Courses in Political Science

R Pos 101
American Politics (3)
*This course offered online through the Blackboard Learning System.* 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.

(1670) Hildreth, Anne
4 Week 2: June 24-July 19
*Online course in Blackboard*

(2305) Preble, Keith
6 Week 3: July 8-August 16
*Online course in Blackboard*

R Pos 102
Comparative and International Politics (3)
*This course offered online through the Blackboard Learning System.* 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.

(1878) Willis, Charmaine
6 Week 1: May 28-July 5
*Online course in Blackboard*

R Pos 140 (=R Pad 140)
Introduction to Public Policy (3)
*This course offered online through the Blackboard Learning System.* Introduction to theories of how democracies make public policy. Describes the roles of government institutions, the media, and interest groups in the policy process. Reviews current theories of how problems are identified and how policies are formulated, enacted, and implemented to address public problems. Only one of R PUB 140 and R POS 140 may be taken for credit.

(1879) Edwards, Amani
12 Week: May 28-August 16
*Online course in Blackboard*

R Pos 206
Politics in Film (3)
*This course offered online through the Blackboard Learning System.* This course examines representations of selected aspects of politics in film. The class will use movies as primary texts to analyze campaigns and elections, political parties, war in its multiple expressions, the military, immigration, censorship, 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, the course will also explore the implications of media representations of politics for democracy and democratic participation.

(2366) Cruz, Jose
4 Week 2: June 24-July 19
*Online course in Blackboard*

R Pos 316 (=R Pad 316)
Methodological Tools for Public Policy (3)
This course offered online through the Blackboard Learning System. Introduction to research design, statistics, and computer usage in public policy with an emphasis on the interpretation of results. Students examine experimental, quasi-experimental and nonexperimental research designs, summarize and present univariate distributions, perform bivariate and multivariate analyses including simple cross-tabulations and multiple regression analysis, and learn to use a computer to perform statistical and data management operations. Only one version of R POS 316 may be taken for credit.

Gigliotti, Phillip
12 Week: May 28-August 16
Online course in Blackboard

R Pos 337
Campaigns and Elections in U.S. (3)
This course offered online through the Blackboard Learning System. This course will examine how people run for office in the United States. We will examine elections for the presidency, Congress, etc. Topics will include the decision to run renomination and general election campaigns; the role of parties; interest groups; media; campaign finance; advertising and other campaign techniques. The assignments also include historical comparisons to consider what makes some elections more significant than others. We need to ask what elections really decide besides who holds office. Ultimately, the basic issue is whether the structure and content of U.S. elections fosters or distorts democratic representation.
Nicholas Jr., Philip
6 Week 2: June 24-August 2
Online course in Blackboard

R Pos 365
Government and the Mass Media (3)
This course offered online through the Blackboard Learning System. Study of the relation of the mass media to the American political process, including an examination of the effect of the mass media on legislative actions, the executive, voting behavior and the bureaucracy. Prerequisite(s): R Pos 101 and 102, or junior or senior class standing.
McKeever, Sean
4 Week 1: May 28-June 21
Online course in Blackboard

R Pos 399
Selected Topics: Climate Change in the Courts (3)
This course offered online through the Blackboard Learning System. This course focuses on the most critical current cases about climate change pending before federal and state courts, as well as in courts internationally. The course will be primarily asynchronous; there will be a few virtual class meetings, including an opening class. The work of the course consists of on-line lectures and discussion, role-playing simulations and legal writing. The course begins with 1 week of background: the current state of climate science – the basis for understanding the legal and policy issues to follow; and the two foundational U.S. Supreme Court decisions, Massachusetts v Environmental Protection Agency (2007) and American Electric Power v Connecticut (2011). In the following weeks, we examine the Trump administration challenges to the Obama rules concerning automobiles and power plants, the cases challenging fossil fuel companies’ representations about climate change to their shareholders, the claims that climate change is a violation of human rights of children to a livable environment. Finally, we will examine cases in the Netherlands and other countries challenging their own governments’ actions as insufficient to prevent further harm. May be repeated for credit if content varies. Prerequisite(s): RPOS 101 and 102. Strongly recommended but not required: one Law course.
Stein, Eleanor
4 Week 2: June 24-July 19
Online course in Blackboard