

Political Science

*Concentration Chair: Gary Herrigel, P 423, 702-8067,
g-herrigel@uchicago.edu*

*Undergraduate Secretary: Mimi Walsh, P 401, 702-3040,
m-walsh@uchicago.edu*

Web: political-science.uchicago.edu

Program of Study

The academic discipline of political science contributes to a liberal education by introducing College students to concepts, methods, and knowledge that help them understand and judge politics within and among nations. A B.A. degree in political science can lead to professional or graduate school in various disciplines, or contribute to careers in fields such as government, journalism, politics, education, business, and law.

Program Requirements

Courses. A concentration in political science requires completion of twelve courses. In addition to political science courses, students may choose from the list at the end of this section: "Approved Courses from Outside Political Science." Other courses outside political science may be considered on a case-by-case petition basis. Prior approval of the concentration chair is required. For students choosing to write a B.A. paper, two of these twelve courses will be associated with the B.A. Paper: PLSC 29800 (B.A. Colloquium); and PLSC 29900 (B.A. Paper).

Course Distribution. The Department of Political Science believes that an undergraduate education in politics should include some familiarity with theoretical approaches to politics, with the politics of one's own country, with the politics of other countries, and with politics among nations. Of the political science courses required, at least one course must be taken in three of the following four subfields. To identify the subfields, refer to the boldface letter at the end of each course description.

- A. *Empirical and Normative Political Theory*: the history of ancient and modern political philosophy, the history of American political thought, and several varieties of contemporary political theory
- B. *American Politics and Public Policy*: American political institutions, behavior, opinions, development, and public policy
- C. *Comparative Politics*: the politics of particular foreign countries and regions and the comparative study of particular political phenomena such as leadership or state formation
- D. *International Relations*: theoretical approaches to the study of politics among nations, the international relations of particular regions, the foreign policies of particular countries, and such topics as international political economy and military security

Summary of Requirements

12	political science courses (at least one each in three of four subfields)
—	fulfillment of the writing requirement
12	

Summary of Requirements for those writing B.A. papers

10	political science courses (at least one each in three of four subfields)
1	PLSC 29800 (B.A. Colloquium)
—	PLSC 29900 (B.A. Paper)
12	

Grading. Two of the required courses in political science may, with the consent of the instructor, be graded *P/F*.

Reading and Research Course. For students with a legitimate interest in pursuing a program of study that cannot be fulfilled by means of regular courses, there is the option of devising a reading and research course, to be taken individually and supervised by a member of the political science faculty. Such a course requires the approval of the political science concentration chair and the prior consent of the instructor with whom the student would like to study. PLSC 29700 is a general reading and research course for independent study not related to the B.A. paper or B.A. research. Please note that only one PLSC 29700 course may count toward the concentration requirements.

Writing Requirement. Students are required to write one substantial paper (twenty or more pages) in one of the courses they take to meet the concentration requirements. A form certifying the successful completion of this writing requirement is available in the departmental office. This requirement is waived if the student chooses to write a B.A. paper.

Third Year. During Autumn Quarter of the third year, prospective political science concentrators should watch for announcement of a required meeting with the concentration chair. The purpose of the meeting is to introduce the concentration and provide details on its requirements.

For those students choosing to write a B.A. paper, a second meeting is required in the Spring Quarter. This second meeting will focus on methods for doing research in political science. It is designed to encourage initial thinking about the B.A. paper. By the end of the eighth week of the Spring Quarter, all concentrators choosing to write a B.A. paper must have chosen a faculty adviser and received written approval from the faculty adviser and the preceptor for the B.A. paper proposal. A copy of the approved proposal must be filed with the department (P 401). Students not in residence in the Spring Quarter of their third year should correspond with the concentration chair about their plans for the B.A. paper before the end of the Spring Quarter, should they choose that option.

The B.A. Paper Colloquium (PLSC 29800). Concentrators who choose to write a B.A. paper (and all those applying for honors) are required to participate in the B.A. Paper Colloquium in the Autumn and Winter Quarters of the senior year. The colloquium, which may be organized along methodological or field lines, is designed to help students carry out their B.A. paper research. It meets weekly in autumn and biweekly in winter. The final grade for the colloquium will reflect the grade assigned by the B.A. preceptor based on the student's contribution to the colloquium. Please note that *registration* for PLSC 29800, which is required for those writing B.A. papers, is limited to either the Autumn or Winter Quarter of the senior year, but that *attendance* is required in both quarters.

The B.A. Paper (PLSC 29900). During their senior year, concentrators who choose to write a B.A. paper (and all those applying for honors) must register with their B.A. paper faculty adviser for one (and only one) quarter of PLSC 29900. The final grade for the course will be based on the grade given the B.A. paper by the faculty adviser. The final deadline for submission of non-honors B.A. papers is Friday of eighth week of the quarter in which the student expects to graduate (see honors deadline below). This deadline represents a final, formal submission; students should expect to submit and defend substantial drafts much earlier. One copy of the B.A. paper must be submitted to the department office (P 401) for delivery to the appropriate faculty adviser. The B.A. paper minimum page requirement is thirty-five pages. Students who choose to write a B.A. paper need not fulfill the third-year writing requirement.

Honors. Students who have done exceptionally well in their course work and who write an outstanding B.A. paper are recommended for honors in political science. A student is eligible for honors if the concentration GPA is 3.6 or higher and the overall GPA is 3.0 or higher at the beginning of the quarter in which the student intends to graduate. Students who wish to be considered for honors are required to register for the PLSC 29800 (B.A. Colloquium) and PLSC 29900 (B.A. Paper). To be considered for honors, students must submit two copies of their B.A. paper by Friday of the fifth week of the quarter in which they expect to graduate. Students who apply for honors and write a B.A. paper need not fulfill the writing requirement.

Transfer Credits. With approval from the concentration chair, students may apply transfer credit for courses taken at other institutions toward their political science concentration. The department requires, however, that the majority (at least seven of twelve or six of ten) of a student's substantive courses (i.e., classroom courses with syllabi, taken for a grade) be taken at the University of Chicago from courses recognized by the department as political science courses. PLSC 29700 also counts as a substantive course.

Double Majors. Students may double major in political science and another concentration as long as they are able to fulfill the requirement that the majority (at least seven of twelve or six of ten) of their substantive courses are taken at the University of Chicago from courses recognized by the department as political science courses. The department can also accept a B.A. paper that will also be counted as a B.A. paper in a different concentration. If the paper is an honors paper, it must, however, be evaluated by at least two members of the political science department faculty in order to receive honors from the political science department.

Study Abroad. The Department of Political Science supports the efforts of its concentrators to study abroad. The department is willing to allow credits earned abroad to count toward the fulfillment of concentration requirements as long as the majority (at least seven of twelve or six of ten) of a student's substantive courses are taken at the University of Chicago from courses recognized by the department as political science courses.

Faculty

D. Allen, C. Boix, J. Brehm, C. Cohen, J. Cropsey, D. Drezner, J. Grynawski, M. Harris-Lacewell, G. Herrigel, S. Kalyvas, C. Larmore, J. Levy, C. Lipson, P. Markell, J. Mearsheimer, L. Medina, E. Oliver, J. Padgett, R. Pape, G. Rosenberg, W. Sewell, B. S. Silberman, D. Snidal, S. Stokes, C. Sunstein, R. Suny, N. Tarcov, L. Wedeen, A. Wendt, D. Yang, I. Young

Courses

Boldface letters in parentheses refer to the course distribution areas noted in the preceding Program Requirements section.

21002. Democracy and Integration in an Expanding Europe. *Class limited to twenty students.* The course deals with a key issue in contemporary European politics today: the problem of securing the European Union's political legitimacy. Many have pointed to a "democratic deficit" resulting from EU institutions' tendency to decide on traditionally domestic matters. Others claim that removing impediments to the free flow of goods, people, and capital across European borders is enough to secure the EU's legitimacy. Still others claim that the EU and democracy are fully compatible given that states' interests are the leading factor in the functioning of EU institutions. Beyond considering this debate, we examine the same problem with respect to EU enlargement in postcommunist Central and Eastern Europe. *L. Tesser. Autumn. (C)*

21102. British Politics: The Ideas that Shaped Post-War Britain. *Class limited to twenty students.* The course examines post-war British politics, focusing on different ideas of social formation and their influence on public policies during three periods: the Consensus Politics era (1945 to 1979), the New Right era (1979 to 1997), and the Third Way era (1997 to the present). We analyze each era with respect to three kinds of change: the range of state intervention, the responsibilities of society to individuals, and the amount of liberty due to individuals. *N. Kim. Autumn. (C)*

21202. Democracy and Doing. *Class limited to twenty students.* This course introduces two different philosophical theories of evaluation and uses them to analyze topics of contemporary public policy. The first evaluative approach is based on utilitarian political thought. The second approach is linked to the Aristotelian tradition in political philosophy, and more recently, to American pragmatism. The readings include historical thinkers such as Aristotle, Jeremy Bentham, and J. S. Mill, and contemporary thinkers such as John Dewey, Amartya Sen, and Richard Posner. *B. Holland. Spring. (A)*

21400/32400. World Politics in the Nineteenth Century: A History. The course provides an overview of major developments in nineteenth-century history: wars, revolutions, diplomacy, economic development, imperial expansion, and international trade and investment. The course covers key elements of international history needed for further study of international politics and IR theory. Besides diplomatic relations among the Great Powers, the course examines long-term trends in economic development and military force. Topics include the settlement after the Napoleonic Wars, the failed revolutions of 1848 to 1849, European imperialism, the industrial revolution, and the origins of World War I. *C. Lipson. Autumn. (D)*

22502. Problems of Collective Self in the Post-Cold War World. *Class limited to twenty students.* The course examines the problems of conceptualizing collective "self" in international relations. As key terms in international relations such as self-help, self-interest, or self-determination indicate, "self" is one of the central concepts to describe actions under the condition of anarchy. However, how to conceptualize the collective "self" or how to apply the conceptual selves to the analysis of conflicts in the post-cold war world remains problematic. The course reviews traditional perspectives on anarchy and identity, and explores the nature of national self as constituted by collective memory and historical events and its relation to security issues. *J. Yim. Spring. (D)*

22600. Comparative Political Economy. The course explores the interplay of politics and economics to answer the following questions: Why do different countries choose different economic strategies? Do these different economic policies affect the economy successfully? Can governments shape the economy according to their political preferences? Or are they constrained by any "exogenous" forces? After paying particular attention to developed nations, we then consider the political underpinnings of economic performance in developing areas by comparing Latin American countries, sub-Saharan Africa, and East Asian nations. *C. Boix. Spring. (C)*

22900. The Theory and Practice of International Cooperation. Cooperation is often difficult but it is nevertheless a central element of international politics. This course develops the theory of international cooperation moving from basic assumptions about international politics through the role of international institutions and the limitations of the analysis. Students apply the theory by analyzing the development (or failure) of international cooperation in some international issue area. *D. Snidal. Winter. (D)*

23301. Interest Group Politics. In this course we take up claims about interest groups and their role in American politics and consider ways to evaluate them systematically. We discuss their formation and maintenance as organizations, their efforts to influence Congress and the bureaucracy, their part in campaigns and elections, and their overall effect on the conduct of American democracy. *M. Hansen. Autumn. (B)*

23700. Sartre. (=PHIL 21201) For course description, see Philosophy. *C. Larmore. Autumn. (A)*

24100. Democracy and Its Critics in Nineteenth-Century Political Thought. This course surveys developments in nineteenth-century

European and American political thought, focusing on the theory and practice of democracy, and exploring its connections to such other themes as liberalism, race, empire, socialism, nationalism, the state, gender, class, and mass. The course involves close readings of important works of philosophy and political theory, as well as reconstruction of these works' historical context, including some examination of concrete political struggles over democracy. *P. Markell. Winter. (A)*

24200. Marx. (=GNDR 21800, PHIL 31000) *PQ: Course in ethics of political philosophy.* For course description, see Philosophy. *C. Vogler. Spring. (A)*

24300. Globalization and Its Discontents. This course examines the political causes and effects of globalization, a term referring to the cluster of political, economic, and technological changes that have greatly reduced barriers to exchange. It starts with attempts to define the globalization phenomenon, looks at the historical build-up to the reduction of international barriers, and then examines the effect of globalization on both the developed and developing world. Topics include the effects of unfettered capital flows on nation-states, the validity of race-to-the-bottom phenomena, the rise of global NGOs, the question of cultural homogenization, and whether globalization is reversible. *D. Drezner. Spring. (D)*

24400. Authoritarianism and Change in the Middle East. This seminar investigates the causes and persistence of authoritarian forms of rule in the Middle East while also interrogating our theoretical understandings of "democratization" and democracy. We examine the relationship between authoritarianism and colonial rule, the importance of class coalitions in determining the levels of state violence, the role of institutions of repression in sustaining violence, the everyday practices of authoritarian rule, and the nature and purposes of ideology. *L. Wedeen. Winter. (C)*

24800. Ethics in International Affairs and Development. *Enrollment limited.* This course examines issues of normative judgment in the context of international affairs and economic and social development. It introduces several basic conceptual frameworks for normative analysis (e.g., utilitarianism, rights theories, theories of justice influenced by Rawls, the theory of capabilities). We compare and apply these frameworks to specific issues (e.g., international distributive justice, human rights and cultural difference, Third World debt, development and freedom, global environment, refugees, war intervention, ideals of global governance). Theories and issues are examined with some specific case studies. *I. Young. Autumn. (D)*

24900. Insurgency and Democratization in Latin America, 1960 to 2000. This course analyzes different instances of violent insurgency in Latin America during the second half of the twentieth century and how they affected the consolidation (or lack thereof) of democratic politics in the countries where they occurred. In order to gain comparative perspective, we study three countries with different experiences both in their economic and political background and in their outcomes: El Salvador, Argentina, and Colombia. The set of readings draws mostly from political and economic history but no special background on these disciplines is assumed. *L. Medina. Spring. (C)*

25000/35100. Comparative Politics of Latin America. This course introduces major theories of Latin American political and social change, and the political systems of three countries. We focus on the determinants and dynamics of regime change. We first read general studies of modernization and political change and then focus on these issues as they worked themselves out in Chile, Mexico, and Nicaragua. *S. Stokes. Autumn. (C)*

25500. Societies and the Social Sciences: Violence and Civil Strife. Intrastate or civil wars have become the dominant form of war. Out of ninety-six armed conflicts that took place between 1989 and 1996, only five were wars between sovereign states ("interstate wars"). Civil wars (both ethnic and non-ethnic) tend to be deadlier than interstate wars. What makes their violence even worse is that they primarily, and often deliberately, target civilians: eight out of ten people killed in contemporary civil wars have been civilians. Moreover, in many cases, victimizers and victims tend to know each other; they are neighbors who had been living together peacefully. We analyze and attempt to understand the nature of violence in civil wars via both a critical reading of descriptions of this phenomenon and the application of social science tools to it. *S. Kalyvas. Spring. (C)*

25800. Losers. This is a course that reads and analyses some of the texts of nineteenth- and twentieth-century authors who wrote on social, political, and economic problems. They were important in their own time and have had significant influence on their successors, but are not included in the canon. Some of the writers examined are DeMaistre, LaSalle, Frederick Douglas, Sidgwick, Spencer, William James, Sorel, and Hannah Arendt. *B. Silberman. Winter. (A)*

25900/35600. Japanese Politics. This course is a survey of the major aspects of Japanese politics: party politics, bureaucracy, the diet, and political behavior in post-World War II Japan. *B. Silberman. Autumn. (C)*

27500/37500. Organizational Decision Making. This course is an examination of the process of decision making in modern complex organizations such as universities, schools, hospitals, business firms, and public bureaucracies. The course also considers the impact of information, power, resources, organizational structure, and the environment, as well as alternative models of choice and other implications. *J. Padgett. Autumn. (B)*

27600/37600. War and the Nation-State. The aim of this course is to examine the phenomenon of war in its broader socioeconomic context during the years between the emergence of the modern nation-state and the end of World War II. *J. Mearsheimer. Winter. (D)*

28300. Seminar on Realism. The aim of this course is to read the key works dealing with the international relations theory called "realism." *J. Mearsheimer. Spring. (D)*

28900/39900. Strategy. This course is about American national security policy in the post-cold war world, especially the principal issues of military strategy that are likely to face the United States in the next decade. The course is structured in five parts. The first component examines the key changes in strategic environment since 1990. The second looks at the effects of multipolarity on American grand strategy and basic national goals. The

third block focuses on nuclear strategy. The fourth section is about conventional strategy. The last block discusses the future of war and peace in the Pacific Rim. *R. Pape. Spring. (D)*

29000/39800. Introduction to International Relations. This course introduces the main themes in international relations, including the problems of war and peace, and conflict and cooperation. The course begins by considering some basic theoretical tools used to study international politics. It then focuses on several prominent security issues in modern international relations, such as the cold war and post-cold war world, nuclear weapons, arms control, and nationalism. The last part deals with economic aspects of international relations. It concentrates on issues where politics and economics are closely intertwined: world trade, foreign investment, environmental pollution, and European unification. *C. Lipson. Autumn. (D)*

29100. Black Women's Political Activism. (=GNDR 29100) This course uses the history of African-American women's political activism to illuminate questions of participation in American politics. Examining the intersection and interaction of gender, race, sexuality, and class with politics in the United States this course reconceptualizes both politics and political science. By moving black women from their historically marginal position in the curriculum to the center of our attention, we begin to explore ways of transforming knowledge about American politics. Specific readings, discussion, and writing explore topics such as feminism, labor activism, the civil rights movement, black power, and black women in the academy. *M. Harris-Lacewell. Winter. (B)*

29300/49000. History and Politics of the Soviet Union. (=HIST 23900/33900) This course, based on a weekly lecture and discussion of common readings, looks at the ways in which the tsarist and Soviet empires were constructed and maintained, the ideologies and discourses of empire employed, and the processes by which national communities were formed. The collapses of the tsarist empire and Soviet Union are discussed, as well as case studies of nationalities within the empires. Readings include empirical studies as well as theoretical works on nation formation, nationalism, and imperialism. *R. Suny. Spring. (C)*

29700. Independent Study/Reading Course. *PQ: Consent of faculty supervisor and concentration chair. Students are required to submit the College Reading and Research Course Form.* This is a general reading and research course for independent study not related to the B.A. paper or B.A. research. *Summer, Autumn, Winter, Spring.*

29800. B.A. Paper Colloquium. *Required of fourth-year political science concentrators who plan to write a B.A. paper. Students participate in both Autumn and Winter Quarters but register only once (in either the Autumn or Winter Quarter).* The colloquium, which may be organized along methodological or field lines, meets weekly in the Autumn Quarter and biweekly in the Winter Quarter to provide students with a forum within which research problems are addressed, conceptual frameworks are refined, and drafts of the B.A. paper are presented and critiqued. *Autumn, Winter.*

29900. B.A. Paper. *Required of fourth-year political science concentrators who write a B.A. paper.* This is a reading and research course for

independent study related to B.A. research and B.A. paper preparation.
Summer, Autumn, Winter, Spring.

31500. Political Philosophy: Rousseau. (=FNDL 29200, LLSO 21500).
This course involves a detailed reading of Rousseau's *Social Contract*. *J. Cropsey*. *Winter*. (A)

Approved Courses from Outside Political Science

Concentrators may draw on the following courses to count toward political science courses required for the concentration. These courses may not be offered every year and other courses will be considered on a case-by-case basis. For updates, see political-science.uchicago.edu or the Department of Political Science.

ENST 21800. Economics and Environmental Policy. (B)
ENST 23500. Political Sociology. (B)
ENST 24100. The Environment in U.S. Politics. (B)
ENST 24400. Is Development Sustainable? (B)
ENST 24700. Environmental Policy. (B)
ENST 24900. Global Environmental Politics. (C)
GNDR 27700. Pragmatism, Feminism, and Democracy: Dewey and Addams. (A)
HIST 21500. John Locke in Historical Context. (A)
HMRT 20100. Human Rights I: Philosophical Foundations of Human Rights. (A)
HMRT 20200. Human Rights II: Historical Underpinnings of Human Rights. (A)
HMRT 20300. Human Rights III: Contemporary Issues in Human Rights. (A)
HMRT 20500. Human Rights and International Relations. (D)
LLSO 24300. American Laws and the Rhetoric of Race. (B)
PBPL 22100. Politics and Policy. (B)
PBPL 22300. Problems of Public Policy Implementation. (B)
PBPL 24800. Urban Policy Analysis. (B)
PBPL 25300. Social Welfare in the United States. (B)
PBPL 25800. Public Choice. (B)
PBPL 26200. Field Research Project in Public Policy I. (B)
PBPL 26300. Field Research Project in Public Policy II. (B)
PBPL 27900. Global-Local Politics. (B)
RLST 36000. Machiavelli e Guicciardini. (A)
SALC 20700. Critics of Colonialism: Gandhi and Fanon. (A)
SOC1 21800. Social and Political Movements. (B)
SOC1 23100. Revolutions and Rebellions in Twentieth-Century China. (C)
SOC1 23500. Political Sociology. (B)
SOC1 24000. Sociology of National Identity and Nationalism. (C)
SOC1 25100. Urban Structure and Process. (B)
SOC1 25500. Survey Research Overview. (A)
SOC1 26900. Globalization: Empirical/Theoretical Elements. (C)
SOSC 20600. Qualitative Methods in the Social Sciences. (A)
STAT 20000. Elementary Statistics. (A)