course in politics in Japan. It begins with an overview of the Japanese political system: its historical origins, institutional structures, and main actors. The course then moves on to explore specific policy areas: industrial and financial policy, labor and social policy, and foreign policy. The course culminates in student research projects presented in an academic conference format of themed panels.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOV, SBS-GOV, SBS-GOV
Identical With: CEAS296, CEAS296, EAST296, CEAS296, CEAS296, EAST296, CEAS296, CEAS296, EAST296

GOVT297 Politics and Political Development in the People’s Republic of China
Despite the collapse of the U.S.S.R. and Eastern European Communist regimes since 1989, the People’s Republic of China (P.R.C.) has retained a one-party regime while it continues its economic reforms begun in 1978, before reforms in other communist counties got under way. In contrast to former communist regimes, the P.R.C. is attempting socialist market reforms while retaining the people’s democratic dictatorship under the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party. We shall examine the politics of this anomaly, study several public policy areas, and evaluate the potential for China’s democratization.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOV, SBS-GOV, SBS-GOV
Identical With: CEAS297, CEAS297, EAST297, CEAS297, CEAS297, EAST297, CEAS297, CEAS297, EAST297

GOVT298 Terrorism and Film
This course uses the prism of cinema to address some of the major debates surrounding terrorism. The first part of the course is devoted to understanding terrorism. It explores the root causes of violence as well as the reasons why individuals and organizations turn to violent tactics. The second part assesses the implications of terrorism for U.S. foreign policy and for the definition of security. Films throughout the course contextualize the theoretical issues and address the question of political violence from alternative perspectives: those of the perpetrators of violence, victims, soldiers, government officials, and police
officers. Films will be watched outside of class. Class discussions will address both theoretical issues and the portrayal of terrorism in films.
Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT
Prereq: None

GOVT299 Politics and Security in Asia
Are the countries of East and Southeast Asia headed toward greater cooperation or toward increased conflict? This course assesses political and security conflict and cooperation in the post-Cold War era in China, Japan, South Korea, Taiwan, and Southeast Asia. The first part of the course introduces the theoretical issues at stake and reviews the historical backgrounds of the countries involved. The second part analyzes contemporary political and security issues, including territorial disputes over islands in the South China Sea, tensions between China and Taiwan, Japan’s security policy, conflict on the Korean peninsula, arms control, international organizations, and bilateral and multilateral relations. The last part of the course outlines potential future scenarios for security and cooperation within Asia and between the countries of Asia and the rest of the world.
Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT
Identical With: CEAS299, CEAS299, CEAS299, CEAS299
Prereq: None

GOVT300 Political Islam
This course will examine the origins, preferences, and organization of both nonviolent and violent Islamist groups, with a particular focus on the Middle East and Central Asia. Students will be exposed to case-specific material, doctrines of political Islam in translation, and broader theories of social movements and state-society relations from the field of comparative politics.
Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT
Prereq: None

GOVT302 Latin American Politics
This course explores democracy, development, and revolution in Latin America, with special attention to Argentina, Brazil, Cuba, and Nicaragua. Questions to be addressed include, Why has Argentina lurched periodically from free-wheeling democracy to murderous military rule? Why is authoritarianism usually less harsh, but democracy often more shallow, in Brazil than in Argentina? How democratic are Latin America’s contemporary democracies? What accounts for the success or failure of attempted social revolutions in Latin America? Why did postrevolutionary Cuba wind up with a more centrally-planned economy and a more authoritarian political system than postrevolutionary Nicaragua? How much progress has each of these countries made toward creating a more affluent, educated, healthy, and equitable society?
Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT
Identical With: LAST302, LAST302, LAST302, LAST302
Prereq: None

GOVT303 The Evolution of War
While most societies condemn physical violence between individuals, they condone and encourage collectively organized violence in the form of warfare. War is obscene, yet all modern societies have engaged in warfare. This course will examine war as a social, political, and historical phenomenon. We will look at the way in which wars have led to the consolidation of political power and the acceleration of social change, at the relationship between military service and the concept of citizenship. The course also examines the crucial role played by technology in the interaction between war and society. Films and novels will be examined to test to what extent these literary works accurately reflect, or obscure, the political, social, and technological logic driving the evolution of war. Our examples will include warfare in premodern society, the gunpowder revolution in early modern Europe and Japan, the American Civil War, colonial wars, World War I, World War II, Vietnam, and Iraq.
Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT
Prereq: None

GOVT304 Environmental Politics and Democratization
This course explores the role that environmental movements and organizations play in the development and transformation of democratic politics. It examines the political role of environmental movements in nondemocracies, transitioning democracies, and advanced democracies.
Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT
Identical With: CEAS304, ENV5304, EAST304, ENV5304, CEAS304, ENV5304, EAST304, ENV5304
Prereq: None

GOVT305 Middle Eastern States in Comparative Perspective
This course will draw upon theories of state-building from the Middle East, early modern Europe, Latin America, and sub-Saharan Africa to understand the development of a variety of Middle Eastern states and their implications for social, political, and economic organization. The course encourages students to question the boundaries of “Middle Eastern exceptionalism” relative to other developing areas while also explaining sources of variation among the states of the region.
Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT
Prereq: None

GOVT306 Land and Conflict in a Global Perspective
For much of the world’s population, land sustains livelihoods, shapes identities, and provides a source of investment and security. Yet the centrality of land in everyday life also means that it can become a source of contentious politics and violence. This course explores the meanings that people attach to land, the institutions that affect land access and security, and the mechanisms through which land shapes conflict. We also consider how a close focus on land affects policy debates around issues such as economic development, food security, and post-conflict peacebuilding. The course examines these questions in several country contexts including Kenya, China, Indonesia, Colombia, and Afghanistan. The course is interdisciplinary in its approach and should appeal to students interested in peace and conflict issues, environmental politics, international development, and human rights.
Offering: Host
Grading: OPT
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT
Prereq: None

GOVT311 United States Foreign Policy
This course provides a survey of the content and formulation of American foreign policy with an emphasis on the period after World War II. It evaluates...
the sources of American foreign policy including the international system, societal factors, government processes, and individual decision makers. The course begins with a consideration of major trends in U.S. foreign policy after World War II. With a historical base established, the focus turns to the major institutions and actors in American foreign policy. The course concludes with an examination of the challenges and opportunities that face current U.S. decision makers. A significant component of the course is the intensive discussion of specific foreign policy decisions.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT
Prereq: None

GOVT314 Public Opinion and Foreign Policy
The relationship between leaders and the public remains a core concern of democratic theorists and political observers. This course examines the nature of public views on foreign policy, the ability of the public to formulate reasoned and interconnected perspectives on the issues of the day, and the public's influence on foreign policy decisions. The main focus is on the U.S., although comparative examples are included. The role of the media and international events in shaping public perspectives and public attitudes toward important issues such as internationalism and isolationism, the use of force, and economic issues will be considered. Finally, the public's influence will be examined across a range of specific decisions. This course provides an intensive examination of a very specific area of research. As such, strong interest in learning about public opinion and foreign policy is recommended.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT
Prereq: None

GOVT315 Understanding Civil Wars: Internal Conflicts and International Responses
For the better part of the 20th century, international security scholars and practitioners focused on the causes and consequences of war and peace between countries, particularly the prospects for conflict among the great powers. Nevertheless, since 1945 the vast majority of conflicts have been within countries rather than between them. This course surveys competing theories about the causes, conduct, and conclusion of the dominant brand of conflict in the world today and examines how the international community deals with these (enduring and often seemingly intractable) conflicts. Topics examined include conflict prevention, conflict mediation, military intervention, peace implementation, peacekeeping and peace enforcement, and refugee crisis management. The course combines theories from international relations and conflict resolution with case studies of recent and ongoing conflicts.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT
Prereq: GOVT388 OR GOVT155

GOVT316 The Armed Forces and Society
This course examines the relationship between the civilian population and the military. It will examine at a macrolevel the institution of the military: military culture, race and gender in the military, organization, technology, warfare. The development of modern militaries, the social legitimacy of the military, and the changing nature of warfare will also be covered. At the microlevel, the course will look at how societies conceptualize the use of force and the role of the military in the affairs of the state.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT
Prereq: GOVT155 OR GOVT157 OR GOVT159

GOVT319 Political Opinion and Foreign Policy
This course examines the relationship between public opinion and foreign policy. It will focus on the causes and consequences of public opinion and foreign policy, the ability of the public to formulate reasoned and interconnected perspectives on the issues of the day, and the public's influence on foreign policy decisions. The main focus is on the U.S., although comparative examples are included. The role of the media and international events in shaping public perspectives and public attitudes toward important issues such as internationalism and isolationism, the use of force, and economic issues will be considered. Finally, the public's influence will be examined across a range of specific decisions. This course provides an intensive examination of a very specific area of research. As such, strong interest in learning about public opinion and foreign policy is recommended.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT
Prereq: None

GOVT320 The History and Geopolitics of South Asia
This course examines the contemporary geopolitical issues in South Asia, informing the study of contemporary politics through a comprehensive review of the historical development of the region. The course will focus primarily on the relations between India, Pakistan, and Afghanistan.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT
Prereq: None

GOVT322 Global Environmental Politics
This course examines different perspectives of global environmental politics. Issues covered vary but may include trade-environmental conflicts, environmental justice, climate change, biodiversity, and management of water resources. The course will consider the actors involved in these issues and the design and use of international institutions for managing international cooperation and conflict on these issues.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT
Prereq: None

GOVT324 Africa in World Politics
This course examines Africa's role in world politics beginning with the continent's first modern contacts with Europeans and subsequent colonization. The dominant focus, however, will be on contemporary patterns of international relations, considering how African political actors relate to each other and to the rest of the world—especially China, Europe, and the United States.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT
Prereq: None

GOVT325 Solving the World's Problems: Decision Making and Diplomacy
This course represents a hands-on approach to decision making and diplomacy. It is designed to allow students to take part in diplomatic and decision-making exercises in the context of international political issues and problems. Important historical decisions will be evaluated and reenacted. In addition, more current international problems that face nations today will be analyzed and decisions will be made on prospective solutions. Finally, various modern-day diplomatic initiatives will be scrutinized and renegotiated.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT
Prereq: None

GOVT327 Politics of Terrorism
This course analyzes terrorism as one form of contemporary political violence. It will focus on the causes and consequences of terrorism against the state since the French Revolution. It will also cover state policies. It employs an interdisciplinary, case-study-oriented approach.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT
Prereq: GOVT155 OR GOVT157 OR GOVT159
GOVT329 International Political Economy
In this study of the politics of international economic relations, emphasis will be placed on analyzing competing theories of international political economy. Topics include trade, monetary relations, foreign direct investment, North-South relations, technological innovation, and economic reform policies.
Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT
Prereq: GOVT155

GOVT330 Policy and Strategy in War and Peace
This course explores how the relations, relationships, and discourse between senior national civilian and military leaders influence the development and execution of policy and strategy in war and peace. In theory, the purpose of war is to achieve a political end that sees a better peace. In practice, the nature of war is to serve itself if it is not influenced and constrained by continuous discourse and analysis associated with good civil-military relations between senior leaders. This course begins with discussion of the key foundational works to build a common understanding. It then explores how civil-military interaction influenced strategy in war and peace for each decade from the Vietnam War to the present. The readings and seminar discussions also examine how the outcomes of wars influenced civil-military relations and the subsequent peace or wars. This course lies at the intersection of international relations, history, and conflict studies. Students will gain greater understanding of how U.S. policy makers, strategy, and war interact, while honing their critical thinking and writing.
Offering: Crosslisting
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-CSPL, SBS-CSPL
Identical With: CSPL330, CSPL330, CSPL330, CSPL330
Prereq: None

GOVT331 International Law
International law plays an increasingly important role in global politics. This course will examine the interaction of law and politics at the international level and how each influences the other. The course will examine the sources of international law; the roles played by international organizations such as the United Nations, the World Trade Organization, and the International Criminal Court; and the roles played by various participants in global governance, including both state and nonstate actors. We will focus on several key issue areas, such as human rights, economic governance, and the use of force, war crimes, and terrorism. Today it is impossible to completely grasp global politics without an understanding of international law. This course is offered to bridge that gap.
Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT
Prereq: None

GOVT332 Psychology and International Politics
Trust, personality, reputation, honor, emotions. These concepts are at the heart of international decision making. This course will address research in psychology and political science related to these topics that helps us understand how leaders behave toward other nations and why, for instance, they engage in conflict or acquire nuclear weapons.
Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT
Prereq: None

GOVT333 International Organization
Nations have increasingly attempted to manage their interdependence through the use of international organizations. This course represents a systematic study of these organizations: their structures, impact, success, and failure. Emphasis will be placed on analyzing competing theories of international organization and evaluating current debates over the performance of these organizations in today's most important international issue areas: security, economic efficiency, economic redistribution, human rights, hunger, health, and the environment.
Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT
Prereq: GOVT155

GOVT334 International Security in a Changing World
The post-Cold War era has seen the end of some threats to international security and the rise of others. This course considers how to define international security and how this process affects our conceptions of international threats. The course considers the prospects for peace and conflict globally and regionally as well as several vexing issues such as terrorism, disease, nuclear proliferation, nationalism and ethnic conflict, economics, and environmental issues.
Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT
Prereq: GOVT155

GOVT335 Territory and Conflict
Conflicts over territory are among the most contentious and intractable in international relations. In this course, students will develop an understanding of when, why, and how territory has played a role in the history of international conflict and explore how the role of territory in conflict has changed over time.
Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT
Prereq: None

GOVT337 Virtue and Glory: Classical Political Theory
This course is a survey of premodern political theories, with attention to their major theoretical innovations, historical contexts, and contemporary relevance. Major themes will include the nature of political community and its relation to the cultivation of virtue, the origins of the ideas of law and justice, the relation between knowledge and power and between politics and salvation. Readings will include Plato, Aristotle, Augustine, Alfarabi, Maimonides, Aquinas, and Machiavelli.
Offering: Host
Grading: OPT
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT
Prereq: None

GOVT338 Modern Political Theory
This course surveys major thinkers in political philosophy in Europe from the 17th to 19th centuries. Attention is given to the historical context of thinkers, their influence on one another, and the contemporary relevance of their thought. Topics addressed will include the relation among philosophy, language, and politics; the meaning and foundations of rights; the notion of property; the idea of social contract; the ideas of state sovereignty and individual autonomy; the role of reason in politics; the role of nature and natural law in politics; the concepts of liberty, equality, and justice; the idea of representation; the meaning of liberalism and the relationship between liberalism and democracy; the role of toleration; and the relation among identity, recognition, and politics.
Offering: Host
GOVT340 Global Justice
This course examines the moral and political issues that arise in the context of international politics. Is the use of violence by states limited by moral rules, and is there such a thing as a just war? Are there human rights that all states must respect? Should violation of those rights be adjudicated in the international courts? Are states justified in enforcing such rights beyond their own borders? Is a system of independent states morally legitimate? What, if any, are the grounds on which states can claim freedom from interference by other states and actors in their internal affairs? Must all legitimate states be democracies? Do states and/or individuals have an obligation to provide assistance to foreign states and citizens? Are there any requirements of international distributive justice?
Offering: Host
Grading: OPT
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT
Prereq: None

GOVT345 Citizenship and Immigration
This course examines the concept of citizenship and explores its connection to immigration, ideas of membership, political rights, and processes of incorporation as well as integration. Some of the core questions we will pursue include: What responsibilities do liberal democracies have to immigrants? How should we conceive of citizenship? Should we think of citizenship as a formal political and legal status? As an entitlement to a set of rights? As active participation in self-governance? As an identity? Or, something else entirely? How have racial, ethnic, gender, and class identities and hierarchies shaped the access people have to rights and formal membership? Finally, we will evaluate how political thinkers have argued for the inclusion and exclusion of immigrants into the political community. Most of our readings for the term will be drawn from legal theorists and political philosophers; we will also read some work by historians, political scientists, and sociologists for historical context and background.
Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT
Prereq: None

GOVT346 Foundations of Civic Engagement
The promise of democracy is that citizens can act together to shape the conditions of their collective lives. This class examines that promise, focusing on the ways in which civic engagement can contribute to its realization. We examine civic engagement both as a theoretical perspective on citizen participation and an active practice. What does it mean to have a truly democratic society? What is the role of citizen participation, both within formal political activity and in civil society generally? What role should experts play in democratic politics, and how can expertise be squared with democratic equality? What, if any, responsibility does the university have to promote civic engagement?
Offering: Crosslisting
Grading: OPT
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT
Prereq: None

GOVT344 Religion and Politics
How has religion affected political institutions and ideologies, and, in turn, been affected by them? Which religious values and institutions are compatible with democracy, and which ones go beyond democracy? Do political movements based on religion change the moral basis of a constitutional state? Can the concepts of law in religion and politics be reconciled? Should church and state be separate, and if so, how? We will explore the relation of three monotheisms—Judaism, Christianity, and Islam—to political life in nation-states and empires through theoretical and empirical readings from ancient, medieval, and modern times.
Offering: Host
Grading: OPT
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT
Prereq: None

GOVT343 Contemporary Political Theory
This course examines a number of important 20th-century theories of politics. Major issues include the role of reason in grounding the basic values and principles of our moral and political lives, the moral and conceptual foundations of liberal and civic republican democracy, and critiques of liberalism from communitarian, critical theory, and postmodern perspectives. This course, together with GOVT337 and GOVT338, provides a survey of major Western political theories; at least two of these courses are recommended for students concentrating in political theory.
Offering: Host
Grading: OPT
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT
Prereq: None

GOVT342 Forms of Freedom: Anarchism, Socialism, and Communitarianism
What is freedom, and what political forms might it take? We will examine 19th- to 21st-century anarchist, socialist, and communitarian thought in Europe and America: ideas of communal freedom and individual liberty; the state and civil society; deliberation, choice, and emotion; authority, technology, power, and passion. Am I at liberty to do what I will? Or does social life require "the freedom to bind oneself in the pursuit of one's ultimate ends to the available means" (Lowith)? Does freedom require reason to understand freedom's grounds and virtues? We will thus also look at necessity—natural, existential, military, political—to see its effect on freedom.
Offering: Host
Grading: OPT
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT
Prereq: None

GOVT341 Political Representation
Why do we have political representation? Is it inferior to direct democracy? Is a representative supposed to stand and act for the people who elected him, or for the party platform, or the entire constituency, or his or her own conscience about what is right? We will read theoretical and empirical works on America and other countries and study social movements and political parties as key mediating institutions. We will ask how representation connects the individual to governing and to sovereignty, citizenship, identity, and community.
Offering: Host
Grading: OPT
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT
Prereq: None

GOVT340 Global Justice
This course examines the moral and political issues that arise in the context of international politics. Is the use of violence by states limited by moral rules, and is there such a thing as a just war? Are there human rights that all states must respect? Should violation of those rights be adjudicated in the international courts? Are states justified in enforcing such rights beyond their own borders? Is a system of independent states morally legitimate? What, if any, are the grounds on which states can claim freedom from interference by other states and actors in their internal affairs? Must all legitimate states be democracies? Do states and/or individuals have an obligation to provide assistance to foreign states and citizens? Are there any requirements of international distributive justice?
Offering: Host
Grading: OPT
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT
Prereq: None

GOVT345 Citizenship and Immigration
This course examines the concept of citizenship and explores its connection to immigration, ideas of membership, political rights, and processes of incorporation as well as integration. Some of the core questions we will pursue include: What responsibilities do liberal democracies have to immigrants? How should we conceive of citizenship? Should we think of citizenship as a formal political and legal status? As an entitlement to a set of rights? As active participation in self-governance? As an identity? Or, something else entirely? How have racial, ethnic, gender, and class identities and hierarchies shaped the access people have to rights and formal membership? Finally, we will evaluate how political thinkers have argued for the inclusion and exclusion of immigrants into the political community. Most of our readings for the term will be drawn from legal theorists and political philosophers; we will also read some work by historians, political scientists, and sociologists for historical context and background.
Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT
Prereq: None

GOVT346 Foundations of Civic Engagement
The promise of democracy is that citizens can act together to shape the conditions of their collective lives. This class examines that promise, focusing on the ways in which civic engagement can contribute to its realization. We examine civic engagement both as a theoretical perspective on citizen participation and an active practice. What does it mean to have a truly democratic society? What is the role of citizen participation, both within formal political activity and in civil society generally? What role should experts play in democratic politics, and how can expertise be squared with democratic equality? What, if any, responsibility does the university have to promote civic engagement?
Offering: Crosslisting
Grading: OPT
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT
Prereq: None

GOVT344 Religion and Politics
How has religion affected political institutions and ideologies, and, in turn, been affected by them? Which religious values and institutions are compatible with democracy, and which ones go beyond democracy? Do political movements based on religion change the moral basis of a constitutional state? Can the concepts of law in religion and politics be reconciled? Should church and state be separate, and if so, how? We will explore the relation of three monotheisms—Judaism, Christianity, and Islam—to political life in nation-states and empires through theoretical and empirical readings from ancient, medieval, and modern times.
Offering: Host
Grading: OPT
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT
Prereq: None
revolution, resistance, and regime change shaped political debate in the public and private spheres. Core thinkers we will examine include Hannah Arendt, Emmanuel-Joseph Sieyès, Edmund Burke, Olympe de Gouges, Václav Havel, Albert Camus, and Mahatma Gandhi. This course prompts students to explore the historical contexts in which the respective authors produced their texts and to consider the ways in which their ideas of resistance and revolution emerged from their political landscapes.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOV'T
Prereq: None

GOVT350 From Civic Republic to Existentialism: French Political Theory
French political theorists have written about their country, and the European continent, and America, and humanity. Can we say their nationalism aspires to be universal? Are concepts like sovereignty, civic virtue, liberty, equality, fraternity, and power applicable universally? Are certain French traditions, such as centralized government, key to enacting these ideas? What attitude can modern individuals take when central meanings begin to break down?

Offering: Host
Grading: OPT
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOV'T, SBS-GOV'T, SBS-GOV'T, SBS-GOV'T
Prereq: None

GOVT351 Politics and Free Will
Machiavelli, in THE PRINCE, thinks that fortune rules about half our actions, but she allows the other half to be governed by us, "that our free will not be altogether extinguished." To what extent do political leaders act freely, making choices based on their values, and to what extent are they boxed in by the boundaries of a situation? As an opposition leader, is a politician more or less constrained than if she becomes the top executive? Does power lead to freedom? Are there necessities of political action, both domestic and international, that limit a political actor? Can a creative or transformational leader redefine and overcome necessity?

Offering: Host
Grading: OPT
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOV'T, SBS-GOV'T, SBS-GOV'T, SBS-GOV'T
Prereq: None

GOVT353 Political Theory and Transitional Justice
Transitional justice refers to the variety of legal, political, and social processes that occur as a society rebuilds after war and includes war crimes trials, truth commissions, and the creation of memorials. Although the term "transitional justice" is a recent one, the philosophical issues contained within it are at the core of political philosophy. What kind of society is best? What is the relationship between political institutions and human nature? What does justice mean? The purpose of this course is to understand the issues of transitional justice from both practical and philosophical perspectives and will include the case studies of World War II, South African apartheid, and the genocide in Rwanda.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOV'T, SBS-GOV'T, SBS-GOV'T
Prereq: None

GOVT358 Capstone Thesis Seminar
This course is for students approved for the thesis honors track. Successful completion of this seminar will require one or two chapters of high quality. Further information about the government honors thesis track is available on the department web site.

Offering: Host

Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOV'T, SBS-GOV'T, SBS-GOV'T
Prereq: None

GOVT359 Capstone Seminar in Political Science
This discussion-based course considers core readings from each of the four political science subfields: political theory, comparative politics, international politics, and American politics. Core questions that cut across each of the subfields (What is the nature of good governance? How should conflict be managed? Who should rule?) will provide the course's focus.

The course is designed as preparation for taking the honors exam during the Spring semester (the exam is due on the date that theses are due) and is paced accordingly. Students are admitted into the course on a POI basis according to the honors program process described on the Government Department web site. For more information, see http://www.wesleyan.edu/gov/honors.html.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOV'T, SBS-GOV'T, SBS-GOV'T
Prereq: None

GOVT366 Empirical Methods for Political Science
This course is an introduction to the concepts, tools, and methods used in the study of political phenomena, with an emphasis on both the practical and theoretical concerns involved in scientific research. It is designed to get students to think like social scientists and covers topics in research design, hypotheses generation, concept/indicator development, data collection, quantitative and qualitative analysis, and interpretation. Students will become better critical consumers of arguments made in mass media, scholarly journals, and political debates. The course is especially appropriate for juniors who are considering writing a thesis in government.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOV'T, SBS-GOV'T
Prereq: GOVT151 OR GOVT155 OR GOVT157 OR GOVT159

GOVT367 Political Science By the Numbers
This course covers the basics of probability theory and statistics. The main purpose of this course is to promote the understanding of statistical concepts and how these concepts can be used to make inferences about the political world. Topics include probability distributions, correlation analysis, linear regression, generalized linear models, maximum likelihood, logistic regression, causal inference, experiments, and non-parametric modeling. Lecture will mainly cover theory while readings will connect the concepts described during lecture to problems in political science. Whenever possible, the instructor will draw upon research in political science to illustrate the why and how of a given concept or technique. Demos will allow students to "play around" with abstract statistical concepts. Most lectures will have an interactive component involving class participation. Problem sets will cover some of the more technical aspects of what we discuss in class along with applications using real data.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOV'T, SBS-GOV'T, SBS-GOV'T
Prereq: None

GOVT369 Political Psychology
This course explores the political psychology of individual judgment and choice. We will examine the role of cognition and emotions, values, predispositions, and
social identities on judgment and choice. From this approach, we address the larger debate regarding the quality of democratic citizenship.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT
Prereq: None

GOVT370 The Scope and Limits of U.S. Executive Power
This course will analyze the executive powers wielded by the President of the United States. Throughout the course we will examine the history of social, political, and legal conflicts and compromise that has shaped the current scope and limits of presidential power. We will be discussing a variety of topics including executive orders, the president's war powers, executive privilege, clemency, and the veto power.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT
Prereq: None

GOVT372 Immigrant Political Incorporation
Immigration is one of the primary engines driving population growth and ethnic diversity in the U.S. As America's newcomers learn to adapt to and identify with their new country, researchers observe significant differences in the rates and trajectories of political incorporation across various immigrant groups. These differences raise important questions regarding issues of equality, power, citizenship, pluralism, and racial formation in the U.S. Students in this course will compare and contrast the civic and political incorporation patterns of African, Asian, European, and Latino immigrants in the U.S. since the 19th century. Through an in-depth examination of each group's political incorporation experience (e.g., civic engagement, electoral and nonelectoral participation, partisanship, ideology, descriptive and substantive representation, etc.), students will be able to evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of American democratic institutions, political parties, and candidates, as they attempt to incorporate America's newest arrivals and future citizens.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT
Prereq: None

GOVT373 Congressional Reform
The modern Congress is often criticized for being too partisan, inefficient, and beholden to special interests. This seminar will examine the development of the modern Congress by focusing on the history of congressional reform. We will also evaluate proposals for reforming the modern Congress to remedy potential shortcomings in the lawmaking and ethics process.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT
Prereq: None

GOVT374 Seminar in American Political Economy and Public Policy
This seminar explores key theoretical debates in American political economy and public policy. The seminar will begin with an examination of competing theoretical perspectives (public choice, institutionalism, and class theories). It will turn to a consideration of competing forms of economic governance and the role of the state and public policy in shaping the evolution of governance regimes and the larger political economy. We will then consider some of the unique features of the U.S. political economy that have long-term consequences for performance and regime stability. Over the course of the semester, we will have the opportunity to examine the role of ideas in the economic policy process, the role of tax expenditures in the U.S. welfare state, the problem of inequality, the long-term liability crisis, and the factors that shaped the recent financial collapse.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT
Prereq: None

GOVT375 American Political Development
This is a course about the big questions in American politics. What is it all about? What does it mean to be living under a text written more than two centuries ago? Is the very concept of development an oxymoron for constitutional government? This course introduces students to a scholarship and a method of analysis that melds the historical with the institutional, applied to understanding the evolving state/society relationship in American political life. We will examine the ways in which developing state institutions constrain and enable policy makers; the ways in which ideas and policy-relevant expertise have impacted the development of new policies; the ways in which societal interests have been organized and integrated into the policy process; and the forces that have shaped the evolution of institutions and policies over time. This seminar will provide an opportunity to survey the literature drawn from several theoretical perspectives in the field and to consider competing arguments and hypotheses concerning the development of the American state and its changing role in the economy and society.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT
Prereq: None

GOVT376 Political Polarization in America
In the 1950s, political scientists feared that weak parties in the United States threatened democratic accountability. Today, many political scientists argue strong, ideologically extreme parties distort representation. Undoubtedly, things have changed, but why? Several possible culprits exist, including partisan gerrymandering, primary elections, the ideological realignment of the electorate, and changing congressional procedures. We will cover the possible explanations and try to decipher what explanation, or combination of explanations, is most convincing. While we evaluate the arguments for why polarization has increased we will also debate the merits and drawbacks of strong parties at the elite level. Finally, we will examine to what extent polarization among elected officials and activists reflects polarization in the public.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT
Prereq: None

GOVT377 Asian American Politics
This course examines the political history and contemporary trends in Asian American politics. Topics will include, but are not limited to, pan-ethnic identity and racial group consciousness; the political status, participation, and representation of Asian Americans in the American political system; interminority conflict and cooperation; the growing number of multiracial Asians and the future of Asian American identity and politics. Although the primary focus of the course is Asian Americans, our examination of Asian American politics will be situated within the larger literature and context of racial and ethnic politics in the U.S. This course will help students develop a broader understanding of Asian American political behavior in the U.S.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT
This course examines the strategic, political, and economic aspects of the global oil and gas industry. On one side is the U.S. as the dominant energy consumer, for whom securing oil supplies has been a major strategic priority since the 1930s. On the other side are a variety of producer countries, for whom oil has brought wealth but also political instability and conflict. Political scientists actively debate the impact of oil on the prospects for democracy and economic development. It is also important to understand the structure of the industry and the goals of the corporations that make it up. Students will complete case studies of individual producer countries and oil companies. The cases selected will cover the whole range—the Middle East (Saudi Arabia, Iran, etc.), Russia and Central Asia, and developing countries (Venezuela, Nigeria, etc.)—not to forget other cases such as Norway and Trinidad. We will also examine the phenomenon of peak oil and the rise of natural gas and other fuels.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT
Credits: 1.00

GOVT384 Democracy in Comparative Perspective

If “democracy” is rule by the people, how is democratic government accomplished in practice? What are the different ways real-world democracies can be organized to secure citizen influence over government officials, and how do these structural differences affect the nature, scope, and stability of popular rule? This course is an advanced seminar centered on these fundamental questions of democratic governance, which we will address in both empirical and normative terms. Note that the focus of the course is on the general problem of organizing and maintaining democracy; it is not an exploration of the contemporary political challenges facing any specific democratic country. That said, we will ground our discussion primarily on the major West European democracies and on the United States, and a solid grasp of at least one of those two political models is expected at the outset.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT
Credits: 1.00

GOVT385 Women and Politics

In this course we will study a variety of topics related to the theme of women and politics: women’s political participation, the gender gap, women in political parties, female leadership, and women’s issues. Because women’s political engagement is affected by their position in society and in the economy, we will also study topics such as inequality, power, discrimination, and labor force...
participation. While we will consider these issues in the U.S., our approach will be strongly cross-national.

Offering: Host  
Grading: A-F  
Credits: 1.00  
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT

GOVT386 The Nuclear Age in World Politics  
This course examines the role of nuclear weapons in world politics. Why do states acquire nuclear weapons? What are they good for? Do nuclear weapons make weak states more secure by leveling the playing field or less secure by making them targets for annihilation? Are nuclear weapons a force for stability or instability? Are missile defenses defensive or offensive? Are these weapons still relevant, or is it time to rethink their usefulness? Topics include rational and extended deterrence, strategic doctrine, nuclear superiority, the stability-instability paradox, nuclear proliferation, rogue states, nuclear terrorism, missile defense, and Cold War crises.

Offering: Host  
Grading: A-F  
Credits: 1.00  
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT

GOVT387 Foreign Policy at the Movies  
Recent research on public opinion has suggested that public attitudes about foreign affairs are informed by many nonnews sources. This course examines the messages and information provided by movies with significant foreign affairs content. The questions considered are, What are the messages about international politics sent by the movies? Are these messages consistent with the understanding of the events and processes within the political science literature? What are the implications of movies and the information they provide for democratic governance? Students will watch the movies outside of class. Class periods will be devoted equally to discussion of the political science concepts and their portrayal in films.

Offering: Host  
Grading: A-F  
Credits: 1.00  
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT

GOVT388 Theory of World Politics  
This course is an analysis of theories of international politics. It considers general theories such as realism and liberalism as well as explanations of war and of state strategies. It also covers incentives and structures for international cooperation.

Offering: Host  
Grading: A-F  
Credits: 1.00  
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT

GOVT389 The Global Village: Globalization in the Modern World  
Globalization is considered by many to be the most powerful transformative force in the modern world system. Modernization and technology have effectively made the world a smaller place with respect to the interdependence and interpenetration among nations, which are greater today than at any time in history. But while most agree on the transformative power of globalization, many disagree on its nature and its effects on modern society. Liberals hail globalization as the ultimate means to world peace and prosperity. Marxists see it as a means of reinforcing the inequality and unbalanced division of labor created by modern capitalism. Still others, such as mercantilists and nationalists, see it as a source of political instability and cultural conflict. This course analyzes globalization principally through this tripartite theoretical lens. It traces its origins and its evolution across the 19th and 20th centuries. It also tries to determine the impact of globalization on the most important issues of international relations today: on domestic and international political systems and on social, cultural, and international economic relations. Through analytical, critical, and theoretical approaches, the course attempts to ascertain the nature and impact of globalization and ultimately shed light on the fundamental question: To what extent is globalization a force for good and evil in the modern world system?

Offering: Host  
Grading: A-F  
Credits: 1.00  
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT

GOVT390 Presidential Foreign Policy Decision Making  
In the realm of foreign policy, good choices can avoid or win wars, while poor choices can lead to disaster. Although analysts consistently evaluate the quality of U.S. presidential foreign policy decision making, the fundamental aspects of good and poor judgment remain controversial. With a focus on the U.S. presidency since World War II, this course starts with a consideration of the effects of both individual character and decision-making processes in determining the quality of foreign policy choices. The majority of the course focuses on these issues through the intensive discussion of case studies written by the students in the course.

Offering: Host  
Grading: A-F  
Credits: 1.00  
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT

GOVT391 Weber and Marx  
This course presents a comparison of two theorists, Karl Marx and Max Weber, who decisively influenced 20th-century social and political thought. Topics will include their views of history, society, religion, politics, and the state; methods of social inquiry; the nature of power, authority, and rationality; and the possibilities of political action. Readings will include selections from the major works of Marx and Weber as well as Georg Lukacs, who was influenced by both.

Offering: Host  
Grading: OPT  
Credits: 1.00  
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT

GOVT392 Theorizing the City  
Recent years have brought a shift to imagining the city, rather than the nation-state, as the primary allegiance for citizens with its own unique set of challenges and responsibilities. What are our political and ethical obligations to the strangers we live near? Should cities be governed more democratically? This course will examine topics such as income inequality, environmental justice, immigration, localism versus cosmopolitanism, and public art.

Offering: Host  
Grading: A-F  
Credits: 1.00  
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT

GOVT394 Political Thought and Politics of Israel  
Israel was founded as a state of the Jewish people. What political principles and practices are distinctive to it, and what ideas does it share more generally with
modern political thought? Are there Israeli ideas of time, space, citizenship, virtue, equality, diversity, liberty, and justice? We will also look at Israel's basic laws, electoral system, political parties, legislative and judicial decisions to see whether and how they form a political community.

Offering: Host
Grading: OPT
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT
Identical With: CJST238, CJST238, HEST238, CJST238, CJST238, HEST238, CJST238, CJST238, HEST238
Prereq: None

GOVT395 Justice
One of the central questions facing any society is how the benefits and burdens of social life ought to be distributed among its members. Some have argued that the appropriate grounds of distribution are desert: people should have (net) benefits proportional to their desert or merit (which obviously must be defined); others hold that utility or aggregate well-being is the relevant principle: holdings should be distributed in such a way as to make everyone (or the average person) as well off as possible. Yet others propose equality or need. In this seminar we will examine contemporary theories of justice beginning with the work of John Rawls, who revolutionized the discussion of justice by focusing on the basic institutional structure of the society rather than principles applying directly to individuals. We will then consider a range of issues that Rawls' institutional focus may not be able to accommodate, such as race, gender, environmental concerns, and disabilities.

Offering: Host
Grading: OPT
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT
Prereq: None

GOVT396 Politics, Freedom and Biology
Biological processes, the natural world, and the human condition have long inspired political thinkers, from Aristotle to the present. This course takes up important ethical and political questions of human freedom that derive from our human capacities and character. We will examine contemporary philosophical problems in four areas: bioethics; biotechnology, especially as related to reproductive technologies; discourses in human freedom and ecology; and the science of judgment and cognition. Texts will include selections from Aristotle, Hannah Arendt, Michel Foucault, Saba Mahmood, Allen Buchanan, and William Connolly.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT
Prereq: None

GOVT397 Plato and Socrates: Philosophy, Politics, and Desire
Plato writes political philosophy through dialogues, in which his teacher and friend Socrates is a central figure. What can we learn about politics from these conversations? Should rule, and how? What is the relation of our desires to more abstract ideas by which we might live together? We will read short and long dialogues from different stages in Plato's life.

Offering: Host
Grading: OPT
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT
Prereq: None

GOVT398 What Is the Good Life?
Work, political participation, friendship, art, and justice: These are the components that political philosophers have long thought to be components of a life well lived. How do these practices shape our identity and relationships with others? How do they contribute to a thriving society? How have theorists changed our understandings of these core concepts over time? What happens when they come into conflict? This course will use these five categories to understand what the "good life" means from ancient, modern, and postmodern perspectives.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT
Prereq: None

GOVT399 Citizens, Judges, Juries: Who Decides in Democracy?
The tensions between rule by the people, rule by elites, and rule of law are at the core of democratic theory. What is the proper balance between the three? Under what circumstances is one group of decision-makers better than another? What happens when they come into conflict? This is an upper level course in political theory designed for students who have taken the Moral Basis of Politics or an equivalent course in Philosophy and related disciplines. We will focus on the following topics: the role of voting in liberal democracies, the Athenian jury system, deliberative democracy, referendum and initiatives, civil disobedience and the role of juries in the U.S. criminal justice system.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT, SBS-GOVT
Prereq: None

GOVT401 Individual Tutorial, Undergraduate
Topic to be arranged in consultation with tutor. Individual tutorials are available only when the subject and technique of study are not available in other regular offerings. Approval of the department chair required.

Offering: Host
Grading: OPT

GOVT402 Individual Tutorial, Undergraduate
Topic to be arranged in consultation with tutor. Individual tutorials are available only when the subject and technique of study are not available in other regular offerings. Approval of the department chair required.

Offering: Host
Grading: OPT

GOVT407 Senior Tutorial
Downgraded Senior Thesis Tutorial - Project to be arranged in consultation with the tutor.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F

GOVT408 Senior Tutorial
Downgraded Senior Thesis Tutorial - Project to be arranged in consultation with the tutor.

Offering: Host
Grading: A-F

GOVT409 Senior Thesis Tutorial
Majors in government should consider in their junior year whether there is a topic in politics that they might research in their senior year. Careful planning is required. Those students undertaking such research can then take the sequence of courses.

Offering: Host
Grading: OPT

GOVT410 Senior Thesis Tutorial
Majors in government should consider in their junior year whether there is a topic in politics that they might research in their senior year. Careful planning is required. Those students undertaking such research can then take the sequence of courses.
GOVT411 Group Tutorial, Undergraduate
Offering: Host
Grading: OPT

GOVT412 Group Tutorial, Undergraduate
Offering: Host
Grading: OPT

GOVT419 Student Forum
Offering: Host
Grading: Cr/U

GOVT420 Student Forum
Offering: Host
Grading: Cr/U

GOVT465 Education in the Field, Undergraduate
Offering: Host
Grading: OPT

GOVT466 Education in the Field, Undergraduate
Offering: Host
Grading: OPT

GOVT468 Independent Study, Undergraduate
Offering: Host
Grading: OPT

GOVT469 Education in the Field, Undergraduate
Offering: Host
Grading: Cr/U
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: None
Prereq: None

GOVT470 Independent Study, Undergraduate
Offering: Host
Grading: OPT
Credits: 1.00
Gen Ed Area: None
Prereq: None

GOVT491 Teaching Apprentice Tutorial
Offering: Host
Grading: OPT

GOVT492 Teaching Apprentice Tutorial
Offering: Host
Grading: OPT

GOVT495 Research Apprentice, Undergraduate
Offering: Host
Grading: Cr/U

GOVT496 Research Apprentice, Undergraduate
Offering: Host
Grading: Cr/U