

POLITICAL SCIENCE

Political Science aims to create informed, engaged and capable citizens by deepening knowledge and understanding about government and politics more broadly. Political Science is one of the oldest academic disciplines because human beings are political beings. However, the modern-day demands of business and non-government organizations also require knowledge about government, and a keen eye to anticipate political events. As a discipline with a wide variety of approaches and study areas, political science will teach you many critical skills like writing, analysis, research skills and even strategy and tactics. Political scientists can be found succeeding in all walks of life due to this diverse skill set, but also due to the winning mentality which the discipline instils. Political scientists can be found working for government, but also succeeding in business, education, law and non-government organization

Course Structure

(12 Core Courses + 3 Electives= 15 Courses)

| Semester | Core Course | Credits |
|----------|--------------------------------------|---------|
| 3 | International Relations Theory | 4 |
| | Comparative Politics | 4 |
| | Understanding China | 4 |
| | | |
| 4 | Political Behaviour | 4 |
| | Public Policy Analysis | 4 |
| | Indian Politics and Political System | 4 |
| | Elective 1 | 4 |
| | | |
| 5 | American Foreign Policy | 4 |
| | Labour Politics | 4 |
| | Gender and Politics | 4 |

| | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|---|
| | Elective 2 | 4 |
| | | |
| 6 | Research Methods in Political Science | 4 |
| | Politics and the Mass Media | 4 |
| | International Organizations | 4 |
| | Elective 3 | 4 |

Semester 1

Society and Economy

Understanding Evidence

Semester 2

Social and Political Organization

Political Ideologies

Core Courses

International Relations Theory (4 Credits)

The course aims to introduce the key assumptions of the international relations theory focusing on the problems of war, peace and foreign policy decision-making. The course combines historic approach and analysis of the modern political problems.

Comparative Politics (4 Credits)

This course offers an introduction to major concepts and theories in comparative politics, familiarizing students with the essential tools of comparative analysis. The objective of this course is two-fold: to provide students with a theoretical grounding through which to understand the political world we inhabit, as well as to introduce the academic field of comparative politics, along with its empirical expectations and modes of argumentation.

Understanding China (4 Credits)

This course adopts multi-disciplinary perspectives to examine significant and complex issues of China in the past and present. With a general survey of China, this course discusses China's historical development, revolutionary past, cultural traditions, formal political structure, the market-oriented economic reform, and geographic, demographic and linguistic diversity, as well as contemporary issues of environment, resistance and mass media. Central themes throughout the course include China's cultural identity, ethnicity, state-society relations, continuities and changes in China's socio-political values, and China's role in the global order. The purpose of this course is to provide students with a base of knowledge of China's historical

and contemporary experiences and contexts. It aims to help students understand how China's historical legacy impacted today's society, and how contemporary politics and economics comprehensively transformed China.

Political Behaviour (4 Credits)

This course is an introduction to the study of comparative political behaviour. We will survey the major theoretical approaches and empirical research on the behaviour of non-elite political actors. "Behaviour" is interpreted quite broadly including psychological attachments, attitudes, beliefs and cognitive biases, in addition to various forms of overt behaviour such as voting, social movements and mass protest.

Public Policy analysis (4 Credits)

This course reviews significant theories of the public policy process and considers the practical implications for the critical challenges in politics and governance. These theories offer exciting insights into why specific issues enter the policy agenda. In contrast, others remain excluded, how institutions are set up to regulate policymaking activities, and what arrangements can lead to a material improvement in policy responsiveness. Students are encouraged to address issues highlighted by the theories using real-world, comparative cases.

Research Methods in Political Science (4 Credits)

Political scientists use a variety of methods to describe and explain political phenomena. Each method has its purposes, assumptions, and limitations. This course covers the methods most commonly used in the study of politics and policies. Topics include the nature of scientific inquiry; measurement and causal inference; the conduct of case studies and field research; the design of surveys and experiments; the description and analysis of data; and research ethics.

American Foreign Policy (4 Credits)

This course will discuss an essential aspect of American foreign policy - the various ways the U.S. government tries to influence developments within other states by intervening in their domestic affairs. The goal of this course is to provide a better understanding of such interventions in general and a complete picture of this frequently neglected aspect of American foreign policy in particular. Accordingly, this course will explain various interventions, their effectiveness in achieving their goals and their effects on the target and others. It will also discuss various historical cases of American interventions in-depth ranging from the early 20th century to the present, widening the depth and breadth of student knowledge on American foreign policy. The course will cover both military and non-military forms of interventions.

International Organization (4 Credits)

This course offers a comprehensive introduction to the theory and practice of international organizations, with particular reference to the role of formal international organizations. International organizations to be discussed range from the League of Nations to the United Nations, from the World Bank to the World Trade Organization, from the European Union to the African Union, from NAFTA to ASEAN, and from NATO to the International Criminal Court.

Politics and the Mass Media (4 Credits)

This course features extensive discussion of current events. Each week we will examine the most significant recent developments in politics and the media. Topics include Media Bias, Political Coverage and Political Journalism in the Digital Age and the relationship between information and entertainment.

Indian Politics and Political System (4 Credits)

The course supplements and enhances the understanding of students about the philosophical, theoretical and functional aspects of Indian Polity. The course starts from the varied perspectives regarding Indian Political System followed by the Constitutional provisions and Social Movements in India.

Gender and Politics (4 Credits)

This course examines how women shape and are shaped by politics and public policy. We explore the history, approaches, findings and controversy in research about women in politics and political science from a range of theoretical and methodological approaches.

Labour Politics (4 Credits)

The class provides an overview of labour and employment relations, including the perspective of working people and their organisations. Some of the topics covered in this course include the changing nature of work, workers and workers' organisations; the impact of technology, the economic cycle, class, immigration, race, ethnicity and gender; the role of government in labour policy; the history of unions, their role in politics and challenges the labour movement faces today. Following this course, students will understand the policy and political issues relating to labour and the political nature of work.

Optional Courses

Religion and Politics (4 Credits)

The course explores the complex relationships between religion, politics and society around the world. It provides an understanding of one of the central problems of our time: the role of religion in society and domestic, international and It also looks at transnational politics and how religion is in turn shaped by global and local cultural, social, and political trends.

Multiculturalism (4 Credits)

This course explores political-theoretical questions associated with contemporary debates about multiculturalism. It confronts normative issues concerning what it means for a state and its citizens to give "recognition" to particular cultures in societies with diverse cultural attachments and dominant cultural tendencies.

Comparative Asian Government and Politics (4 Credits)

The course introduces students to the field of comparative politics that gives students a basic understanding of the political development of the countries of the Asian region. It examines the domestic political systems of Asian countries, covering the topics including human rights, political parties, civil society, multiculturalism, federalism, regionalism and political Islam. The unit will enable students to analyse different interpretations of political development in Asia, to evaluate the political development of Asian states, to evaluate the character and prospects of Asian regionalism, and to examine the rise of political Islam and the Islamisation efforts in Muslim-majority states in Southeast Asia

Political Sociology (4 Credits)

This course introduces students to the social context of politics and selected topics in political sociology including state formation, social movements, political parties, voting, and terrorism. Political Sociology studies the relationship between politics and society and intersects between Political Science and Sociology. It discusses in depth the nature and distribution of power in our society

Independent Research Project (4 Credits)

Students selecting this course will complete an approved research project supervised by an appropriate faculty member

Course Coordinator: Dr. Timothy Kerswell (TSLAS)

Political Science Minor - Course Structure

International Relations Theory (4 Credits)

The course aims to introduce the key assumptions of the international relations theory focusing on the problems of war, peace and foreign policy decision-making. The course combines historic approach and analysis of the modern political problems.

Comparative Politics (4 Credits)

This course offers an introduction to major concepts and theories in comparative politics, familiarising students with the essential tools of comparative analysis. The objective of this course is two-fold: to provide students with a theoretical grounding through which to understand the political world we inhabit, as well as to introduce the academic field of comparative politics, along with its empirical expectations and modes of argumentation.

Indian Politics and Political System (4 Credits)

The course supplements and enhances the understanding of students about the philosophical, theoretical and functional aspects of Indian Polity. The course starts from the varied perspectives regarding Indian Political System followed by the Constitutional provisions and Social Movements in India.

Understanding China (4 Credits)

This course adopts multi-disciplinary perspectives to examine significant and complex issues of China in the past and present. With a general survey of China, this course discusses China's historical development, revolutionary past, cultural traditions, formal political structure, the market-oriented economic reform, and geographic, demographic and linguistic diversity, as well as contemporary issues of environment, resistance and mass media. Central themes throughout the course include China's cultural identity, ethnicity, state-society relations, continuities and changes in China's socio-political values, and China's role in the global order. The purpose of this course is to provide students with a base of knowledge of China's historical and contemporary experiences and contexts. It aims to help students understand how China's historical legacy impacted today's society, and how contemporary politics and economics comprehensively transformed China.

American Foreign Policy (4 Credits)

This course will discuss an essential aspect of American foreign policy - the various ways the U.S. government tries to influence developments within other states by intervening in their domestic affairs. The goal of this course is to provide a better understanding of such interventions in general and a complete picture of this frequently neglected aspect of American foreign policy in particular. Accordingly, this course will explain various interventions, their effectiveness in achieving their goals and their effects on the target and others. It will also discuss various historical cases of American interventions in-depth ranging from the early 20th century to the present, widening the depth and breadth of student knowledge on American foreign policy. The course will cover both military and non-military forms of interventions.

Gender and Politics (4 Credits)

This course examines how women shape and are shaped by politics and public policy. We explore the history, approaches, findings and controversy in research about women in politics and political science from a range of theoretical and methodological approaches.