

Politics

The major and minor in politics are administered by the Department of Politics: Professors Amy, Cocks Ferraro, Gill, Khory, Pyle (*chair*); Associate Professors Chen, Smith; Assistant Professor Markovits, Reiter; Visiting Associate Professor Ghosh; Visiting Associate Professor Fox (complex organizations)

Contact Persons

Patricia Ware, *senior administrative assistant*
Christopher Pyle, *chair*

Requirements for the Major

Credits

- A minimum of 32 credits

Courses

- One course must be taken in each of the four subfields, ordinarily to be selected from the list below. With permission from the department chair, certain 300-level courses may substitute for a 200-level field requirement, but no 300-level course may be counted as satisfying both a field requirement and the three 300-level course requirement in politics.

American politics:

- Politics 104, American Politics
- Complex Organizations 204, Poverty in the United States
- Complex Organizations 220, Winners and Losers: Taxation, Social Justice, and Economic Choices
- Politics 235, Constitutional Law: The Federal System
- Politics 236, Civil Liberties
- Politics 244, Urban Politics and Policies
- Politics 245, Policy Making in America: Congress and the Bureaucracy
- Politics 250, Politics of Black Urban Reform
- Politics 266, Environmental Politics in America

Comparative politics:

- Politics 106, Comparative Politics
- Politics 208, Chinese Politics
- Politics 228, East Asian Politics
- Politics 237, European Politics
- Politics 243, Latin American Politics

International politics:

- Politics 116, World Politics
- Politics 247, International Law/Organization
- International Relations 270, American Foreign Policy

Political theory:

- Politics 100, First-year Seminar in Politics (when taught by Professors Markovits and Cocks)
- Politics 211, Ancient and Medieval Political Thought
- Politics 212, Modern Political Thought
- Politics 233, Invitation to Feminist Theory
- Critical Social Thought 250, Classic Nineteenth-Century Critical Social Thought (when taught by Professor Cocks)
- Politics 246, American Political Thought

300-level course work:

- Three courses (12 credits) at the 300 level, which must normally be taken at Mount Holyoke College. No more than 4 credits of 395 may be counted toward this requirement of three courses at the 300 level.
- A single course at the 200 level offered at Mount Holyoke can be taken at the 300 level with the instructor's permission, provided the student has already taken 8 credits in politics, and provided the instructor and student agree upon additional work.

Requirements for the Minor

Credits

- 16 credits in politics at the 200 level or above
- At least 4 credits must be at the 300 level.

Courses

- These courses must span at least two of the department's four subfields: American politics; comparative politics; international politics; political theory.

Other

- Students must obtain the approval of the department chair at the time they register for their next-to-last semester.

Teacher Licensure

Students interested in pursuing licensure in the field of politics can combine their course work in politics with a minor in education. In some instances course work in the major coincides with course work required for licensure; in other cases, it does not. For specific course requirements for licensure within the major of politics, please consult your advisor or the chair of the politics department. For information about the requirements for the minor in education, please consult "Teacher Licensure" in the Other Degree and Certificate Programs chapter and Ms. Lawrence in the psychology and education department. Licensure also requires a formal application as well as passing scores on the Massachusetts Test of Educator Licensure (MTEL) in both the literacy component and the subject matter component. Copies of the test objectives for the MTEL are available in the politics department and in the Department of Psychology and Education. Licensure application information and materials are available in the Department of Psychology and Education.

Course Offerings

100fs First-Year Seminars in Politics

Fall 2011

100f(1) Speaking and Arguing: The Rhetoric of Peace and War

(First-year seminar; speaking-intensive course) The art and mechanics of persuading a polity to support either war or peace through oral argument. How speeches frame issues, mobilize public opinion, and persuade individuals to support or resist decisions to go to war. Students will be expected to deliver speeches, lead discussions, and critique their own and others' presentations.

Meets Social Sciences III-A requirement

V. Ferraro

Prereq. fy; 4 credits

100f(2) Confessions, Novels, and Notebooks: The Self and Political Thought

(First-year seminar; writing-intensive course; Same as Critical Social Thought 100 (02))

What is the relationship between personal experience and political thought? How do political thinkers grasp and convey the connections between self and political order? Our first-year seminar will probe the links between heart and mind in political philosophy by exploring the lives and writings of illustrative figures who together span the history of political thought. Texts will include memoirs and fiction as well as abstract theoretical works.

Meets Social Sciences III-A requirement

J. Cocks

Prereq. fy; 4 credits

100f(3) The Politics of Food

(First-year seminar; writing-intensive course)

A critical examination of the political and economic forces informing the production, distribution, marketing, and consumption of food in the United States. We will look at the power relations and institutional arrangements that inform what we eat. Topics include the industrialization of food production and its impact on workers, public health, and the environment; animal welfare, veganism, and other ethical issues; the marketing of unhealthy diet choices; and corporate influence over agricultural policy and

food regulation. We will also consider various individual, cultural, and policy solutions to the problems surrounding food and diet in America.

Meets Social Sciences III-A requirement

D. Amy

Prereq. fy; 4 credits

100f(4) Black Metropolis

(First-year seminar) Black Metropolis referred to the more than half a million black people jammed into a South Side ghetto in Chicago at mid-twentieth century that featured an entrenched black political machine, a prosperous black middle class, and a thriving black cultural scene in the midst of massive poverty and systemic inequality. This course will follow the political, economic, and cultural developments of what scholars considered to be the typical urban community in postwar United States. We will examine such topics as Martin Luther King's failed desegregation campaign; Harold Washington, first black mayor; William Julius Wilson's urban underclass thesis; and the rise of Barack Obama.

Meets Social Sciences III-A requirement

P. Smith

Prereq. fy; 4 credits

100f(5) Politics and Truth

(First-year seminar; writing-intensive course) What is the relationship of truth to our political life? Does democracy require truth? Or can democracy pervert truth? Can truth thrive in any type of government? Are these issues more or less relevant for contemporary politics? This course is an introduction to political theory through an examination of these questions. During the semester, students will examine a variety of political theory classics, analyzing the authors' perspectives on these questions.

Meets Social Sciences III-A requirement

E. Markovits

Prereq. fy; 4 credits

Spring 2012

**100s(1) Family Ties*

(First-year seminar; writing-intensive course) In this course, students will engage a number of classic works of literature and moral phi-

losophy, as well as contemporary works, in order to reflect on the ways the family shapes private and public life and is, in return, shaped by them. We will cover such questions as: how does the family create and then influence the individual? What does it mean to be part of a family? What do individuals owe their families and are those obligations fair? How do we form families? Can the family insulate individuals from politics and society—in good ways and bad? Is political order like familial order? Are the state and society a threat or support for the family? How have these understandings changed over time?

Meets Social Sciences III-A requirement

E. Markovits

Prereq. fy; 4 credits

104fs American Politics

Offers an overview of the American political system and the theories of those who both celebrate and criticize it. Focuses on the institutions of American politics, including the Constitution, the presidency, Congress, the courts, parties, elections, interest groups, and movements seeking political change. Also includes a theoretical focus: a critical examination of the varieties of liberalism, conservatism, pluralism, and democracy that inform the practice of American politics.

Meets Social Sciences III-A requirement

C. Ghosh, D. Amy

4 credits

106f Comparative Politics

(Writing-intensive course) This course provides an introduction to comparative political analysis. The primary objective of the class is to help students understand how the modern world, one characterized by the rise of industrialized nation-states, took form and what shape it might take in the post-Cold War era. We will examine how the challenges of economic development, social transformation, and nation-building sparked the emergence of alternative roads to modernity characterized by diverse configurations of political institutions and social forces. We will also assess how globalization and the re-emergence of local identities may be redefining our understanding of modernity.

Meets Social Sciences III-A requirement

C. Chen

4 credits

116fs World Politics

This course is a survey of contending approaches to the study of conflict and cooperation in world politics. Examines key concepts—including balance of power, imperialism, collective security, deterrence, and interdependence—with historical examples ranging from the Peloponnesian War to the post-cold war world. Analyzes the emerging world order.

Meets Social Sciences III-A requirement

V. Ferraro, A. Reiter

4 credits

151f Fire and Sword in the Caucasus: A Family Saga

(First-year seminar; See European Studies 100f(04), Russian and Eurasian Studies 151f(01))

Meets Social Sciences III-A requirement

S. Jones

4 credits

209s Russian Politics: From Communism to Capitalism

(See Russian and Eurasian Studies 240, European Studies 240)

Meets Social Sciences III-A requirement

S. Jones

4 credits

211s Ancient and Medieval Political Thought

Through the works of the ancient tragedians and comedians, Thucydides, Plato, Aristotle, Cicero, Seneca, Augustine, Aquinas, and Pizan, this course explores themes in ancient and medieval political thought. In alternating years, the course will be taught as either a survey of a wide array of authors or as a more thematically focused study of just a few writers. In either format, we will pay particular attention to the ways these writers characterized the relationship between the individual and community; the roles knowledge, reason, emotion, and rhetoric play in political life; the link between gender and citizenship; and the various forms political community can take.

Meets Social Sciences III-A requirement

E. Markovits

Prereq. soph, jr, sr; 4 credits

212f Modern Political Thought

On the political writings of Machiavelli, Hobbes, Locke, Rousseau, Burke, Marx, and Mill. We will examine key concepts of modern Western political thought, including sovereign power, political consent, individualism, property, freedom, and equality. While our main focus will be on liberal theory from the seventeenth through the nineteenth centuries, we will also peruse prominent critiques of liberalism leveled from the right and the left.

Meets Social Sciences III-A requirement

C. Ghosh

Prereq. soph, jr, sr, or first-year with permission of instructor; 4 credits

225f Winners and Losers: Taxation, Social Justice, and Economic Choices

(Speaking-intensive course; See Complex Organizations 220)

Meets Social Sciences III-A requirement

J. Fox

Prereq. History 171, or Politics 104, or Economics 103 or 104, or permission of instructor; 4 credits

228s East Asian Politics

This course examines the dramatic rise of East Asia in the post-World War II period in comparative perspective. The focus will be on understanding the process and consequences of rapid development in Japan, Korea, Taiwan, and China. Assesses the strengths and weaknesses of the “East Asian model of development” and explores how different developmental experiences and policies affect state-society relations, social and political identities, and prospects for peace and cooperation throughout the region.

Meets Social Sciences III-A requirement

C. Chen

Prereq. jr, sr, with Politics 106; 4 credits

233f Feminist Theory: Introduction to Feminist Theory

(Same as Gender Studies 221f-01) This course is designed to introduce students to important political questions in the field of feminist theory. We will begin the course by attending to the distinction between sex and gender and its relevance to feminism yesterday and today, exploring ways that the intersex movement, queer theory, and other

gender politics complicate feminist concerns. In addition, we will explore the development of popular feminist ideas, such as women's rights, reproductive freedom, and agency.

Meets Social Sciences III-A requirement

E. Markovits

Prereq. soph, jr, sr; 4 credits

235f Constitutional Law: The Federal System

This course examines the impact of U.S. constitutional law on the legitimacy of different assertions of governmental power. Topics include judicial review; congressional control of court jurisdiction; federal regulation of the economy; and the relative powers and authority of the president, Congress, and the courts in national emergencies, foreign relations, war, and covert action, including torture and assassination. Case method.

Meets Social Sciences III-A requirement

C. Pyle

Prereq. Politics 104 or permission of instructor; 4 credits

236s Civil Liberties

This course addresses the federal Constitution and civil liberties. Topics include the authority of the courts to read new rights into the Constitution; equal protection of the laws (and affirmative action) for racial minorities, women, gays, and non-citizens. Also, freedoms of expression, association, and the press. Emphasis on the appropriateness of different methods of interpreting law. Case method.

Meets Social Sciences III-A requirement

C. Pyle

Prereq. Politics 104 or permission of instructor; 4 credits

***239f Classics in Nineteenth-Century**

Critical Social Thought

(Same as Critical Social Thought 250) An introduction to some of the great critical voices of the nineteenth century. We will explore the ideas of such mutinous thinkers as Karl Marx, Friedrich Nietzsche, Sigmund Freud, and Fyodor Dostoyevsky, focusing on the style as well as the substance of their works and the circumstances that provoked them to write and/or that their writings helped provoke. The course will highlight the tension between appearance and reality, the dialectic

of domination and subordination, and the place of reason and irrationality in social life.

Meets Social Sciences III-A requirement

J. Cocks

Prereq. soph, jr, sr, first-year with permission of instructor; 4 credits

240s International Political Economy

This course examines the interaction of politics and economics in the global economy. Topics include the development of the capitalist economy and its critics, the politics of trade and investment, and the phenomenon of global poverty.

Meets Social Sciences III-A requirement

V. Ferraro

Prereq. Politics 116; 4 credits

242s Oil and Water Don't Mix: Geopolitics, Energy, and the Environment

(Taught in English; Same as Russian and Eurasian Studies 242) Following the collapse of the USSR and the Gulf War, Central Asia and the Caucasus became new centers of geopolitical rivalry. The new states are a source of energy (oil and gas) for Western powers and a vital transit corridor between Eastern Europe and China. While a new "Great Game" is being fought between Western, Far Eastern, and Middle Eastern powers for control over energy pipelines, the region is threatened by environmental catastrophe and water shortages. Is the new oil industry a source of prosperity or an instrument for exploitation, corruption, and instability? How important are the new states to the West's strategic energy interests?

Meets Social Sciences III-A requirement

S. Jones

4 credits

243f Latin American Politics

This introductory course in the politics of Latin America combines lecture and discussion. The first part provides an historical overview of the major economic and social trends that shaped the region's political institutions and the distribution of power among societal groups. The second part examines democratization, major theories and policies of economic development, political ideology, the military, social movements, and the rule of law. Finally, the course looks at the impact

of institutions such as political parties, electoral rules, the executive, and legislatures.

Meets Social Sciences III-A requirement

C. FernandezAnderson

4 credits

246f American Political Thought

This history-rich course explores limited government, popular sovereignty, representative institutions, checks and balances, republicanism, liberty, equality, democracy, pluralism, liberalism, and conservatism, and how these concepts have developed during three centuries of American politics and in contrast to European thought. The focus is not on the writings of the “great thinkers” but on the “habits of thought” of the American people and on ideas implicit in laws and institutions that affect the allocation of authority and power within the constitutional order.

Meets Social Sciences III-A requirement

C. Pyle

Prereq. Politics 104, or History 170, 171, or 270, or permission of instructor; 4 credits

247s International Law and Organization

This course presents international norms and institutions for regulating conflict, including promoting economic well-being, protecting human rights, exploring and using outer space, and controlling exploitation and pollution of the oceans. The course considers international agreements, problems of lawmaking, interpretation, and compliance; nationality and the status of foreigners and their investments; the principle of self-determination; and interests of postcolonial states as they impinge on the international legal order.

Meets Social Sciences III-A requirement

A. Reiter

Prereq. soph, jr, sr; 4 credits

250f Black Urban Reform

Examines how African Americans have shaped, and been shaped by, the modern American metropolis. Explores the impact of migration, residential segregation, changing economic conditions, and political incorporation on black urban life chances. Investigates the efforts of African Americans to deal with cities through organizations, movements, and traditions of black reform.

Meets multicultural requirement; meets Social

Sciences III-A requirement

P. Smith

Prereq. soph, jr, sr; 4 credits

***252s Urban Political Economy**

(Community-Based Learning course) This course draws on both historical and contemporary sources to address critical issues and problems facing cities. Topics are organized around the following questions: How have cities come to take their shape and character over time? How are economic and social inequalities mapped onto the urban landscape? How are differences of race, class, and gender negotiated through urban institutions and community struggles? This course will have equal numbers of Mount Holyoke and Holyoke Community College students, and be team taught with Professor Mary Orisich, Economics, Holyoke Community College.

Meets Social Sciences III-A requirement

P. Smith

Prereq. permission of instructor. For permission, fill out application available at Politics department.; 6 credits

253f Introduction to Comparative Empires

(Same as History 250) This course probes the characteristics of imperial rule, as well as the differences between one empire and another. The course asks: What are empires, and what animates them - economic exploitation, power politics, and/or cultural commitments? How do empires impose and maintain their authority, and what is their impact on centers and provinces, and on elites and the common people? How do empires deal with the heterogeneous peoples, religions, races, and cultures they conquer and incorporate into their fold? Who is driven to resist imperial power, how do they resist, and what other forces lead empires to dissolve? Finally, what is the relation between empire and the modern nation state?

Meets multicultural requirement; meets

Humanities I-B requirement

J. Cocks, R. Payne

Prereq. so, jr or fy with permission of instructor.; Gateway course for thematic minor on Comparative Empires.; 4 credits

264f Russia and the West

(Taught in English; See Russian and Eurasian Studies 241)

Meets Social Sciences III-A requirement

S. Jones

4 credits

266f Environmental Politics in America

This course offers a critical investigation of the questions of power, politics, and principles surrounding environmental issues in the United States. Topics include a history of U.S. environmental policy and an analysis of the workings of our major environmental policy-making institutions: Congress, the executive branch, the courts, and private corporations. A variety of approaches to environmental activism are also examined, including mainstream environmentalism, grassroots activism, deep ecology, and others.

Meets Social Sciences III-A requirement

D. Amy

*Prereq. soph, jr, sr; 4 credits***270s American Foreign Policy**

(Same as International Relations 270, History 283) In this examination of American foreign policy since 1898, topics include the emergence of the United States as a global power, its role in World War I and II, its conduct and interests in the cold war, and its possible objectives in a post-cold war world. Particular attention is paid to the relationship between domestic interests and foreign policy, the role of nuclear weapons in determining policy, and the special difficulties in implementing a democratic foreign policy. See <http://www.mtholyoke.edu/acad/intrel/afps98.htm> for a more detailed description.

Meets Social Sciences III-A requirement

V. Ferraro, J. Ellis

*Prereq. Politics 116; 4 credits***295fs Independent Study***Does not meet a distribution requirement**The department**Prereq. soph, jr, sr, permission of department and instructor; 1-4 credits***300f The New Democracies**

(Taught in English; Same as Russian Eurasian Studies 313) With the collapse of the USSR we were told that history was dead and liberal democracy triumphant. There was a “third wave” of democratic change. How accurate have these optimistic characterizations turned out to be? After an introduction to

theories of liberal democracy and to the new discipline of “transitology” we will look at how states and leaders have applied such liberal-democratic ideas in Eastern Europe and the former USSR (with comparative examples from Africa and South America), and with what success.

Meets Social Sciences III-A requirement

S. Jones

*Prereq. any two courses in any combination from politics, international relations, or economics; 4 credits***313s The Politics of Poverty**

This course is an analysis of economic inequality in America and an exploration of the power relationships, interests, and ideological conflicts surrounding this problem. Topics include the distribution of income and wealth in the United States; the relationship of poverty to race, sex, and class divisions; conservative, liberal, and radical perspectives on poverty and poverty policy.

Meets Social Sciences III-A requirement

D. Amy

*Prereq. jr, sr, 8 credits in department including Politics 101 or 104, and permission of instructor; 4 credits***328f Liberalism and Its Critics**

(Same as Gender Studies 333f(05)) This course is designed to engage students in central questions of liberalism, as well as critical responses to it. We will explore the development of liberal thinking, drawing from classic seventeenth-century texts as well as contemporary works. Together we will consider concepts such as rights, individualism, choice, and equality, with particular attention to liberal feminism and feminist critiques of liberalism.

Meets Social Sciences III-A requirement

L. Zuckerwise

*Prereq. 8 credits in department or permission of the instructor; 4 credits****332f Seminar on Electoral Systems**

This course examines the American electoral system, analyzes its strengths and weaknesses, and considers whether alternative systems used in other democracies are superior. Can American elections be made fairer, more representative, and more democratic? Can voting become a more meaningful and effective

political act? Among the topics: theories of representation, the Electoral College, term limits, winner-take-all vs. proportional voting systems, gerrymandering, and representation of women and racial minorities.

Meets Social Sciences III-A requirement

D. Amy

Prereq. jr, sr, 8 credits in department including Politics 104, and permission of instructor; 4 credits

*333f Cultural Politics

This course looks at key intersections of culture and power. Drawing on novelists, essayists, and theorists, we probe such issues as the cultural aspects of colonialism and anti- and post-colonial revolt, the idea of a clash of civilizations, the struggle for recognition of minority groups, the promise and limits of identity politics, liberal multiculturalisms, the class significance of aesthetic style and taste, and the repressive and creative tensions between dominant and marginal cultures.

Meets Social Sciences III-A requirement

J. Cocks

Prereq. jr, sr, 8 credits in department or permission of instructor; 4 credits

*345s Memories of Overdevelopment

On unsettling features of modern and late modern society. These include the alienated relationship between the city and the country, the pursuit of infinite economic growth, the restless transformation of the landscape, the anonymity of power, the detachment of the individual from traditional communities, the triumph of commodity fetishism, and the erosion of public space. We assess theoretical critiques of the sovereign subject, the civilization of productivity, and environmental thoughtlessness, as well as practical efforts to change the trajectory of our age.

Meets Social Sciences III-A requirement

J. Cocks

Prereq. jr, sr, 8 credits in Politics or Environmental Studies; 4 credits

346f Seminar in Public Policy

The purpose of this course is to develop the ability to analyze, choose, and promote public policies - the practical political skills that are essential to effective citizenship. Students work in teams to apply various policy analysis techniques to an assigned policy problem.

A large amount of class participation—both oral and written—is expected of all students.

Meets Social Sciences III-A requirement

D. Amy

Prereq. jr, sr, 8 credits in department and permission of instructor; 4 credits

347f Race and Urban Political Economy

Examines the relationship between a changing economic structure, urban administrations, and communal resistance in minority urban politics. Topics include the place of cities in global economic restructuring, the representation and power of blacks, Asians, and Latinos/Hispanics in governing coalitions, and the response of minority and community organizations to both structural possibilities and constraints of the new urban political economy.

Meets multicultural requirement; meets Social Sciences III-A requirement

P. Smith

Prereq. Politics 250, 252 or permission of instructor; 4 credits

*348s Colloquium in Politics: Community Development

(Community-Based Learning course) The course engages students in the theories, debates, and strategies regarding the revitalization of inner-city communities. Examines what roles business, government, and non-profit, community-based organizations (the “third sector”) play in developing “blighted” neighborhoods. Topics include economic development, affordable housing, equal and accessible social services, and political empowerment. Features speakers from related fields of community development. Students conduct research projects generated by community-based organizations in Holyoke and Springfield. Focuses on helping students integrate knowledge derived from class discussions, speakers, and their research experience.

Meets Social Sciences III-A requirement

P. Smith

Prereq. jr, sr, 8 credits in politics including Politics 252 or permission of instructor; 4 credits

350s Revolutions

(Taught in English; See Politics 350)

Meets Social Sciences III-A requirement

S. Jones
4 credits

***353f The Politics of Work**

This seminar explores the contentious relationship between work and politics. The focus will be on workplace dynamics and how technological change, gender, methods of labor organization, and management philosophy affect the way in which authority is structured and perpetuated. The experiences of such regions as the United States, Japan, and China will also be used to shed light on the future of labor and work in an age of increasing globalization.

Meets Social Sciences III-A requirement

C. Chen

Prereq. jr, sr; 8 credits in department or permission of instructor; 4 credits

357f War and Peace in South Asia

(Speaking- and writing-intensive course)

Multiple forms of conflict and violence fueled by economic inequality, political instability, and rising radicalism mark South Asia—a region of contested histories, ideologies, and territories. We will explore the histories and causes of enduring conflicts, such as Kashmir and the wars in Afghanistan, separatist movements in Pakistan, India, and Sri Lanka, and potential conflicts over scarce water and energy resources. We will conclude with analysis of the role of external powers, such as China, Iran, and the U.S. in South Asia and assess the prospects for peace in the region.

Meets multicultural requirement; meets Social Sciences III-A requirement

K. Khory

Prereq. jr.sr. 8 credits in department; 4 credits

359f Democratization and Civil Society in East Asia

This course examines the dramatic emergence of democratic institutions and civil society in East Asia. The primary aim of the class is to help students understand and analyze the process of democratic unfolding in Japan, Korea, and Taiwan. We will also evaluate China's recent, albeit limited experiments with democratic practices. We will begin by contrasting Western perspectives of democracy with both traditional and more contemporary Asian understandings of democracy.

We will then focus on the actual processes of democratic consolidation in each of the cases, especially the developments that precipitated political crisis and ultimately, political change.

Meets multicultural requirement; meets Social Sciences III-A requirement

C. Chen

Prereq. jr sr; 4 credits

***361s Politics & Rhetoric**

(Writing-intensive course) People have long accused politicians of using rhetoric to pander to audiences and get what they want regardless of the truth. But politics, especially democratic politics, depends on communication to persuade and motivate others. What is the relationship between speech and politics? Can we have political communication without rhetoric? How can citizens use speech to improve democracy? What are the political effects of different rhetorical styles? How can speech help communities deal with conflict? The course will focus on these questions, moving from classical writings on rhetoric to contemporary democratic political theory.

Meets Social Sciences III-A requirement

E. Markovits

Prereq. 8 credits in politics or critical social thought; 4 credits

366f International Migration

(Speaking- and writing-intensive course)

This course examines migration and transnational processes from a comparative perspective. It focuses on the relationship between globalization and international migration, with special attention to transnational networks and diaspora politics. We will explore major theories, forms, and patterns of migration in global politics; the involvement of diaspora organizations in the politics of host and home states; and the implications of migration and refugee flows for state sovereignty, national identity, and citizenship. We will conclude by analyzing the key debates and framing of immigration policies and models of citizenship in Europe and the United States.

Meets Social Sciences III-A requirement

K. Khory

Prereq. jr. sr. 8 credits in department; 4 credits

367s Decision Making

On decision making, and the pathologies of decision making, in American politics. When, and to what extent, can we say that a particular policy decision is the result of rational choice, institutional processes, pluralistic pressures, or other forces? When are individual or collective decisions likely to be marred by “groupthink,” selective attention, or self-deception? To what extent, if at all, may collective decisions be considered rational or moral? When are challenges to authority, or to dominant opinion, likely to make a difference?

Meets Social Sciences III-A requirement

C. Pyle

Prereq. Politics 104, 245, 246, or permission of instructor; 4 credits

370s Marx and Marxism

On theoretical and practical questions at the heart of the nineteenth- and early twentieth-century Marxist tradition. These questions include the master/slave relation, the movement of history, the logic of capital, alienation and mystification, and the making of the revolutionary subject. While focusing on Marx’s writings, we also will inspect Marx’s intellectual debt to Hegel, Lenin’s and Luxemburg’s intellectual and political debt to Marx, and, finally, echoes of Marx in contemporary critiques of globalization.

Meets Social Sciences III-A requirement

J. Cocks

Prereq. soph, jr, sr, or fy with permission of instructor; 4 credits

380s The Politics of Ethnic Conflict

This seminar explores the dimensions of ethnic conflict in severely divided societies. We examine the nature of ethnic identity, the sources of group conflict, and the forms and patterns of group conflict. Case studies are selected for their contemporary importance and the different lessons that can be learned from them. A variety of approaches to address ethnic conflict is assessed. Students have the opportunity to concentrate independently on problems or cases in which they may have a special interest.

Meets multicultural requirement; meets Social Sciences III-A requirement

K. Khory

Prereq. jr, sr, and 8 credits in department or permission of instructor; 4 credits

385s International Security

This course focuses on the recasting of global security concerns after the end of the cold war. It pays special attention to the problems of economic and ecological security; the relationship between security and democracy; humanitarian intervention; nuclear proliferation; and terrorism. The course concludes with analysis of specific initiatives for achieving both common and comprehensive security.

Meets Social Sciences III-A requirement

K. Khory

Prereq. jr, sr, 8 credits in department including Politics 116; 4 credits

388s Post-Communist Transitions

This seminar examines and analyzes the dramatic transformation of former Leninist regimes—specifically, Russia, Eastern Europe, and China—in historical and comparative perspective. Focuses on understanding why Leninism imploded, and the challenges confronting nations making a “transition from socialism.” Assesses the impact and consequences of the Leninist legacy on economic and political institutions, and state-society relations, and the definition of national identity and community.

Meets Social Sciences III-A requirement

C. Chen

Prereq. jr, sr; 8 credits in department, Politics 106 recommended; 4 credits

391fs Pivotal Political Ideas

This course explores such contested terms of political discourse as freedom, alienation, power, democracy, conservatism, cosmopolitanism, and the public sphere - as those concepts have been interpreted by diverse currents of political thought. Each year we will highlight a different conceptual theme.

Fall 2011

**391f(5) Good and Evil*

This section will emphasize ideas of good and evil as deployed historically by various political theorists. Among other topics, it will address ethics in international relations, the development of international law regarding

war crimes and crimes against humanity, and ways that the concepts of good and evil are deployed in connection with self-defense, honor, and conflict both domestically and internationally.

Meets Social Sciences III-A requirement

The department

Prereq. jr, sr, 8 credits in department or in critical social thought; 4 credits

Spring 2012

391s(1) Political Violence

(Community-Based Learning course) Societies pride themselves on being civilized when they transcend rule by violence and implant rule by law. Civilized societies pride themselves on being liberal democracies when they recognize the political equality of all citizens, represent the interest of those citizens in government, and make decisions through peaceful deliberation and compromise. But what exactly is violence, and what is wrong with it? Does it entail physical force, or can violence be present when bloodshed is absent? Is it a means to power, an expression of powerlessness, or both? Is justice always served by the exit of violence from social life? Are liberal democracy and violence truly antithetical?

Meets Social Sciences III-A requirement

J. Cocks

Prereq. Jr, sr, 8 credits in politics, ir, or cst, or by permission of instructor.; 4 credits

391s(2) Sovereignty

This semester we will focus on the idea of sovereignty, from its articulation in the sixteenth century by the absolute royalist Jean Bodin, to current debates over whether sovereign power is outmoded both domestically and in international relations.

Meets Social Sciences III-A requirement

J. Cocks

Prereq. jr, sr, 8 credits in department or permission of instructor; 4 credits

***391s(3) Conservatism**

(Community-Based Learning course) This semester we will focus on varieties of conservatism, with emphasis on Edmund Burke, Leo Strauss, and recent thinkers influenced by them, but also including libertarians, iso-

lationists, and activists of the Tea Party movement.

Meets Social Sciences III-A requirement

J. Cocks

Prereq. jr, sr, 8 credits in department or international relations or critical social thought, or permission of instructor.; 4 credits

***391s(4) Citizen and the Foreigner**

(Community-Based Learning course) This year we will examine the idea of the citizen and the foreigner, examining both classic theories of citizenship and challenges to those theories posed by diasporic groups and other cultural strangers such as exiles, refugees, economic migrants, and stateless populations. We also will consider the pressures placed on classic notions of citizenship by transnational social and environmental problems, as well as by the power of global economic forces over domestic political communities.

Meets Social Sciences III-A requirement

J. Cocks

Prereq. jr, sr, 8 credits in department or international relations or critical social thought, or permission of instructor.; This semester the course will include a CBL component.; 4 credits

***392s Portraits of Political Thinkers: Hannah Arendt**

This topics course explores the life, affiliations, and ideas of a political theorist who has made a special contribution to the self-understanding of our age. In addition to the writings by that thinker, we also will read biographies and secondary commentaries as well as selected essays by authors who have influenced our thinker or who have been influenced by her or him. The thinker for this year is Hannah Arendt, who has written controversial but influential works on revolution, violence, and totalitarianism; the nation-state and statelessness; imperialism and racism; and anti-Semitism and Zionism.

Meets Social Sciences III-A requirement

J. Cocks

Prereq. jr, sr, 8 credits in department or in critical social thought, or with permission of instructor; 4 credits

395fs Independent Study

Does not meet a distribution requirement

The department

Prereq. jr, sr, permission of department and instructor; 1-8 credits

398f The Rwanda Genocide in Comparative Perspective

The 1994 genocide in Rwanda caused untold human suffering, left more than half a million dead, and reverberated throughout the Central African region. This course explores parallels and contrasts between Rwanda and other cases of genocide and mass murder in the twentieth century. Topics include the nature, causes, and consequences of genocide in Rwanda, regional dynamics, the failure of the international community to intervene, and efforts to promote justice in the aftermath of conflict. Consideration of theories of genocide, and comparisons with other cases such as the Armenian genocide, the Holocaust, the destruction of the Herero, and war in Liberia and Sierra Leone.

Meets Social Sciences III-A requirement

C. Newbury

Prereq. jr, sr, 8 credits in the department; 4 credits

333	Just War and Jihad: Comparative Ethics of War and Peace
341	Political Islam
342	Comparative Politics of North Africa
365	Ethics and International Relations
	<i>Russian and Eurasian Studies</i>
131	An Introduction to the Peoples and Cultures in Russia and Eurasia
151	Fire and Sword in the Caucasus: A Family Saga
240	Russia: From Communism to Capitalism
241	Russia and the West
242	Oil and Water Don't Mix: Geopolitics, Energy, and the Environment
243	Terrorism: Russia as Its Cradle
313	The New Democracies
316	Foreigners Within, Foreigners Without: Europe and Its New Neighbors (Seminar)
330	Nationalism
350	Revolutions

Related Courses in Other Departments

Available for credit in politics. See department listings for course descriptions.

Gender Studies

270 Feminism and Capitalism

International Relations

- 211 Middle East Politics
- 222 The United States, Israel, and the Arabs
- 224 The United States and Iran
- 225 Resource Scarcities, Global Environmental Perils, and World Politics
- 311 Problems of International Peace and Security
- 317 U.S. Foreign Policy and Regional Conflict
- 319 The United States and the Promotion of Democracy and Human Rights
- 323 Comparative Politics of the Middle East