

2011-13 Cal Poly Catalog

Political Science Department

POLS–POLITICAL SCIENCE

POLS 111 California Constitution and Government (1)

Basic aspects of California state government. Satisfies GE D1 for students who have passed both AP US Government and US History exams, or transfer students who have received advice in writing from the Office of the Registrar to take POLS 111. 1 lecture.

POLS 112 American and California Government (4) GE D1

Study of governmental institutions, politics, issues and political behavior in the United States and California in constitutional, historical, social and cultural perspectives. Meets the U.S. government and California state/local government requirement. 4 lectures. Fulfills GE D1.

POLS 180 Political Inquiry (4)

Introduction to the scope, language, concepts and approaches employed in political science and the social sciences. Includes emphasis on basic methodological and research strategies for assessing political issues, events, the dynamics of political change and philosophy of science. 4 lectures.

POLS 225 Introduction to International Relations (4)

Introduction to the basic concepts, issues, and theories surrounding the study of international politics. Changes in the nature of conflict, power, and national interests in the post-Cold War era. Role of states, non-governmental actors, and international organizations in the global arena. 4 lectures.

POLS 229 Introduction to Comparative Politics (4)

Introduction to basic concepts, issues, methodology, and theories in comparative politics. Major issues/theories include electoral laws and party systems, parliamentary and presidential institutions, socialization, democratization, corporatism and pluralism, religious and cultural impacts on politics. Topics explored through politics of countries and regions throughout the world. 4 lectures.

POLS 230 Basic Concepts of Political Thought (4)

Introduction to political theory. Focuses on concepts like: authority, liberty, equality, law, justice, community, rights, citizenship, property, class conflict, and constitutionalism. Readings from major thinkers, such as Plato, Aristotle, Augustine, Aquinas, Machiavelli, Locke, Hobbes, Rousseau, Marx, Nietzsche, Rawls, and others. 4 lectures.

POLS 245 Judicial Process (4)

The nature of the legal system. Topics may include: private and public law, civil and criminal law, trial and appellate courts, criminal procedure, judges, attorneys, and juries. 4 lectures.

POLS 270 Selected Topics (1–4)

Directed group study of selected topics. The Schedule of Classes will list title selected. Total credit limited to 8 units. 1 to 4 lectures. Prerequisite: Open to undergraduate students and consent of instructor.

POLS 285 Model United Nations (4)

Introduction to the United Nations and major issues that confront it. Preparation for participation in collegiate Model United Nations conferences. Rules of procedure and debate, preparation of country position papers, and resolution writing. 4 lectures. Prerequisite: One course in POLS or consent of instructor.

POLS 295 Foundations of Mock Trial (4)

Introduction to evidence, trial procedure, objections, and witness examination. Preparation for intercollegiate mock trial competitions (held in winter and spring). Extensive hands-on experience in researching, preparing, and arguing a legal case. 4 lectures. Prerequisite: Completion of GE Area D1 and consent of instructor.

POLS 308 Political Violence and Conflict Resolution (4)

Causes, methods, and consequences of non-state groups that use violent means to pursue revolutionary, separatist, or ideological goals both domestically and internationally. Dynamics of ethnic conflict, terrorist movements, paramilitary groups, insurgencies, and narco-trafficking. Processes of conflict resolution in divided societies through military responses, negotiated settlements, democracy, and peacekeeping missions. 4 lectures. Prerequisite: POLS 225 or POLS 229, or consent of instructor.

POLS 310 Politics of Ethnicity and Gender (4)

USCP

Analysis of factors that affect the changing role of women and major ethnic groups in American politics. Examination of the social construction of difference, exploring how gender, race, and class are shaped by social, cultural, and political contexts. 4 lectures. Prerequisite: Completion of Area D1. Recommended: POLS 112. Fulfills USCP.

POLS 315 The American Presidency (4)

Nature and problems of contemporary presidential leadership emphasizing the impact of bureaucracy, Congress, public opinion, the courts, interest groups, and the party system upon the presidency and national policy making. 4 lectures. Prerequisite: Completion of Area D1. Recommended: POLS 112.

POLS 316 Political Participation (4)

Role of political participation as manifested through political parties and interest groups in a democracy. Degree of consensus and conflict in present day political participation including influence on public policies. 4 lectures. Prerequisite: Completion of Area D1. Recommended: POLS 112.

POLS 317 Campaigns and Elections (4)

Origins and dimensions of public opinion. Focus on contemporary political campaigns and elections in the U.S. Impact of political ideology, mass media, high technology, pressure groups on electoral outcomes. Voting behavior and other forms of political participation in the U.S. 4 lectures. Prerequisite: Completion of Area D1. Recommended: POLS 112.

POLS 319 United States Congress (4)

Theory and practice of representative government in the United States. Organization, procedures and consequences of the legislative process in Congress and state legislatures. 4 lectures. Prerequisite: Completion of Area D1. Recommended: POLS 112.

POLS 320 Comparative Political Analysis (4)

Survey of theories and methods in the field of comparative politics. Recognition of how history structures current politics. Application of abstract principles to contemporary or historical problems to illustrate the practical uses of comparative analysis. Evaluation of assorted issues to compare culturalist, institutionalist, and rationalist approaches. 4 lectures. Prerequisite: POLS 225 or POLS 229, or consent of instructor.

POLS 321 Comparative Political Culture (4)

Survey of major concepts and theories of political culture and relationships among culture, politics, and society. Cultural influences of Christianity, Confucianism, Islam, and contemporary democratic, civic culture. The role of political culture in the industrialization process and post-colonial and post-communist transitions. 4 lectures. Prerequisite: POLS 229, or consent of instructor.

POLS 322 International Political Activism (4)

Concepts, theories, and themes of collective activism in international politics from a comparative approach. Mobilization, organization, and implementation of domestic and transnational social movements in Europe, Latin America, Asia, and Africa, and their political and historical significance. 4 lectures. Prerequisite: POLS 225 or POLS 229, or consent of instructor.

POLS 324 International Relations Theory (4)

Survey of theoretical approaches to the study of international political processes and problems. Foreign policies and politics in relations between states. Conflicts and adjustments. Analyses of selected problems to elucidate differences between realist, liberal, socialist, constructivist, and other theories. 4 lectures. Prerequisite: POLS 225 or POLS 229, or consent of instructor.

POLS 325 Global Political Issues (4)

GE D5

Concepts and theories in international relations and contemporary global issues. Application of principles of international relations to political issues and subjects which affect our lives. 4 lectures. Prerequisite: Completion of GE Area A, one course from D1 (POLS 112 recommended) and one course from either D2 or D3. Recommended: Junior standing. Fulfills GE D5 except for Political Science majors.

POLS 328 Politics of Developing Areas (4)

A detailed survey of the domestic politics of developing countries from a comparative perspective. Assessment of theories of development with appropriate examples taken from particular areas and countries. Repeatable to 8 units with different subtitles (e.g., "Latin America," "East Asia," "Africa"). The Schedule of Classes will list topic selected. 4 lectures. Prerequisite: POLS 225 or POLS 229, or consent of instructor.

POLS 329 Ancient and Medieval Political Thought (4)

Political theory from ancient Greece, ancient Rome, and the Medieval period. Readings from major authors, such as Plato, Aristotle, Augustine, Aquinas, and others. 4 lectures. Prerequisite: POLS 230 or consent of instructor.

POLS 330 Modern Political Thought (4)

Theories of political participation and the relationship between the individual and the state as developed in the works of influential thinkers such as Locke, Rousseau, Mill and Marx. 4 lectures. Prerequisite: POLS 230, or consent of instructor.

POLS 331 Contemporary Political Thought (4)

Ideas of major contemporary political thinkers, such as Wolff, Singer, Rawls, Strauss, MacKinnon, Beauvoir, Dewey, Walzer and others in historical context, compared and contrasted. 4 lectures. Prerequisite: POLS 230 or consent of instructor.

POLS 333 World Food Systems (4)**GE Area F**

Integrated, interdisciplinary study of the technologies of global food production, environmental and social issues related to the application of those technologies, and moral and ethical issues associated with global food production and distribution. Emphasis on the politics of change. 4 lectures. Prerequisite: Junior standing and completion of GE Area B, or consent of instructor. *Crosslisted as POLS/UNIV 333.* Fulfills GE Area F.

POLS 334 Jurisprudence (4)

Normative and analytical problems concerning law. Nature of law and legal systems including liberty and justice. Topics may include the connection between law and morality, feminist and critical race perspectives, crime and punishment, and economic analysis of the law. 4 lectures. Prerequisite: POLS 112 and POLS 230, or consent of instructor.

POLS 338 Critical Issues in American Politics (4)**GE D5**

Examination of significant social, legal, economic and political issues that face the country and how the basic institutions of government—national, state, local—are responding to them; assessment of policies to correct these problems. 4 lectures. Prerequisite: Completion of GE Area A, one course from D1 (POLS 112 recommended) and one course from either D2 or D3. Recommended: Junior standing. Fulfills GE D5 except for Political Science majors.

POLS 339 Authoritarian and Democratic Rule (4)**GE D5**

A comparative examination of governing institutions used throughout the world. Emphasis on the diversity of governmental designs found within both authoritarian and democratic regimes. 4 lectures. Prerequisite: Completion of GE Area A, one course from D1 (POLS 112 recommended) and one course from either D2 or D3. Recommended: Junior standing. Fulfills GE D5 except for Political Science majors.

POLS 340 American Judicial Politics (4)

Empirical aspects of the decision making of federal and state courts, with an emphasis on understanding how interactions between the courts and other political factors shape judicial behavior. For Law and Society minors and POLS majors with pre-law concentration. 4 lectures. Prerequisite: POLS 112 or consent of instructor.

POLS 341 American Constitutional Law (4)

United States Supreme Court decisions in the areas of separation of powers, judicial review, commerce clause, federalism, due process. 4 lectures. Prerequisite: POLS 112, or consent of instructor.

POLS 343 Civil Rights in America (4)**USCP**

Case-based examination of discrimination based on race, ethnic, gender, and sexual orientation in the United States. Emphasis on the Supreme Court's interpretation of the Equal Protection Clause. 4 lectures. Prerequisite: POLS 112, or consent of instructor. Fulfills USCP.

POLS 344 Civil Liberties (4)

Role of Supreme Court as interpreter of civil liberties. Topics may include freedom of expression and religion, search and seizure, due process of law. 4 lectures. Prerequisite: POLS 112, or consent of instructor.

POLS 346 Politics in Literature (4)

Political concepts and values examined, based on literary sources such as plays and novels. Topics may include: power, justice, violence and social responsibility. 4 lectures. Prerequisite: POLS 112 or consent of instructor.

POLS 347 Politics and Popular Culture (4)

Intersection of politics and mass media. How political actors use popular culture to establish issue agendas, convey political concepts, symbolism, rhetoric and values. 4 lectures. Prerequisite: POLS 112 or consent of instructor.

POLS 348 Early American Political Thought (4)**GE D5**

The central political ideas of America's leading thinkers from the arrival of the *Mayflower* to the Civil War. Selections may include readings of American political ideas from Winthrop, Paine, Publius, Hamilton, de Tocqueville, Douglass, Calhoun, Thoreau, and Lincoln, among others. 4 lectures. Prerequisite: Completion of GE Area A, one course from D1 (POLS 112 recommended) and one course from either D2 or D3. Recommended: Junior standing. Fulfills GE D5 except for Political Science majors.

POLS 349 Contemporary American Political Thought (4)**GE D5**

The central political ideas of America's leading thinkers from the Civil War to the present. 4 lectures. Prerequisite: Completion of GE Area A, one course from D1 (POLS 112 recommended) and one course from either D2 or D3. Recommended: Junior standing. Fulfills GE D5 except for Political Science majors.

POLS 351 Public Administration (4)

Development of the management functions in government. Survey of administrative concepts and cases. Attention given to national, state and local administrative systems. Case studies and simulations. 4 lectures. Prerequisite: Completion of GE D1. Recommended: POLS 112.

POLS 359 Research Design (4)

Methodology and research design used in qualitative and quantitative analysis. Examination of multiple methods used to analyze political phenomena in the political science discipline. 4 lectures. Prerequisite: STAT 217 or STAT 221.

POLS 361 Quantitative Methodology (4)

Survey of quantitative methodology in political science, up to and including multiple regression. Laboratory computer instruction to facilitate understanding of quantitative approaches to political research. 3 seminars, 1 activity. Prerequisite: POLS 359, or consent of instructor.

POLS 375 California Politics (4)

Political culture, processes, behavior, institutions, public policy and distribution of power in California state and substate governments. 4 lectures. Prerequisite: Completion of GE D1. Recommended: POLS 112.

POLS 380 Religion and Politics in the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict (4)

The root causes of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and its current manifestation. Possibilities for solutions from the perspectives of religious studies and political science. 4 lectures. Prerequisite: Completion of GE Area A. Recommended: Completion of one class in POLS or RELS. *Crosslisted as POLS/RELS 380.*

POLS 381 Peace and War (4)

Dynamics of interstate peace and war. Topics include: military strategy, the military-industrial complex, arms races and disarmament, diplomacy, deterrence and pre-emption, collective security and alliance behavior, civil-military relations, post-conflict reconstruction, and the role of international law and organizations. 4 lectures. Prerequisite: POLS 225 or POLS 229, or consent of instructor.

POLS 382 Comparative Foreign Policy (4)

Systematic analysis of the international and domestic pressures leading different states to take particular foreign policy stances, with appropriate examples taken from different regions of the world. Discussion of contemporary foreign policy issues and responses. 4 lectures. Prerequisite: POLS 225 or POLS 229, or consent of instructor.

POLS 383 Politics of the European Union (4)

History and development of the European Union in the context of theories of regional integration. Overview of institutional and policymaking machinery of the EU. Current issues facing member states. Impact of EU on US interests and world politics more generally. 4 lectures. Prerequisite: POLS 225 or POLS 229, or consent of instructor.

POLS 385 Advanced Model United Nations (2) (CR/NC)

Preparation for participation in collegiate Model United Nations conferences. Rules of procedure and debate, preparation of country position papers, and resolution writing. Discussion of current issues of concern to the United Nations. Credit/No Credit grading only. Total credit limited to 6 units. 2 lectures. Prerequisite: POLS 285 or consent of instructor.

POLS 386 Government Internship (2–12) (CR/NC)

Supervised work experience in a government or related public agency. Intern will function as an employee subject to all the duties and responsibilities of employees engaged in comparable work. 30 hours of work experience per unit of credit. Total credit limited to 12 units. Credit/No Credit grading. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor. Recommended preparation: Junior standing with a minimum 2.5 GPA.

POLS 395 Advanced Mock Trial (2) (CR/NC)

Advanced preparation for participation in intercollegiate mock trial competitions. Emphasis on advanced topics and techniques related to evidence, trial procedure, objections, and witness examination. Extensive hands-on practice in arguing a legal case. Credit/No Credit grading only. Total credit limited to 4 units. 2 lectures. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.

POLS 400 Special Problems for Advanced Undergraduates (1–4)

Individual investigation, research, study, or survey of selected problems. Total credit limited to 4 units. Prerequisite: Consent of department chair.

POLS 419 Social Movements and Political Protest (4)

Selected U.S. social movements, including abolitionism, feminism, civil rights, gay rights, the Christian right, and environmentalism. Political opportunities and constraints that impact collective political action, and effects of grassroots struggles for justice in U.S. politics and society. 4 lectures. Prerequisite: Completion of GE D1. Recommended: POLS 112.

POLS 420 Contemporary U.S. Foreign Policy (4)

Formulation and conduct of U.S. foreign policy. Analysis of the theory and elements of U.S. strategy, such as diplomacy, propaganda, economic operations, trade, Executive-Congressional relations, public opinion and military strategies. 4 lectures. Prerequisite: POLS 225 or POLS 229, or consent of instructor.

POLS 426 International Organizations and Law (4)

Transnational politics and strategies supporting and opposing different dimensions of globalization. Topics include international law and the use of force, challenges to the primacy of the nation-state, and movement toward a global culture as expressed in the development of human rights law. 4 lectures. Prerequisite: POLS 225 or POLS 229, or consent of instructor.

POLS 427 Politics of the Global Economy (4)

Political conflicts surrounding the trading, financial, and security structures of the international economy. Motivations, resources, and responses of states, international organizations, multinational corporations and other nonstate actors as they address economic, political, environmental, and security issues within these structures. Desirability and inevitability of globalization. 3 lectures and a research paper. Prerequisite: POLS 225, completion of GE D2, or consent of instructor.

POLS 428 Issues and Topics in Comparative Politics (4)

Selected topics and issues in the field of comparative politics. The Schedule of Classes will list topic selected. Total credit limited to 8 units. 4 lectures. Prerequisite: POLS 229 or consent of instructor.

POLS 429 Issues and Topics in International Relations (4)

Selected topics and issues in the field of international relations. The Schedule of Classes will list topic selected. Total credit limited to 8 units. 4 lectures. Prerequisite: POLS 225 or consent of instructor.

POLS 430 Advanced Topics in Political Theory (4)

In-depth examination of a theme or thinker in political theory. The Schedule of Classes will list topic selected. Total credit limited to 8 units. 4 lectures. Prerequisite: POLS 230 or consent of instructor.

POLS 431 Issues and Topics in American Politics (4)

Selected topics and issues in the field of American politics. The Schedule of Classes will list topic selected. Total credit limited to 8 units. 4 lectures. Prerequisite: POLS 112 and junior standing, or consent of instructor.

POLS 451 Technology and Public Policy (4)

Technological assessment and impact analysis in areas such as business, communications, transportation, health technologies, military and other new technologies. Exploration of political influences shaping modern science and technology policy. Case studies on contemporary problems stemming from the relationship between technology and politics. 3 lectures and a research paper. Prerequisite: Completion of GE D1. Recommended: POLS 112.

POLS 456 Politics and Economic Policy (4)

Goals of economic policy, based on efficiency, equity, and other values. Theories of market failure and government regulation. Influence of electoral calculations, bureaucracy, and interest group pressures on government approaches to address market failures. Government intervention in the marketplace, and intervention by economic interests into politics, and how this challenges democracy. 3 lectures and a research paper. Prerequisite: Completion of GE D1. Recommended: POLS 112.

POLS 459 The Politics of Poverty (4)

Analysis of the politics and policies associated with the American welfare state, focusing particularly on welfare and homelessness policies. Questions addressed concerning the causes of poverty and how social policy responds to poverty. 4 lectures. Prerequisite: Completion of GE D1. Recommended: POLS 112.

POLS 461, 462 Senior Project I, II (2) (2)

Selection and completion of a project under faculty supervision. Project results presented in a formal paper. Prerequisite: POLS 359, POLS 361, and senior standing.

POLS 470 Selected Advanced Topics (1–4)

Directed courses on timely issues and topics for advanced students. Open to undergraduate and graduate students. The Schedule of Classes will list title selected. Total credit limited to 12 units. 1–4 lectures. Prerequisite: POLS 112 and junior standing, or consent of instructor.

POLS 471 Urban Politics (4)

Theoretical approaches, concepts, and politics associated with urban governments. Urban power structures, the relationship between urban society and politics, and inter-governmental relations. 3 lectures and a research paper. Prerequisite: POLS 112, or consent of instructor.

POLS 481 Senior Project Seminar (4)

Selection, preparation and completion of senior project, focusing on current developments in the field of political science, with primary attention to American politics, public policy, international relations, or public administration. Project results presented in a formal paper. 3 seminars and a research paper. Prerequisite: Senior standing (completion of 135 quarter hours), completion of required core courses and concentration.

POLS 500 Independent Study (1–4)

Individual research, studies, or surveys under the supervision of the faculty. Total credit limited to 4 units. Prerequisite: Graduate standing with minimum of 12 units.

POLS 510 Research Design (4)

Policy research problem definition, framing hypotheses, literature review, sampling, measurement, and approaches to analysis. 4 lectures. Prerequisite: Graduate standing or consent of instructor.

POLS 515 Public Policy (4)

Public policy making and contemporary policy issues, including markets; regulation; criminal justice; housing; environment; poverty; health care and education. 4 lectures. Prerequisite: Graduate standing, or consent of instructor.

POLS 516 Public Finance (4)

Economic and political factors affecting federal, state and local governments. Intergovernmental relations and policy considerations in finance, debt management and tax administration. 4 lectures. Prerequisite: POLS 515, or consent of instructor.

POLS 517 Organizational Theory (4)

Major theoretical approaches, concepts, case studies, and debates related to organizational theory. Emphasis on applications of concepts to public and non-profit organizations. 4 lectures. Prerequisite: POLS 515, or consent of instructor.

POLS 518 Public Policy Analysis (5)

Analysis of the social, economic, environmental, political contexts of public policy decisions. Public policy issues and use of concepts and tools related to monitoring and assessment with particular emphasis on qualitative methods. 4 lectures, 1 activity. Prerequisite: POLS 560 or consent of instructor.

POLS 540 Leadership and Management in Public Policy (4)

An exploration of the changing notion of leadership in public policy. Focus on understanding and developing leadership capacity within the complex inter-

organizational structure in which the student works. For graduate students. 4 seminars. Prerequisite: POLS 515 or consent of instructor.

POLS 550 Regulatory and Economic Policy (4)

Theory, politics, and applications of government regulatory and economic policy, and skills and experience necessary to use this knowledge in applied policy making situations. 4 seminars. Prerequisite: POLS 515 or consent of instructor.

POLS 560 Quantitative Methods (5)

Social science methodology focusing on research design and quantitative methods used in policy and political research: multi-regression, non-linear techniques, diagnostics and time series. Advanced computer packages used to analyze challenging data sets. 4 lectures, 1 activity. Prerequisite: Graduate standing or consent of instructor.

POLS 568 Topics and Issues in Public Policy (4)

Selected advanced topics applicable to public policy problems. The Schedule of Classes will list topic selected. Total credit limited to 8 units. 3 seminars and a research project. Prerequisite: POLS 515 or consent of instructor.

POLS 570 Selected Advanced Topics (1-4)

Directed group study of selected topics for graduate students. Open to undergraduate and graduate students. The Schedule of Classes will list title selected. Total credit limited to 8 units. 1-4 lectures. Prerequisite: Graduate standing or consent of instructor.

POLS 586 Policy Internship (4-8) (CR/NC)

Supervised work experience in a government or related public agency. Intern will function as an employee engaged in comparable work. Credit/No Credit grading only. Total credit limited to 8 units. Prerequisite: Completion of 12 units in the Master of Public Policy Program, and consent of instructor.

POLS 590 Graduate Seminar (4)

Seminar designed as a culminating component to the Master of Public Policy Program. Individual research under the supervision of the faculty within a small discussion environment, leading to a graduate project or paper that demonstrates practical mastery of the MPP curriculum. Total credit limited to 8 units. 4 seminars. Prerequisite: POLS 560 or consent of instructor.

**POLS 595 Directed Readings for MPP Comprehensive Exams (2)
(CR/NC)**

Directed readings for Master of Public Policy (MPP) comprehensive exams. Regular consultation between advisor and student. Credit/No Credit grading only. 2 seminars. Prerequisite: POLS 590.