

**Department of Political Science**  
**Graduate Course Descriptions**  
**Fall 2015**

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**POS 516**                      **Introduction to Political Inquiry**                      **S. Stohler**  
**(3509)**                      **M 5:45 – 8:35**

This course is designed as an introduction to study design, strategies, data collection and measurement in empirical political science. This course will introduce students to a wide range of methods of inquiry, including qualitative case studies, large-N statistical analysis, survey research, formal models, laboratory experiments, computer simulations, content analysis, and interviews. This course will examine the strengths and weaknesses of individual approaches, as well as the benefits of multi-method designs. Finally, the course will explore ethical considerations in research.

**POS 523**                      **Urban Community Development**  
**(7167)**                      **Th 7:15 – 10:05**

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.

**POS 528**                      **U.S. Housing Policy (3-4)**  
**(9101)**                      **W 7:15-10:05**

United States housing policies since the New Deal, especially their distributional impact and their ability to expand housing production. Emphasizes policy options available to state and local governments and community organizations to expand affordable housing and revitalize inner-city neighborhoods.

**POS 529**                      **Law and Policy**                      **D. Liebschutz**  
**(7509)**                      **W 5:45 – 8:35**

Examination of the role of the courts in the public policy process and in substantive policy fields; integrates the literature of law and policy and applies it to such areas as mental health care, corrections, human resources, education, and housing policy.

**POS 533**                      **Women and Politics**                      **S. Friedman**  
**(10118)**                      **T/Th 1-:15 – 11:35**

Recent electoral events as well as contemporary policy debates raise important considerations as to the role of women in politics. What factors enhance the chances for women's political participation? Do women bring different perspectives to politics and leadership? Do they behave differently while in office? Are their "interests" being adequately represented? Beginning with debates about the roles of women in the larger society and then considering women's activities in a variety of political settings (electoral participation, institutions and the policymaking process), it will be the purpose of this class to consider and disentangle the multiple and sometimes conflicting perspectives on the above often difficult questions. Thus, we will highlight the multiple perspectives (both theoretical and methodological) which have been used to study women and politics, and we will consider women's roles in a variety of (mostly domestic but also some international) political settings.

**POS 537  
(10131)**

**The Legal Process  
T/Th 8:45 – 10:05**

**J. Novkov**

This course addresses the relationship between law and society, focusing particularly on this relationship as it affects politics. The main themes of the course include law and identity, law and power, and legal consciousness. Some questions we will consider are the following: how does law constrain individuals and institutions? How does law construct identities, and how do cultural understandings of identity influence the development of law? How does law channel power, and what forms of power manifest themselves through the law? How do ordinary individuals understand law and its significance, and what potential does law have as a tool to transform society?

**POS 552 / R  
(9748, 9749)**

**Communist & Post-Communist Systems  
M 2:45 – 5:35**

**C. Chen**

This course provides a survey of the politics of post-Leninist transition in Russia, Eastern Europe, Central Asia, and China. It begins with an overview of the origin and development of Leninism in the Soviet Union, China, and Eastern Europe, stressing both the similarities and differences between these countries' experiences under Leninism. The second part of the course examines and analyzes the profound political, economic, and social changes in former Leninist societies during the post-Leninist transition. Specifically, we will cover regime transition; institution-building; economic reforms; social transformation; as well as nationalism and ethnic conflicts. The course will conclude with a broad discussion of the comparative prospects of liberal capitalist democracy taking root in former Leninist countries. The primary aims of the course are to familiarize students with the major challenges confronting former Leninist countries as they move away from socialism, and to provide students with not only the theoretical tools necessary for understanding the collapse of Leninism, but also the perspectives crucial to making well-grounded evaluations of the emerging political and socio-economic trajectories in these countries.

**POS 554/R  
(9298, 9750)**

**Political Violence, Insurgency  
Th 5:45 – 8:35**

**B. Nussbaum**

This course will offer broad overviews of the debates surrounding the causes, effectiveness, and consequences of political violence, the groups that engage in it, and the challenges to national and international security it poses. The course will mainly focus on terrorism, but will also examine insurgencies, civil wars, and revolutions. While the course emphasizes the academic study of political violence, it will also explore the policy implications of the theories and analytical frameworks studied within the class. Significant attention will be given to the conceptual, methodological, and empirical challenges involved in studying political violence. Students will be expected to produce an original piece of scholarship related to terrorism or a white paper on a terrorism-related policy issue.

**RPOS 565  
(9751)**

**Feminist Theory  
T 2:45-5:35**

**T. Shanks**

The entry of women into the political sphere produces a challenge to the core concepts of political thought. Feminist political thought thus provides an important vantage point from which to think critically about the nature and limitations of key political concepts such as rights, equality, identity, and agency as well as the nature of politics itself. Feminist politics and theory pose deep challenges to some of the major commitments of modern political thought, particularly to those of liberalism, e.g. freedom as free choice and equality as formal and gender-neutral. But

feminism is not as unified as its challenge to liberalism might suggest. It continually faces questions with regard to its boundaries, agendas, and even the subjects of feminism itself – what is a woman? How does the category of gender illuminate or eclipse power relations involving other categories of difference, such as those of culture, race, class, and sexual orientation? This course will explore the variety of feminisms emerging out of women’s struggles for political inclusion (liberal, Marxist and radical feminisms) as well as more recent feminist theoretical challenges to the category of woman, identity politics, and rights-centered political discourse.

**POS 567/R**                      **Contentious Politics**                      **M. Weiss**  
**(9754, 9755)**                      **T**                      **5:45 – 8:35**

This class will explore the politics and societies of Southeast Asia through a focus on significant texts on the region. We will begin with a brief overview of the region as a whole and prevailing theoretical lenses, then move on to a series of classic works covering a range of themes. Each student will write a substantial, comparative paper on one dimension of Southeast Asian politics. The course is designed for Southeast Asianists as well as those interested in comparative politics broadly or other economically and politically developing regions. Prior knowledge of Southeast Asia is helpful, but not required.

**POS 570**                      **Field Seminar in Internat’l Political Systems**                      **B. Early**  
**(3510)**                      **Th**                      **2:45 – 5:35**

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.

**POS 583 / R**                      **Global Governance**                      **R. Koslowski**  
**(9035, 9050)**                      **W**                      **5:45-8:35**

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.

**POS 586 Health and Human Rights: an Interdisciplinary Approach K. Alaei**  
**(9167) W 5:45-8:35**

This course takes an interdisciplinary approach to 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 public health, philosophy, social welfare, law, gender studies, public administration the United Nations, 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, and acquire skills in the application of these concepts and the implementation and evaluation of solutions to our modern health challenges.

**POS 611 Seminar in College Teaching B. Franchini**  
**(8559) W 12:35-2:35**

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.

**POS 613 Becoming a Reflective Teacher: The Teaching Portfolio B. Franchini**  
**(8561) M 12:23-2:35**

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.

**POS 618 Qualitative Methods P. Strach**  
**(10207) T 2:45 – 5:35**

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.*

<b>POS 697</b>	<b>Selected Problems - POS Research</b> Arranged (Permission of Instructor)	<b>All Faculty</b>
<b>POS 698</b>	<b>Masters Essay</b> Arranged (Permission of Instructor)	<b>All Faculty</b>
<b>POS 797</b>	<b>Graduate Service Learning</b> Arranged (Permission of Instructor)	<b>A. Hildreth</b>
<b>POS 798</b>	<b>Readings In Political Science</b> Arranged (Permission of Instructor)	<b>All Faculty</b>
<b>POS 897</b>	<b>Independent Research POS</b> Arranged (Permission of Instructor) Load Credit <u>Only</u>	<b>All Faculty</b>
<b>POS 899</b>	<b>Doctoral Dissertation</b> Arranged (Permission of Instructor) Load Credit <u>Only</u> , ABD Status <u>Only</u>	<b>All Faculty</b>