

# POLITICAL SCIENCE COURSES

## FALL SEMESTER, 2008

### **Y103 Introduction to American Politics (there are multiple sections of Y103)**

This course examines the constitutional principles, institutions, processes, and personalities of American politics and government. The topics typically covered include the Constitution; the legislative, executive, and judicial branches of government; political parties and interest groups; the nomination and election processes; public opinion and mass media; and public policy. The course discusses not only the contemporary American political institutions and processes, but also develops the historical, social, economic, and cultural context within which these institutions and processes must operate.

### **Y105 Introduction to Political Theory**

**DVD**

**Bartky**

Political theory confronts both answerable and unanswerable questions about politics. It seeks certainty but often ends up with ambiguity. Students in this course will ask and answer both kinds of questions--in examinations, in essays and in discussion. They will discover that our definition of "politics" may have a lot to do with our contemporary confusions and disillusionments, that our expectations affect adversely the quality of political life.

### **Y109 International Relations**

**3:00- 4:15pm MW**

**Routsong**

A study of the interplay among nations. Brief forays into other disciplines besides politics will include philosophy, law, economics, conflict resolution, psychology and sociology. Chief concerns are strategies of diplomacy, the struggle for power, economic relationships and violent conflicts. Important historical developments and major approaches will be covered in each topic before taking a more critical approach to the current issues and debates.

### **Y150 Foundations of Community Advocacy**

**Internet**

**Downs**

This course is an introduction to the Certificate in Civic Education and Public Advocacy (CCEPA). The CCEPA is one of the ways that IPFW is institutionalizing an educational experience that offers students an intellectual and experiential understanding of civic engagement. This course will prepare students to learn more than the basic structure of government. It will prepare students to learn the historical and philosophical foundations of our democracy and to question long-established ideas.

### **Y200/Y401 Global Economy and Human Consequences**

**4:30- 5:45pm MW**

**Routsong**

A normative approach to the study of international trade, finance and economic institutions. A brief history of the international economic system will serve as an introduction for examining the competing perspectives on contemporary moral issues in international political economy. Issues include environmental standards, child labor laws, protectionism in agriculture, the IMF, the developing world's debt and foreign aid.

### **Y200/Y401 Government and Business**

**Internet**

**Routsong**

An historical and comparative overview of the development of the laws and structure of American business. Contemporary issues such as globalization, terrorism, energy, defense and the environment will provide a platform upon which to examine larger questions of moral and philosophical importance.

### **Y200/Y401 Law & American Culture**

**6:00- 8:45pm M**

**Rush**

Law plays a very special role in the American culture. Statutes, judicial opinions and legal procedures establish norms and either accommodate or hinder social change. Indeed, law in the American culture is central in our secular faith; it helps us define ourselves, our society and America's place in the world.

This course will consider a variety of legal and law-related materials which either demonstrate important features of American law or raise questions about law's role in the American culture. The materials will be studied in roughly the order of their publication or historical occurrence in order to reveal sequentially the ways Americans have thought about law over time. Students are expected to reflect critically on the nature, role and importance of law. Good reading and writing skills are required.

### **Y303 Formation of Public Policy in the U.S.**

**9:00- 9:50am MWF**

**Downs**

This course is designed to provide students with an overview of the formation of public policy in the United States. Specifically, the course will highlight the stages of policy formation; the arena in which policy is formed; the actors in the formation of policy; and provide an introduction to the tools used to analyze policies. Throughout the semester students will be exposed to policy making on the local, state, and federal level, but particular attention will be paid to a topical policy.

### **Y304 Constitutional Law**

**1:30- 2:45pm TR**

**Ulmschneider**

This course examines the development of American governmental institutions and powers through analysis of Supreme Court cases. It will explore, in particular, the following topics: presidential power, judicial review, federalism, and the commerce power. There are no prerequisites required for this course.

**Y317 Voting, Elections and Public Opinion****11:00-11:50am MWF****Wolf**

Most people would agree that in general (though not entirely) the health of democracy depends on how well the government responds to the will of its citizens. Two primary methods of gauging what the public believes are elections and public opinion. This course examines the dynamics of public opinion, voting, and how electoral campaigns affect voting. How do citizens form their opinions about politics and political matters? How do these attitudes help formulate vote choices? Further, how do election campaigns influence attitudes? Do they? What is the role of the media? Do public opinion and elections provide the best means of conveying the public interest to elected officials? This is an especially exciting and timely subject given the 2004 elections.

**Y318 American Presidency****3:00- 4:15pm TR****Bartky**

An investigation into the development of the presidency from the founding of the American political order to the present. We shall pay particular attention to the purpose of executive power in a liberal democracy and the importance of leadership for the maintenance of democracy in times of crisis.

**Y339 Middle Eastern Politics\* (TV Studio)****9:00-10:15am TR****Lutz**

Who are the Taliban? What is the present government of Iraq like? What is the difference between Shia and Sunni Muslims? Who are the Kurds, and how are they different from Arabs? What do the Palestinians (and the Israelis) want? Why is the Middle East so important and in the news? How do its governments, peoples, groups, and institutions influence domestic and international politics and U.S. politics? How are they likely to influence them in the future? Requirements: two hour exams, a final exam, and a paper. This course meets the non-Western cultural studies requirement in Arts and Sciences and Area VI of the General Education Requirements.

**\*Eligible for graduate credit. (Also available on College Access Channel 5, Verizon FiOS Ch. 30, and DVD.)**

**Y350 Politics of the European Union****3:00- 4:15pm TR****Ortsey**

In the aftermath of World War II, representatives from several Western European countries met to find ways of preventing another pan-European conflict through trade. The agreements these diplomats reached on their trade in coal and steel have been transformed into a quasi-confederal European common market, complete with its own currency, parliament and flag. Now that several Central and Eastern European countries have joined or will soon join the EU, that dream of a Europe without the threat of widespread war looks closer to fruition than perhaps at any previous time. The purpose of this course is to examine the development of the European Union and to learn about its complex institutions, treaties and policies. We will also attempt to forecast the future evolution of the organization, an issue that is much debated within the EU. Given the long-term economic and political importance of the EU to the United States, this class should be of interest to students of many majors, including business, history, economics and political science.

**Y381 History of Political Theory I****10:30-11:45am TR****Bartky**

A careful reading and discussion of select texts from Plato through Machiavelli. The texts are chosen for the influence they have had on the way we think, speak, and act in the political world.

**Y395 Quantitative Political Analysis****10:00-10:50am MWF****Lutz**

"There are three kinds of lies: lies, damned lies, and statistics." (Disraeli, British Prime Minister) This course is an introduction to statistics and methodology in political science. It will deal with the setting up and testing of theories with the various statistical techniques commonly used. The emphasis will partially be on choosing and using the right methods in different situations. No significant mathematical knowledge is assumed for the course. By the end of the semester you should be able to tell when statistical methods are being properly used and what the weaknesses of various reported statistics are (and thus dispute or agree with Disraeli). Required: three exams during the semester, a series of exercises, and a final

**Y490 Senior Seminar: Realignment/Dealignment****1:30- 4:15pm M****Wolf**

After Republican victories in the 2000, 2002, and 2004 elections, some scholars have argued that Republican success has stemmed from a continued realignment of the American public to the Republicans. Other scholars have disagreed and have said a Democratic majority is emerging in the United States. Who is correct? What do they mean by the terms realignment and dealignment? Why is it important? We struggle with these questions because of our difficulty with parties generally. Since colonial times Americans have distrusted parties, yet a majority of Americans identify themselves with a party. We deplore partisan hacks, but America's preeminent party scholar once said: "democracy is unthinkable save in terms of parties." In this class, we study the connection between parties and individual citizens. Why is it that more Americans either are switching parties or not thinking of themselves as associated with any political party? What does it mean for electoral politics and American democratic governance?

**Y398 Internship in Urban Institutions (3-6 cr.)****arranged****Downs****Y482 Practicum (3-6 cr.)****arranged****Downs**

Permission of Andrew Downs required. For more information and an application, please contact the Political Science Department, CM 209, at 481-6686 or go to the department website at <http://www.ipfw.edu/pols/opportunities/internships.shtml>