Political Science

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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 political science major requires completion of twelve courses. In addition to political science courses (meaning those that are offered by faculty in the department), students may choose from the list at the end of this section: "Approved Courses from Outside Political Science" (and also available on the Web site above). Other on-campus courses outside political science may be considered on a case-by-case petition basis (see "Courses Taken Outside the Department of Political Science" below). However, a student can have no more than three petitions approved. Prior approval of the program chair is required. For students choosing to write a B.A. paper, two of the twelve courses in the major 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: For Students Not Writing B.A. Papers

12 political science courses (at least one each in three of four subfields)

fulfillment of the writing requirement

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Summary of Requirements: For Students Writing B.A. Papers

political science courses (at least one each in three of four subfields)

1 PLSC 29800 (B.A. Colloquium)

<u>1</u> PLSC 29900 (B.A. Paper)

12

Grading. Two of the required courses in political science may, with consent of 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 (PLSC 29700), to be taken individually and supervised by a member of the political science faculty. PLSC 29700 (Independent Study/Reading Course) requires the approval of the political science program chair and the prior consent of the instructor with whom the student would like to study. This is a general reading and research course for independent study not related to the B.A. paper or B.A. research. NOTE: Only one PLSC 29700 course may count toward requirements for the major.

Writing Requirement. Students are required to write one substantial paper (a minimum of twenty and a maximum of thirty-five pages in length) in one of the courses they take to meet requirements for the major. Students should inform the instructor of their intent to fulfill the writing requirement before eighth week

of the quarter. A form certifying the successful completion of this requirement is available in the departmental office. The deadline for completing the writing requirement is Friday of second week of the quarter in which the student expects to graduate. This requirement is waived if the student writes a B.A. paper.

Third Year. During Autumn Quarter of their third year, students considering a major in political science should watch for announcement of a required meeting with the program chair. The purpose of the meeting is to introduce the political science program and provide information about its requirements.

For students choosing to write a B.A. paper, a second meeting is required in Spring Quarter. This second meeting will focus on methods for doing research in political science. By the end of eighth week of Spring Quarter, students 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 Spring Quarter of their third year should correspond with the program chair about their plans for the B.A. paper before the end of Spring Quarter.

The B.A. Paper Colloquium (PLSC 29800). Students 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 Autumn and Winter Quarters of their 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 Quarter and biweekly in Winter Quarter. 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. NOTE: Registration for PLSC 29800, which is required for students writing a B.A. paper, is limited to either Autumn or Winter Quarter of their fourth year, but attendance is required in both quarters.

The B.A. Paper (PLSC 29900). During their fourth year, students 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 sixth 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 departmental 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.

NOTE: A request to use a single B.A. paper for two majors requires the approval of both program chairs on a form available from the student's College adviser. To

be considered for honors in political science, however, the department requires that the faculty adviser and preceptor evaluate the paper.

Honors. Students who have done exceptionally well in their course work and who write an outstanding B.A. paper are recommended for honors. A student is eligible for honors if the GPA in the major 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 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 fourth 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.

Courses Taken on Campus in Other Departments. Students may count three courses outside the Department of Political Science toward requirements for the political science major. These courses will be considered on a case-by-case basis, by formal petition to the program chair in advance of registration. Such courses must have political science content and deploy methodology relevant to the study of political science. Petitions should include the name of the course instructor, the course title, and the course number. The course syllabus should be attached to the petition, which should present a clear, complete statement of the student's request and the student's reasons for the request.

Transfer and Foreign Study Credit. Transfer students who wish to apply credit to their political science major for course work taken at another institution should petition the program chair shortly after matriculation. Students must petition the program chair for approval in advance of registration if they wish to receive credit for courses taken elsewhere after they enter the College. Students who wish to receive credit for courses taken abroad should petition the program chair within one quarter of their return. NOTE: The Office of the Dean of Students in the College must approve the transfer of all courses taken at institutions other than those in which students are enrolled as part of a study abroad program that is sponsored by the University of Chicago. For more information, visit http://www.college.uchicago.edu/academics/transfer_credit.shtml.

Students are required to take at least seven of twelve or six of ten substantive courses required for the major in residence at the University of Chicago from among those courses recognized by the department as political science courses. "Substantive" courses are classroom courses with syllabi, taken for a grade. PLSC 29700 also counts as a substantive course.

Faculty

D. Allen, J. Brehm, C. Cohen, R. Gooding-Williams, J. Grynaviski, J. Hansen, M. Harris-Lacewell, G. Herrigel, C. Lipson, P. Markell, J. McCormick, J. Mearsheimer, E. Oliver, J. Padgett, R. Pape, G. Rosenberg, W. Sewell, B. S. Silberman, A. Simpser, D. Slater, D. Snidal, C. Sunstein, N. Tarcov, L. Wedeen, D. Yang, I. Young

Courses: Political Science (PLSC)

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

20302. Power in International Politics. PQ: Basic knowledge of international relations theory. Power is a central concept in political philosophy, in political science, and, specifically, in the study of international relations. This course introduces the main conceptions of power that are important to the analysis of international relations. We start with broad philosophical perspectives on power, cover IR-specific notions of power, and then highlight how power works in several specific spheres of international interaction. We devote particular attention to the interactions between different views of power in the world of international politics. Authors include Steven Lukes, Bertrand Russel, Max Weber, Robert Dahl, Michel Foucault, Hans Morgenthau, Kenneth Waltz, Thomas Schelling, Stephen Biddle, Joseph Nye, Robert Kagan, and Stephen Walt. N. Monteiro. Autumn. (D)

20402. Machine Politics in Latin America. This course studies various theoretical explanations, empirical evidence, and some formal models of machine politics in Argentina, Mexico, and Peru. Among the questions we ask are: Why do some political machines succeed in getting votes while others fail? Why are some machines consistently able to win votes over a given period of time while others are not? Are there significant differences between machine politics in Mexico, Argentina, and Peru? What transformations and continuities can we find in comparing past and present forms of machine politics and political clientelism? What does the existence of these machines imply for the quality of democracy in Latin America? What are the prospects for these machines in the future? M. Szwarcberg. Spring. (C)

20401. Evaluating the Ethical Behavior of States. This course takes a step back from the substantive issues that so far have dominated the issue of ethics in international relations to investigate the various criteria by which we understand and judge the ethical obligations of states. We look at what scholars take to constitute the ethical responsibilities of states and try to understand how they arrived at these notions. We also examine the historical and philosophical foundations of the state and state sovereignty and investigate how understandings of these concepts are changing in contemporary international affairs. *J. Han.* Spring. (D)

20610. Critical Theory Encounters the Nonhuman. What sorts of political and ethical obligations do humans have towards nonhuman animals and nature? Can things, such as commodities, wield power over people? How would the body politic be transformed if we began to question the distinctions between humans, animals, and machines? These are just a few of the questions posed by critical theorists who treat nonhuman entities as a central object of inquiry. This course invites students to participate in the debates that animate recent investigations into the significance of nonhumans for political theory. This course can also be taken as a thematic introduction to contemporary critical theory. *C. Buck. Autumn.* (A)

- **20611. The Political Economy of Poverty Alleviation.** This course surveys the field of political and economic development and its relation with poverty alleviation. It introduces students to the current debate on theories and recent empirical findings on poverty alleviation and in particular its relation to politics and political regimes. It addresses general issues such as what is development, what is poverty and inequality, and what is (and ought to be) the role of the state in the process of poverty alleviation. Empirical evidence is drawn from recent experiences in Latin America, Sub-Saharan Africa, and Southeast Asia. *C. Ponce de Leon. Winter.* **(C)**
- **20612. The Rise of Industrial Asia.** This course analyzes the theoretical explanations behind the rise of East Asia as a global economic power, with a particular focus on Japan, China, and the four East Asian tiger economies (i.e., Taiwan, South Korea, Singapore, and Hong Kong). There are two major objectives. First, we review the major development of East Asian political economy since the 1960s. Second, we examine the key theoretical debates in comparative East Asian political economy (e.g., the sources of development, the relationship between development and regime type, the Asian Financial Crisis of 1997–98, the impact of globalization on economic development). *W. Tam. Spring.* **(C)**
- **20702.** The Politics of Punishment. This course asks what punishment means in a modern democratic state and what particular forms of punishment reveal about conceptions of personal responsibility and subjectivity. There are three parts: (1) We explore dominant modern approaches to understanding punishment (e.g., Durkheim, Marxist interpretations, modern Anglo-American legal traditions, expressive retributivism) and closely read Michele Foucault's *Discipline and Punish*. (2) We focus on incarceration and capital punishment as practiced in the United States in light of these theoretical approaches. (3) We ask how these practices play out in collateral consequences and the importance of racial, gender, and sexual identities in relation to punishment. *A. Dilts. Autumn*. (B))
- **20703. Communicating the American Public(s).** This course examines what we know about the character, development, and dynamism of political attitudes of the American public. We explore relevant theoretical and empirical explanations of what American public opinion is and how political attitudes develop and are communicated and disseminated. In addition, we investigate what political and cultural processes might shape the way American political attitudes to change over time. *D. Woodly. Spring.* **(B)**
- **20800.** Machiavelli's *Prince.* (=FNDL 29301) A reading of *The Prince* is supplemented by relevant portions of Machiavelli's *Discourses* and *Florentine Histories*. Themes include princes, peoples, and elites; morality and religion; force

and persuasion; war and politics; law and liberty; virtue and fortune; ancient history and modern experience; and theory and practice. N. Tarcov. Winter. (A)

- 20910. War, Sovereignty, and the Subject of International Politics. This course explores the conceptions of war that animate international politics and inform the practice of international relations. We focus on broadening an deepening our appreciation of the configurations of power that constellate the state as such, as well as exploring the underlying conceptions that constitute the ontological assumptions regarding international politics. We develop the tools to see some of the deeper structural issues involved in constraining contemporary practice, as well as the ways in which individual agential decisions reproduce and constitute that which is often viewed as unproblematically obvious. C. McIntosh. Spring.
- 21112. The Question of Responsibility. This course introduces a wide range of philosophical perspectives on an important concept in moral and political thought: responsibility. We explore different perspectives and transformations concerning the question of responsibility in the history of moral and political thought, always bearing in mind how and to what extent these perspectives and transformations seem to reflect everyday moral experiences and languages that are shaped largely by impersonal systems and forces. Possible authors include Aristotle, Kant, Charles Taylor, Gary Watson, Harry Frankfurt, Christine Korsgaard, Peter Strawson, Bernard Williams, Joel Feinberg, Max Weber, Arendt, Sartre, Levinas, and Derrida. Y. Has. Autumn. (A)
- 22100. African-American Politics. This course focuses on how the continuing struggle for black empowerment has helped to shape both the current American political environment as well as the social and economic conditions of the black community. While this course focuses on African-American politics since World War II, some attention is paid to the period before the war in order to lay a firm foundation for the analysis of modern black politics. After considering such topics as the politics of the Civil Rights and Black Power eras, fiscal retrenchment, and blacks and governmental institutions, we end by considering whether a "New Black Politics" has emerged and the impact of the nation's move toward the political right on African-American politics. M. Dawson. Autumn. (B)
- 22510. Law and Society. This course examines the myriad relationships between courts, laws, and lawyers in the United States. Issues range from legal consciousness to the role of rights to access to courts to implementation of decisions to professionalism. G. Rosenberg. Spring. (B)
- 22515. Political Nature of the American Judiciary System. PQ: PLSC 28800 or equivalent. This course introduces the political nature of the American legal system. In examining foundational parts of the political science literature on courts conceived of as political institutions, the seminar focuses on the relationship between the courts and other political institutions. Questions include: Are there interests that courts are particularly prone to support? What effect does

congressional or executive action have on court decisions? What impact do court decisions have? While the answers are not always clear, students should complete the seminar with an awareness of and sensitivity to the political nature of the American legal system. G. Rosenberg. Winter. (B)

22700. Happiness. (=GNDR 25200, HUMA 24900, PHIL 21400) For course description, see Philosophy. B. Schultz. Spring, 2007.

22800/52800. Principles and Practice of Roman Republicanism. PQ: Prior reading of Book I of Livy's History of Rome. Class limited to fifteen students. This course is devoted to the history, institutions, and ideas of the Roman Republic. Readings include classical accounts of Rome's development (Polybius and Livy), contemporary analyses of its constitution and social structure (Nicolet, Lintott, and Mitchell), philosophic expressions of the epoch (Cicero), and considerations of their reception in subsequent ages (Millar). J. McCormick. Winter. (A)

23500. Political Organizations. This course introduces the study of political organizations and organizational behavior. We examine classic and contemporary writings on organizations, as well as applications of those ideas to political problems. J. Brehm. Spring. (B)

23800/43800. Plato's Laws. (=FNDL 23400, SCTH 30300) PQ: Consent of instructor. Enrollment limited. This course is an introductory reading of Plato's Laws with attention to themes such as: war and peace; courage and moderation; rule of law; music, poetry, drinking, and education; sex, marriage, and gender; property and class structure; crime and punishment; religion and theology; and philosophy. N. Tarcov. Spring. (A)

24600/44600. Political Economy of Development. This course begins with a review of economic theories of development and an examination of different approaches to the definition of development. We then examine different theories about the causes of development, with emphasis on the way in which political and economic processes constrain or reinforce each other. Lastly, we apply the knowledge from the first two parts to different topics of substantive interest (e.g., health policy, corruption, poverty, inequality and redistribution, the rule of law). A. Simpser. Autumn. (C)

24810. Politics of the U.S. Congress. This course examines Congress from the perspective of the 535 senators and representatives who constitute it. It examines congressional elections, legislators' relationships with their constituents, lawmakers' dealings in and with committees, and representatives' give-and-take with congressional leadership, the executive, and pressure groups. M. Hansen. Autumn. (B)

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)

26100. To Hell with the Enlightenment: The Rise of the Aesthetic State. This course's aims are twofold: (1) to introduce some of the writings attacking the Enlightenment in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries; and (2) to show how these writings created a concept of political modernism and a theory of the aesthetic state. Among others, we read Schiller, Schopenhauer, Kierkegaard, Croce, Mead, Mussolini, and A. Rosenberg. B. Silberman. Winter. (A)

26500/36510. State, Society, and Democratization in Southeast Asia. This course provides a broad overview of the evolution of Southeast Asia's highly diverse political systems, with a focus on historical factors that have helped shape prospects for democratic transition. The first segment sketches how the region was influenced by global processes of colonization, state formation, the rise of nationalism, Cold War rivalry, and the intensification of capitalist modes of production and exchange. After making a brief foray into democratization theory, we consider the value of competing theoretical approaches in apprehending the collapse of authoritarianism in Indonesia and the Philippines, as well as the longterm survival of authoritarianism in Burma and Malaysia. D. Slater. Winter. (C)

27215/52315. Machiavelli and the Florentine Republic. (=LLSO 28200) PQ: Prior reading of The Prince. Class limited to fifteen students. This course is devoted to the political writings of Niccolò Machiavelli, his intellectual predecessors (e.g., Petrarch, Bruni, Salutati), and contemporary interlocutors (e.g., Guicciardini). Themes include the relationship between the person and the polity; the compatibility of moral and political virtue; the utility of class conflict; the advantages of mixed institutions; the principles of self-government, deliberation, and participation; the meaning of liberty and the question of military conquest. J. McCormick. Spring. (A)

27400/47400. Carl Schmitt on Law and the Political. PQ: Prior reading of The Concept of the Political. Class limited to fifteen students. This course is devoted to the political thought of controversial Weimar lawyer and National Socialist partisan, Carl Schmitt. We devote special attention to his two masterpieces of state philosophy and international law, respectively, Constitutional Theory and Nomos of the Earth. We also consider recent appropriations of Schmitt's theories by authors such as Agamben, Hardt and Negri. Students are expected to come to the first session having read in its entirety. J. McCormick. Autumn. (A)

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. *J. Padgett.* Winter. (B)

27815. Politics and Public Policy in China. This course offers a historical and thematic survey to Chinese politics in the twentieth century. Particular attention is given to the formation of the party-state, the imposition of central planning,

the Great Leap Forward, the Cultural Revolution, reform and liberalization, and China's role in the world in the post-cold war era. The discussion is framed in terms that allow comparison with other countries. *D. Yang. Winter.* (C)

28615. Politics and Human Nature. *PQ: Third- or fourth-year standing. Class limited to fifteen students.* This course explores commonalities among psychoanalytic theory, Buddhism, and studies of emotions and brain physiology, particularly as they relate to questions of the self and political life. In addition to exploring each of these theories, we investigate particular questions (e.g., inevitability of conflict, dynamics of obedience and authority, emotional power of ideology, non-Western understandings of human consciousness. *E. Oliver. Winter.* **(B)**

28900/39900. Strategy. This course covers 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: (1) examining the key changes in strategic environment since 1990, (2) looking at the effects of multipolarity on American grand strategy and basic national goals, (3) focusing on nuclear strategy, (4) examining conventional strategy, and (5) discussing the future of war and peace in the Pacific Rim. *R. Pape. Spring.* **(D)**

29000/39800. Introduction to International Relations. This course introduces main themes in international relations that include the problems of war and peace, conflict and cooperation. We begin by considering some basic theoretical tools used to study international politics. We then focus on several prominent security issues in modern international relations, such as the cold war and post-cold war world, nuclear weapons, nationalism, and terrorism. We also deal with economic aspects of international relations, such as globalization, world trade, environmental pollution, and European unification. *C. Lipson. Autumn.* **(D)**

29600. Black Political Thought. This course is an intensive introduction to black political thought. The majority of texts considered during the first part of the course are from key authors such as W. E. B. Du Bois, Marcus Garvey, Ida B. Wells Barnett, Malcolm X, Martin Luther King, Jr., and Bell Hooks. During the second part of the course, we consider selected examples of applications of black political thought to contemporary debates. *M. Dawson. Winter.* (A)

29700. Independent Study/Reading Course. *PQ: Consent of faculty supervisor and program 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. PQ: Required of fourth-year political science majors who plan to write a B.A. paper. Students participate in both Autumn and Winter Quarters but register only once (in either Autumn or Winter Quarter). This colloquium, which may be organized along methodological or field lines, meets weekly in Autumn Quarter and biweekly in 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. PQ: Required of fourth-year political science majors who write a B.A. paper. Students are required to submit the College Reading and Research Course Form. This is a reading and research course for independent study related to B.A. research and B.A. paper preparation. Summer, Autumn, Winter, Spring.

Approved Courses from Outside Political Science

Students may draw on the following courses to count toward political science courses required for the program. Some courses may not be offered every year, and other courses will be considered on a case-by-case basis. For updates, visit political-science. uchicago.edu or the departmental office.

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ANTH 29715. The Politics of Ethnicity in Burma. (C)
ENST 21800. Economics and Environmental Policy. (B)
ENST 24101. U.S. Environmental Politics. (B)
ENST 24400. Is Development Sustainable? (B)
ENST 24700. Environmental Policy. (B)
ENST 24900. Global Environmental Politics. (C)
FNDL 22301. The Ethics of Albert Camus. (A)
FNDL 24401. American Originals: Franklin and Lincoln. (A)
HIST 13801. Post Soviet Union, 1945 to 1953. (C)
HIST 18500. Politics of Film in Twentieth-Century American History. (B)
HIST 27901. Asian-American History. (B)
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)
HMRT 21200. Armed Conflict and Politics of Humanitarian Action. (D)
HMRT 24701. Human Rights: Alien and Citizen. (D)
INST 23101. Contemporary Global Issues I. (D)
ISHU 23800. Thought of Hannah Arendt. (A)
PBPL 22100. Politics and Policy. (B)
PBPL 22300. Problems of Public Policy Implementation. (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)
PSYC 23900. Political Psychology. (B)
SALC 20700. Critics of Colonialism: Gandhi and Fanon. (A)
SOCI 20120. Urban Policy Analysis. (B)
SOCI 20146. Culture and Politics. (B)
SOCI 21800. Social and Political Movements. (B)
SOCI 22700. Urban Structure and Process. (B)
SOCI 23100. Revolutions and Rebellions in Twentieth-Century China. (C)
SOCI 23500. Political Sociology. (B)
SOCI 25500. Survey Research Overview. (A)
SOCI 26900. Globalization: Empirical/Theoretical Elements. (C)
SOCI 27900. Global-Local Politics. (B)
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SOSC 20600. Qualitative Methods in the Social Sciences. (A)

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STAT 22000. Statistical Methods and Applications. (A)