

Politics and Government (POGO)

Alulis (chair), Peterson

The mission of the Politics and Government Department is to prepare students for knowledgeable participation in the civic life of their communities. The student who successfully completes the program will:

Demonstrate the ability to use theoretical and practical concepts to explain political behavior at the local, national, and international levels.

Show the ability to ethically and effectively participate in the process by which collective decisions are made about the rational use of social resources.

Articulate and defend the fundamental principles of Western political institutions generally and the American constitutional regime in particular.

Use an understanding of the cultural sources of political behavior to compare the various ways different societies worldwide organize their political systems.

Explain the functions and limits of law in ordering society to secure freedom and other social goods.

Major requirements for the B.A. degree in Politics and Government

Required semester hours

36 sh

Required core courses

POGO 1100, 1600, 2200, 2300, 3100, and 4100

Electives

Three electives from courses numbered above 2500, one of which must be an American politics course and one of which must be an international or a comparative politics course. POGO 3410 is counted as an international politics course. Internships may not be counted toward satisfying the major but will count as general University electives.

Notes and restrictions

The following supporting courses are recommended (not required): HIST 2110, 2120; BSE 2210. Students interested in pursuing graduate work in international relations should take advanced language courses, BSE 3230, and HIST 3260 or 3430. A comprehensive examination is required and must be passed. A minimum of 16 credits at the 3000 level or higher in the major are to be taken at North Park. A minimum of sixteen semester hours at the 3000 level or higher in the major are to be taken at North Park University.

Honors

Students must apply for admission to the program no later than the spring semester of their third year. To graduate with Departmental Honors in Politics and Government students must earn 8 sh of POGO 4920 in addition to the credit required for the major. For general Departmental Honors requirements and POGO 4920 course description, see appropriate sections of this catalog.

Minor requirements in Politics and Government

Required semester hours

20 sh

Required core courses

POGO 1100, 1600 and any three courses numbered above 2500.

GE Designates a course that fulfills all or part of a General Education (G.E.) requirement; see the General Education Program section of the catalog for more information.

1100 Introduction to Politics (4 sh)

An examination of the major principles and ideas which have shaped world politics. The perennial questions of justice, equality, freedom, moral relativism, and tyranny as expressed in the great works of representative ancient and modern political thinkers will be critically examined.

1600 American Government (4 sh)

An introductory survey of the principles which have shaped the American Republic. The political institutions and processes central to an understanding of American politics and government will be examined including the Constitution, presidency, Congress, Supreme Court, political parties, campaigns, elections, and selected public policy issues.

2200 International Politics (4 sh)

An introduction to the theory and practice of the political relations among nations, including a survey of the historical development of the international system, and analysis of the major features of international politics including security, power, diplomacy, and efforts to establish and sustain international society.

2250 Survey of International Politics (4 sh)

An examination of selected international issues, policies, and conflicts in the contemporary world. Offered at SVF for North Park students participating in the Sweden Exchange program

2300 Comparative Politics (4 sh) GE

An introductory comparative study of the political institutions of the nations of Europe and selected nations of the Middle East, Latin America, Asia, and Sub-Saharan Africa. Forms of government, political culture and history, parties and elections, governing institutions and development will be among the topics considered.

2520 Criminal Justice (4 sh)

An overview of the criminal justice system in the United States emphasizing key issues in the process of arrest through trial and sentencing and imprisonment, an analysis of the roles of the police, prosecutors, defense attorneys, and courts, and the various theories of punishment and crime causation. Representative Supreme Court decisions in the law of arrest, right to counsel, capital punishment, search and seizure, and self-incrimination will be analyzed. Prerequisite: POGO 1600. Cross-listed with SOC 2520. Prerequisite: POGO 1600.

3100 Political Philosophy (4 sh)

An examination of the development of the classical and modern traditions of political philosophy analyzing the nature and origin of the state, the individual's relationship to the state, the different types of the state, constitutionalism, the ideas of right, law, freedom, justice, equality, and the struggle to prevent tyranny. Readings will include selections from among the following: Plato, Aristotle, Thomas Aquinas, Machiavelli, Hobbes, Locke, Montesquieu, Rousseau, Smith, Tocqueville, Mill, Marx, Nietzsche, and others. Student must be of third-year standing. Prerequisite: POGO 1100.

3210 International Political Economy (4 sh)

An examination of the economic aspects of international relations in the contemporary world. Attention is given to the following:

world trading, monetary and financial systems, the role of international institutions both governmental and non-governmental in the world economy, national and regional economic systems, the activities of states to secure advantage in the international economic system, the relation of the state and of international society to economic development and the ongoing globalization of economic activity.

3230 Issues in International Relations (4 sh)

Advanced political analysis of the primary issues facing the contemporary international system, including the challenges of economic interdependence and institutionalization, economic development, human rights and democracy, and other transnational concerns. Includes a simulation of an international treaty negotiation. Student must be of third-year standing. Prerequisite: POGO 2200.

3310 Modernizing China and Japan (4 sh)

What does it mean to be modern? This course explores the political and social dynamics of creating a modern state in China and Japan in the 19th and 20th Centuries. Focusing on historic initiatives that led to each society's transformation, we examine the push for industrialization, nationhood, and the ideal citizen. Readings draw on the perspectives of ordinary people responding to state-sponsored social change. Cross-listed with SOC 3300.

3370 Politics of the Middle East (4 sh)

An analysis of the modern Middle East from the fall of the Ottoman Empire to the present in terms of the concepts of political development, modernization, and civil society. A broad overview of the region is combined with a country-by-country examination of selected states. Particular attention is paid to ideology, political party structure, and ongoing conflicts in the region.

3390 Israel: State and Society (4 sh)

An introduction to modern Israel, its history, politics and social state. Topics include: Zionism and the founding of the state, the social make-up, its governing institutions and political life, in particular its parties and electoral system, its place in the international community, and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

3410 American Foreign Policy (4 sh)

An examination of United States foreign policy in the twentieth century with emphasis on the major features of U.S. engagement, the expansion of American power, and an analysis of the foreign policy decision making process.

3500 Constitutional Law (4 sh)

An introduction to the judicial process, an examination of the role of law in the American political system, and an historical and theoretical analysis of the United States Constitution as developed in landmark Supreme Court decisions relating to federalism, commerce, and separation of powers, executive and legislative powers. Topics include issues of individual rights: freedom of speech, press, and religion, abortion, censorship and obscenity, racial and gender discrimination, and affirmative action and reverse discrimination. Student must be of third-year standing. Prerequisite: POGO 1600.

3630 Parties and Elections (4 sh)

Analysis of the organization and evolution of political parties in the American political process. Topics include the role of nominations, campaigns, elections, campaign finance, public opinion, and interest groups in a representative democracy. Discussion of current local, state and national election campaigns is an important focus. Student must be of third-year standing. Prerequisite: POGO 1600.

3650 Congress and the Presidency (4 sh)

An analysis of the creation, the historical development, and the operations of Congress and the presidency with specific emphasis on the political relationships between the two policy making branches of American government. Case studies in congressional and presidential leadership will be examined through biographies of selected twentieth century presidents. Student must be of third-year standing. Prerequisite: POGO 1600.

3690 Religion and Politics (4 sh)

An examination of the historical and ongoing relationship between church and state in American politics. Topics discussed include religion's impact on voting behavior, interpretations of the establishment and free exercise clauses of the First Amendment, and normative questions regarding religion's role in political life.

3750 Chicago Politics (4 sh)

Chicago as a case study of the urban political process as it relates to ward politics, patronage, ethnicity and race, education, housing, poverty, and crime. The rise and the decline of the Chicago Machine from Richard J. Daley to Richard M. Daley and its implications for the future of the city that works will be the central focus of the course.

3910 Topics in Political Science (4 sh)

An intensive investigation of a selected topic in politics and government offered from time to time at the discretion of the department.

4100 Fourth Year Seminar (4 sh)

An extensive investigation of significant themes through reading, discussion, and research designed to integrate all previous course work in the major. Themes will vary from term to term. Students do a major research project on a topic related to one of the themes of the seminar, assemble their findings in a seminar paper, and present those findings to the seminar. Required of all majors. Student must be of fourth-year standing.

4910 Independent Study in Politics and Government (2-4 sh)

Advanced work in fields of special interest not generally available in traditional courses.

4920 Departmental Honors in Politics and Government (4 sh)

An independent, high level examination of a political problem or issue and the writing of an honors thesis. Designed for students seeking to graduate with Departmental Honors in Politics and Government.

4970 Internship in Politics and Government (2 or 4 sh)

The opportunity to explore a practical employment opportunity in an academic context, including an integration of the practical and the academic elements of the experience. Please refer to Internship section of this catalog for further requirements and guidelines.