

## Politics Courses

### **POL 201 Introduction to American Government** (3 credits)

An introduction to politics in the United States. Designed to: 1) develop a heightened understanding of how the American political system works, 2) stimulate an awareness of the strengths and weaknesses of American government, 3) encourage the development of each student's own political perspective and political values, and 4) assist students to become better citizens. Required course for the major and minor and for upper-level offerings in behavior, law and contemporary issues. Offered every year.

### **POL 211 Introduction to International Politics** (3 credits)

A study of the political relations of nations and other actors in the international system and the changes occurring in the world order. Case studies, debates and simulations are used to explore historical, present, and preferred future global systems. Required course for the major and minor and for all upper level offerings in international politics, comparative politics, area studies, and contemporary issues. Offered every year.

### **POL 225 Contemporary Issues** (1.5 credits)

Examples include: The Role of the Media, Race Relations, Food Politics, Native American Studies, The Islamic World, Ethnicity and Nationalism. A demisemester examination of a selected issue in politics in a seminar setting. Analysis of relevant literature, ideas, and values and their practical application. Prerequisites: POL 201 and POL 211, if an international issue, or permission of the instructor.

### **POL 231 Introduction to Law** (3 credits)

An introduction to selected topics on politics and the law. Examples include the role of lawyers in the legal system, judicial decision-making, issues in criminal law, the role of the jury, comparative legal systems, police practices, civil rights, and drug laws. Career development for persons exploring careers in law and law enforcement. Direct observation of the criminal and legal system, use of moot court, writing of briefs. Required course for all upper level politics courses in law and Politics' internships in law related fields. Offered every other year.

### **POL 242 Emerging Leaders** (1 credit)

For students in leadership positions on and off campus. Readings in the theory, practice, evaluation, and development of leadership. Practical application of leadership theory to the practice of leadership. Establishment and evaluation of leadership goals. Available both terms. Offered every year. Must apply and be accepted in the Emerging Leaders Program to enroll.

### **POL 250 Contemporary Issues** (3 credits)

Examples include: The Role of the Media, Race Relations, Food Politics, Native American Studies, The Islamic World, Ethnicity and Nationalism and Religion and Politics. A rigorous examination of a selected issue in politics in a seminar setting. Analysis of relevant literature, ideas, and values and their practical application. Prerequisites: POL 201 and POL 211, if an international issue, or permission of the instructor.

### **POL 266 Politics of Sex** (3 credits)

An introductory exploration of the political dimension of human sexual and reproductive behaviors and sexual imaging from the individual to the societal level. Offered every other year.

### **POL 267 Political Issues in Global Perspective** (3 credits)

Introduces the student to selected issues of global importance by utilizing diverse, multicultural sources. Examples of such issues include the legacies of colonization, relations of rich and poor countries, sustainable development, environmental threats, terrorism, and universal human rights. Especially suitable for first-year students who want to study topics in the news using fresh approaches.

### **POL 276 Politics of Behavior** (3 credits)

An introductory exploration of the political dimension of everyday behavior in such settings as the classroom, family, museums, prisons, the media, mental institutions, the armed services, and factories in relationships as between lovers, doctor and patient, child and parent, and officer and soldier. Required course for all upper level courses in behavioral politics and in leadership development. Offered every other year.

**POL 304 Democracies** (3 credits)

Examines both the older and newer democracies, within a framework of democratic political theory. Applications are made to contemporary democratic systems and the problems of democratic governance. Issues examined include transitions from authoritarian systems, economic development, comparative cultural values and democracy, electoral systems, money influences on representation, and prospects for reform. Prerequisites: POL 201 and 211, or permission of the instructor with junior or senior standing.

**POL 309 Area Studies** (3 credits)

The study of the politics, culture, and history of a selected area of the world. An examination of the literature and theory of comparative politics as applied to that area. Examples include: Non-Western Areas, Asia, Africa, South Asia, West Asia, India, China, and Vietnam. Prerequisites: POL 201 and POL 211, or permission of the instructor. Offered every year. May be repeated for credit.

**POL 310 Area Studies** (1.5 credits)

A study of the politics, culture and history of a selected area of the world. Examples include: Indonesia, Vietnam, India, South Africa, and Korea. Prerequisites: POL 201 and POL 211, or permission of the instructor. May be repeated for credit.

**POL 319 Junior Seminar** (3 credits)

Politics seminar for junior majors. Meets with POL 419 (see description). Required of all juniors majoring in Politics. Offered every year in the Spring Semester.

**POL 323 Conflict Resolution** (3 credits)

A study of the theories and practice of conflict resolution in a variety of areas from the personal to the global. A study of the historical, psychological, and social roots of war and the factors associated with more peaceful relations. Prerequisites: Junior or Senior standing or permission of the instructor. Offered every other year.

**POL 325 Constitutional Law: Historical Cases** (1.5 credits)

A demisemester course in Constitutional Law that features great historical cases. Prerequisites: POL 201 and POL 231 or permission of the instructor.

**POL 335 Constitutional Law: Civil Rights** (1.5 credits)

A demisemester course in Constitutional Law that features civil rights cases. Prerequisites: POL 201 and POL 231 or permission of the instructor.

**POL 340 Contemporary Issues** (3 credits)

A rigorous examination of a selected issue in politics in a seminar setting. Analysis of relevant literature, ideas, and values and their practical application. At the 300-level students will complete a major research project and provide leadership in the seminar. Examples include: The Role of the Media, Race Relations, Food Politics, Native American Studies, The Islamic World, Ethnicity and Nationalism, and Religion and Politics. Prerequisites: POL 201 and POL 211, if an international issue, or permission of the instructor. May be repeated for credit.

**POL 342 Contemporary Issues** (1.5 credits)

Examples include: The Role of the Media, Race Relations, Food Politics, Native American Studies, The Islamic World, Ethnicity and Nationalism. A demisemester examination of a selected issue in politics in a seminar setting. Analysis of relevant literature, ideas, and values and their practical application. At the 300-level students will complete a major research project and provide leadership in the seminar. Prerequisites: POL 201 and POL 211, if an international issue, or permission of the instructor. May be repeated for credit.

**POL 345 Constitutional Law: Current Cases** (1.5 credits)

A demisemester course in Constitutional Law that features contemporary cases. Prerequisites: POL 201 and POL 231 or permission of the instructor.

Note: The three Constitutional Law courses, POL 325, POL 335 and POL 345, are not sequential. Students may take any or all of them in any order as long as the basic prerequisites for each are satisfied.

**POL 355 Issues in American Foreign Policy** (3 credits)

The course analyzes strategic approaches to the conduct of American foreign policy in the context of a changing international environment. Topics examined include defense and security, Presidential-Congressional tensions, multilateralist and unilateralist doctrines, diplomacy and the use of force. Selected global issues and regional and bilateral relationships will be studied as time permits. Prerequisites: POL 201 or POL 211.

**POL 366 Politics of Sex** (3 credits)

An exploration of the political nature of the roles and relationships of males and females in the United States and other cultures and countries. The analysis of human sexual conduct and human sexual biology from a political perspective. Prerequisites: POL 276 or permission of the instructor. Offered every other year.

**POL 419 Senior Seminar** (3 credits)

Required of all senior majors in Politics. Application of learning in the major to a discussion and analysis of current national and political issues and to a discussion and analysis of recent literature on current politics. Evaluation of the Politics major and curriculum. Juniors enrolled in POL 319 will conduct work on career and vocational development. Seniors will synthesize in a major essay their learning as a Politics major around a single theme. Students pursuing honors in Politics will enroll in POL 497 (4 credits) during the fall semester of their senior year and in this seminar in the spring semester as part of their six-credit requirement. Offered every year in the Spring Semester.