

Course Offerings

See page 65 for a definition of the course-numbering system.

POLS — POLITICAL SCIENCE

Lower Division

POLS 101 AMERICAN NATIONAL GOVERNMENT (3-0-3)(F/S)(Area II). Institutions and processes of the American political system, emphasizing social, ideological, and constitutional background.

POLS 102 STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT (3-0-3)(F/S). Institutions and processes of state and local government, with emphasis on the changing nature of federalism, the role of political participation, and the variation among the state polities and subnational political economies.

POLS 141 CONTEMPORARY POLITICAL IDEOLOGIES (3-0-3)(F/S)(Area II) (Diversity). Analysis of the main ideas shaping the politics of the modern world (e.g., liberty, equality, democracy, justice, culture) through the perspectives of different authors and schools of thought.

POLS 231 INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS (3-0-3)(F/S)(Area II)(Diversity). Nature of relations among nations with particular reference to contemporary international issues. Analysis of the causes of war and efforts to promote peace. Study of national sovereignty and its relation to international cooperation.

POLS 298 INTRODUCTION TO POLITICAL INQUIRY (3-0-3)(F,S). Techniques of political science inquiry, behavioral and attitudinal, using data analysis and introductory statistics.

Upper Division

POLS 301 POLITICAL PARTIES, PUBLIC OPINION , AND INTEREST GROUPS (3-0-3) (F/S). Examines the functions and importance of political parties, public opinion, and interest groups within the American political system. Considers the organization and activities of political parties and interest groups. PREREQ: POLS 101 or POLS 102.

POLS 302 CAMPAIGNS AND ELECTIONS (3-0-3)(F/S). Examines the nature of electoral campaigns in the United States, including candidacy, the role of the media, how to run a campaign at the local level, and campaign finance issues. Also investigates the American electoral structure and voting behavior of the American electorate. PREREQ: POLS 101 or POLS 102.

POLS 303 INTRODUCTION TO PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION (3-0-3)(F/S). Theory, administrative organization, functions, and problems of governmental units. PREREQ: POLS 101 or POLS 102.

POLS 308 URBAN POLITICS (3-0-3)(S)(Alternate years). An inquiry into different urban political systems and issues. Included are investigations into different governing arrangements in urban jurisdictions, including variations in electoral structures, types of governing bodies, and different government structures. Also included is an analysis of the role of political parties and interest groups, as well as urban issues such as transportation, waste disposal, service delivery, and financing. PREREQ: POLS 102.

POLS 309 AMERICAN CHIEF EXECUTIVE (3-0-3)(F/S). Consideration of the importance and involvement of the President in the political and policy-making processes

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and powers of the Presidency. Presidential campaigns and elections. The role of the President as policy-maker and administrator. The effect of the personality of a President on performance in office. PREREQ: POLS 101.

POLS 310 (ECON 310) PUBLIC FINANCE (3-0-3)(S). A study of the role and impact of government on the functioning of the free enterprise economic system. The theory and rationale of government spending, taxing, and indebtedness will be examined, as well as the effects of government activity on allocation of resources and distribution of income. Attention will be paid to state and local problems. May be taken for either ECON or POLS credit, but not both. PREREQ: ECON 201 and ECON 202 or PERM/INST.

POLS 311 COMPARATIVE FOREIGN POLICY (3-0-3)(F/S). Examination of foreign policies and objectives of world's major powers, analysis of contemporary international problems, and consideration of theories of international politics. PREREQ: POLS 101 or POLS 231.

POLS 312 LEGISLATIVE BEHAVIOR (3-0-3)(F/S). Analysis of behavior of American state and national legislatures. Special consideration given to impact of constituencies, parties, interest groups, interpersonal relations, and other factors on legislators, and the role of the legislature in the American political system. PREREQ: POLS 101 or POLS 102.

POLS 320 AMERICAN POLICY PROCESS (3-0-3)(F/S). The process through which policy is determined, implemented, and adjusted, with emphasis on the role of administrators. PREREQ: POLS 101 or POLS 102.

POLS 321 INTRODUCTION TO COMPARATIVE POLITICS (3-0-3)(F/S). An introduction to the cross-national analysis of the structure and functioning of various types of political systems, with special emphasis on the problems of political change. PREREQ: POLS 101 or POLS 231.

POLS 324 POLITICS IN RUSSIA AND EASTERN EUROPE (3-0-3)(F/S)(Alternate years). A comparative analysis of the political systems of the former Soviet republics and Eastern Europe, with primary emphasis on Russia. Special attention will be given to the collapse of communism, the problem of democratization, and the transition from state to socialism to a market economy. PREREQ: POLS 101 or POLS 231.

POLS 325 LATIN AMERICAN POLITICS (3-0-3)(F/S). Covers twentieth-century Latin American politics, focusing on regime change, economic development, and political conflict. Particular attention is paid to Mexico, Cuba, and Brazil. The last section of the course focuses on current problems and political dilemmas in the region. PREREQ: POLS 101 or POLS 231.

POLS 327 CANADIAN POLITICS (3-0-3)(SU)(Alternate even years). An analysis of the Canadian political system, with emphasis on political culture, governmental institutions and processes, and selected public policy issues. PREREQ: POLS 101 or POLS 231.

POLS 328 POLITICS IN JAPAN (3-0-3)(F/S)(Alternate years). An analysis of the political system of Japan, with special emphasis on the development of Japanese political culture and its impact on the policy process. PREREQ: POLS 101 or POLS 231.

POLS 329 POLITICS OF INDUSTRIALIZED NATIONS (3-0-3)(F/S)(Alternate years).

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Political systems of selected industrialized European nations, including Great Britain, France, the German Federal Republic, and the countries of Scandinavia. Analysis of patterns of political culture, political interests, political power, and selected public policy issues.

PREREQ: POLS 101 or POLS 231.

POLS 331 AMERICAN POLITICAL THEORY (3-0-3)(F/S). Genesis and development of political thought in the United States from the colonial period to the present. PREREQ: POLS 101 or POLS 102.

POLS 332 THE IDEAS OF AMERICA (3-0-3)(S)(Odd years). Ideas central to the American identity in comparative historical perspective. Examples include freedom, tolerance, religious liberty, community, and individual rights. PREREQ: POLS 101.

POLS 333 COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENTS AND POLITICS OF DEVELOPING NATIONS (3-0-3)(F/S)(Alternate years). Political systems of selected nations in developing areas of the world, including nation-states in Africa, Asia and Latin America. Patterns and problems of political development and modernization in the nations will be analyzed. PREREQ: POLS 101 or POLS 231.

POLS 335 UNITED STATES FOREIGN POLICY (3-0-3)(F/S). Development of diplomacy from the foundation of the republic to the present, with emphasis on emergence and continuance of United States as a world power; impact of domestic developments on formulation of foreign policies. PREREQ: POLS 101 and POLS 231.

POLS 340 ENVIRONMENTAL POLITICS (3-0-3)(F/S). This course explores the political context of natural resource and environmental issues and examines how various aspects of the political process influence natural resource and environmental policy outcomes. PREREQ: POLS 101.

POLS 351 CONSTITUTIONAL LAW (3-0-3)(F/S). Examination of the Constitution, as interpreted by the Supreme Court, through the case method. Powers and limitations of the judicial, legislative, and executive branches and legal significance of federalism. PREREQ: POLS 101.

POLS 352 CIVIL LIBERTIES (3-0-3)(F/S). Examination of constitutional rights and liberties, as interpreted by U.S. Supreme Court, through the case method. Rights of free speech, press, association, religious exercise, privacy, and protection of civil rights that were denied on basis of race or gender. PREREQ: POLS 101.

POLS 353 WOMEN AND THE LAW (3-0-3)(F/S). Examination of laws and legal issues concerning women, including equality in education and employment, family and privacy issues. PREREQ: POLS 101.

POLS 355 LAW, POLITICS, AND SOCIETY (3-0-3)(F/S). Study of the social and political context of the American judicial system, with an emphasis on legal culture, institutions, and process in the field of civil law. PREREQ: POLS 101.

POLS 381 AMERICAN POLITICAL ECONOMY (3-0-3)(F/S)(Alternate years). Focuses on the interface between American politics and economics. Topics include: theories of the capitalist state and society, and different interpretations of American political economy through competing theoretical approaches. PREREQ: POLS 101 or POLS 141.

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POLS 398 ADVANCED POLITICAL SCIENCE METHODS (3-0-3)(F,S). Examination of the discipline of political science, its central problems and unifying concerns using advanced research methods and computer applications. PREREQ: POLS 298 or PERM/INST.

POLS 421 INTERNATIONAL LAW AND ORGANIZATION (3-0-3)(F/S). The law of peace, international intercourse, war and threat of war, pacific settlement, and the principles and practice of international law. Historical background of international organizations, including the United Nations. PREREQ: POLS 231.

POLS 429 INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL ECONOMY (3-0-3)(F/S)(Alternate years). Examines the relationship between international politics and international economics across different levels of analysis. Includes a discussion of the contending paradigms of international relations, as well as an analysis of the many relationships between/among different nation-state groupings within the world system. PREREQ: POLS 231.

POLS 441 (PHIL 441) CLASSICAL POLITICAL THOUGHT (3-0-3)(F)(Odd years). Development of political philosophy from Socrates to Machiavelli. May be taken for either POLS or PHIL credit, but not both. PREREQ: POLS 101, 141 or PHIL 101.

POLS 442 (PHIL 442) MODERN POLITICAL THOUGHT (3-0-3)(S)(Even years). Development of political thought since Machiavelli. May be taken for either POLS or PHIL credit, but not both. PREREQ: POLS 101, 141 or PHIL 101.

POLS 443 (PHIL 443) CONTEMPORARY POLITICAL THOUGHT (3-0-3)(F)(Even years). Major trends in political thought from the post-French Revolutionary era, which may

Course Descriptions taken from Boise State University 2008-2009 Undergraduate Catalog, page 212.

<http://registrar.boisestate.edu/undergrad2008-2009.htm>