Featured Political Science Courses

Autumn 2020

- POLS 100S Intro to International Politics
- POLS 101S Intro to American Politics
- POLS 102S Intro to Comparative Government and Politics
- POLS 300 Introduction to Public Policy
- POLS 308 Research Design
- POLS 316 The Politics of Africa
- POLS 320 United Nations I
- POLS 323 International Political Economy
- POLS 331 State and Local Politics
- POLS 338W Politics of East Asia
- POLS 368 Internships in Political Science and Geography
- POLS 395 Intelligence Support to Policy Making
- POLS 408 American Constitutional Law: Individual Rights
- POLS 414 Politics of Education
- POLS 418 Quantitative Methods
- POLS 438/538 Law in Literature and Film
POLS 101S Intro to American Politics

- 11 - 11.50 am MWF in BAL 1012 with Dr. Jesse Richman
- 1.30 - 2.45 pm TR in BAL 3068 with Dr. Joshua Zingher
POLS 102S Intro to Comparative Government and Politics

- *On-line* with Dr. Matt Hall
- 3 – 4.15 pm TR in BAL 3056 with Dr. Matt Hall
- 3 – 4.15 pm MW in BAL 3070
POLS 300 Introduction to Public Policy

Dr. Benjamin Melusky
2 sections available!
In class: M,W,F 9.00 – 9.50am
And online

Government in the US has grown from a small, simple “night watchman state” providing defense, police protection, tax collection and some education into an immense network of organizations and institutions affecting the daily lives of all citizens in countless ways.

1) Examine how the role of government changes,
2) The “life cycle” of a policy,
3) The various factors influencing policy development,
4) The most controversial and infamous policies,
5) How the US creates policy in crisis situations like COVID-19
1.30 – 2.45 Tuesday/Thursday in BAL 3070 with Dr. Matthew DiLorenzo

- How do political scientists separate truth from fiction, science from opinion? It's easier than you think.
- Your gateway to upper divisional study in Political Science.
- Fulfils 308 requirements in Geography, Psychology and several other majors.
POLS 316 The Politics of Africa

• With Amb. Bismarck Myrick, Old Dominion University Ambassador in Residence
• Tuesday/Thursday 11 am -12.15 pm in BAL 3068
POLS 320 United Nations I

- Amb. (ret.) Christer Persson.
- Mondays, 4.20 – 7 pm in BAL 3070.
- How does the UN work? What can it do, and what are its limits?
- Continues in the Spring with United Nation II. The classes can be taken in sequence, or separately.
- Ideal for students involved in MUN or other student organizations.
POLS 323 International Political Economy

- Dr. Georg Menz
- 3 – 4.15 Tuesday/Thursday
- BAL 2056

- Who governs the global economy?
- What determines how trade and finance are conducted?
- Why are some countries extremely poor, while others are very wealthy?
POLS 331 State and Local Politics

Dr. Benjamin Melusky
MWF 11.00 – 11.50 am

• How did Governors respond to the Coronavirus?
• How will redistricting by US States alter the electoral maps for the next decade?
• How will female legislators impact government?
• Will marijuana be legalized in Virginia and surrounding states?
• Which matter more in policy impacting your daily life – the Federal government or state governments?
• Answer these questions and more as we examine the uniqueness and oddity of the American states!
POLS 338W Politics of East Asia

Tuesday/Thursday 3:00-4:15 pm
Contact: Dr. Cathy Wu (xwu@odu.edu)

- What are the historical legacies and political culture of East Asia?
- How do we compare different political systems in East Asia?
- How do we analyze the success and challenges of economies?
- How do we understand the variation of state-society relations?
- What are the roles of history, culture, government and non-government actors in regional dynamics?
For more information contact Jesse Richman, internship coordinator. jrichman@odu.edu
Or visit: https://sites.wp.odu.edu/gpinternships/ and
https://www.odu.edu/pols-geog/political/internships
POLS 395 Intelligence Support to Policy Making

Professor Gary Gomez
Tue & Thu 9:30-10:45 in BAL 2056

How does intelligence support policy formulation?
What is the relationship between intelligence producers and consumers?

Topics include: types of intelligence, capabilities and limitations; nature and types of intelligence analysis; cognitive components of decision making and how policy makers process information; distinct cultures of decision makers and intelligence analysts; needs of consumers (policy makers), politicization of intelligence; intelligence reform commissions.
POL 408 American Constitutional Law: Individual Rights

- Three credits
- Fall 2020
- Wednesday 4:20—7:00 pm.
- Dr. Michelle M. Kundmueller

- Study the Supreme Court opinions that define the constitutionally protected individual rights of Americans.
- This class surveys rights protected under the Bill of Rights, the Equal Protection Clause, and the Due Process Clauses, with a particular focus on the difficult issues that arise during national emergencies.
The goals of American public education are determined politically, guiding what is taught and how it is taught. While both the Republican and Democrat parties generally agree that the fundamental role of American education is to prepare students for the global economy, they diverge on approaches to achieve this goal.

This online seminar investigates and critiques the politics of American education. Attention is given to issues surrounding the political and social goals of education. The process of political socialization is examined and multiculturalism is considered as an alternative paradigm for American education. The development and impact of educational policy at the federal level is examined in light of state and local politics. Upon successful completion of the course, students will have the intellectual and analytic tools to assess the relationship between the nation’s educational system and its social and political development.

Politics of Education (POLS 414) emphasizes critical, analytic, and writing skills through mastery of theory and the required reading and written assignments. Students participate in all asynchronous online discussions. The basic strategies of online instruction include utilization of assigned readings, various online resources, and PowerPoint and audio lectures.
Learn the Most Marketable Job Skills Political Science Has to Offer:

-- Data Science
-- Statistical Inference
-- Statistical Software
-- Spreadsheet Management
-- Hypothesis Testing

Required for BS students in Political Science

With: Dr. Joshua Zingher
jingher@odu.edu
POLS 438/538 Law in Literature & Film

- Three credits
- Fall 2020
- Tuesday 4.20 - 7.00 pm.
- Dr. Michelle M. Kundmueller

- Study law through the lens of fiction, including movies, novels, plays, & short stories.

- Use art to better understand law’s benefits, dangers, & limitations.