POLS 507: Research Design & Data Collection

Micheal Giles, Tuesday 1:00 – 4:00pm, MAX: 12

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 ordered.

POLS 508: Data Analysis

Miguel Rueda, Friday 10:00am – 1:00pm, MAX: 12

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

Texts: No texts required.

POLS 514: Advanced Game Theory

Pablo Montagnes, Tuesday 1:00 – 4:00pm, MAX: 12

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 global games.

Particulars: Each student will be responsible for completing a problem set every other week that reinforces the techniques learned in class. There will also be a midterm and a final exam.
Texts:
Oxford University Press

**POLS 520: Comparative Politics and Government**

Jennifer Gandhi, Thursday 1:00 – 4:00pm, MAX: 12

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.

Texts: To be announced.

**POLS 570: Limited Dependent Variable Models**

Greg Martin, Wednesday 9:00am – 12:00pm, MAX: 12

Content: This course presents an overview of the likelihood theory of statistical inference, and its wide range of uses in applied quantitative political science. When dependent variables take the form of ordered or unordered categories, event counts, are censored or truncated, clustered, or otherwise violate the traditional assumptions of the linear regression model, models estimated by maximum likelihood provide an essential alternative. Topics covered include binary, multinomial, and ordered logit/probit, Poisson regression, Tobit regression, and mixture models. We will rely heavily on computational methods of analysis using the R statistical computing environment, and instruction on how to use R for applied research will be provided throughout the length of the course.

Texts:
Cambridge University Press.

Cambridge University Press.
POLS 585-00P: Variable Topics Seminar
Topic/Title: Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Human Rights

David Davis, Edward Queen, Dabney Evans, Tuesday 1:00 – 4:00pm, MAX: 12

Note: This course is also being taught as Global Health 526

Content: This graduate seminar, open to students from the Graduate School, the Law School, and the School of Public Health, 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; public health; and rights of women and other vulnerable groups.

Particulars: Evaluation will be based on seminar participation, a series of short thought papers and major research paper. Students will also make brief presentations of their final papers.

Texts: No texts ordered.

POLS 585-01P: Variable Topics Seminar
Topic/Title: Political Institutions

Jennifer Gandhi, Tuesday 8:30 – 11:30am, MAX: 12

Content: This course is designed to introduce students to the theoretical problems that institutions address and substantive illustrations of those problems. The class begins with an overview of current approaches to research on institutions and continues with a more detailed focus on specific social problems institutions are designed to solve, such as delegation, collective action, and preference aggregation. For each theoretical problem, the course will cover substantive applications from across the various subfields in political science. Additional issues, such as institutional change and endogeneity, not covered in detail will be introduced at the end of the course.

Texts: No texts ordered.
POLS 585-02P: Variable Topics Seminar
Topic/Title: Politics and Policy
Zachary Peskowitz, Thursday 8:30 – 11:30am, MAX: 12

Content: POLS 585 is a graduate introduction to policymaking with a focus on the United States context. The course will cover influential approaches to studying the policy process such as incrementalism, punctuated equilibrium, policy diffusion across political jurisdictions, historical institutionalism, and others to understand how the president, Congress, bureaucracy, courts, interest groups and voters interact with one another to create policy outcomes. Students will read both theoretical and empirical scholarship in a wide array of policy areas.

Texts: Patashnik, Eric M. *Reforms at Risk: What Happens After Major Policy Changes Are Enacted?*
ISBN: 9781400828852
Princeton University Press.

POLS 585-03P: Variable Topics Seminar
Topic/Title: Security
Shawn Ramirez, Monday 9:00am – 12:00pm, MAX: 12

Content: This course introduces graduate students to security, conflict and peace studies literature in studying interstate and civil war. Topics include causes of war, collective violence, inequality, resources, globalization, leaders, conflict resolution, peace agreements, and state building. Students will become familiar with a variety of methodological approaches as applied to conflict and develop their own research projects. This is one in a two-course sequence alongside Conflict. There are no formal prerequisites for this course, but it is strongly advised that students have taken POLS 510.

Texts:
ISBN: 9780521670043
Cambridge University Press.

ISBN: 9780521715256
Cambridge University Press.


