POLITICAL SCIENCE

Course Search
Not all courses are offered every semester. Refer to the schedule of courses for each term’s specific offerings.

More Info

Courses

CPO 2001 Comparative Politics 3 Credits
The classification of political systems according to institutional and developmental characteristics. Causes and costs of political stability and instability. Comparison relates to contemporary political institutions and processes in specific countries. (S and N)
General Education - International
General Education - Social Science

CPO 3103 Western European Politics 3 Credits
Comparative analysis of the government and politics of the major Western European countries. Emphasizes party systems and the social bases of politics in industrialized societies. (S and N)
Prereq: CPO 2001
General Education - International
General Education - Social Science

CPO 3204 African Politics 3 Credits
African nationalism, political movements and governments in the African states. (S and N) (WR)
Prereq: CPO 2001
General Education - International
General Education - Social Science

CPO 3303 Introduction to Latin American Politics 3 Credits
Introductory overview of political patterns and political behavior in Latin America within comparative and developmental perspectives. Emphasizes the social, economic and political factors shaping contemporary political structures and processes. (S and N)
General Education - International
General Education - Social Science

CPO 3403 Politics of the Middle East 3 Credits
Focuses on key political and social processes in the modern Middle East. Variable themes in comparative politics are addressed, such as nationalism, state formation, women and politics, religious resurgence, feminism and law. (S and N)
Prereq: CPO 2001
General Education - International
General Education - Social Science

CPO 3614 Eastern European Politics 3 Credits
Comparative analysis of the formal structures of government and politics of Eastern European countries; the actual operation of their political systems and the factors that influenced their transitions to democracy and market-based economies. (S and N)
Prereq: CPO 2001
General Education - International
General Education - Social Science

CPO 3633 Politics in Russia 3 Credits
Analyzes the formal structures of government and politics in Russia, the actual operation of its political system and the factors that influenced the transition to democracy and a market-based economy. (S and N)
Prereq: CPO 2001
General Education - International
General Education - Social Science

CPO 3713 Women and Politics in the Modern Middle East 3 Credits
Examines women and gender in the politics of the modern Middle East from the late 19th century through the 1990s.

CPO 4000 Selected Studies in Comparative Politics 3 Credits
Variable topics in comparative politics; precise course content will be announced in advance. (S and N)
General Education - International
General Education - Social Science

CPO 4034 Politics in Developing Nations 3 Credits
Introduces politics in third world states, an examination of common problems and the various strategies for dealing with them.
Prereq: CPO 2001

CPO 4042 Politics in Post-Industrial Societies 3 Credits
Comparative analysis of advanced industrial states with emphasis on diverse patterns of economic, social and political development as determinants of current political structures and policies.

CPO 4053 Politics under Authoritarianism 3 Credits
Investigates the sources of durable authoritarianism in Asia and around the world and contrasts the survival of dictatorships with successful democratic transitions.
Prereq: CPO 2001

CPO 4072 Comparative Elections 3 Credits
Comparative Elections.

CPO 4133 Canadian Politics 3 Credits
Surveys the political culture, constitutional foundations, public opinion and participation, and political institutions in Canada. Focus on the challenges to constitutional foundations, Canadian nationalism, federalism, parliamentary supremacy and the party system. (S)
Prereq: CPO 2001
General Education - Social Science

CPO 4145 Irish Government and Politics 3 Credits
Intensive analysis of the contemporary history, politics and government of Ireland. The course examines the foundations of the state and society from an historical and political-cultural perspective.
Prereq: POS 2041

CPO 4194 Islam and European Politics 3 Credits
Introduces the variety of contacts that Islam, as a religion and system of thought and doctrine, has had on various strands of European politics since early Muslims engaged in translating, commenting on and expanding the Greek systems of thought.
Prereq: CPO 2001

CPO 4302 Latin American Political Economy 3 Credits
Introduces the Latin American political economy. Students acquire the analytical tools to understand the relationship between politics and economics in the shaping of public policies in the region.
Prereq: CPO 2001 or LAS 2001
CPO 4306 Contemporary Problems in Latin American Politics  3 Credits
Analyzes major themes and issues in the study of Latin American politics: democratic transitions, economic restructuring, social movements, civil-military relations and political violence. (WR)
Prereq: CPO 3303 or the equivalent experience
INR 3034 Politics of the World Economy  3 Credits
International trade, finance and investment issues in the global political economy and their importance for advanced industrial and less-developed countries.
Prereq: INR 2001

CPO 4348 Argentina and the Politics of Memory  3 Credits
Politics of Argentina from the 19th century to the present with special focus on Peronism and the rise of democracy.
Prereq: CPO 2001
INR 3084 Culture and World Politics  3 Credits
Contending conceptualizations of culture and its relations to international politics. Examines several questions on the relationship between national/group identity and international politics: Do diplomatic alliances reflect cultural/ideological affinity among allies? What is the relationship between the self-image of the West and Western imperialism?.
Prereq: INR 2001

CPO 4401 Arab-Israeli Conflict  3 Credits
The Arab-Israeli conflict from the 19th century through the 1990s and into the current century.
Prereq: CPO 2001
INR 3102 The U.S. and World Affairs  3 Credits
The tradition and development of American foreign policy and contemporary foreign policy problems. (S and N)
Prereq: INR 2001 or instructor permission
General Education - International
General Education - Social Science

CPO 4721 The Politics of Ethnic Conflict  3 Credits
Introduces the systematic study of communal violence, to the major concepts in conflict studies, to the main approaches to studying conflict and to many of the major episodes of communal violence in contemporary Asia and beyond.
Prereq: CPO 2001
INR 3135 Contemporary Issues in National Security  3 Credits
Surveys national security issues including proliferation, terrorism, and homeland defense.
Prereq: INR 2001 with a minimum grade of B

CPO 4722 Latin American and Caribbean Migration to the United States  3 Credits
Provides a clearer understanding and appreciation of Latin American and Caribbean migration to the United States. After a general introduction to some of the key theoretical concepts and the historical processes underlying immigration to the U.S., focuses in depth on selected immigrant groups from Latin America and the Caribbean.
Prereq: sophomore status or above
INR 3333 Introduction to International Security  3 Credits
Examines and applies the major theoretical and methodological approaches to international security. Analyzes the impact of domestic, state, regional and global system factors in international security. Familiarity with the basic concepts of world politics, particularly the dominant actors, issues and paradigms, is recommended.
Prereq: INR 2001

CPO 4727 Judaism and Politics  3 Credits
Examines how Jews govern themselves (often referred to as communal governance) and how Jews relate to the political system where they live. Explores the development of the Jewish political tradition in the Biblical period, the Middle Ages, the early modern period and the modern era.
Prereq: POS 2041
INR 3502 International Institutions  3 Credits
Analyzes the political and functional aspects of international organization and cooperation with emphasis on formal organizations, such as the United Nations or the European Union, and less formal institutions and arrangements. (S and N) (WR)
Prereq: INR 2001 and junior or senior standing
General Education - International
General Education - Social Science
WR6

CPO 4731 Democratization in Global Perspective  3 Credits
Introduces literature on democratization, including familiarization with important theoretical and conceptual issues and empirical data on major regions of the world.
Prereq: CPO 2001
INR 3603 Theories of International Relations  3 Credits
Examines a variety of theoretical and methodological approaches to the study of international relations.
Prereq: INR 2001

CPO 4793 Environmental Politics in the Global South  3 Credits
Examines the politics of environmental degradation in countries of the global south, a.k.a. the developing world, through case studies of Amazonian deforestation in Brazil, international development projects in India and oil drilling in the Niger Delta.
Prereq: sophomore standing
INR 4035 Rich and Poor Nations in the International System  3 Credits
The economic, social and political linkages between less developed and advanced industrial countries in the global system predominantly from the former's perspective. Considers the historical sources of underdevelopment, theoretical and substantive aspects of world poverty, and regional and international efforts to redress the problems of developing countries.
Prereq: INR 2001

CPO 4911 Undergraduate Research in Comparative Politics  3 Credits
Provides firsthand, supervised research in Comparative Politics. Projects may involve inquiry, design, investigation, scholarship, discovery or application in Comparative Politics.
Prereq: INR 2001
INR 4083 War and Peace in World Politics  3 Credits
Examination and application of the major theoretical and methodological approaches to the study of international conflict. Analyzes the impact of domestic, state, regional and global factors in explicating international war. Students should be familiar with the basic concepts of world politics, particularly the dominant actors, issues and paradigms informing analyses in the field, with special emphasis on quantitative analyses of war.
INR 4085 Gender and International Relations 3 Credits
Despite the importance of gender in global politics, gender is still not fully integrated in the academic study of international politics. Examines the study of feminist work in international relations.

INR 4204 Comparative Foreign Policy 3 Credits
Various theoretical approaches to explaining foreign policy, with special attention to the foreign policies of selected countries other than the United States.
Prereq: INR 2001 and junior or senior standing

INR 4244 International Politics of Latin America 3 Credits
Analyzes the international politics of Latin America, including relations with the United States and non-hemispheric powers as well as the foreign policies of Latin American states vis-a-vis each other. (WR)
Prereq: INR 2001 or advanced standing in Latin American studies
WR6

INR 4303 The Making of American Foreign Policy 3 Credits
Examines the principal factors influencing the formulation of U.S. foreign policy, including the international environment, information processing, personality factors, political culture, decision-makers and decision making. Consideration is also given to the institutional setting, including the President, Congress and public opinion. (S)
Prereq: INR 2001 or instructor permission
General Education - Social Science

INR 4350 International Environmental Relations 3 Credits
Considers the special problems posed by environmental collective action for international policymakers, some of the primary actors and organizations involved in addressing environmental problems and selected international environmental issues, such as global warming, ozone depletion and rain forest destruction.
Prereq: INR 2001

INR 4530 Politics of the European Union 3 Credits
Examines the primary structures, actors and processes of policy making in the European Union. Salient policy areas such as the single market, monetary union, agricultural policy and the potential for a common foreign and security policy are investigated.
Prereq: INR 2001

INR 4684 Theories of International Ethics 3 Credits
Introduces contemporary theories, debates and major scholarly traditions in the study of theories of international ethics. Students read and critique five books that present different debates on theory, method, policy and practice.
Prereq: INR 2001

INR 4905 Individual Work 2-3 Credits
Readings and discussion in advanced topics in International Relations.

INR 4911 Undergraduate Research in International Relations 3 Credits
Provides firsthand, supervised research in International Relations. Projects may involve inquiry, design, investigation, scholarship, discovery or application in International Relations.

INR 4931 Special Topics in International Relations 3 Credits
Selected topics in International Relations.
Prereq: CPO 2001

INR 4940 International Relations Internship 3 Credits
Internship with government, political parties, interest groups, lobbying organizations, international organizations, and private companies with 60% or more focus on international politics. Log and paper required. Only 3 hours of POS/PAD/INR 4940 credit may be counted towards the Political Science major and/or the International Relations Certificate.
Prereq: CPO 2001

INR 4956 Overseas Studies 1-15 Credits
Provides a mechanism for students to receive UF credit for international relations coursework taken in an approved study abroad program. Syllabuses of proposed coursework must be approved in advance by the departmental undergraduate coordinator.

PAD 3003 Introduction to Public Administration 3 Credits
The role of administrative agencies in the formulation and implementation of public policy. Emphasizes the politics of administration. Problems in administration management. (S)
Prereq: POS 2041
General Education - Social Science

PAD 4940 Court Internship 3 Credits
Preapproved internship with the Alachua County Clerk of Court. Interns will work a minimum of 150 hours per semester, complete readings and a 5-10 page paper. Only three credits of POS/PAD 4940 credit may be counted toward the political science major. (S-U)
Prereq: POS 2041 and instructor permission

POS 2032 Politics of Sustainability 3 Credits
Examines the political determinants of societal efforts to achieve the competing objectives of sustainability; introduces key concepts and theories used by political scientists in studying sustainability. (S)
General Education - Social Science

POS 2041 American Federal Government 3 Credits
Basic principles of the Federal Constitution and Civil Rights. Political parties and the electoral process. The structure and machinery of the federal government, including Congress, the president and the judiciary. (S)
General Education - Social Science

POS 2112 American State and Local Government 3 Credits
State constitutions, political parties and politics. State legislatures, courts and chief executives. The functions of state, city and county government. (S)
General Education - Social Science

POS 3172 Political Behavior 3 Credits
Provides a mechanism for students to receive UF credit for international relations coursework taken in an approved study abroad program. Syllabuses of proposed coursework must be approved in advance by the departmental undergraduate coordinator.

POS 3122 State Politics 3 Credits
Investigates major problems and issues in American state politics. Emphasizes the political institutions and organizations, political behavior in state politics and the impact of state politics on policy making at national, state and local levels.
Prereq: POS 2041

POS 3173 Southern Politics 3 Credits
The changing politics of the South, including two-party development, urbanism, traditionalism and racism. (S) (WR)
Prereq: POS 2041
General Education - Social Science

POS 3204 Political Behavior 3 Credits
Examines institutional, social and psychological influences on mass political behavior, political sophistication, political participation, voter choice, partisanship, ideology and values. (S) (WR)
Prereq: POS 2041
General Education - Social Science

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**Prerequisites:**
- POS 2041
- CPO 2001
- sophomore standing or above
POS 4443 Political Parties and Elections  3 Credits
Composition, organization and structure of political parties and their roles and relationships in the political process. (S) (WR)
Prereq: POS 2041
General Education - Social Science WR6

POS 4463 Interest Group Politics  3 Credits
Examines the theoretical foundations, historical context and current activities of special interest groups in the United States.

POS 4624 Race, Law and the Constitution  3 Credits
Surveys the historical and contemporary response of the law enforcement, civil/criminal justice and corrections systems to minority/ethnic groups in the United States. (WR)
WR6

POS 4674 Political Change and Legal Development  3 Credits
Introduces the role of law in political and social development by providing a background in social theory and the history of legal systems, beginning with Roman law.
Prereq: POS 2041

POS 4734 Research Methods in Political Science  3 Credits
Introduces the theory and method of contemporary political analysis. Emphasizes alternative analytical frameworks, concepts, research design, variables, measurement and quantitative analysis of political data. Required for students pursuing the department honors program. (WR) WR6

POS 4750 Survey Research  3 Credits
Prepares students to understand, conduct, analyze and assess opinion surveys and polls. Covers how to decide whether and when surveys are appropriate means of data collection, how to put together a survey, how to conduct basic quantitative analysis of survey data and how to report the findings.
Prereq: POS 2041

POS 4905 Individual Work  2-3 Credits
Readings and discussion in advanced topics of political science.

POS 4911 Undergraduate Research in American Politics  3 Credits
Provides firsthand, supervised research in American Politics. Projects may involve inquiry, design, investigation, scholarship, discovery or application in American Politics.

POS 4931 Special Topics  3 Credits
Selected topics in political science; precise course content will be announced in advance.

POS 4934 Honors Preparation  1 Credit
Must be taken in conjunction with other political science courses at the 3000/4000 level. Required for students pursuing the department honors program.
Prereq: majors with a UF upper-division GPA of 3.5 and instructor permission

POS 4940 Political Internship  3 Credits
Internship in government and politics. Internships are available at all levels - local, state and federal - and in every branch of government - executive, legislative and judicial. Other internships are available with political parties, interest groups, lobbying organizations, international organizations and private companies engaged in governmental relations and issue research. Readings and paper required. Only three credits of POS /PAD 4940 credit may be counted toward the major. (S-U).
Prereq: POS 2041 and instructor permission

POS 4956 Overseas Studies  1-15 Credits
Provides a mechanism by which coursework taken as part of an approved study abroad program can be recorded on the UF transcript and counted toward graduation.
Prereq: undergraduate advisor permission

POS 4970 Senior Thesis  2-4 Credits
One of three required courses for students who are writing an honors thesis. Students work under the supervision of their thesis advisor. Generally, this course is taken in the second semester of the one-year thesis process. Students receive a letter grade for their work.

POT 2002 Introduction to Political Theory  3 Credits
Basic principles of political thought. Examines the nature of the state and of the relationship between the individual and the state. Covers topics such as authority, consent, freedom and obligation. (H)
General Education - Humanities

POT 3302 Political Ideologies  3 Credits
Seeks understanding of the contemporary spectrum of political beliefs from liberal democracy to the ideological ideas of the far right. Examines the effects of ethical, historical, political and psychological perspectives on these belief systems.

POT 3503 Environmental Ethics and Politics  3 Credits
An intensive investigation into the history and theory of environmental ethical and political thought.

POT 4013 Great Political Thinkers: Ancient and Medieval  3 Credits
Major early political theorists including Plato, Aristotle, St. Augustine and St. Thomas Aquinas. Emphasis on the principles of a just political order: natural law, civic virtue, constitutionalism. Analysis of church-state struggles and the emergence of the modern state. (H)
General Education - Humanities

POT 4053 Great Political Thinkers: Machiavelli to Marx  3 Credits
Studies selected political theorists from Machiavelli to Marx. Emphasizes the ideas of authority and freedom, obligation and consent in the writing of Hobbes, Locke, Rousseau, etc. Liberalism, conservatism, utilitarianism and idealism. (H) (WR)
General Education - Humanities

POT 4204 American Political Thought  3 Credits
Examines the history of American political thought, including an analysis of Thomas Jefferson and the Declaration of Independence, the federalist papers and the ideology of Thomas Paine. Also includes African-American political thought, feminist political theories, liberalism and the contribution of Mark Twain.
Prereq: POT 2002

POT 4204 American Political Thought  3 Credits
Examines the history of American political thought, including an analysis of Thomas Jefferson and the Declaration of Independence, the federalist papers and the ideology of Thomas Paine. Also includes African-American political thought, feminist political theories, liberalism and the contribution of Mark Twain.
Prereq: POT 2002

POT 4311 Problems of Democracy  3 Credits
The theory and practice of democracy, especially ideas that define a democratic order. Studies selected topics ranging from equality and majority rule to technology and the globalization of democracy. (WR)
Prereq: junior or senior standing, or instructor permission

POT 4911 Undergraduate Research in Political Theory  3 Credits
Provides firsthand, supervised research in Political Theory. Projects may involve inquiry, design, investigation, scholarship, discovery or application in Political Theory.
PUP 3002 Current Controversies in Public Policy 3 Credits
Framework to understand the formation, adoption, budgeting, implementation and evaluation of public policy. This framework provides a basis for detailed discussions and debates about current policy issues. (S)
Prereq: POS 2041
General Education - Social Science

PUP 3323 Women in Politics 3 Credits
Analyzes the roles women play in American politics, including political behavior and public policy issues.

PUP 4224 Florida Environmental Politics 3 Credits
Examines the politics of environmental transformation in Florida, including issues of water supply, growth management and Everglades restoration. Supplements the department's offerings in environmental politics. Can be used to satisfy requirements for the major or minor in political science, but it is also intended for (and accessible to) interested students in any major.
Prereq: sophomore status or above

PUP 4404 Politics of Education 3 Credits
The interrelationship of American political and educational systems, educational policymaking as political process, and analysis of contemporary educational problems. (S) (WR)
Prereq: junior or senior standing, or instructor permission
General Education - Social Science
WR6

PUP 4911 Undergraduate Research in Public Policy 3 Credits
Provides firsthand, supervised research in Public Policy. Projects may involve inquiry, design, investigation, scholarship, discovery or application in Public Policy.