**Summer Special Courses**

**Interim courses 5/8-5/26**

* Voting and Participation PSC 321-001 Dr. Davis Online
  + This course involves the study of voting and political participation. Broadly, it is structured in to two sections. The first part of the class involves the study of what motivates people to engage in politics. We’ll try to answer questions like: “What makes people vote?” and “Why do citizens participate in protests?” In the second part of the course, we’ll study the factors that shape why individuals vote for certain candidates.
* Diplomatic Simulations PSC 321-002 Dr. 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 A DAILY, RELIABLE INTERNET CONNECTION.

**Fall Special Courses**

* Media and Politics PSC 321-001 Dr. Davis
  + This seminar explores research on the relationship between the “media” and “politics” (both broadly understood). Substantively, the study of media and politics involves a diverse mix of subfields, ranging from the economics of news production, to media effects, and to the ways in which the structural design of online social media platforms shapes behavior. The field is also methodologically diverse, incorporating experimental designs, analysis of survey data, web-scraping social media engagement, and even small group interviews about how individuals navigate news. In other words, media and politics is substantively and methodologically diverse field.

This course will explore research from the fields of journalism, (mass, political) communication, sociology, psychology and political science, which should convey that the study of media and politics is interdisciplinary. Students will analyze how the media sets the news agenda, provides the information that helps orient citizens to politics, and the ways in which media can pit ordinary people against each other. In particular, this course will assess the role that media plays – both good and bad – in the functioning of democracy.

* Morality, Politics, and Policy PSC 321-002 Dr. Del Ponte
  + How much should the rich be taxed? Should governments prioritize spending on social security or education? Many decisions in politics and public policy are not just a matter of economics but also of morality. Other political issues are readily associated with morality, such as abortion or the death penalty. This course will draw from moral psychology to analyze the moral dilemmas that policymakers face and the political strife surrounding moral issues in politics. We will study what makes an issue “moral,” why moral issues are difficult to solve, and how these concepts apply to American and global politics.
* Behavioral Politics & Public Policy PSC 321-003 Dr. Del Ponte
  + Should governments protect consumers from themselves? Why do some voters donate to political causes, while others do not? How can cities prepare for natural disasters that are distant in the future? Behavioral politics allows us to tackle these and many more questions. This course illustrates the foundations of behavioral politics and behavioral public policy drawing on the main theories and latest research in political science, psychology, and economics
* Religion and American Politics PSC 321-004 Dr. Hawley
  + Many of the most contentious issues in American politics – abortion, same-sex, marriage, and even issues of foreign policy – are connected to religious issues. This course will examine the intersection of religion and American politics, both historically and in the present day. We will consider the role religion played in shaping America’s political culture, religion’s role in debates over slavery and civil rights, the rise and fall of the Christian right, and the political consequences of growing secularism
* Political Participation PSC 322-001 Dr. Shino
  + This course will focus on key issues in political participation and its implications for democracy. The primary focus will be on political participation in the United States but some parts of the course have a comparative element too. This course is designed to expose students to the foundational and recent literature in political participation and provide a general overview of determinants of political participation in America. More specifically, throughout the semester, we will discuss questions such as: Who participates in politics, who doesn’t, and why? What are the different types of political participation? What encourages participation, and what suppresses it? How does political participation affect social inequalities? Most importantly, does political participation even matter? During our discussions, we will play close attention to method: how scholars theorize, design research, and present evidence
* Race and International Relations PSC 421-001 Dr. Hazbun
  + This course considers how the lens of race and racial difference might offer different ways to understand the dynamics of global geopolitics, the history of US foreign relations, and the development of international relations as a field of academic knowledge. The course explores the role of empire and decolonization in shaping hierarchies in international political order and international relations theory, considers the relationship between the domestic US civil rights struggle and US foreign policy during the Cold War, surveys diverse African-American perspectives on US foreign policy and America’s role in the world, and explores examples of transnational political and cultural ties between African-Americans and communities abroad. Writing proficiency in International Relations is required for passing this course.
* 19th Century Political Theory PSC 421-002 Dr. Miller
  + The 19th Century was a time rocked by the revolutions of the late 1700s, especially the French Revolution. More revolutions were to come, in modes of production, changes in international trade, colonialism, and in the growth of thought that identified itself as liberal, socialist, and in new forms of reactive conservatism -- especially in Europe as the remnants of feudal regimes were crumbling. In this course we will examine both the thinkers and the historical contexts in which these forms of thought flourished and competed. Major thinkers typically covered in the course include Hegel, Paine, Burke, Guizot, de Tocqueville, Michelet, Marx, Mill, and Nietzsche.