Courses in Political Science

R Pos 101
American Politics (3)
This course offered fully online. Introduction to the study of politics, focusing on American national government. Includes some discussion of theoretical questions (such as authority, representation and consent) and some illustrative examples from the area of comparative and international politics. R Pos 101Z is a writing intensive version of R Pos 101.
(1568) Hildreth, Anne
4 Week 1: May 24-June 18
(2376) Preble, Keith
6 Week 3: July 6-August 13

R Pos 102
Comparative and International Politics (3)
This course offered fully online. The characteristics and development of statehood and power; conditions of stability; constitutions and the comparative political processes; the international order and the nation-state system. R POS 102Z is the writing intensive version of R POS 102. R POS 102X is the information literacy version of R POS 102. Only one version of R POS 101 may be taken for credit.
(1726) Willis, Charmaine
6 Week 1: May 24-July 2

R Pos 103
Political Theory (3)
This course offered fully online. An introductory course in the history of political theory with an emphasis on understanding political ideas and concepts and applying them to perennial issues of political life. R POS 103Y is the oral discourse version of R POS 103 in which students will attend a weekly discussion section in addition to weekly regular classes. Only one version of R POS 103 may be taken for credit.
(2173) McKeever, Sean
6 Week 1: May 24-July 2

R Pos 206
Politics in Film (3)
This course offered fully online. This course examines representations of selected aspects of American politics in film. We will use movies as our primary texts to analyze campaigns and elections, political parties, the Cold War, censorship in American politics, the criminal justice system and the participation of minorities in the political process, among others. Although this will not be the primary focus of the course, we will also explore the implications of media representations of politics for democracy and democratic participation. The course is not self-paced so it requires that you login every day and complete the work scheduled for that day only.
(2625) Cruz, Jose
4 Week 2: June 21-July 16

R Pos 326
Introduction to Public Law (3)
This course offered fully online. What is law and why is it such a significant part of modern-day society and culture in the United States? How does the legal system operate through its various actors - judges, lawyers, and juries - to enable individuals to resolve disputes without resorting to violence? How does the law operate to structure and control the state? From where does legal power arise and what are its limits? How does the law both constrain and empower subordinated individuals and groups in American politics and society? These questions and others are the subject of this course, providing students with a general
overview of the legal system of the U.S. The course is intended primarily for students who have little/no prior background in law. Some students will take the course as a gateway to further study about law, others will use it to broaden their understanding of the legal system as one of the most significant and powerful institutions in the modern state.  
(2545) Williams, Nathaniel  
4 Week 1: May 24-June 18

R Pos 360
Violent Political Conflict (3)
This course offered fully online. This course is designed to introduce students to the study of violent political conflict. We will examine the how, why, and when of violent political conflict both domestic and international. What are the key empirical and normative questions raised by violent political conflict and what answers to these questions does the literature offer? What other strategies, like nonviolence and negotiation are available to actors instead of political violence? In this course, in addition to studying the theories that have been developed to explain the politics and history of violent political conflict, students will have an opportunity to participate in simulation exercises designed to sharpen their analytic skills in the subject area. R POS 360 is the non-Honors version of the TPOS 260. Only one version may be taken for credit.  
(2546) Topal, Reyhan  
4 Week 3: July 19-August 13

R Pos 361
Comparative Ethnicity (3)
This course offered fully online. This course is designed to introduce students to the study of ethnicity in comparative politics. In this course, we’ll examine the key theoretical and empirical questions about ethnic politics in different contexts. We’ll address two key questions in the course introduction: what is ethnic identity? what makes ethnicity politically salient? Then we’ll explore the relationship between ethnicity and democracy, followed by a discussion on the causes and solutions of ethnic conflicts. Finally, we’ll situate the development of ethnic politics in the context of America and focus on issues such as immigration, racism, and white supremacy in light of the current political climate. The course materials are complemented by assignments designed to sharpen students’ analytical skills in the subject area.  
(2547) Wang, Zheng  
6 Week 3: July 6-August 13