POLS 507: Research Design & Data Collection
Jeff Staton       Wednesday 1:00-4:00 PM      MAX: 8

Content: This course is designed specifically for students in their first year of the Ph.D. program. It provides an introduction to the discipline, the philosophy of science and research design.

Texts: No texts required.

POLS 508: Mathematical Tools – Political Scientists
Miguel Rueda      Friday 10:00 AM-1:00 PM  Max: 8

Content: This course provides a rigorous introduction to the mathematical tools that are needed to conduct quantitative and formal theoretical research in political science. The main topics covered are calculus in the real line and multivariate calculus, elementary linear and matrix algebra, and an introduction to probability theory. Familiarity with these topics is essential for students who wish to become empirical researchers or formal modelers. This course is a prerequisite for all other coursework in methods and formal theory. Knowledge of algebra, equation solving and graphs is expected.

No required textbooks.

POLS 510: World Politics
Dan Reiter        Monday 9:00 AM-12:00 PM   MAX: 8

Content: This is the introductory course to international relations for political science graduate students. The emphasis is theoretical, covering issues such as international conflict, decision-making, trade, and system structure. The class uses a discussion format.

Particulars: One exam; several short papers. All students other than political science graduate students must receive permission from the instructor.

Texts:
Mearsheiner, John. 2014.
The Tragedy of Great Power Politics.
ISBN: 9780393349276
W.W. Norton & Company, Inc.

Russett, Bruce M. 2000.
Triangulating Peace.
ISBN: 9780393976847
W.W. Norton & Company, Inc.
POLS 514: Advanced Game Theory
John Patty  Monday & Tuesday 10:00-11:30 AM  MAX: 8

Content: This course is the second in the formal theory sequence offered in the political science department. The class builds on the skills learned in the Introduction of Game Theory class by applying the solution concepts learned in the introductory course to more complicated games. The course will address many topics, including (but not limited to): bargaining, principal-agent relationships, and signaling games.

Course Website: http://www.johnwpatty.net/advanced-game-theory-pols514-course-website/

Texts:
Princeton University Press

POLS 520: Comparative Government & Politics
Jennifer Gandhi  Wednesday 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM  Max: 8

Content: This course is an introduction to important concepts, themes, and approaches in the comparative study of politics. The course is organized thematically with two goals in mind: first, to enable students to understand the intellectual trajectory of the study of these topics and second, to expose them to research frontiers in these areas. The expectation is that students will complete the course not only with a better understanding of the comparative subfield as a whole, but also with their own ideas for further research.

POLS 551: Judicial Politics
Tom Clark  Thursday 2:00-5:00 PM  MAX: 8

Content: The goal of this course is to provide you with an introduction to, and overview of, the scientific study of courts as political institutions. In this way, this course is very different from most law classes you may have taken either as an undergraduate or in any graduate legal education you may have. We will approach the study of judicial politics as just that ¿ politics. The central questions that we will ask are: (1) What motivates judges?; (2) What incentives are created by judicial institutions?; and (3) How do those incentives affect the behavior of judicial actors?

No required textbooks.
POLS 570: Limited Dependent Variable Models
Adam Glynn   Monday 1:00-400 PM   MAX: 8

Content: This course provides an introduction to large-sample casual inference using standard techniques: regression (parametric and nonparametric), matching, weighting and doubly robust techniques, instrumental variables, fixed effects, difference-in-differences, and regression discontinuity design. The course also covers methods of statistical estimation used for these approaches.

Texts:
ISBN: 9781316831762
Cambridge University Press

Angrist Joshua D. and Jörn-Steffen Pischke
Mostly Harmless Econometrics: An Empiricist’s Companion
ISBN: 9780691120355
Princeton University Press

Gerber, Alan S. and Donald P. Green
Field Experiments: Design, Analysis, and Interpretation
ISBN: 9780393979954
W.W. Norton & Company

POLS 585: Interdisciplinary Human Rights Perspectives
David Davis   Wednesday 1:00-4:00 PM   MAX: 5

Content: This graduate seminar examines the theory and practice of global human rights from an interdisciplinary perspective. In addition to issues of the history, origins and legitimacy of universal human rights, the seminar will discuss standards, institutions and processes of implementation. The seminar will also examine human rights across a variety of substantive issues areas, including; conflict, development, globalization, social welfare, religion, race and ethnicity, medicine, public health, and rights of women and other vulnerable groups.

No textbooks required.

POLS 585: Political Economy of Development
Renard Sexton   Tuesday 1:00-4:00 PM   MAX: 8

Content: This PhD-level seminar provides an introduction to current research on political and economic development. We will start by reviewing advances in empirical methods and theoretical approaches, before diving into questions of political institutions, emergence of the state, democratization, historical legacies, political violence, efforts to reform and foreign intervention. The readings will include ‘classic’ texts as well as contemporary ‘cutting edge’ work in political science and economics.

No textbooks required.