

DESCRIPTIONS OF INTERIM, SUMMER, AND FALL PSC 321 and PSC 421 (W) COURSES:

INTERIM 2020

PSC 321-901 Diplomatic Simulations (DeRouen) (online)

An introduction to diplomacy and international relations using an interactive computer simulation. The simulation facilitates active learning as students are broken into teams, create their own countries, and make foreign policy decisions that characterize real world politics. **THIS COURSE REQUIRES DAILY, RELIABLE INTERNET CONNECTION.**

SUMMER 2020

PSC 421-050 (W) Ancient Political Theory (McKnight) Summer I, M-F 9:00 am

Students will read major texts from Ancient Greece, including work by Socrates, Plato, Sophocles, Ovid, and Euripedes. The objectives of the course are to train students in the reading of complex texts in political theory, and to develop their skill at writing papers on topics related to the works in question. Students will write on topics such as love, revenge, civil society, family, ambition, and the nature of evil weaving together their personal perspective with that found in the course texts. Students will learn how specific philosophers understood central problems of the human condition, and develop their ability to argue in support of a diverse set of positions.

FALL 2020

PSC 321 -001 Inter-Organizational Relations (Sungho Park) MWF 3:00 pm

Organizations in the public sector increasingly rely on a variety of interorganizational relations in order to improve political decision-making, implement public policies efficiently, and solve complex problems effectively. This course aims to provide undergraduate students with an overview of managing interorganizational relations in the public sector. It includes but is not limited to the following topics: different types of interorganizational relations (e.g., inter-agency, inter-governmental, and inter-sectoral relationships), theories of interorganizational relations, political and practical issues pertinent to managing interorganizational relations, and skills and strategies needed for the management of interorganizational relations such as networks and collaborative governance.

PSC 321-002 “The Bramble Bush” (Linken) MWF 1:00 pm

Practical examination of law school and the practice of law, including case briefing, active learning in class, the use of precedent, and methods of advocacy.

PSC 321-003 Current Issues in Global Politics (Kalaycioglu) MWF 10 am

Pundits, scholars and politicians alike are worried about the future of international institutions established after World War II. These worries focused initially on the increasing number of states that are part of international institutions. But they have expanded to include the unwillingness of founding or key members, such as the United States and the United Kingdom, to take part in global governance. In the last half decade, states have withdrawn from existing agreements, like the Paris Accords, or established of parallel institutions, such as the Asian Infrastructure and Investment Bank. This class investigates the contemporary challenges to global governance, using international relations theories, and concrete cases. The class will explore what possibilities of global cooperation exist for problems that require international coordination, such as nuclear weapons, environmental catastrophes and health epidemics.

PSC 321-004 Political Participation (Davis) TR 9:30 am

Voting is the single most important task charged to citizens in democracy. So, who vote votes? Why do they vote? And how do they choose which candidates to support? This course explores voting and political participation in the contemporary United States. Students will develop a working knowledge of the history of the franchise and engage with popular and academic work that analyzes turnout. From institutional constraints to individual-level decisions, the semester will provide a broad overview into logic of political participation that equips students to better understand the social and historical forces that shapes electoral and policy outcomes.

PSC 321-005 Religion in American Politics (Hawley) TR 12:30 pm

This class examines the relationship between religion and American politics from the colonial period until today. It discusses the role religion played in crucial moments of American history, such as the American Revolution, the battle over slavery, the question of prohibition, the Civil Rights movement, as well as contemporary U.S partisan politics.

PSC 321-006 TBA (TBA)

PSC 421-001 (W) Constitutional Law: Free Speech (Smith) TR 12:30 PM

This course will examine the law and politics of government restrictions on expression in particular contexts, and the role of free speech in politics. One of the contexts will be speech on college campuses. As this course is one that satisfies the “W” requirement, writing proficiency within this discipline is required for a passing grade in this course. A student who does not write with the skill normally required of an upper-division student will not earn a passing grade, no matter how well the student performs in other areas of the course.

PSC 421-002 (W) Law and Society: Theory and Applications (Linken) MWF 11 am

Law is traditionally studied vocationally. That is, students of the law often learn about it strategically, in order to eventually write legislation, advocate for a client, or decide cases. In this class, students will be introduced to a different way of studying law, one rooted in the interdisciplinary field of legal studies (sometimes known as “law and society”) that draws on knowledge, methodologies, and critical theories from several disciplines. Rather than studying law as an enterprise that operates autonomously, this course introduces students to the study of law as an object that cannot be understood apart from the social, political, and cultural contexts in which it exists, to include race and ethnicity, social class, gender, sexual orientation, and nationality. With these goals in mind, this course will explore how law permeates human life and, conversely, how human life permeates law. As this course is one that satisfies the “W” requirement, writing proficiency within this discipline is required for a passing grade in this course. A student who does not write with the skill normally required of an upper-division student will not earn a passing grade, no matter how well the student performs in other areas of the course.

PSC 421-003 (W) The Global Politics of Expertise (Kalaycioglu) MW 3:00 – 4:15 pm

Once out of the spotlight, experts and expertise have become issues of debate within national and international politics. This class focuses on the global politics of expertise, the role they have played in international institutions, and global governance. The first part of the class focuses on theories we have for understanding experts and expertise: What kind of actors are experts? Why is expert knowledge so valuable? The second part turns to the role of experts in international institutions. These include the development of guidelines, good practices, benchmarks and rankings that regulate state behavior. The third part of the class focuses on recent reactions against expertise in international institutions. The class will ask whether these critiques of expertise have merit, and if so, how we might rethink the role of experts and expertise in global politics. **Writing proficiency is required for a passing grade in this course. A student who does not write with the skill normally required of an upper-division student will not earn a passing grade, no matter how well the student performs in other areas of the course.**

PSC 421-004 (W) The Politics of Voting Rights (Fording) MWF 11 am

In this course we will study the contemporary history of voting rights in the United States and the impact that election laws have had (and continue to have) on inequalities in voter participation and representation. In part 1 we begin with an overview of the history of voting rights in America, including an in-depth analysis of the political struggles that led to the enfranchisement of women through the 19th Amendment, racial and language minorities through the Voting Rights Act of 1965, and young people through the passage of the 26th Amendment. In part 2 of the course, we focus our attention on the major voting rights laws that evolved out of these struggles, focusing most of our attention on the Voting Rights Act (VRA) of 1965 and the subsequent evolution of voting rights law that have occurred through federal court decisions as well as revisions to the VRA made by Congress. In part 3 of the course, we examine the impact of various election laws (including the VRA) on voter turnout, as well as their effects on both descriptive and substantive representation. We will examine political science research on the effects of a variety of election laws, including: state registration laws, various laws and practices that lead to vote dilution (e.g. single vs. multimember districts), racial gerrymandering, voter identification laws, felon disenfranchisement, various “voter suppression” practices, the role of local

election administration, and claims of voter fraud. The course should be especially useful for students interested in careers in politics (especially voter mobilization), election administration, voting rights/civil rights legal advocacy, and more generally, students interested in strategies to achieve social justice.

Writing proficiency is required for a passing grade in this course. A student who does not write with the skill normally required of an upper-division student will not earn a passing grade, no matter how well the student performs in other areas of the course.

PSC 421-005 (W) Political Psychology (Davis) TR 2 pm

Political psychology is an interdisciplinary pursuit that uses psychological theories (mostly social and cognitive) to explain political attitudes and behavior. For example, students will explore how personality, emotions, stereotypes, and group dynamics shape what individuals believe and why they participate in politics. They will also learn about the different methodological tools used to analyze how these things causally affect attitudes and behavior. As an upper level course that is eligible to fulfill the university's writing requirement, students should expect an extensive amount of writing in this course. Writing proficiency is required to earn a passing grade.

PSC 421-006 (W) Political Theory (title/instructor TBA)