

Political Science: Spring 2021 Courses

PSC 1200	American National Government	<i>(satisfies Core Social Science requirement, req'd for Political Science majors)</i>		
12914	Distance Learning			Dr. Daniels
12915	TR	2:30-3:50	Remote	Dr. Wang
24271	Distance Learning			Dr. Wang
17187	Distance Learning			Dr. Daniels
25701	Distance Learning			Dr. Wang

An introductory survey of the institutions, processes and politics of the government of the United States and its relationship to state governments.

PSC 1710	Current International Problems	<i>(satisfies Multicultural Non-Western requirement, political science elective)</i>		
17144	TR	2:30-3:50		Dr. Voss
19486	Distance Learning			Dr. Daniels
25702	Distance Learning			Dr. Rai
25703	Distance Learning			Dr. Rai

Interested in globalization, international war, terrorism, human rights, or ethnic conflict? PSC 1710 is the class for you! Current International Problems introduces students to the theoretical, empirical, and practical tools to students to make sense of the world. It will help students gain a better understanding of the interconnectedness of the world and also work as a springboard for students to find the interests that will drive their future studies and travels. Satisfies multi-cultural requirement (non-US)

PSC 2660	African Politics	<i>(satisfies Multicultural Non-Western requirement, political science elective)</i>		
25704	TR	11:10-12:30	Remote	Dr. Rai

Diversity among the African countries provides a fascinating investigation of the continent. There are multiple political systems, ethnic identities, and external interests among the countries in Sub-Saharan Africa. Applying a comparative lens, we will survey Africa's pre-colonial and colonial heritage; and economic, social, and environmental characteristics that help define Africa. We will delve deeper into a few countries as case studies as well as examine the international and regional influences, thereby gaining a broad understanding of the political, social, and economic implications surrounding Africa today.

PSC 2700	Principles of International Relations	<i>(satisfies Gateway requirement for major, major elective)</i>		
17129	TR	9:35-10:55		Dr. Voss
25747	MW	9:35-10:55		Dr. Ayres

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the key concepts and issues within the field of international relations in order to help students better understand how states and non-state actors interact with each other in the global community. The first half of the course will focus on foundational concepts and issues, such as the history of international relations, understanding levels of analysis in studying international relations, and finally theories of international relations. The second part of the course will focus on practical issues facing the world and how international relations helps understand and potentially solve these problems. Key issues include international institutions, human rights, the environment, and international political economy. Major gateway course.

PSC 3150	Research and Writing in Political Science-WAC	<i>(highly recommended for all political science majors)</i>		
19639	MW	4:00-5:20		Dr. Caceres

This course introduces academic writing and research techniques in the political science discipline. Topics covered include: research ethics, scholarly literature review, peer-review process, research questions and research design, methodological approaches, and data analysis. Satisfies WAC req.

PSC 3250	Public Opinion			
25705	TR	11:10-12:30	Remote	Dr. Taylor

This course explores the role of public opinion in American politics. It also develops data analysis skills and familiarizes students with survey development.

PSC 3280	Race and American Politics	<i>(satisfies Multicultural US Diversity)</i>		
22939	MW	9:35-10:55	Remote	Dr. Daniels

This course examines the role that race plays in the development of American politics. The class investigates definitions of race, how they have evolved, and how they continue to influence policy debates. This seminar assesses the impact that different racial groups, and their struggles for equality, have had on American democracy. This course examines the leading theoretical frameworks and empirical findings to analyze the relationship between race and American political development.

PSC 3410 Principles of Public Policy *(satisfies Gateway requirement for major, major elective)*
19488 TR 2:30-3:50 Remote Dr. Taylor

This course explores the public policy process in the United States. Students learn about the factors that affect public policymaking. They develop skills to assess the political feasibility of policy proposals. Major gateway course.

PSC 3520 Constitutional Law and Politics II
25706 TR 12:55-2:15 Dr. Nelson

This course examines political conflicts over civil liberties such as freedom of speech, religion, and privacy. We will consider the role of the Supreme Court in the US system of civil liberties, the relationship between judicial decisions and state actions affecting rights, and the underlying theories of civil liberty in a democratic society. In order to understand the role of the Supreme Court in our system of civil liberties, we will also investigate the underlying political theory of civil liberty in a democratic society.

PSC 3790 Model United Nations
21455 F 10:00 – 10:55 Dr. Caceres

(1 credit) Model UN provides a faculty-advised, student-led academic learning experience through the simulation of the structures, processes, and issues at the United Nations Organization. Students will learn about international relations while role-playing United Nations delegates. While not required, students are highly encouraged to take Principles of International Relations beforehand (PSC 2700 is also offered this semester and would be a good companion course).

PSC 3800 Sexual Politics
25707 MW 2:30-3:50 Dr. Heberle

This course critically examines gender, sex and sexuality as identities, practices, and relationships. Through readings in feminist political theory and history, we study state practices, social norms, and historical movements for change to understand why and how various forms of gender, sex and sexuality become normal or are challenged in unexpected ways.

PSC 3820 Contemporary Political Ideas
25708 MW 12:55-2:15 Dr. Heberle

Surveys developments and themes in political theory since the early 20th century. Particular issues addressed include bureaucracy, mass society, state and civil violence, and identity politics.

PSC 4230 Presidency
25728 MW 12:55-2:15 Dr. Broxmeyer

Presidents enjoy special prominence in the American political system. However, they are strongly influenced by their interactions with other political institutions, such as Congress, courts, the bureaucracy, and political parties. This course examines the presidency's original design and how the office has developed over time. We also investigate contemporary controversies in presidential power, such as unilateral action and impeachment.

PSC 4320 Urban Policy & Administration
25735 MW 4:00-5:20 Dr. Broxmeyer

What does it take to govern a city and its environs? In this course, we examine the balance between the pressing needs of a city and the many economic and political constraints that citizens, leaders, and experts must navigate to achieve their goals.

PSC 4360 Ethics in Public Policy and Administration
25745 R 7:00-8:20 (Blended, has DL component) Dr. Boden

Examination of values and principles which guide public policy formation and public administration. Applications of philosophical concepts to policy problems and the responsibilities of public administrators will be emphasized.

PSC 4430 Human Resources Management in Public and Nonprofit Organizations
25741 T 5:30-6:50 (Blended, has DL component) Dr. Boden

This course is a study of human resource management in public and nonprofit organizations. The course explores broad themes within public personnel administration such as recruitment, retention, motivation, and diversity to provide students with the opportunity to develop technical skills necessary for effectively managing human resources in contemporary public agencies, including government and nonprofit organizations.

PSC 4440 Budgeting and Financial Administration

25743 R 5:30-6:50 (Blended remote, DL component) Dr. Wang

An examination of the institutions and techniques of financial administration, including government accounting, budgeting, financial management and government choice.

PSC 4560 Law and Public Administration

25739 TR 4:00-5:20 Remote Preston

This course surveys law topics that are relevant for managers of public and nonprofit organizations. It will address items such as employment law, eminent domain, negligence, administrative law and freedom of information requests.

PSC 4640 The European Union

25709 TR 11:10-12:30 Dr. Voss

This course will give students an overview of different European states, governments, and politics. In addition, the course will examine the European Union, its structures, and key issues facing both the European Union and Europe. Issues include European integration, the rise of authoritarian political parties, the recent refugee and migration crisis, and European foreign policy.

PSC 4950 Capstone in Political Science

(required for all political science majors)

25848 DL Dr. Caceres

This one credit course is required for all political science majors who started at UT in Fall 2017 or after. **If you plan to graduate in May 2021 or December 2021 you should register for Capstone.** This course provides the opportunity to integrate and reflect on knowledge and experiences gained during completion of the political science major with an eye towards post-graduation endeavors such as graduate or professional study, employment, internships, or service programs. Topics include how to construct a portfolio and write cover letters, resumes, and CVs.

PSC 4980 Current Topic - Immigration

25710 MW 11:10-12:30 Dr. Caceres

The politics of immigration and immigration policy are contentious contemporary issues but have been an ongoing topic of debate for centuries. In this course, we will explore the politics of immigration and emigration through political, economic, and cultural frameworks, both old and new. We will consider several angles of the immigration debate, including refugees, globalization, militarization, labor, security, and climate change, among others. These issues are explored at the local, national, and international levels.

GLST 2000 Principles of Global Studies

25712 MW 11:10-12:30 Dr. Ayres

This course introduces students to contemporary global affairs through an interdisciplinary lens. We will look at global issues both thematically and through case studies in order to understand how the forces of globalization are shaping all aspects of our daily lives. Topics covered include politics (institutions, security, etc.), economics (poverty, labor markets, etc.), and social issues (gender, culture, etc.), among many others.

GLST 4900 Global Studies Senior Seminar-WAC

21745 MW 4:00-5:20 Dr. Caceres

Crosslisted with PSC 3150, please see description above.

Course request sheet required

PSC 3990 Independent Study for Honors

PSC 4940 Applied Politics Internship

PSC 4960 Senior Honors Thesis

PSC 4990 Independent Study in Political Science