

# POLITICAL SCIENCE

## Department Website:

<https://www.haverford.edu/political-science>

The Political Science Department seeks to address issues of power, citizenship, government, and justice in the United States and throughout the world by studying the diversity of political life and thought in our own age and in the past. Our goal is to provide students with a deep understanding of the core concepts and practices of politics and government while developing the analytical, research, and writing skills that enable them to think critically and creatively about existing structures of power and privilege. In doing so, we hope to nurture a lifelong fascination and engagement with the political realm.

Haverford's program is designed to provide an understanding of how and why decisions are made. For many students this knowledge serves as the foundation for participation in public affairs and the shaping of the policies that affect their communities and their personal lives. Many majors choose to go on to law school. Many others choose to go into government service, journalism, teaching, or community organizing, among other career pathways. Given that most of our classes are small enough to allow ample discussion and dialogue, students leave Haverford well equipped for those continuing discussions that determine the quality of life in our society.

## Learning Goals

The Political Science Department provides students with an opportunity to explore politics and government from multiple vantage points—at the grassroots, the nation-state, and the global community—and from a variety of theoretical, conceptual, comparative, historical, and experiential perspectives.

We aim to:

- provide students with a broad background in the discipline of political science, including its multiple methods and subfields as well as substantive knowledge (i.e., facts, concepts, theories, etc.) about different debates and topics within the discipline.
- guide students so they can make pathways through the curriculum in ways that reflect an accumulation of learning and that help them develop a greater level of mastery over at least one body of scholarship within political science.
- cultivate critical, analytic and synthetic thinking about local, national, international and transnational politics, as well as about the nature

of political power, governance, citizenship, and justice.

- help students acquire the skills of communication, collaboration, and listening necessary for effective participation within an intellectual community.
- train students to carry out sustained independent research.
- prepare students to become informed and reflective citizens who are knowledgeable about the forces that shape political life.

Haverford's Institutional Learning Goals are available on the President's website, at <http://hav.to/learninggoals>.

## Curriculum

We offer courses in the five subfields of political science at the introductory, intermediate, and advanced levels. We coordinate our offerings with those at Bryn Mawr in order to provide a wide range of subjects.

Courses fall into the following five subfields:

- **American Politics (A):** major institutions; bureaucracy; discrimination; urban politics and urban policy; and ethnicity, gender, sexuality, and class in relation to American politics.
- **Comparative Politics (C):** politics and governments throughout the world; women and politics; comparative political economy; human rights; civil war and revolution; and transitions to democracy.
- **International Relations (I):** international political economy and international security; the state system; international organizations; causes of war, terrorism, peace-building, and reconciliation; and American foreign policy.
- **Globalization and Global Governance (G):** cosmopolitan theory; democracy and global governance; capitalism and its critics; global economy; global civil society and global justice movements.
- **Political Theory (T):** justice, equality, and liberty; power, authority, and order; democratic theory; American political thought; feminist theory; and politics and culture.

## Major Requirements

- Two of the following 100-level courses to enter the major: POLS H121, POLS H131, POLS H151, POLS H161, and POLS H171. These courses must represent two different subfields.
- Six elective courses taken above the 100 level. No more than four of the elective courses for the major may come from institutions outside of the Tri-Co.

- A 300-level research seminar, taken in the department during the fall semester of the senior year. (This is in addition to the six elective courses described above.)
- A combination of introductory and elective courses that includes representation of three of the five subfields, with work at the intermediate or advanced level in at least two subfields.
  - Students may count some courses in either of the two subfields but not in both.
  - With the consent of a member of the department, students may substitute two or three intermediate- or advanced-level courses from another department for the third subfield, where this serves to complement and strengthen the student's work within the department. For example, a student concentrating in international politics might offer international economics courses as a subfield; a student in comparative politics might offer courses in an area study; a student in political theory might offer social and political philosophy courses; or a student in American politics might offer social policy courses. Students can count such substitutions towards fulfilling the subfield requirement only. They cannot count these towards political science course credit and cannot use them to fulfill the introductory, elective, and seminar requirements outlined above.
- All senior majors write a thesis and complete an oral defense of the thesis through enrollment in POLS H400.
- Four courses outside political science at Haverford or Bryn Mawr College that relate to the major. Examples of possible interests around which courses could cluster are: American or other area studies; political and social theory; international affairs; environmental policies; urban affairs; intermediate and advanced foreign language work related to work in the major; or courses from one or more of the other social sciences.

## Senior Project

The senior thesis represents the capstone of the political science major. It is a year-long independent research project designed and implemented by each senior political science major with the guidance and support of an assigned thesis advisor. Students receive one credit for an advanced-level seminar in the fall semester of their senior year. With few exceptions, this seminar is taken with the student's thesis advisor. During the fall semester seminar students select a research topic, formulate a research question, begin acquiring conceptual and theoretical sophistication through a comprehensive review of the relevant scholarly literature, and

prepare a thesis proposal or research design. This proposal will guide each student's original research during the spring semester. Near the end of the fall semester seniors submit their thesis proposals to all members of the department and present their thesis proposals before the department faculty and fellow students. These proposal defenses are intended to provide students with useful critical feedback during the fall semester when there is still time to make major adjustments to the project if necessary. They are also intended to build an *esprit de corps* among majors while giving them valuable experience with oral presentation and public accountability.

In the spring semester students register for POLS H400, a supervised research and writing course. During this semester, students conduct independent research and write up their findings with the guidance and feedback of their advisor. Throughout the spring semester students meet regularly with their thesis advisor and submit drafts of thesis chapters to their advisor. After students submit their final written theses in April, they are required to give a 30-minute oral defense of their theses to their advisor and at least one other political science faculty member in early May.

### Senior Project Learning Goals

The goal of the thesis is to promote the ongoing acquisition of research and analytical skills, as well as the ability to carry out extensive projects independently and consistent with the highest standards of excellence. Most students writing a thesis will identify an interesting and important research question, explore how other scholars have attempted to address that question, and devise a viable research plan. Students who choose to concentrate in political theory pursue normative research and focus on interpretation and analysis of philosophical texts. Students are expected to conduct their own research, often using both primary and secondary sources, and to evaluate how their findings relate to existing scholarship in the field.

### Senior Project Assessment

Students are assessed based upon their proposal, their written thesis, their oral defense, and their performance throughout the thesis process. They are evaluated according to several criteria, including:

- their conceptualization of a research question.
- their ability to effectively and concisely present their argument and findings.
- their ability to draw conclusions and extensions of their research to broader arenas.
- their engagement with secondary material and use of primary sources.

- their ability to identify, critique, develop, and apply core concepts and theories.
- their ability to obtain a basic understanding of research methodologies.
- their ability to comprehend and respond to questioning.
- the quality and organization of their writing.
- the timely submission of work and responsiveness to feedback.
- the originality of their ideas and the ambition of their project.
- the breadth of their knowledge related to their thesis topic.
- the depth of their knowledge related to their thesis topic.
- their comprehension of the scope and limitations of their own research.

During the fall semester, students receive feedback from their professor and their peers on various assignments that often include a combination of the following: thesis proposal, annotated bibliography and literature review. The presentation of the thesis proposal in the fall semester is an opportunity for members in the department other than the advisor to weigh in on and evaluate a student's progress. The feedback received in the fall from fellow students and the department faculty at the thesis proposal defense is beneficial for students as they move ahead with their projects in the spring.

Throughout the spring semester students receive feedback from their thesis advisor through regular meetings and comments on thesis drafts. The schedule for the submission of drafts and individual meetings in the spring semester is determined by the student and his/her advisor. Prior to the oral defense of the thesis in May each student submits a thesis abstract. This abstract is an important element of the defense in that it is designed to serve as a succinct overview of the thesis argument and methodology. The defense is attended by the student, the thesis advisor, and one other member of the department faculty. After the defense, the two faculty members discuss the student's project and overall performance. Ultimate responsibility for grading of the thesis (POLS H400) belongs to the supervising faculty member.

## Requirements for Honors

The department awards honors to senior majors who have demonstrated excellence in their coursework in political science and their senior thesis. The department may grant high honors to a select number of senior majors who have attained an

outstanding level of distinction in their political science courses and senior thesis.

## Concentrations and Interdisciplinary Minors

The department contributes to multiple concentrations, including those in Peace, Justice, and Human Rights; Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies; African and Africana Studies; Latin American, Iberian, and Latino Studies; and Gender and Sexuality Studies.

## Study Abroad

The department encourages students to spend a semester or a year studying abroad. Credit for courses taken abroad will be determined on a case-by-case basis. Students will need to provide documentation about the content (e.g., syllabi, papers, and exams) of courses taken abroad.

No more than two study-abroad courses per semester (four courses per year) can be counted towards the political science major.

## Research and Fieldwork

Faculty have conducted research in Latin America, Africa, the Middle East, and Asia, and students have had opportunities to assist faculty members with field research in places like Guatemala and Mali. The department encourages students to supplement their classroom work by studying abroad or applying for a grant from the College's Center for Peace and Global Citizenship (<https://www.haverford.edu/cpgc>) to undertake internships in other countries.

## Prizes

The department awards up to five prizes annually:

**The Emerson L. Darnell 1940 Prize Fund:** Named in honor of Emerson Darnell, a Quaker alumnus who dedicated his life's work to advocating peaceful social change and defending the civil rights of the individual. The prize is awarded annually to the student who presents the best paper demonstrating an appreciation of the Bill of Rights as the foundation of American law and the very fabric of American society.

**The Harold P. Kurzman Prize:** Awarded for the senior who has performed the best and most creatively in political science course work.

**The Stephen H. Miller Memorial Award:** Presented in honor of Stephen H. Miller '62, who lost his life while serving his country and his fellow man in South Vietnam while taking part in village development as a member of the United States Information Agency. This award is presented to

the graduating senior in political science who best exemplifies the ideal of political involvement and social service expressed in Miller's life and career.

**The Herman M. Somers Prize in Political Science:** Given in recognition of the research and teaching of Red Somers. Awarded to the graduating senior(s) who presents the best senior project that reflects the interest in policy, respect for evidence, and the humane concern for improving society that characterized Somers' work.

**The Harvey Glickman Prize:** Awarded to the graduating senior in Political Science whose senior thesis displays the greatest innovation in pushing the theoretical boundaries of the discipline and its subfields.

## Faculty

### Craig Borowiak

Associate Professor of Political Science

### Thomas Donahue

Visiting Assistant Professor of Political Science

### Anita Isaacs

The Benjamin Collins 1920 Professor of Social Science; Professor of Political Science

### Steve McGovern

Associate Professor of Political Science

### Barak Mendelsohn

Associate Professor and Chair of Political Science

### Zachary Oberfield

Associate Professor of Political Science

### Paulina Ochoa Espejo

Associate Professor of Political Science

### Susanna Wing

Associate Professor of Political Science

## Affiliated Faculty

### Vladimir Kontorovich

Professor of Economics

### Giri Parameswaran

Assistant Professor of Economics; Coordinator of Mathematical Economics

## Courses

### POLS H121 AMERICAN POLITICS (1.0 Credit)

*Steve McGovern*

**Division:** Social Science

**Domain(s):** B: Analysis of the Social World

This course examines the dynamics of the political process as seen in the Congress, the Presidency, and

the judiciary. It also focuses on the roles that interest groups, public opinion, the media, and political parties and elections play in the American political system.

**(Offered:** Spring 2021)

### POLS H131 COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS (1.0 Credit)

*Anita Isaacs*

**Division:** Social Science

**Domain(s):** B: Analysis of the Social World

An introduction to basic concepts and themes in comparative politics analyzed through case studies. Themes include political authority and governance structures; political culture and identity politics; political participation and representation; and political economy.

**(Offered:** Fall 2020)

### POLS H151 INTERNATIONAL POLITICS (1.0 Credit)

**Division:** Social Science

This course offers an introduction to the study of international politics. It considers examples from history and addresses contemporary issues, while introducing and evaluating the political theories that have been used by scholars to explain those events. The principal goal of the course is to develop a general set of analytical approaches that can be used to gain insight into the nature of world politics – past, present and future.

**(Offered:** Spring 2021)

### POLS H161 THE POLITICS OF GLOBALIZATION (1.0 Credit)

*Craig Borowiak*

**Division:** Social Science

**Domain(s):** B: Analysis of the Social World

An introduction to the major academic and policy debates over globalization and global governance. Key themes will include: sovereignty, free/fair trade; immigration; anti-globalization and violence; democratic governance and international economic institutions; and the global justice movement.

**(Offered:** Spring 2021)

### POLS H171 INTRODUCTION TO POLITICAL THEORY (1.0 Credit)

*Paulina Ochoa Espejo*

**Division:** Social Science

**Domain(s):** B: Analysis of the Social World

An introduction to central concepts of political life through exploring the questions and problems surrounding democratic freedom, power, authority and citizenship. Reading from ancient, modern, and contemporary sources, literary as well as



philosophical, American as well as European, will be included.

### **POLS H204 THE POLITICS OF THE CREATIVE CLASS IN AMERICAN CITIES (1.0 Credit)**

*Steve McGovern*

**Division:** Social Science

**Domain(s):** B: Analysis of the Social World  
Explores the social, economic, and political impact associated with the sizeable influx of college graduates into many urban areas during the past decade. Has the rise of this 'creative class' in American cities fueled progressive reforms or exacerbated existing inequalities? Prerequisite(s): Priority in registration will be given to students participating in the Philly Program. Remaining seats are available to other Tri-Co students, by lottery, if demand exceeds remaining spaces in the course. If you are interested in the Philly Program, you must fill out the application, which is due on Friday, October 26 at 5 pm. This program includes registering for the program's core course, Philadelphia: Inventing a City (ENGL H222B) and either this course (POLS H204B) or Narrativity and Hip Hop (ENGL B216). You will be notified by Monday, November 5 if you have been accepted into the program. Those not participating in the Philly program do not need to complete the application and can simply pre-register for the class. This class will meet in Philadelphia.

### **POLS H205 BORDERS, IMMIGRATION, AND CITIZENSHIP (1.0 Credit)**

*Paulina Ochoa Espejo*

**Division:** Social Science

**Domain(s):** B: Analysis of the Social World  
A survey of contemporary theories of citizenship, borders and immigration. We will ask who should be a member of a political community, and whether states have a right to exclude immigrants. The course will draw examples from current events. Prerequisite(s): One Intro Political Science course, or instructor consent

### **POLS H207 INJUSTICES AND RESISTANCE (1.0 Credit)**

*Thomas Donahue*

**Division:** Social Science

**Domain(s):** B: Analysis of the Social World  
What are the major injustices of our time? Race, gender, class, sweatshops, animal exploitation? What are the harms done by these and other injustices, and how can we remedy them? What makes something a social injustice, and who is responsible for dealing with it? Are animals the victims of a massive injustice? This course examines leading theories of human and animal injustices that deal with these matters. Our aim is to give students

the tools to build their own theory about these and other alleged injustices.

### **POLS H208 POLITICAL THOUGHT IN THE GLOBAL SOUTH: THE CASE OF LATIN AMERICA (1.0 Credit)**

*Paulina Ochoa Espejo*

**Division:** Social Science

**Domain(s):** B: Analysis of the Social World  
How can we study the political thought of the global South without subordinating and reducing Southern thought to Northern models? What, if anything, is the message about politics that Southern political thought has to offer the world? In this course we will discover and critically analyze the answers that Latin American thinkers have given to the fundamental questions in social and political philosophy. We will also discuss 1) how to think of canonical political theory as a particular strand of political thought in relation to others, and 2) which methods to choose to study and compare different traditions. Prerequisite(s): Any 100-level Political Science course, History 114, 208, 209 (origins of the global south, colonial and modern Latin America), or Independent College Programs 240 (Latin American or Iberian Cultures and Civilization)

### **POLS H217 EDUCATION REFORM IN AMERICA: POLITICS AND POLICY (1.0 Credit)**

*Zachary Oberfield*

**Division:** Social Science

**Domain(s):** B: Analysis of the Social World  
This course - for political science majors and non-majors - introduces students to various recent education reforms, like charter schools and school vouchers, and considers their efficacy and attendant politics. (Offered: Spring 2021)

### **POLS H218 THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM (1.0 Credit)**

**Division:** Social Science

**Domain(s):** B: Analysis of the Social World  
An analysis of the criminal justice system in the U.S. and how it negotiates the tension between the state's interest in preserving order and the protection of individual rights.

### **POLS H223 AMERICAN POLITICAL PROCESS: THE CONGRESS (1.0 Credit)**

*Zachary Oberfield*

**Division:** Social Science

This course explores the origins and nature of congressional behavior. In doing so, students will examine the importance of elections, the concept of representativeness, the role of political parties, and a variety of institutional constraints.

(Offered: Spring 2021)

**POLS H224 THE AMERICAN PRESIDENCY (1.0 Credit)**

*Zachary Oberfield*

**Division:** Social Science

This course examines theories of presidential power and the interplay between presidents, Congress, the bureaucracy, and the public.

**POLS H225 URBAN SOCIAL MOVEMENTS IN THE UNITED STATES (1.0 Credit)**

**Division:** Social Science

**Domain(s):** B: Analysis of the Social World

Analysis of grassroots organizing and protest in American cities involving racial and/or economic justice. Case studies of mobilization around labor rights, civil rights, immigration, gentrification, and criminal justice reform.

**POLS H226 SOCIAL MOVEMENT THEORY (1.0 Credit)**

*Steve McGovern*

**Division:** Social Science

**Domain(s):** B: Analysis of the Social World

Theoretical analysis of origins and development of mass-based protest movements in the U.S. Scholarly explanations of recruitment of individuals, modes of organization and leadership, strategies and tactics, countermovements, and the impact of movements on policy and politics.

**POLS H227 URBAN POLITICS (1.0 Credit)**

*Steve McGovern*

**Division:** Social Science

Examines who wields power in American cities amidst broad social and economic change. Includes both historical and contemporary analysis of urban politics, with close attention to the influence of race, ethnicity, and class.

(Offered: Fall 2020)

**POLS H228 URBAN POLICY (1.0 Credit)**

*Steve McGovern*

**Division:** Social Science

Assessment of public policies aimed at revitalizing U.S. cities following several decades of suburbanization and capital disinvestment. Focus on economic development, housing and community development, environmental protection, transportation, education, crime, and the management of regional sprawl.

(Offered: Spring 2021)

**POLS H233 PERSPECTIVES ON CIVIL WAR (1.0 Credit)**

While interstate wars have declined in number over the past century, civil wars within states have risen

to become a major threat both within countries and across borders. This course will study the causes and consequences of such conflict as well as the potential ways that outside actors can manage such conflict.

**POLS H235 AFRICAN POLITICS (1.0 Credit)**

*Susanna Wing*

**Division:** Social Science

**Domain(s):** B: Analysis of the Social World

Analysis of political change in Africa from the colonial period to contemporary politics. Selected case studies will be used to address central themes including democracy, human rights, gender, interstate relations, economic development, and globalization. Prerequisite(s): one course in political science or consent of the instructor.

(Offered: Fall 2020)

**POLS H242 WOMEN IN WAR AND PEACE (1.0 Credit)**

*Susanna Wing*

**Division:** Social Science

**Domain(s):** B: Analysis of the Social World

Analysis of the complex issues surrounding women as political actors and the ways in which citizenship relates to men and women differently. Selected cases from the United States, Africa, Latin America, and Asia are studied as we discuss gender, domestic politics, and international relations from a global perspective. Prerequisite(s): one course in POLS or instructor consent

**POLS H245 THE STATE SYSTEM (1.0 Credit)**

*Barak Mendelsohn*

**Division:** Social Science

**Domain(s):** B: Analysis of the Social World

The state-based order originated with the peace of Westphalia in the 17th century. Since that momentous occasion the state system has continuously evolved, spreading from Europe to the rest of the world, and developing norms and institutions to govern international politics. This course offers a survey of the literature concerning the state-based system, past and present. It begins by introducing analytical perspectives on international relations. The second part of the course addresses a range of specific issues, including the evolution of the state system throughout the past four centuries, the preservation of international order through the system's strongest powers, and the establishment of institutions that sustain this order. The course concludes with an exploration of world order under American hegemony, as well as the future of this order in light of the rise of China and globalization processes.

**POLS H246 INTERNATIONAL CRISES (1.0 Credit)***Staff***Division:** Social Science**Domain(s):** B: Analysis of the Social World

This course will investigate how states, leaders, and publics interact during times of international crisis. In addition to studying theoretical and empirical research about diplomacy and the use of force, students will design and engage in multiple simulations across various states and issues to experience the challenges of decision-making during such crises. Prerequisite(s): One course in Political Science

**POLS H248 AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY (1.0 Credit)***Staff***Division:** Social Science**Domain(s):** B: Analysis of the Social World**POLS H253 INTRODUCTION TO TERRORISM STUDIES (1.0 Credit)***Barak Mendelsohn***Division:** Social Science**Domain(s):** B: Analysis of the Social World

After being marginalized in international relations scholarship for years, in the aftermath of 9/11 terrorism has moved to the forefront of scholarly interest. The purpose of this course is to survey the various theories concerning terrorism from diverse perspectives employing rationalist and psychological theories to explain terrorism-related phenomena.

**POLS H261 GLOBAL CIVIL SOCIETY AND TRANSNATIONAL SOCIAL MOVEMENTS (1.0 Credit)***Craig Borowiak***Division:** Social Science**Domain(s):** B: Analysis of the Social World

An introduction to the concept of civil society and how social movements, NGOs and social networks organize across national borders. Attention will be paid both to theory and to particular case studies, including the global justice movement, international human rights advocacy networks, international development NGOs, and transnational environmental activism, among other possibilities.

**(Offered:** Spring 2021)**POLS H262 GRASSROOTS ECONOMIES: CREATING LIVELIHOODS IN AN AGE OF URBAN INEQUALITY (1.0 Credit)***Craig Borowiak***Division:** Social Science**Domain(s):** B: Analysis of the Social World

Examines how grassroots economic initiatives rooted in mutual aid often fill the gaps generated by

urban inequality. Case studies range from guerrilla gardens to artist collectives, with particular focus on Philadelphia. The course also includes outreach and visual studies components. Prerequisite(s): Prerequisites: Priority in registration will be given to students participating in the Philly Program (<https://www.haverford.edu/philly-program>) and Political Science majors. Remaining seats are available to other Tri-Co students, by lottery, if demand exceeds remaining spaces in the course. If you are interested in the Philly Program, you must fill out the application, which is due on Thursday, April 30th at 5 pm. This program includes registering for the program's core course, Race and Place: A Philadelphia Story (SOCI 048I) and either this course (POLS H262) or The Nature of Public Art and the Ethics of Commemoration (PHIL B234). You will be notified by Monday, April 6 if you have been accepted into the program. Those not participating in the Philly program do not need to complete the application and can simply pre-register for the class. The Friday block is an occasional meeting time for program students only.  
**(Offered:** Fall 2020)

**POLS H262A GRASSROOTS ECONOMIES: CREATING LIVELIHOODS IN AN AGE OF URBAN INEQUALITY (1.0 Credit)***Craig Borowiak***Division:** Social Science**Domain(s):** B: Analysis of the Social World

Examines how grassroots economic initiatives rooted in mutual aid often fill the gaps generated by urban inequality. Case studies range from guerrilla gardens to artist collectives, with particular focus on Philadelphia. The course also includes outreach and visual studies components. Prerequisite(s): Prerequisites: Priority in registration will be given to students participating in the Philly Program (<https://www.haverford.edu/philly-program>) and Political Science majors. Remaining seats are available to other Tri-Co students, by lottery, if demand exceeds remaining spaces in the course. If you are interested in the Philly Program, you must fill out the application, which is due on Thursday, April 30th at 5 pm. This program includes registering for the program's core course, Race and Place: A Philadelphia Story (SOCI 048I) and either this course (POLS H262) or The Nature of Public Art and the Ethics of Commemoration (PHIL B234). You will be notified by Monday, April 6 if you have been accepted into the program. Those not participating in the Philly program do not need to complete the application and can simply pre-register for the class. The Friday block is an occasional meeting time for program students only.

**(Offered:** Fall 2020)

**POLS H265 CAPITALISM AND THE HISTORY OF POLITICAL ECONOMIC THOUGHT (1.0 Credit)***Craig Borowiak***Division:** Social Science**Domain(s):** B: Analysis of the Social World

Theoretical approach to the role of politics and markets in modern societies. Draws from the history of political economic thought to evaluate the modern capitalist system and its critics. Key authors include the Mercantilists, Adam Smith, anarchist authors, Karl Marx, Karl Polanyi, F.A. Hayek, J.M. Keynes, and Milton Friedman. Prerequisite(s): One political science course or instructor consent

**POLS H266 SOVEREIGNTY (1.0 Credit)***Paulina Ochoa Espejo***Division:** Social Science

Questions about the meaning and scope of sovereignty emerge in debates in international relations over globalization, in debates in jurisprudence over constitutionalism and adjudication, and in debates in political philosophy over authority and legitimacy. In this course we will examine different conceptions of sovereignty in the light of these debates. In our class discussions, we will analyze theories that we will then apply to historical and contemporary political problems.

**POLS H271 COMPARATIVE AND TRANSNATIONAL STUDIES: FROM KUALA LUMPUR TO KANSAS CITY (1.0 Credit)***Thomas Donahue***Division:** Social Science**Domain(s):** A: Meaning, Interpretation (Texts); B: Analysis of the Social World

How do we make sense of a globalizing world and its workings? This course, which is the gateway to the proposed minor in Comparative & Transnational Studies is for students who are intrigued by that question. So we examine ideas, institutions, and processes in transnational perspective, looking at how important phenomena were shaped and re-shaped as they were passed around the globe and reinterpreted by various actors. We also consider various comparisons of phenomena across countries, cultures, and areas, taking note of how and when they show us similarities we had ignored, or differences we had missed.

**(Offered:** Spring 2021)**POLS H277 INTRODUCTION TO QUANTITATIVE RESEARCH METHODS IN POLITICAL SCIENCE (1.0 Credit)***Aleksandr Fisher***Division:** Quantitative; Social Science**Domain(s):** B: Analysis of the Social World

Introduces students to the quantitative analysis of politics. Students will learn how to formulate a

research question, design a research project, find a relevant dataset, produce descriptive statistics and visualizations, and conduct basic statistical analysis. Prerequisite(s): One introductory course in political science

**(Offered:** Fall 2020)**POLS H283 AFRICAN POLITICS AND LITERATURE (1.0 Credit)***Susanna Wing***Division:** Social Science

The study of politics in Africa through African literature. We explore themes including colonial legacies, gender, race and ethnicity, religion and political transition as they are discussed in African literature. Prerequisite(s): One previous course in political science or instructor consent

**POLS H288 GOVERNING THE GLOBAL ECONOMY IN TIMES OF CRISIS (1.0 Credit)***Craig Borowiak***Division:** Social Science**Domain(s):** B: Analysis of the Social World

An examination of how the global economy is governed and how governance bodies have responded to and/or been complicit in crises and their aftermaths. Critical attention will be paid to power asymmetries in the international system and their consequences. Particular focus will be paid to the history and politics of global finance. Other cases might include the international governance of intellectual property rights, digital governance, and international trade regimes, among other possibilities. Prerequisite(s): One political science course or instructor consent

**POLS H289 REFUGEES AND FORCED MIGRANTS (1.0 Credit)***Anita Isaacs***Division:** Social Science**Domain(s):** B: Analysis of the Social World

Examines the causes and rights of forced migrants and refugees along with the responses and responsibilities of the international community. Focus on Mexico and Central America. Prerequisite(s): One political science course or instructor consent

**(Offered:** Spring 2021)**POLS H292 TURKISH POLITICS (1.0 Credit)***Aaron Stein***Division:** Social Science**Domain(s):** B: Analysis of the Social World

The proposed course focuses on the structure and evolution of Turkish politics from the end of the Ottoman Empire till the present. Special attention is given to Turkey's shift from secularism to Islamism over the last three decades.



(Offered: Fall 2020)

**POLS H301 DEVELOPMENT, HUMAN RIGHTS, AND TRANSNATIONAL INJUSTICES (1.0 Credit)**

*Thomas Donahue*

**Division:** Social Justice; Social Science

**Domain(s):** B: Analysis of the Social World

What are the worldwide obstacles to peace and justice? How can we surmount them? This course examines theories of some of the leading obstacles to peace and justice worldwide, and of what global citizens can do about them. The three obstacles we consider are colonialism and its legacies, whether we live in a global racial order, and whether the global economic order harms the poor and does them a kind of violence. The two solutions we will consider are the project of economic and social development, and the practice of human rights. The course aims, first, to give students some of the knowledge they will need to address these problems and be effective global citizens. Second, to understand some of the major forces that shape the present world order. Third and finally, to hone the skills in analysis, theory-building, and arguing that are highly valued in legal and political advocacy, in public life and the professions, and in graduate school. Crosslisted: Independent College Programs, Political Science (Offered: Fall 2020, Spring 2021)

**POLS H312 POLITICAL IDEOLOGIES IN A WORLD OF IDENTITIES (1.0 Credit)**

*Thomas Donahue*

**Division:** Social Science

**Domain(s):** B: Analysis of the Social World

Millions have sacrificed their lives, or been killed, for political ideologies like liberalism, conservatism, socialism, populism, or liberationism; millions more have sacrificed or otherwise died for identities, like worker or capitalist, Muslim or Christian, African or European, female or male, trans- or cisgender. Why? What do identities and ideologies offer to people? What are the leading political ideologies' key concepts and doctrines? What key norms govern attributing the leading identities to self and others? Do some ideologies favor certain identities, or vice versa? We develop tools for judging the merits of any ideology, or any interpretation of an identity. Pre-requisite(s): one course in political science or philosophy

**POLS H313 ARMED NON-STATE ACTORS IN INTERNATIONAL POLITICS (1.0 Credit)**

*Barak Mendelsohn*

**Division:** Social Science

**Domain(s):** B: Analysis of the Social World

The principal goal of the course is to expose students to various types of armed nonstate actors and gain insights into their motives and activities. The

course also introduces analytical lens through which scholars have sought to conceptualize the interplay between states and armed nonstate actors. Prerequisite(s): One course in political science or instructor consent

**POLS H315 PUBLIC POLICY ANALYSIS (1.0 Credit)**

*Zachary Oberfield*

**Division:** Social Science

**Domain(s):** B: Analysis of the Social World

Using theories drawn from a variety of subfields, this course helps students develop a deeper understanding of how public policy is made. It also introduces students to policy analysis: the art and science of providing problem-solving advice to policymakers. Prerequisite(s): Junior or senior standing or instructor consent

(Offered: Fall 2020)

**POLS H316 RACE, POVERTY, AND THE U.S. WELFARE STATE (1.0 Credit)**

*Zachary Oberfield*

**Division:** Social Science

**Domain(s):** B: Analysis of the Social World

This course is designed to help students gain a deeper understanding of the contours and politics of the U.S. welfare state: the cluster of policies ostensibly designed to address poverty and inequality. Throughout the course, we will use the lens of race in understanding these policies and politics.

**POLS H318 CONTEMPORARY POLITICAL IDEAS AMID GLOBAL TRANSFORMATIONS (1.0 Credit)**

*Thomas Donahue*

**Division:** Social Science

**Domain(s):** A: Meaning, Interpretation (Texts); B:

Analysis of the Social World

This course examines how contemporary political ideas and movements, like nations, global solutions, or solidarity are affected by the global transformations that are now underway in the wake of COVID-19. We will explore how these transformations are reshaping these ideas, in light of the particular interests of students in the course.

(Offered: Fall 2020)

**POLS H320 DEMOCRACY IN AMERICA (1.0 Credit)**

*Steve McGovern*

**Division:** Social Science

**Domain(s):** B: Analysis of the Social World

This seminar explores some of the most pressing challenges to American democracy today, including the intensification of ideological and partisan polarization, increasing economic inequality, ongoing constraints faced by marginalized groups, and

concerns about the diminishing quality of citizen participation in politics.  
(Offered: Fall 2020)

**POLS H330 TOPICS IN COMPARATIVE POLITICS (1.0 Credit)**

*Susanna Wing*

**Division:** Social Science

**Domain(s):** B: Analysis of the Social World

This is a workshop course built around student interests and senior thesis topics. We will explore issues including, but not limited to, ethnicity, religion, gender and the state. We will look at how states pursue both political and economic development and how they cope with violent conflict. Prerequisite(s): Three courses in POLS AND junior or senior status, or instructor consent

(Offered: Fall 2020)

**POLS H331 RESEARCH AND WRITING IN COMPARATIVE POLITICS (1.0 Credit)**

*Anita Isaacs*

**Division:** Social Science

**Domain(s):** B: Analysis of the Social World

This seminar on research and writing in comparative politics seeks to foster advanced reading, analysis, writing and workshopping skills among advanced political science majors Prerequisite(s): 5 courses in political science at the introductory and intermediate levels

(Offered: Fall 2020)

**POLS H332 SHORT OF WAR: DETERRENCE AND COMPELLENCE IN INTERNATIONAL POLITICS (1.0 Credit)**

*Barak Mendelsohn*

**Division:** Social Science

**Domain(s):** B: Analysis of the Social World

The course examines the way international relations' theory addresses policies short of war, particularly the security policies states use to promote their political and strategic objectives, to dissuade rivals from attacking, to manage crisis situations, and to promote peaceful resolution to interstate conflicts. Prerequisite(s): One political science course or instructor permission

(Offered: Fall 2020)

**POLS H333 INTERNATIONAL SECURITY (1.0 Credit)**

*Barak Mendelsohn*

**Division:** Social Science

**Domain(s):** B: Analysis of the Social World

This course offers an introduction to the study of international security. It considers examples from history and addresses contemporary issues, while introducing and evaluating the political theories that have been used by scholars to explain those

events. The principal goal of the course is to develop a general set of analytical approaches that can be used to gain insight into the nature of world politics - past, present and future. The first section introduces key conceptual issues and review main theoretical approaches in the field. The second section addresses specific issues in international security such as war, military doctrines, alliances, crisis, deterrence, grand strategy, and proliferation.

**POLS H334 POLITICS OF VIOLENCE (1.0 Credit)**

*Anita Isaacs*

**Division:** Social Science

**Domain(s):** B: Analysis of the Social World

This semester the seminar will focus on the causes and manifestations of structural and political violence in the Americas. Topics include the rise of white supremacy in the United States, and escalating political repression, gang violence and organized crime in Mexico and Central America. Cross-listed: Political Science/Peace, Justice and Human Rights

**POLS H336 DEMOCRACY AND DEMOCRATIZATION (1.0 Credit)**

*Anita Isaacs*

**Division:** Social Science

The processes of democratization in historical and comparative perspective. It investigates the meaning of democracy and assesses factors that facilitate or impede democratic transition and durability; including strategies of elites, civil society and external actors, civil-military relations, institutional design and the relationship between democratization and economic transformation. Prerequisite(s): Junior or senior standing or instructor consent

(Offered: Spring 2021)

**POLS H342 THE POLITICS OF GENDER AND SEXUALITY (1.0 Credit)**

*Susanna Wing*

**Division:** Social Science

**Domain(s):** B: Analysis of the Social World

Advanced course explores the politics of gender and sexuality in comparative perspective. Includes readings in feminist theory and methods and examines the state and power structures through a gender sensitive lens. Cases primarily from Africa, Europe and the United States. Crosslisted: Gender and Sexuality concentration. Prerequisite(s): Previous course in gender and sexuality and Domain B (or SO), POLS 242 (Women in War and Peace) recommended.

(Offered: Spring 2021)

**POLS H342B THE POLITICS OF GENDER AND SEXUALITY (1.0 Credit)**

*Susanna Wing*

**Division:** Social Science

**Domain(s):** B: Analysis of the Social World  
Advanced course explores the politics of gender and sexuality in comparative perspective. Includes readings in feminist theory and methods and examines the state and power structures through a gender sensitive lens. Cases primarily from Africa, Europe and the United States. Crosslisted: Gender and Sexuality concentration. Prerequisite(s): Previous course in gender and sexuality and Domain B (or SO), POLS 242 (Women in War and Peace) recommended.  
(Offered: Spring 2021)

**POLS H366 ADVANCED RESEARCH IN GLOBAL GOVERNANCE (1.0 Credit)**

*Craig Borowiak*

**Division:** Social Science

**Domain(s):** B: Analysis of the Social World  
Research seminar designed for students interested in working on long research papers or preparing for senior theses related to the global governance subfield or similar fields. The course will cover research methodologies, writing strategies, and discussions of contemporary global governance scholarship, which will be used to anchor the course thematically and to model different approaches to research. Students' independent research will be complemented with regular and intensive collaborative workshopping of one another's work in class. Prerequisite(s): Three courses in POLS AND junior or senior status, or instructor consent  
(Offered: Fall 2020)

**POLS H377 JUNIOR RESEARCH SEMINAR: POLITICAL ECONOMY (1.0 Credit)**

*Giri Parameswaran*

**Division:** Social Science

**Domain(s):** A: Meaning, Interpretation (Texts); B: Analysis of the Social World; C: Physical and Natural Processes  
The focus is on critical reading of seminal works and developing students own research skills. Topics include: models of elections and application of voting models to redistributive policies; legislative bargaining; interest groups/lobbying; dynamic models of fiscal policy, debt and more. Crosslisted: Economics, Political Science Prerequisite(s): MATH 118 and ECON 300 or ECON B200 at Bryn Mawr; MATH 121 (or MATH 216) is desirable

**POLS H400 SENIOR THESIS (1.0 Credit)**

*Anita Isaacs, Barak Mendelsohn, Craig Borowiak, Steve McGovern, Susanna Wing, Thomas Donahue, Zachary Oberfield*

**Division:** Social Science

**Domain(s):** B: Analysis of the Social World

This course consists of tutorials and intensive research, culminating in a senior thesis.  
Prerequisite(s): Limited to political science senior majors  
(Offered: Spring 2021)

**POLS H460 TEACHING ASSISTANT (1.0 Credit)**

*Anita Isaacs*

**Division:** Social Science

Teaching assistant. Prerequisite(s): Instructor consent  
(Offered: Spring 2021)

**POLS H480 INDEPENDENT STUDY (0.5 Credit)**

*Staff*

**Division:** Social Science

This course is conducted through individual consultation; supervised independent reading and research is expected; research papers and oral reports on special topics are based upon the individual interests of advanced students. Prerequisite(s): Instructor consent  
(Offered: Spring 2021)