

Department of Political Science

Graduate Course Descriptions

Fall 2016

RPOS 500/R **Political Philosophy** **P. Breiner**
9900/9901 **W** **5:45 – 9:25 pm** **Draper 246**

Equality and Politics: This course will focus on how we should understand equality and the role of politics in realizing it or preventing its achievement. But this course is not merely about equality as a concept. It will assume that it is the differing attitudes toward equality across many dimensions that continue to define the political conflicts between right and left and all positions in between. Thus we will deal with equality in two ways in this seminar: first as a principle of democratic citizenship—political equality; and second as a principle that defines distributive justice. In examining the first approach we will ask the following questions: what do we mean by political equality—political rights, voting, active influence on agenda setting and decision-making? What kinds of distribution follow from the notion that we are all equal citizens? Is the demand for political equality expansive so that it affects all areas of political and social life? We will be particularly concerned with how this term affects how we think of the economy and of citizen inclusion. We will then examine the same problems from the vantage point of theories of justice (especially that of John Rawls). As we examine both political and justice driven theories of equality, we will try to keep in mind how our thinking about them changes when viewed within contexts of political conflict.

RPOS 516 **Introduction to Political Inquiry** **S. Stohler**
3413 **T** **1:15 – 4:55 pm** **Husted 17**

This course is designed to serve as a foundational introduction to empirical social science research. Students will learn how to formulate appropriate research questions and design strategies to answer them. These exercises will serve as a basis for evaluating the merits and demerits of individual approaches, and the deeper philosophical foundations of empirical research itself. These exercises will also allow students to explore the ethics of empirical legal research. Students can expect to present regularly and offer feedback to others about ongoing research projects. Students will be required to develop two research prospectuses and one grant proposal.

RPOS 521 **Field Seminar in American Political System** **J. Cruz**
9902 **Th** **5:45 – 9:25 pm** **Husted 308**

The Field Seminar in the American Political System introduces graduate students to the basic methods, theories, and normative concerns of scholars in American politics. The seminar is organized in two parts. Part I explores theories of power applied to American politics, each encompassing a distinctive approach for studying power, unique assumptions about society, specific techniques for analyzing data, and normative implications for democratic theory and democracy. Part II consists of guest lectures by members of the Political Science department. This segment gives students a chance to sample the different styles, approaches, research interests, and normative concerns of professors in the department. The seminar requires weekly reaction papers, active class participation, and a major essay critically reviewing and synthesizing the literature in a chosen area pre-approved by the instructor.

RPOS 523 **Urban Community Development** **???**
6866 **Th** **7:15 – 10:05 pm** **AS 123 (Uptown)**

Examination of policies and programs designed to reduce social and economic distress in U.S. communities. Focuses on local and neighborhood-based efforts to address problems of inadequate housing, unemployment,

lack of community services and facilities, crime, etc. Considers role of government, private sector, and nonprofit organizations in community revitalization.

RPOS 529 **Law & Public Policy** **M. Leinung**
7178 **W** **5:45 – 9:25 pm** **Husted 15**

This seminar introduces students to the interrelationships of law, courts, and public policy. There are thus two broad sets of issues to be examined in this course: First, the policy implications, the strengths and weaknesses, of the specific legal tools available to government – private law, criminal law, regulation – and, second, the special role of judges and courts in making public policy in a democratic political order.

RPOS 539/R **Seminar in Campaigns and Elections** **M. Malbin**
9903/9904 **W** **5:45 – 9:25 pm** **Husted 214**

Election campaigns can be studied from the perspective of candidates, potential candidates, parties, consultants, advocacy organizations, the media, voters, and many others. Each of these affects the others. All function in a context shaped by election rules, as well as by larger structural considerations (governmental, constitutional, economic, technological and social.) This seminar will change from year to year, but the potential breadth of the subject does not. Ultimately, we want to consider how campaigning might matter – not only to election outcomes, but to the relationship between citizens, elected officials and governing. In 2016, the general themes of this course will be pursued with a focus on the presidential and congressional elections, the contemporary role of political party and non-party organizations, and debates over state and federal campaign finance and election reform. The final sessions typically consider the role electoral systems more broadly, with an eye toward considering the purposes and effects of elections in a democratic republic.

RPOS 541 **Field Seminar in Public Law** **J. Novkov**
9905 **M** **1:40 – 5:20 pm** **Husted 6**

Field seminar in public law. Covers major approaches to public law, including attitudinalism, strategic behavior, political development, and law and society. Required for students majoring or minoring in public law

RPOS 546/R **Comparative Public Policy** **Z. Barta**
9529/9530 **W** **11:30 am – 3:20 pm** **Husted 208**

Why do countries differ in their policy choices? Why do some countries provide health care and education through the public sector, while in others the provision is mostly private? Why do some countries borrow extensively while others keep their budgets in balance? Why do some countries pay unemployment benefits indefinitely, while others barely pay such benefits at all? This course answers such questions by exploring the nature of social conflicts surrounding policy-making, the differences in national policy-making institutions, changing ideas about the desirable goals and best types of policies and the influence of the international economic and political environment on national policy-making.

RPOS 561/R **Nationalism and Nation-Building** **C. Chen**
9906/9907 **M** **1:40 – 5:20 pm** **Draper 246**

This course is designed to cover different conceptualizations of “nation” and “nationalism”; interpretations of historical and social developments associated with the building and emergence of nations and nationalist movements, and strategies for locating the study of nationalism in a more general theoretical framework. The course begins with discussions over the essential characteristics of nation and nationalism and the relevance of the problem of identity. It then provides a survey of major scholarly models and theories of nationalism, such as instrumentalist, constructivist, and primordialist views of nationalism. The third part of the course examines the theoretical and historical evolution of nationalism, nationalist movements, and nation-building. Specifically, it explores nationalism’s encounters with major political traditions such as liberalism, Leninism, and anti-colonialism, and the consequences of these encounters. The fourth part of the course addresses some of the most salient

contemporary issues related to the national question, including the effects of globalization and the resurgence of nationalism in the post-Cold War era. The course concludes by situating the study of nationalism and nation-building in broader comparative inquiries of social change. The objectives of this course are to familiarize the student with both classical and recent scholarly debates regarding nationalism and nation-building, and to help the student develop an appreciation for historically-grounded comparative theory-building.

RPOS 570 **Field Seminar in International Political Systems** **B. Early**
3414 **Th** **11:45 am – 3:25 pm** **Husted 4**

This purpose of this course is two-fold. First, the survey course is designed to introduce graduate students to a wide range of theories of international politics. During the course of the semester we will examine a wide variety of theories, including among others neo-realism, power transition theory, hegemonic stability theory, neo-liberalism, interdependence, the democratic peace, bureaucratic politics, organizational theory, constructivism, and decision making theory. Second, the course will sharpen students' research design skills. The written assignments require students to take the often abstract theories presented in the readings and assess them as approaches to international relations and potential research designs.

RPOS 583/R **Global Governance** **R. Koslowski**
10403/8406 **M** **5:45 – 9:25 pm** **Milne 215**

This course examines the organization of world politics in the context of globalization and provides an overview of international organizations, such as the United Nations, and regional organizations, such as the European Union. The course reviews the historical evolution of the international system and basic concepts of international relations. It then examines international cooperation beyond the confines of formal organizational structures with particular emphasis on international regimes, institutions and norms that govern state practices in particular issue areas—from trade and weapons proliferation to the environment and refugees. The course also examines transnational relations of non-state actors such as nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) and multinational corporations as well as transgovernmental relations of sub-national governments and government agencies that shape policymaking at a global level. This class is designed to meet the needs of both Masters students preparing for professional international affairs careers as well as PhD students with an academic vocation. There are no formal prerequisites.

RPOS 584/R **American Foreign Policy Formulation & Implementation** **C. Clary**
10239/10240 **W** **5:45 – 9:25 pm** **Husted 302**

The United States is the most powerful country in the world. Since the end of World War II, the United States has fought wars against or conducted major military operations in at least sixteen different countries. The United States spends three to four times as much on its military as China, the next biggest spender. While a tiny part of the U.S. budget, the United States is the largest provider of foreign aid globally. U.S. decisions in international trade and climate negotiations have global effects. As a result, we should all try to better understand how the United States behaves in international politics, how it has behaved in the past, why it behaves that way, and how it should behave. This writing-intensive course will introduce students to theories of foreign policy that may explain U.S. behavior, along with more detailed case studies of important episodes in U.S. diplomatic and military history and reviews of contemporary U.S. foreign policy challenges. Students will leave the course with a greater knowledge of historical and contemporary U.S. foreign policy as well as a theoretical toolkit they can employ to understand international politics more broadly.

RPOS 586 **Health and Human Rights: an Interdisciplinary Approach** **K. Alaei**
8484 **W** **5:45 – 8:35 pm** **LC 3 (Uptown)**

This course takes an interdisciplinary approach to global health and human rights and the contemporary challenges and solutions associated with them. The course will be taught by physicians and human rights champions, with guest lectures from experts in political sciences, international health, philosophy, social welfare,

international law, gender studies, and public policy, among others. Through lectures, discussion, and case studies, students will develop a broad theoretical understanding of health as a human right, become familiar with legal and policy frameworks to support public health for disadvantage populations, and acquire skills in the application of these concepts and the implementation and evaluation of solutions to our modern health challenges.

RPOS 611 **Seminar in College Teaching** **B. Franchini**
8086 **W** **12:35 – 2:35 pm** **BA 214 (Uptown)**

An overview of the scholarship of teaching and learning, students will develop and practice teaching skills. Course will be taught in conjunction with the Institute for Teaching, Learning, and Academic Leadership. Emphasizes the skills and knowledge necessary to design and teach a course that effectively facilitates student learning. Topics include: student learning styles, encouraging critical thinking, assessing student learning, designing assignments, active learning & group work, course design, efficient grading, how to run a lecture, and the use of writing in the classroom. Prerequisites: Admission to a terminal degree program and permission of instructor.

RPOS 613 **Becoming a Reflective Teacher: The Teaching Portfolio** **B. Franchini**
8088 **M** **12:35 – 2:35 pm** **BA 209 (Uptown)**

Students will build on the skills developed in CAS 601, PAD 590 or POS 611 as well as gain a familiarity with scholarship and techniques to help them develop as reflective teachers. Students will construct a teaching portfolio that can be used as part of a job search and as the foundation of a professional portfolio which can be used as a part of the tenure process. This course will be taught in conjunction with the Institute for Teaching, Learning and Academic Leadership. Topics will include: The Teaching Portfolio and Teaching Statement as Formative and Summative Document; Peer Evaluation Training; Designing Courses for Significant Learning; Teaching Materials—Activities and Assignments; Coaching Students as Learners; The Scholarship of Teaching and Learning; Teaching Evaluations; and From Teaching Portfolio to Tenure File. *Prerequisites: Admission to a terminal degree program; CAS 601, PAD 590 or POS 611; and permission of instructor.*

RPOS 618 **Qualitative Methods** **P. Strach**
9284 **T** **1:15 – 4:55 pm** **Husted 208**

This seminar covers the research process from its design to final analysis, focusing on qualitative and mixed-methods research. We look at how to collect, analyze, and interpret data outside of or in addition to statistical techniques. Throughout the course, we will look at questions of methodology to understand the important differences *within* qualitative research and between qualitative and quantitative frameworks. Students should come away from the course with an understanding of: 1) what qualitative research is and how it fits in the broader discipline of political science; 2) the logic of qualitative and mixed methods research design; 3) the nuts and bolts of conducting qualitative research; and 4) how to analyze the results. Though no course can be the definitive answer to “how do I write my dissertation,” this seminar is designed to be an important step in the logic and practice of qualitative and mixed methods research. *Prerequisites: POS 516 and POS 517 or the equivalent.*

RPOS 619 **Methods in Spatial Analysis** **M. Ingram**
9910 **T** **5:45 – 9:25 pm** **Husted 4**

Spatial analysis is a method for examining phenomena of interest while explicitly accounting for the geographic interdependence of units of analysis. Why should you be interested in interdependence? Many research agendas treat units (people, locations, countries, states, counties, etc.) as independent or unrelated to each other. Sometimes this assumption is tenable, and sometimes it is untenable. Where this is assumption is less realistic, spatial analysis lends itself to examining the phenomenon of interest while explicitly accounting for the geographic relations among units. Further, notions of diffusion, spread, or contagion inhere in many existing theories, but are rarely examined empirically with appropriate methods. Again, spatial analysis lends itself to the study of diffusion and similar processes by explicitly accounting for dependence among units of analysis. Lastly, the methods of

spatial analysis can be extended to examine broader notions of interdependence, including non-geographic, relational forms of connectivity among units, blending into network analysis. In this class, students are expected to gain a practical, working understanding of the concept of dependence, how to measure dependence using weights matrices, theoretical implications derived from the interdependence of units, how to collect data and organize data sets for spatial analysis, visualizing spatial data using GIS and mapping software, basic exploratory techniques (e.g., cluster analysis), as well as more advanced applications to test hypotheses using spatial econometrics. The course integrates hands-on, practical exercises on computers in every session. The main requirement is either (a) the replication of the analysis in a published paper using spatial analysis, or (b) an original research paper applying both exploratory and explanatory techniques of spatial analysis.

RPOS 695 9911	Research & Writing Seminar I Th 2:45 – 4:35 pm	Friedman Husted 6
This required course, taken in the fall of the second year PhD program, guides students toward the completion of a major research paper, fit for submission to an academic conference or journal. Students examine strategies of effective research questions, literature review, research design, and persuasive argument while they develop a research proposal and a journal article. Students workshop drafts of their work throughout the semester.		
RPOS 697	Selected Problems in POS Research Arranged (Permission of Instructor)	All Faculty
RPOS 698	Masters Essay Arranged (Permission of Instructor)	All Faculty
RPOS 797 7427	Graduate Service Learning Arranged (Permission of Instructor)	A. Hildreth
RPOS 798	Readings in Political Science Arranged (Permission of Instructor)	All Faculty
RPOS 897	Independent Research POS Arranged (Permission of Instructor) Load Credit <u>Only</u>	All Faculty
RPOS 899	Doctoral Dissertation Arranged (Permission of Instructor) Load Credit <u>Only</u> , ABD Status <u>Only</u>	All Faculty