

ROCKEFELLER COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY AT ALBANY, SUNY
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

UNDERGRADUATE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS – FALL 2018

RPOS 101W **INTRODUCTION TO AMERICAN POLITICS** **B. Miroff**
7550 **TTH 10:15AM – 11:35AM (4 credits)** **LC 18**

Students Registering for this Section Must FIRST Register for a Discussion Section: 7551-7559, 9174-9176

This course will undertake a broad and critical survey of American political thought, practice and experience. Emphasis will be placed less on the memorization of facts than on the understanding of fundamental concepts, themes and issues in American politics. Subjects to be explored include American political theory, political economy, parties and elections, national institutions, civil liberties, civil rights and democratic citizenship. Course requirements will be a midterm and final, unannounced quizzes, and two short papers. Attendance at discussion sections is required and will be a component of the grading scheme for the course. **Gen Ed: US History, Social Science.**

RPOS 101 **INTRODUCTION TO AMERICAN POLITICS (3 credits)** **P. Nicholas**
10049 **MWF 9:20AM – 10:15AM** **BBB 10**

This course provides a broad examination of the institutions and political organizations that make up the American political system. Students will not just learn the mechanics and facts about American politics, but will also learn the concepts, issues, and debates that are the deeper dynamics of American politics. The course seeks to promote citizenship in the democratic process, and political engagement papers are assigned to improve students' ability to participate in the political process. Students will become familiar with many aspects of contemporary American politics including the national government institutions, and how power is divided between the national and state governments. The course provides a foundation for the further study of American politics and political science. **Gen Ed: US History, Social Sciences.**

RPOS 102X **INTRODUCTION TO COMPARATIVE & INTERNATIONAL POLITICS** **V. Asal**
7892 **TTH 2:45PM – 4:05PM (4 credits)** **LC 1**

Students Registering for this Section Must FIRST Register for a Discussion Section: 7893-7901

The course is an introduction to the actors, issues and processes of international relations and comparative politics and the theories that attempt to explain them. We will examine several of the central questions that interest political scientists when they explore international relations and comparative politics. Why are there wars? How is peace achieved? What are the implications of anarchy for world politics? How do states and decision-makers choose between conflict and cooperation? How does politics interact with economics on the global scene? Do morality and norms effect international relations and if so how? Why do some countries protect human rights and others not? How does democracy develop? The goal of the course is to create a familiarity of the elements that make up international relations and comparative politics and a critical understanding of the theories that explain them. The course will stress analytical thinking. Each student will be encouraged to identify the theories that he or she feels best explains comparative politics and international relations and to justify those choices. As a University General Education, the course is structured with multiple assignments that will convey a great deal of information both in theory and empirical knowledge in a relatively short time frame of a semester. By the end of the course students should: 1) have a strong overview of the theories of international relations and comparative politics, 2) understand how to apply these theories to better understand political interactions, 3) have an understanding of the rudiments of research in comparative politics and international relations. **Gen. Ed: Challenges, Social Science.**

RPOS 103Y **INTRODUCTION TO POLITICAL THEORY** **P. Breiner**
8828 **TTH 1:15PM – 2:35PM (4 credits)** **LC 19**

Students Registering for this Section Must FIRST Register for a Discussion Section: 8829-8835

This course will introduce you to some of the major thinkers of political theory: among them Plato, Rousseau, Paine, and Marx. More significantly, the course will seek to teach you how to think through and argue about some of the central questions of politics: What does it mean to participate as a citizen? How much equality is desirable? What is private property and who should own the things we produce? What does a political society owe its citizens? How should we distribute political liberties and economic goods? Is it just to have everyone rule a polity or should only some qualified individuals rule? How should we react to a political society that is constantly overthrowing its social relations? In seeking an answer to these questions, we will focus on one of the central problems of political thought: *what is justice and what does a just political community look like?* This question may seem

abstract, but it is central to contemporary politics. Ordinary people constantly are concerned with whether they are being treated fairly in the economy, in social life, and by political institutions. And they make many of their political choices on this basis. This ordinary sense of justice will be front and center in texts we read in this course. And we will constantly be moving between the famous texts we read and the justice of present-day politics. **Gen. Ed: Humanities.**

RPOS 103 **INTRODUCTION TO POLITICAL THEORY** **S. McKeever**
9274 **MWF 12:35PM – 1:30PM** **(3 credits)** **HU 24**

In this course, we will read a sampling of works from some of the most influential thinkers in the Western political theory tradition. Through these readings, we will discover what political theory is, and why it is important for the study of politics. For this course, we will be most interested in studying how various thinkers define freedom, and how they think that we can be free. These thinkers will be divided into three groups: Freedom and Truth, Freedom and Economics, and Freedom and Government, so they can “debate” the answers to three important clusters of questions: 1) Does the search for truth lead to freedom? If so, how can we arrange our political and/or governmental institutions to facilitate that search for truth, so that we can be free? If not, what does that mean for our political institutions; 2) How do various economic institutions lead toward or away from freedom? How can we build economic institutions that make us free? How will this affect our political and/or governmental institutions?; and 3) Can we construct governmental institutions that lead to freedom? If so, how? If not, then what other options do we have? We will tackle one of these cluster of questions for each section of the course. **Gen. Ed: Humanities.**

RPAD 140 **INTRODUCTION TO PUBLIC POLICY** **A. Fox**
6390 **MW 2:45PM – 4:05PM** **LC 24**

Students Registering for this Section Must FIRST Register for a Discussion Section: 6572, 6580, 6588, 6589, 7129, 7130, 9533-9535

Ever wonder why...

- The US was unable to pass gun control legislation that would have expanded background checks on gun purchases in spite of over 90% of the public being in favor?
- The US is among the few countries internationally that does not guarantee paid sick leave or paid maternity leave?
- The government had to shut down in 2013 costing the US economy \$24 billion due to a partisan stalemate in Congress over health reform?

Then this course is for you! This course introduces students to the process of public policy making in the US and internationally. As a student in this course, you will gain a greater appreciation for the complexity of policymaking, the vast number of actors involved in policy making, and the factors that make policies more or less successful. Through the course, we will ask questions such as: Where do ideas for policies come from in the first place? Why do some ideas get attention while other problems are ignored? What does it take to get a policy formulated, enacted, and successfully implemented? What are the roles of the executive, legislature, courts, interest groups, business, the news media, and other actors in the policy process? Why do some policies, even after extensive research and analysis, seem so irrational and haphazard? There are *no prerequisites* for this course. The course is a requirement for students in Rockefeller College’s Public Policy program, and is also considered a Social Science course under the General Education requirements. **Required for Public Policy majors. Only one version of RPOS/RPAD 140 may be taken for credit. Gen Ed: Social Sciences.**

RPOS 204 **BLACK LIVES MATTER MOVEMENT** **T. Taylor**
8339 **M 4:15PM – 7:05PM** **FA 114**

The purpose of this course is to trace and investigate the development of the Black Lives Matter movement. The course will explore the historical, political, social, and economic forces that gave rise to the movement. Specifically, the course will focus on racial disparities in law enforcement and officials and the response of the justice system. The course will also compare and contrast the Black Lives Matter movement with the Civil Rights movement from 1954-1968. The effective use of social media and technology as tools to promote racial justice will also be analyzed.

RPOS 204 **LOBBYISTS & SPECIAL INTERESTS IN NYS** **S. NaJame**
9186 **TTH 11:45AM – 1:05PM** **PH 123**

The purpose of this course is to explore the role of lobbying as part of a larger strategic campaign for influencing the political and statutory process. The role lobbyists play in the legislative arena can be compared to that of lawyers in the judicial arena. Just as lawyers provide the Trier of fact (judge or jury) with points of view on the legal issues pertaining to a case, lobbyists do the same providing local, state, and federal policymakers with points of view on public policy issues. In this course students will explore and understand some basic principles for effective lobbying. Using different cases from New York, we will examine a bit of the history of lobbying, its ethical standards, how it relates to campaigning, and the role of the media. Students will learn strategies for effective lobbying and have a chance to apply and practice them in a simulated classroom format.

RPOS 250 **CURRENT POLICY DEBATES VIEWED THROUGH A SOCIAL SCIENCE LENS** **S. Friedman**
8110 **MWF 1:40PM – 2:35PM** **HU 113**

One reason we're interested in politics is we want to see better solutions come out of the policy and political process. Toward that end, we need to understand current debates on important political/policy topics and we also need to better understand the types of research on which our information about those topics is based. With respect to four or five current political topics, this course will first get a sense of relevant debates and controversies on the issue. Second, for each issue, we will examine some of the studies—particularly alternative research designs—which have been used to study the topic. Our job, in addition to understanding the current controversies, is to sensitize ourselves to the ways social scientists ask research questions, the different ways they design studies to assess impacts and the types of evidence they collect to answer questions.

RPOS 301 **HISTORY OF POLITICAL THEORY 1** **M. Gudelis**
9546 **TTH 8:45AM – 10:05AM** **FA 126**

History of Western political theory is closely related to the concept and political practice of democracy. The notion "Political Philosophy" historically emerged as a philosophical-theoretical attempt to "deal" with, to reflect upon and critique democracy as a form of organization of political life and culture, hence the strenuous relationship between certain political-philosophical ideas and democratic practice in the past. We will trace development of political thought from Antiquity to early Modernity and will focus on key concepts of political theory that remain "caught" between ideals of democracy and political theory and practice even today: citizenship, popular power, governance, equality, freedom. We will follow a historical trajectory of political theory and engage with thinkers such as Plato, Aristotle, Polybius, Locke, Rousseau among others.

RPOS 303/RPAD 304 **REAL-WORLD PUBLIC POLICY** **V. Eubanks**
9547/9989 **MW 5:45PM – 7:05PM** **ES 245**

How do we explain the mismatch between models of how policy *should* work developed in the classroom and how policy actually *does* work in the real world? To help us understand the gap between the theory and practice of public policy making, this course examines a series of US case studies, from voter enfranchisement to water privatization. For each, we will explore the impact of historical and contextual factors, political storytelling, measurement and data, issue framing, interests and values, stakeholder participation, social movement pressure, and front-line implementation. Student work will focus on developing an in-depth analysis of a specific, real-world policy. Only one version may be taken for credit. Prerequisite(s): RPOS 101 or RPOS/RPAD 140, or junior or senior standing.

RPOS 310 **CONTEMPORARY POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY** **M. Schoolman**
8784 **MWF 9:20AM – 10:15AM** **HU 128**

The Politics of Imitation -- as popular culture shows us everyday, people imitate each other in their dress, their music, their life styles, and their beliefs and values. This course is interested in all these forms of imitation, and particularly in the ways individuals and groups in politics imitate each other. Here are some of the questions we will explore: What do we mean by "imitation" in social and political life? How do citizens imitate one another? Do states and nations and national and international political leaders imitate one another? If imitation does occur, why does it occur? Is imitation a force for political and social cooperation and progress or rather for conflict and divisiveness? Many readings in Dropbox. Take-home midterm examination.

RPOS 314 **PROBLEMS OF POLITICAL INQUIRY** **M. Gudelis**
8069 **TTH 11:45AM – 1:05PM** **HU 124**

Revolutions are characteristic of modernity. Political thinking as well as political practice have been profoundly influenced by revolutions and their aftermaths in different countries at different times: Russia, France, England, China, Cuba, Haiti, Bolivia, Mexico, Iran. Do revolutions have their own political theory? What are the ideas, ideals, values, questions and goals that drive these great transformations? How does revolutions differ from reforms, revolts or insurgencies? What is "counter revolution"? What is "permanent revolution"? What is the relationship between revolution and violence? Do revolutions always have leaders? What is the relationship between revolution and democracy? Are we on the verge of a new global revolution or revolutions are the things of the past? In this course we will engage with these and other questions while inquiring into the idea of revolution, its different interpretations and critiques while engaging with readings of Paine, Robespierre, Marx, Lenin, Mao, Hannah Arendt, Francois Furet, Perry Anderson and others.

RPOS 320 **AMERICAN FEDERALISM** **J. Novkov**
10050 **TTH 8:45AM – 10:05AM** **AS 14**

This course focuses on the theoretical, constitutional, and political dimensions of American federalism. The focus is on federalism's constitutional basis and evolution, exploring the historic tensions over the boundaries between federal and state power. We will

debate both the problem-solving capabilities of the federal system and the capacity of the states to serve as Louis Brandeis's "laboratories of democracy." The course provides a historical overview of struggles over federalism, concluding with a closer look at some current areas of controversy. By completing this course, students will develop passionate attachments to either the commerce clause or the tenth amendment — or possibly even both.

RPOS/RPAD 322 **GOVERNMENT & POLITICS OF NEW YORK CITY** **F. Mauro**
9542/9541 **MW 2:45PM – 4:05PM** **HU 20**

Introduction to New York City's major political and governmental institutions, with an emphasis on the recurring efforts to provide for borough and community input into the city's policy making and implementation processes and to increase inter- and intra-party competition. Only one version may be taken for credit.

RPOS 326 **INTRODUCTION TO PUBLIC LAW** **M. Ingram**
8070 **MWF 9:20AM – 10:15AM** **HU 24**

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., as well as some examples from outside the U.S., introducing comparative legal problems. 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, including as part of the public law concentration in political science. 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. There are no prerequisites, but any of the introductory political science courses (101, 102, 103) will provide useful background.

RPOS/RPAD 328 **LAW AND POLICY** **J. Malatras**
8068/8100 **TH 5:45PM – 8:35PM** **ES 147**

Many rights and programs individuals in the United States enjoy are in whole or large part shaped by courts. From protections against workplace harassment to environmental justice to marriage equality, courts are actively shaping policy. How do courts and judges shape public policy? Are courts counter-majoritarian when they impact policy? Is judicial policymaking anti-democratic? Do we want courts to be making policy? In this course we explore those questions by viewing the legal system in a political and social context. Our materials will be political and socio-legal scholarship that touches on issues of judicial behavior, class, democracy, education, implementation, personal injury, race, and social change. We will use real-life examples and explore the academic research in non-fiction, multimedia, and through current events. This is not a law school course that examines the wording of statutes and legal precedent. It is instead of holistic, 30,000 foot overview of how our courts and often unelected judges impact significant public policy. ****Only one version of RPOS/RPAD 328 may be taken for credit.**

RPOS/RPAD 329 **ADMINISTRATIVE LEADERSHIP** **M. Christakis**
4469/9986 **W 4:15PM – 7:05PM** **DR 313B (DRAPER – Downtown)**

8093/9987 ++ **++ This section of RPOS 329 reserved for transfer students in the NY Politics Living-Learning Community. Students in the LLC must register for 329 Discussion (8094/9988) first (W – 7:15-8:15PM – Draper 313B).**

This class examines leadership, management and human behavior within and among complex organizations, with special emphasis on the distribution and use of power by organizational actors. The course will also examine how leaders can position their organizations to gain the greatest results and most significant impact on and for organizational stakeholders. **Only one version of RPAD 329/RPOS 329 may be taken for credit.**

RPOS 334 **AMERICAN POLITICAL PARTIES & GROUPS** **J Cruz**
8785 **TTH 11:45AM – 1:05PM** **HU 133**

This course examines the historical development of the American party system, the nature and role of third parties, and the relationship between parties, the media, and interest groups. We will focus our attention on the historical and contemporary impact of political parties on democratic governance. We will also follow selected 2018 mid-term campaigns and elections to assess the role and significance of parties and partisanship at the national, state, and local level.

RPOS 336 **CIVIL LIBERTIES** **S. Stohler**
9955 **T** **2:45PM – 5:35PM** **ES 241**
The First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution holds that “Congress shall make no law [. . .] abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press.” Free speech is among the most cherished values in the Constitution and different social groups have drawn on the language to further their interests. But the precise guarantees of the First Amendment are ambiguous. In this course, students will examine how the U.S. Supreme Court has interpreted the First Amendment during the twentieth and twenty-first centuries and ultimately determine for themselves how and to what extent the First Amendment should protect free expression in American society.

RPOS 337 **CAMPAIGNS & ELECTIONS IN U.S.** **M. Malbin**
9548 **TTH** **2:45PM – 4:05PM** **HU 132**
This course will examine how people run for office in the United States, especially for the presidency and Congress. Topics will include the decision to run; the role of parties; interest groups; media; campaign finance; and contemporary campaign techniques. Students will research case studies from the current election. We will also spend time looking at proposals to reform the current system. We'll be asking what elections really decide besides the identity of who holds an office. Ultimately, the basic issue is whether the structure and content of U.S. elections fosters or distorts democratic representation.

RPOS 364 **BUILDING DEMOCRACY** **A. Vitek**
8948 **MW** **4:15PM – 5:35PM** **LC 3B**
The post-World War II era has been marked by the steady spread of democratic regimes. Despite this, many states' transitions towards democracy have ended up stagnating and even regressing back to authoritarianism. This course will look at theories of how to build democracies that are both responsive and accountable while also being resistant to the kinds of shocks that have derailed the transition process in the past. The class will focus on democratization in the context of areas such as institution building, political economy, international aid/intervention and civil conflict.

RPOS 365 **GOVERNMENT & THE MASS MEDIA** **S. McKeever**
8825 **MW** **2:45PM – 4:05PM** **LC 3C**
We hear a lot about “The Media” in our contemporary political discourse, and everyone has an opinion on the media: “it is too biased,” “it is too shallow,” “it is the bedrock of free speech,” “it keeps politicians honest,” and the like. In this course, we will dig deeper than anecdotal evidence and personal experience to try to discover what media is really like and what role it plays in the political realm. We will view media through a variety of lenses to try to get a better understanding of how media works, how it exerts governmental and political power, and how governmental and political power is exerted through it. We will begin by studying it theoretically and historically before trying to get an understanding of the relationship between government and media and in particular democratic government and media. Along the way, we will examine inherent issues that media must contend with as well as discover how “media” (as the plural of “medium”) itself already communicates with us and so is politically relevant. At the end of the course, we should have a better understanding of the complexities of the various issues surrounding mass media, so that we can more intelligently engage with the rapidly changing nature of it.

RPOS 367 **POLITICS OF THE MIDDLE EAST** **G. Nowell**
7228 **MWF** **10:25AM – 11:20AM** **HU 133**
This class will cover selected topics in relation to the political development of the Middle and near East, an area loosely defined to cover the region from Morocco to Afghanistan and including modern Turkey and the Caspian littoral states. Topics will vary. Examples will include, but are not limited to, the classic British Imperial period, revolutions, the oil industry, regional conflicts such as the Iran-Iraq war of the 1980s, and the tensions between secular modernization and Islamic systems of government. **Gen Ed: International Perspectives**

RPOS 380 **TOPICS IN AMERICAN POLITICS: POLITICAL LEADERSHIP** **K. Weigold**
10220 **TTH** **1:15PM – 2:35PM** **HU 123**
This course examines the nature of the international legal system, how the law is made and applied, and the way that international law affects international relations. It examines the main actors in international law including states, international organizations, individuals, and corporations. It studies the main components of international law such as jurisdiction, treaty law, customary law, and the settlement of disputes. It will include various issue areas in international law including the laws of armed conflict, environmental law, trade law, the law of the sea, international criminal law, and human rights law.

RPOS 390/RPAD 498 **INTERNSHIP RPOS/RPAD** **TBA**
8138/8139 **M** **5:45PM – 8:35PM** **SS 255**

This course offers students the opportunity to integrate theoretical concepts related to politics, public administration, and organizations with practical experience in political, public sector and administrative institutions. This course seeks both to enhance the education value of the internship and to make it a springboard for a successful career. The course has four major components: skill development, career options, employment strategies, and school to work connection. Students enrolled in this class must obtain an internship during the same semester, and it is the student's responsibility to find their own internship. Students must have an overall minimum GPA of a 2.50. Students should contact the Undergraduate Internship Coordinator/Rockefeller College's Office of Career Development to discuss internship opportunities, how to obtain an internship and to receive a permission number for the course. **May not be taken by students with credit for RPAD 498/RPOS 390.**

RPOS 397 **THINKING AHEAD: CAREERS IN POLITICAL** **TBA**
10212 **SCIENCE AND PUBLIC POLICY** **HU 111**
F **11:30AM – 12:25PM** **(1 credit)**

This one credit course will help students answer that perennial question: what do people do with a Political Science/Public Administration degree? Drawing on both our alumni network and friends of Rockefeller College, each class session will feature a different guest speaker to introduce students to a range of careers that began in the Political Science or Public Administration classroom. Using readings, our guests' resumes, and other tools, students will understand the connection between the skills they are developing in the classroom and on campus, and the large array of paths and workplace options that may be available after graduation. **If possible, please keep the hour after class open in your schedule to be available for lunch with the guest speaker on occasion.**

RPOS 399 **CLIMATE CHANGE LAW AND POLICY: DOMESTIC AND GLOBAL** **E. Stein**
8836 **MW** **5:00PM – 6:15PM** **COURSE TAUGHT @ ALBANY LAW SCHOOL**

This course is a general introduction to the body of domestic and international law developing daily to grapple with catastrophic anthropogenic climate change. The course is practice-oriented, and includes simulated climate treaty negotiations and litigation of a climate change-related case. Several practitioners of climate change law and a practicing climate scientist will join us as guest speakers. The course begins with a general overview of current climate science, and the policy, economics, and legal framework of the law of climate change. The next module covers an introduction to international environmental law, including the climate treaties and current negotiations. We will explore the international human rights to a clean environment and stable climate, and the attempts to locate and enforce these rights in international and U.S. law. Turning to domestic law we will examine the sources of law that govern the principal sources of greenhouse gases, both federal judicial and administrative law. Our exploration begins with the Clean Air Act, public nuisance theory, and current litigation concerning transportation and energy generation, two of the greatest contributors to greenhouse gas emissions. The course will then turn to regional, state and local initiatives to mitigation of and adaptation to the effects of climate change. **Prerequisite – previous law course. Permission number from the department needed to register.**

RPOS 399 **CONTROVERSIES IN AMERICAN VALUES** **S. Friedman**
9550 **MWF** **11:30AM – 12:25PM** **HU 124**

Call it the reverence for our American political tradition or call it political indoctrination. Whatever you think of it, we have all been taught about concepts—equality, liberty, justice, and the like. But what is the relevance of these values in the modern day climate of political division and increasing population diversity? Are we as united as we used to be; do our differences outweigh our similarities; and what is the relevance for our social and political life? This course takes a look at some “values” that have played a key role as part of American culture, examining alternative conceptualizations, current day debates and above all, the ways these concepts are relevant for each of us as 21st century American citizens. **This course number may be repeated if the topic is different.**

RPOS 399 **RACE, LAW & SOCIETY** **T. Taylor**
9556 **T** **4:15PM – 7:05PM** **HU 124**

This course focuses on race, the American legal system, public policy and society discourse. The students study case law starting with 1619 through the present. The course focuses on the development of the law and on questions concerning equality and fairness within different racial communities. The primary source of legal analysis will be Supreme Court decisions and the evolution of constitutional rights and civil rights. The history of Blacks in America is studied to provide context for understanding legal decisions. The history and impact of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965 will also be analyzed. The course addresses the role of race in the creation and implementation of public policy. **This course number may be repeated if the topic is different.**

- RPOS 399** **ASIAN SECURITY – THEORY AND PRACTICE** **C. Clary**
9553 **MWF 12:35PM – 1:30PM** **FA 126**
This course provides an introduction to problems of contemporary Asian security and the strategies and foreign policies pursued by the four major powers in Asia (India, China, Japan, and the United States) along with perennial troublemaker North Korea. The four major Asian powers represent 44 percent of the global economy, 43 percent of the world's population, and 53 percent of the world's military spending. Asia is home to six of the world's nine nuclear weapons states. The course will ask: Do historic disputes make the region "ripe for rivalry"? Is China a rising power that seeks to upend the old international order? Will the 21st Century in Asia look like the 20th Century in Europe? Will trade, nuclear weapons, international institutions, or non-violent norms make Asia more peaceful than might be expected? To answer these and other questions, the course will introduce students to theories of foreign policy that may be applicable to modern Asia, along with more detailed studies of the specific policies and strategies pursued by states in the region. Students will leave the course with a greater knowledge of historical and contemporary events as well as a theoretical toolkit they can employ to understand international problems in other regions of the globe. ***This course number may be repeated if the topic is different.***
- RPOS 399** **DISABILITY POLITICS AND POLICY** **J. Pidgeon**
9557 **TTH 5:45PM – 7:05PM** **HU 133**
There are an estimated 56 million individuals with disabilities living in the United States. In fact, they are one of the largest minority populations in the country, yet, they are also one of the least recognized and researched groups when it comes to politics and policy. This course will serve as an introduction to disability politics for students. It will explore the political participation of people with disabilities, the history of the disability movement, and the role that 'politics' plays when policymakers are considering, creating, implementing, and evaluating disability related policies in the United States. ***This course number may be repeated if the topic is different.***
- RPOS 419Z** **SEMINAR IN POLITICAL THEORY** **M. Schoolman**
9558 **MWF 11:30AM – 12:25PM** **BB 209**
The politics of *Frankenstein* -- in 1818 Mary Shelley published her novel about a man-made creature that was to become perhaps the most famous monster of all time, inspiring other works of fiction, movies, and countless critical studies and biographies of its author. The work for this course will center on the politics of *Frankenstein*, and will include the writings of her famous parents, Mary Wollstonecraft's *A Vindication of the Rights of Women*, William Godwin's *Enquiry Concerning Political Justice*, and other writings dealing with the political issues that Mary Shelley's novel was influenced by and is concerned with, namely women's rights, equality, democratic revolution and counter-revolution, slavery, the role and responsibility of science in the modern world, and others. Books to be read and movies to be watched, presentations to be made and papers to be written.
- RPOS 424Z** **COMMUNITY POLITICS** **J. Cruz**
9559 **TTH 2:45PM – 4:05PM** **FA 126**
This course focuses on power relations at the local level. We will consider how race, class, ethnicity, and gender intersect around issues of political participation, descriptive, and substantive representation. Throughout the semester we will reflect on the relationship between community, individuality, and political empowerment.
- RPOS 425Z** **JUSTICE REFORM IN LATIN AMERICA** **M. Ingram**
9560 **MWF 12:35PM – 1:30PM** **BBB 14**
This course examines the patterns, causes, and consequences of justice reforms in Latin America, focusing on the contemporary time period since the 1980s. The course is divided in three sections. First, students will explore the political, economic, and social costs of weak, abusive, or otherwise ineffective justice institutions. Second, we will address the ways in which regional, national, and subnational reform projects have sought to improve these justice institutions, including police, prosecutors, and courts, as well as non-criminal justice institutions (e.g., family and commercial courts). Lastly, we will assess how and why various reform projects have failed or succeeded. Throughout, the course emphasizes the connections among law, development, and democracy.
- RPOS 439Z** **TOPICS IN AMERICAN POLITICS: POLITICAL LEADERSHIP** **B. Miroff**
5817 **TTH 1:15PM – 2:35PM** **BBB 2**
A discussion-centered examination of political leadership. We will be reading classic works on leadership (Plato, Machiavelli, Weber among others) and contemporary studies by political scientists. The major paper for the course will apply these theories to Abraham Lincoln's leadership on the issue of slavery. There will also be two short papers based on assigned readings.

RPOS 449 **TOPICS IN PUBLIC LAW: INTERNATIONAL LAW** **D. Guinn**
10072 **M** **5:45PM – 9:25PM** **HS 6 (HUSTED – Downtown)**

This course is an introduction to international public law in its political context. It examines the role of law in the functioning of the international system of states, including operation of international organizations and activities of non-state actors and individuals. It starts with an examination of the theory, development, and practice of international law, the interplay between law and politics, and the content and process of international legislation/treaty making and authoritative decisions. Particular attention will be given to issues of terrorism, the international law governing the use of force, the laws of war (international humanitarian law or the law of armed conflict), and the development of international criminal courts. Students will also be able to select a limited number of topics that they are interested in as well. The goal of this course is to help students understand the nature and role of international public law in addressing areas of international common concern and in ameliorating conflict. The course will be taught blend of lecture and class discussion around particular problems or cases and will emphasize critical thinking, the development of analytic skills and the use of applied logic. **Only one version may be taken for credit. Political Science majors – this course does not satisfy the upper level writing requirement.**

RPOS 469Z **TOPICS IN COMPARATIVE POLITICS:** **N. Siddiqui**
10041 **INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT IN CONFLICT ZONES** **ED 22**
TTH **10:15AM – 11:35AM**

This course examines the emergence of foreign assistance and development aid as a tool of counterinsurgency and post-conflict reconciliation in a wide range of countries, including Afghanistan, Iraq, Pakistan, and the Philippines. It begins with an overview of the politics of development aid, before focusing on its most recent manifestation as an overtly political instrument. This course will introduce students to research on the dynamics of violence in civil war settings, and examine the ways in which intervention by outside actors may affect local conflict. In short, this course will examine how aid and violence intersect. This course will also aim to equip students with an understanding of monitoring and evaluation approaches, including survey experiments, randomized control trials, natural experiments, and qualitative studies.

RPOS 479Z **TOPICS IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS:** **G. Nowell**
7903 **POLITICS & MONEY: U.S. BANKING & FINANCIAL CRISES** **PC 355**
MWF **12:35PM – 1:30PM**

Special topics course in International Relations. Topics will vary from semester to semester. In Fall 2017 the topic will be "Politics & Money: U.S. Banking & Financial Crises". This seminar will deal in international financial crises from the nineteenth century to the present. Attention will be given to banking, central bank behavior, trade and trade deficits, as well as economic recovery programs. This is a politics class, not an economics class, but some economic theory will be presented. There are no pre-requisites.

RPOS 479Z **TOPICS IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS:** **B. Greenhill**
8963 **THE INTERNATIONAL POLITICS OF HUMAN RIGHTS** **BB 356**
TTH **10:15AM – 11:35AM**

Since the end of World War II, a complex system of international laws and institutions has developed that aims to regulate countries' human rights practices. In this course we will study recent research by political scientists on the impact that the international human rights regime is having on state behavior. By the end of the course, students can expect to have developed informed opinions on the following big questions: (1) What exactly are human rights? (2) Do international human rights treaties have any impact on countries' human rights practices? If so, how? (3) Is globalization good or bad for human rights? (4) How effective are non-governmental organizations in changing human rights outcomes? **This course number may be repeated if the topic is different.**

RPOS 484Z **AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY FORMULATION & IMPLEMENTATION** **C. Clary**
10040 **W** **5:45PM – 8:35PM** **AS 15**

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. The United States is the largest provider of foreign aid globally. U.S. decisions in international trade and climate negotiations have global effects. How is U.S. foreign policy made? Who influences those choices? Why does the United States make the national security decisions that it does? How different is policy formulation and implementation in the Trump administration compared to its predecessors? How constrained are presidents by the structure of the international system and the inertia of U.S. bureaucracy? This writing-intensive course will introduce students to theories of foreign policy that seek to 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.

**RPOS 486
7172**

**INTERNATIONAL HEALTH AND HUMAN RIGHTS
W 5:45PM – 8:35PM**

**K. Alaei
ES 242**

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. **Political Science majors – this course does not satisfy the upper level writing requirement. Gen. Ed: Challenges, Social Science.**

**RPOS 496Z
5059**

**GREAT IDEAS IN POLITICAL SCIENCE
F 1:40PM – 4:30PM (4 credits)**

**Z. Barta
BI 152**

This honors seminar aims to introduce you to some of the central ideas, themes and approaches of political science. The theme for the course will be “varieties of democracy”. We will look at how political scientists have approached and answered the question “What makes a country democratic?” We will draw on many different subfields of political science – such as political theory, public law, international relations, American politics, public policy and comparative politics – and you will have the chance to discuss the merits and weaknesses of different scholarly approaches with invited speakers from the ranks of the faculty of the Department of Political Science at UAlbany, who will present their own work to you. The last three classes of the course will be dedicated to applying what you learned in your *own* research projects. ****Open to Honors Program students only.**

**TPOS 260
9681**

**POLITICAL VIOLENCE
TTH 4:15PM – 5:35PM**

**V. Asai
LC 3C**

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 do the literature offer? 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. Students will take on the roles of policy makers in several simulations. These simulations and their analysis are critical to the course and your participation will play a large part in how well you do in the course. ****Open to Honors College students only.**

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

UNDERGRADUATE COURSES – FALL 2018

Course	Class #	Days	Times	Location	Professor
RPOS 101W (4 credits)	7550	TTH	10:15AM-11:35AM	LC 18	Bruce Miroff
RPOS 101W	7551	F	9:20AM-10:15AM	HU 27	
RPOS 101W	7552	F	9:20AM-10:15AM	BB 221	
RPOS 101W	7553	F	9:20AM-10:15AM	BB 129	
RPOS 101W ++	7554 ++	F	9:20AM-10:15AM	BB 217	
RPOS 101W	7555	F	10:25AM-11:20AM	HU 27	
RPOS 101W	7556	F	10:25AM-11:20AM	HU 32	
RPOS 101W	7557	F	10:25AM-11:20AM	ED 21	
RPOS 101W	7558	F	10:25AM-11:20AM	BB 217	
RPOS 101W	7559	F	11:30AM-12:25PM	HU 113	
RPOS 101W	9174	F	11:30AM-12:25PM	HU 116	
RPOS 101W	9175	F	11:30AM-12:25PM	HU 27	
RPOS 101W	9176	F	11:30AM-12:25PM	HU 32	
RPOS 101	10049	MWF	9:20AM-10:15AM	BBB 10	Phil Nicholas
RPOS 102X (4 credits)	7892	TTH	2:45PM-4:05PM	LC 1	Victor Asal
RPOS 102X	7893	F	12:35PM-1:30PM	BB 205	
RPOS 102X	7894	F	12:35PM-1:30PM	PC 263	
RPOS 102X ^^	7895 ^^	F	12:35PM-1:30PM	BL 25 110	
RPOS 102X ^^	7896 ^^	F	1:40PM-2:35PM	ED 21	
RPOS 102X	7897	F	1:40PM-2:35PM	BB 205	
RPOS 102X	7898	F	1:40PM-2:35PM	BB 221	
RPOS 102X ^^	7899 ^^	F	2:45PM-3:40PM	HU 114	
RPOS 102X	7900	F	2:45PM-3:40PM	HU 112	
RPOS 102X	7901	F	2:45PM-3:40PM	HU 113	
RPOS 103Y (4 credits)	8828	TTH	1:15PM-2:35PM	LC 19	Peter Breiner
RPOS 103Y	8829	F	1:40PM-2:35PM	BB 217	
RPOS 103Y	8830	F	2:45PM-3:40PM	PH 116	
RPOS 103Y	8831	F	12:35PM-1:30PM	PH 116	
RPOS 103Y	8832	F	1:40PM-2:35PM	BB 231	
RPOS 103Y	8833	F	2:45PM-3:40PM	HU 116	
RPOS 103Y	8835	F	12:35PM-1:30PM	ED 21	
RPOS 103 (3 credits)	9274	MWF	12:35PM-1:30PM	HU 24	Sean McKeever
RPAD 140 (3 credits)	6390	MW	2:45PM-4:05PM	LC 24	Ashley Fox
RPAD 140	6572	F	2:45PM-3:40PM	HU 19	
RPAD 140	6580	F	12:35PM-1:30PM	HU 111	
RPAD 140	6588	F	1:40PM-2:35PM	ES 108	
RPAD 140	6589	F	12:35PM-1:30PM	HU 114	
RPAD 140	7129	F	1:40PM-2:35PM	HU 115	
RPAD 140	7130	F	2:45PM-3:45PM	HU 27	
RPAD 140	9533	F	2:45PM-3:45PM	HU 111	
RPAD 140	9534	F	1:40PM-2:35PM	BL25 110	
RPAD 140	9535	F	12:35PM-1:30PM	HU 113	

++ This section of RPOS 101W reserved for first year students in the American Politics Living-Learning Community

^^ These sections of RPOS 102X reserved for transfer students

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

UNDERGRADUATE COURSES – FALL 2018

Course	Class #	Days	Times	Location	Professor
RPOS 204	8339	M	4:15PM-7:05PM	FA 114	Timothy Taylor
RPOS 204	9186	TTH	11:45AM-1:05PM	PH 123	Samir NaJame
RPOS 250	8110	MWF	1:40PM-2:35PM	HU 113	Sally Friedman
RPOS 301	9546	TTH	8:45AM-10:05AM	FA 126	Mykolas Gudelis
RPOS 303/RPAD 304	9547/9989	MW	5:45PM-7:05PM	ES 245	Virginia Eubanks
RPOS 310	8784	MWF	9:20AM-10:15AM	HU 128	Mort Schoolman
RPOS 314	8069	TTH	11:45AM-1:05PM	HU 124	Mykolas Gudelis
RPOS 320	10050	TTH	8:45AM-10:05AM	AS 14	Julie Novkov
RPOS/RPAD 322	9542/9541	MW	2:45PM-4:05PM	HU 20	Frank Mauro
RPOS 326	8070	MWF	9:20AM-10:15AM	HU 24	Matthew Ingram
RPOS/RPAD 328	8068/8100	TH	5:45PM-8:35PM	ES 147	James Malatras
RPOS 329/RPAD 329Z	4469/9986	W	4:15PM-7:05PM	DR 313B **	Michael Christakis
RPOS 329/RPAD 329Z ++	8093/9987	W	4:15PM-7:05PM	DR 313B **	Michael Christakis
329 Discussion ++	8094/9988	W	7:15PM-8:05PM	DR 313B **	Michael Christakis
RPOS 334	8785	TTH	11:45AM-1:05PM	HU 133	José Cruz
RPOS 336	9955	T	2:45PM-5:35PM	ES 241	Stephan Stohler
RPOS 337	9548	TTH	2:45PM-4:05PM	HU 132	Michael Malbin
RPOS 364	8948	MW	4:15PM-5:35PM	LC 3B	Andrew Vitek
RPOS 365	8825	MW	2:45PM-4:05PM	LC 3C	Sean McKeever
RPOS 367	7228	MWF	10:25AM-11:20AM	HU 133	Gregory Nowell
RPOS 380	10220	TTH	1:15PM-2:35PM	HU 123	Keon Weigold
RPOS 390/RPAD 498	8138/8139	M	5:45PM-8:35PM	SS 255	TBA
RPOS 397	10212	F	11:30AM-12:25PM	HU 111	TBA
RPOS 399	8836	MW	5:00PM-6:15PM	ALBANY LAW #	Eleanor Stein
RPOS 399	9550	MWF	11:30AM-12:25PM	HU 124	Sally Friedman
RPOS 399	9553	MWF	12:35PM-1:30PM	FA 126	Christopher Clary
RPOS 399	9556	T	4:15PM-7:05PM	HU 124	Timothy Taylor
RPOS 399	9557	TTH	5:45PM-7:05PM	HU 133	Jessica Pidgeon
RPOS 419Z	9558	MWF	11:30AM-12:25PM	BB 209	Mort Schoolman
RPOS 424Z	9559	TTH	2:45PM-4:05PM	FA 126	José Cruz
RPOS 425Z	9560	MWF	12:35PM-1:30PM	BBB 14	Matthew Ingram
RPOS 439Z	5817	TTH	1:15PM-2:35PM	BBB 2	Bruce Miroff
RPOS 449	10072	M	5:45PM-9:25PM	HS 6 **	David Guinn
RPOS 469Z	10041	TTH	10:15AM-11:35AM	ED 22	Niloufer Siddiqui
RPOS 479Z	7903	MWF	12:35PM-1:30PM	PC 355	Gregory Nowell
RPOS 479Z	8963	TTH	10:15AM-11:35AM	BB 356	Brian Greenhill
RPOS 484Z	10040	W	5:45PM-8:35PM	AS 15	Christopher Clary
RPOS 486	7172	W	5:45PM-8:35PM	ES 242	Kamiar Alaei
RPOS 496Z	5059	F	1:40PM-4:30PM	BI 152	Zsofia Barta
TPOS 260	9681	TTH	4:15PM-5:35PM	LC 3C	Victor Asal

++ This section of RPOS 329 reserved for transfer students in the NY Politics Living-Learning Community. Students must register for 329 Discussion first.

** Denotes courses taught on Downtown Campus

Denotes course taught at Albany Law School

Political Science Courses by Concentration – Fall 2018

American Politics						
RPOS/RPAD 322	9542/9541	Government & Politics of New York City	MW	2:45PM-4:05PM	HU 20	Frank Mauro
RPOS 303/RPAD 304	9547/9989	Real-World Public Policy	MW	5:45PM-7:05PM	ES 245	Virginia Eubanks
RPOS 320	10050	American Federalism	TTH	8:45AM-10:05AM	AS 14	Julie Novkov
RPOS/RPAD 329	4469/9986	Administrative Leadership	W	4:15PM-7:05PM	DR 313B	Michael Christakis
RPOS/RPAD 329	8093/9987	Administrative Leadership ++	W	4:15PM-7:05PM	DR 313B	Michael Christakis
RPOS 334	8785	American Political Parties & Groups	TTH	11:45AM-1:05PM	HU 133	José Cruz
RPOS 337	9548	Campaigns & Elections in U.S.	TTH	2:45PM-4:05PM	HU 132	Michael Malbin
RPOS 365	8825	Government & the Mass Media	MW	2:45PM-4:05PM	LC 3C	Sean McKeever
RPOS 399	9550	Controversies in American Values	MWF	11:30AM-12:25PM	HU 124	Sally Friedman
RPOS 399	9557	Disability Politics and Policy	TTH	5:45PM-7:05PM	HU 133	Jessica Pidgeon
RPOS 424Z	9959	Community Politics	TTH	2:45PM-4:05PM	FA 126	José Cruz
RPOS 439Z	5817	Political Leadership	TTH	1:15PM-2:35PM	BBB 2	Bruce Miroff
Global/Comparative Politics						
RPOS 364	8948	Building Democracy	MW	4:15PM-5:35PM	LC 3B	Andrew Vitek
RPOS 367	7228	Politics of the Middle East	MWF	10:25AM-11:20AM	HU 133	Gregory Nowell
RPOS 380	10220	Basics of International Law	TTH	1:15PM-2:35PM	HU 123	Keon Weigold
RPOS 399	9553	Asian Security – Theory & Practice	MWF	12:35PM-1:30PM	FA 126	Christopher Clary
RPOS 399	8836	Climate Change Law & Policy: Domestic & Global	MW	5:00PM-6:15PM	ALB LAW	Eleanor Stein
RPOS 469Z	10041	International Development in Conflict Zones	TTH	10:15AM-11:35AM	ED 22	Niloufer Siddiqui
RPOS 479Z	7903	Politics & Money: U.S. Banking & Financial Crises	MWF	12:35PM-1:30PM	PC 355	Gregory Nowell
RPOS 479Z	8963	The International Politics of Human Rights	TTH	10:15AM-11:35AM	BB 356	Brian Greenhill
RPOS 484Z	10040	American Foreign Policy Formulation & Implementation	W	5:45PM-8:35PM	AS 15	Christopher Clary
RPOS 486	7172	International Health & Human Rights	W	5:45PM-8:35PM	ES 242	Kamiar Alaei
Political Theory						
RPOS 301	9546	History of Political Theory 1	TTH	8:45AM-10:05AM	FA 126	Mykolas Gudelis
RPOS 310	8784	Contemporary Political Philosophy	MWF	9:20AM-10:15 AM	HU 128	Mort Schoolman
RPOS 314	8069	Problems of Political Inquiry	TTH	11:45AM-1:05PM	HU 124	Mykolas Gudelis
RPOS 419Z	9558	Seminar in Political Theory	MWF	11:30AM-12:25PM	BB 209	Mort Schoolman
Public Law						
RPOS 320	10050	American Federalism	TTH	8:45AM-10:05AM	AS 14	Julie Novkov
RPOS 326	8070	Introduction to Public Law	MWF	9:20AM-10:15 AM	HU 24	Matthew Ingram
RPOS/RPAD 328	8068/8100	Law & Policy	TH	5:45PM-8:35PM	ES 147	James Malatras
RPOS 336	9955	Civil Liberties	T	2:45PM-5:35PM	ES 241	Stephan Stohler
RPOS 380	10220	Basics of International Law	TTH	1:15PM-2:35PM	HU 123	Keon Weigold
RPOS 399	9556	Race, Law & Society	T	4:15PM-7:05PM	HU 124	Timothy Taylor
RPOS 399	8836	Climate Change Law & Policy: Domestic & Global	MW	5:00PM-6:15PM	ALB LAW	Eleanor Stein
RPOS 449	10072	International Law	M	5:45PM-9:25PM	HS 6 **	David Guinn
RPOS 425Z	9560	Justice Reform in Latin America	MWF	12:35PM-1:30PM	BBB 14	Matthew Ingram
Electives						
RPAD 140	6390	Introduction To Public Policy	MW	2:45PM-4:05PM	LC 24	Ashley Fox
RPOS 204	8339	Black Lives Matter Movement	MT	4:15PM-7:05PM	FA 114	Timothy Taylor
RPOS 204	9186	Lobbyists & Special Interests in NYS	TTH	11:45AM-1:05PM	PH 123	Samir NaJame
RPOS 250	8110	Current Policy Debates Viewed Through a Social Science Lens	MWF	1:40PM-2:35PM	HU 113	Sally Friedman
RPOS 390/RPAD 498	8138/8139	Internship RPOS/RPAD	M	5:45PM-8:35PM	SS255	TBA
RPOS 397	10212	Careers in Political Science and Public Policy	F	11:30AM-12:25PM	HU 111	TBA
RPOS 496Z	5059	Great Ideas in Political Science	F	1:40PM-4:30PM	BI 152	Zsofia Barta
TPOS 260	9681	Political Violence	TTH	4:15PM-5:35PM	LC 3C	Victor Asal

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