

**POLITICAL SCIENCE COURSES
SPRING SEMESTER, 2007**

**Y101 Introduction to Political Science
Downs**

11:00-11:50am MWF

(Class Meets First Five Weeks)

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.

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

Y105 Introduction to Political Theory (also available via DVD)

10:30-11:45am TR

Bartky

Political philosophy is the oldest and most provocative of the social sciences. Political philosophy is traditional as it examines the history of thought, giving a serious hearing to long-established ideas. Yet political philosophy is also radical since it compels us to question the truth of those ideas. The readings, reflecting the breadth and depth of political life, provide an unparalleled opportunity for students to wrestle with fundamental questions about politics. In order to wrestle with these questions we shall pay close attention both to the structure of the texts and to the substantive arguments of the authors.

Y107 Introduction to Comparative Politics

11:00-11:50am MWF

Lutz

Why are European governments different from that of the United States, or are they? What is happening in Eastern Europe and the old Soviet Union? What does the future hold for Asia, Latin America, and Africa? Where is Vanatu? While the course will not necessarily answer all these questions, it will suggest possible answers by analyzing the governments and government institutions, political parties and movements, and underlying social and cultural characteristics of various countries in different parts of the world. Requirements: three exams during the course of the semester and a final.

**Y200/Y401 Politics and Film
M Ortsey**

6:00- 7:15pm

6:00- 8:45pm W

From the start of the modern film industry in the early 20th century, political themes have been an important plot line for innumerable movies. The motion picture industry has also, for both good and ill, found itself enmeshed in the politics of the day. This course will investigate both of these facets of the politics of film. Students will be given the opportunity to learn how various political science theories appear in a number of assigned movies, and will discover how movies have affected (and reflected) the politics of the society around them. Topics that will be discussed in this class include war movies, American political institutions in film, social issues and film, and how the media are biased politically. Note: this course satisfies part of the requirements for the Film and Media Studies minor.

Y200/Y401 Promise and Problems of Democracy

12:00- 1:15pm TR

Bartky

An examination of the promise and problem of democratic governance and civic education. The course introduces students to the fundamental issues of democratic politics through a close reading of classic texts in the history of political philosophy. Students will also engage in a discussion of the requirements for the establishment and maintenance of a democratic political order in the United States through an exploration of key arguments from the Founding to the present era.

Y200/Y401 Political Crimes and Trials

1:30- 2:45pm TR

Ulmschneider

Heard about the future trial of Saddam Hussein? Wondering what war crimes trials are all about? Curious what the trials of the "Salem Witches," Nelson Mandela, and Martha Stewart have in common? This course will address these questions. Specifically, it will explore the concept of political trials—what they are and whether they are purely a weapon of political power or whether they contribute positively to democratic societies. To this end the class will examine numerous trials throughout history and in various countries including the trials of Socrates, the leaders of the former Yugoslavia, and the Nazi Saboteurs of 1942, the trial cited by the Bush administration as support for trying suspected al Qaeda terrorists by military tribunal.

**Y200/Y401 International Human Rights
WF Toole**

12:00- 1:15pm

During the past half-century, human rights concerns have come to be recognized as important by many countries and international organizations. This course examines both the violation and the protection of human rights around the contemporary world. It considers several philosophical notions of human rights, explores the legal underpinnings of human rights protection, and examines different types of human rights violations. The course includes detailed study of human rights abuses in countries such as Cambodia, Iraq, Rwanda, and the former Yugoslavia.

Y200/Y401 Terrorism and Tyranny
TR Lutz

9:00-10:15am

Why does terrorism occur? What are the causes? Can it be prevented? Who are the targets? Terrorist violence has actually been present in the world for over 2,000 years. It has included violence based in ethnic differences, religious differences, violence involving ideologies of the left and the right, and terrorist practices by states against their own citizens (tyranny), all of which will be considered in this course. This course is offered via College Cable-Access Channel 5 and is available via DVD.

Y205 Elements of Political Analysis

3:00- 4:15pm MW

Toole

Even the best of ideas are of little use if not communicated well. For students of political science, communicating ideas effectively requires both a good command of written English and an understanding of the logic and methods of political inquiry. This course is designed to teach students how to write clearly, how to construct useful and interesting research questions, how to make and support analytical arguments, how to use theories and construct hypotheses, and how to use basic methods of political science in writing undergraduate papers. In addition to various shorter assignments, students will write one major research paper.

Y301 Political Parties/Interest Groups

11:00-11:50am MWF

Wolf

This course explores the development of political parties and interest groups in American politics. We will study America's long-held suspicion concerning political parties and special interests, but shall focus as well on the relevance of parties and interest groups to the maintenance of democracy in America. In particular, the course highlights the functions of parties and interest groups for contemporary politics, political institutions, and elections.

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.

Y306 State Politics in the U.S.

1:30- 2:45pm MW

Wolf

Thanks to federalism, the politics and government of the fifty states present a dizzying variety to those who look closely. By comparing regional and individual state political cultures, however, sense can be made of the differences. Party systems, political institutions, public policy, and bureaucratic organization constitute the basic framework for the analysis of state politics in this course. Students will take three examinations, write weekly exercises and complete a short research project.

Y324 Women and World Politics

4:30- 5:45pm MW

In recent years, a growing number of scholars, including but not limited to feminist scholars, have challenged traditional approaches to the study of world politics for neglecting gender as an explanatory variable. According to these scholars, gender, conceived of as socially constructed notions of masculinity and femininity, fundamentally shapes world politics. Moreover, many scholars contend that men and women participate in international relations different ways and that issues and events in world politics have divergent effects on men and women. In this course, we will examine the relationship between gender and politics, focusing on how gender influences politics and how politics impacts gender. Drawing from several fields of inquiry (feminist theory, international relations, and comparative politics), we will cover a variety of topics including war and violence, economic development, political participation, culture, women's movements, and human rights. Examining these topics from a "gender perspective," we will consider the ways in which this perspective is useful in broadening our understanding of world politics.

Y328 Women and the Law

10:30-11:45am TR

Ulmscl

The course examines the origins and theoretical explanations of women's status in the legal tradition of the United States as well as the relationship between the law and changing political, economic, and social systems. Students will gain a

basic knowledge of those aspects of the law that affect women today, the prospects for change, and the various proposals for reform.

Y384 American Political Ideas II

3:00- 4:15pm TR

Bartky

This seminar will engage students in a dialogue with the great texts and ideas that have made the American political experiment. During this semester readings will be drawn from texts from the post-Civil War period to recent times.

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.

Y398 Internship in Urban Institutions (3-6 cr.)

arranged

Downs

Y482 Practicum (3-6 cr.)

arranged

Downs

Permission of Prof. Downs required. For more information, please contact the Political Science Department, CM 209, at 481-6686.

Y490 Senior Seminar: U.S. and Iraq

1:30- 4:15pm

W Lutz

The senior seminar will deal with the conflicts between Iraq and the United States, focusing on American foreign policy concerns and the situation in Iraq and Iraqi actions towards its neighbors.