

Politicus

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Upcoming Events

October 23—Liberia Teach-in, featuring panel of area Liberian leaders and a choir. 4:30-6 p.m., Moore Hall I. Co-sponsored with the Balfour Center for Multicultural Affairs.

November 13—Pi Sigma Alpha Fall Induction Ceremony, 4 p.m., Feinstein Function Room.

Data Center Hours

Mon.-Thurs. 12-8 p.m.
Fri. 12-6p.m.
Sat. 12-3 p.m.
Sun. 12-8p.m.

Data Center assistants are available during these hours.

Message from the Chair

Welcome back to another academic year – or to the Political Science Department if you're a Froshling. It's been an interesting summer. For news about your faculty, see that separate item. For my part, from my window I have been able to watch the progress of the new apartment residence and the Fine Arts Center. Like most "progress," it started with destruction: three or four dozen wonderful trees were cut down, although thankfully not the mighty Howley Oak. After that we had a couple of weeks of dust storms; it looked like Baghdad out there. The overwhelming contextual sound for us was the interminable beep beep beep of big yellow machines go-

ing backwards. Often, Howley Hall literally shook when a bulldozer came close. And the blasting, well, it was a blast. Those parking lots were paved only the last week before class (Note to students: don't mess with faculty parking spots).

But now we see concrete and girders, signs that something creative is going to emerge from all that mud and dust. It's not unlike a college career. You get here and have to unlearn some old high school things, have to figure out how to live in this atmosphere. Note to Froshlings: Sophomores will tell you: it gets better, easier, harder, and more productive as time goes on. You'll

see your concrete and girders emerge in your education as well as those emerging from the mud out front of Howley Hall.

We're here, of course, to help that educational progress along. We hope you'll take advantage of what we have to offer, and not just classes and the Data Center. We'll be doing a lot of public events again this year. As always, lots of resources are posted around the department's office. C'mon down!

See you in the hall.

-BT, Chair

Pi Sigma Alpha Update

Last spring, a new board of officers was elected for the Epsilon Chi chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha, the National Political Science Honor Society. The new officers are: Frank Caliva '04, President; Katie Buckley ' and Peter Reardon '04, Vice-Presidents; Mary-Kate Lizotte '04, Treasurer; Cat McLaughlin '04, Secretary;

and Linh Tran '04, Event Coordinator.

The officers have begun planning for events for the upcoming year, including several lectures and student-faculty events. Also, the newest nominees for membership in the Epsilon Chi chapter have received notification of this honor,

and will be formally inducted into the chapter at a ceremony on November 13.

Membership in Pi Sigma Alpha is open to Juniors with a GPA of 3.5 in political science, with at least 6 political science courses, or Seniors with a GPA of 3.4 who have taken 6 courses.

Political Science/Law Course Schedule for Spring 2004

Note: This is a tentative schedule only. The official schedule will be in the course registration booklet and online at CyberFriar.

Political Science Courses

<u>Level</u>	<u>Course Title</u>	<u>Instructor</u>	<u>Series</u>	<u>Prereqs/Comments</u>
101	Politics	Cammarano	B	PSC Gateway Course
101	Politics	Trudeau	C	PSC Gateway Course
101	Politics	Cammarano	D	PSC Gateway Course
101	Politics	Blum	G	PSC Gateway Course
101	Politics	Affigne	K	PSC Gateway Course
101	Politics	Blum	L	PSC Gateway Course
101	Politics	Blum	C	PSC Gateway Course
201	American Govnmt & Politics	Cammarano	A	Amer. Field
201	American Govnmt & Politics	Romans	F	Amer. Field
202	Intro to Empirical Analysis	Hyde	E	
202	Intro to Empirical Analysis	Carlson	F	
202	Intro to Empirical Analysis	Hyde	G	
202	Intro to Empirical Analysis	Carlson	H	
301	Comparative Politics	McCarthy	J	Comp. Field
301	Comparative Politics	McCarthy	D	Comp. Field
302	Comparative Asian Govment and Politics	McCarthy	K	Comp. Field
322	Civil Liberties	Romans	G	Amer. Field
328	American Political Theory	Romans	D	Theory Field
334	Comparative African Govnmt and Politics	Daddieh	D	Comp. Field
342	Modern Political Theory	Bellhouse	E	Theory Field
342	Modern Political Theory	Bellhouse	F	Theory Field
406	American Public Policy	Hudson	H	Amer. Field
409	International Politics of the Middle East	Miskel	X	IR Field T 2:30-5:00 PM
414	International Security	Blum	X	IR Field W 2:30-5:00 PM
416	Race and Politics in the Americas	Affigne	L	Amer. Field
425	Mass Media and Politics	Carlson	E	Amer. Field
454	Seminar in Latin America: US/Lat/Cuba	Cleary	X	R 2:30-5:00 PM
460	Public Service Internship	Hyde	X	W 2:30-5:00 PM
462	Independent Study	Hyde	X	
468	Special Topics: Human Rights Lat. America	Cleary	C	
468	Special Topics: Feminist Theory	Bellhouse	H	Cross-listed with WMS 450
468	Special Topics: MOAS course	Trudeau	K	
468	Special Topics: Film and Politics	Naranch	X	T 2:30 -5:00 PM
468	Special Topics: Computer Applications	Affigne	X	T 2:30 -5:00 PM
468	Special Topic: Globalization	Daddieh	X	W 2:30-5:00 PM

Law Courses

<u>Level</u>	<u>Course Title</u>	<u>Instructor</u>	<u>Series</u>	<u>Prereqs/Comments</u>
201	General Law	McLaughlin	X	TF 4:00-5:15 PM
201	General Law	Wilkins	X	TR 4:30-5:45 PM

An Open Letter to Freshmen from Ben Ahlstrom '03

To The Class of 2007:

As a member of the Class of 2003, I narrowly missed greeting each of you personally in September. In place of my smiling face and overgrown hair, I have been asked to offer you this brief pep talk about the political science experience. I understand the nervous apprehension and excitement over meeting new people, living in a different environment, and engaging in a new educational experience. As I prepare to leave for Duke Law School in August, I find myself having similar feelings, but with the fresh confidence of an individual who has conquered the undergraduate world.

My time at Providence College was immensely enjoyable and supremely thought provoking. At various times, it was also frustrating, challenging, and humbling. Instead of launching into a litany that would rival any of St. Paul's, I have chosen to provide you a short list of suggestions to help begin your career in the Providence College Political Science Department. These tips, if followed, might help you better prepare yourself for a future in law or graduate school, community service, or the job market.

1. Participate in class: Without being *that person* (you know, the one who asks at least four questions per class about trifling minutiae such as Alexander Hamilton's shoe size), you should put forth an honest attempt at participation. It improves the class' atmosphere; it improves your public speaking ability; and it improves your grades.
2. Do research: Don't avoid the classes that assign lengthy research papers. These papers can be challenging, but they also provide rewarding experiences and the chance to learn new skills. If you don't learn to research and write correctly now, have fun finding a job or graduate school patient enough to hire or accept you. If the thought of research intimidates you, do not panic. Help is out there. Read on...
3. Cultivate a support group: Friends and professors (and professor-friends) are easy to come by because of the small size and personal focus of the political science department. They can provide valuable support for personal problems and educational challenges alike. You have probably left your parents and best friends at home; they can't be replaced, but they can be supplemented with your new support group. Be sure to go outside the school's formal advisory structure to find individuals who match your personality.
4. Hang around Howley: Howley Hall's 3rd floor is a great place to spend some downtime during the week. The data center is a good place to study and interact with professors, and if educational osmosis were possible, the 3rd floor would be a great place to absorb some knowledge.
5. Go to Events: Lectures, movies, receptions, and teach-ins are an important part of the college's intellectual atmosphere. Don't miss out on these opportunities to learn something not in the syllabus. Minimally, most of these events provide some kind of free refreshment.
6. Take risks: Take on the difficult paper topic; do original research instead of re-hash; utilize new technologies; take the professor who refuses to inflate grades; disagree with the mainstream view. Doing these things builds character and confidence.

Following these tips will not guarantee you the perfect 4.0 GPA, but it might make your first year at Providence College more enriching. These suggestions are merely a few of the strategies that helped make me a successful political science student. Looking back, I treasure the friendships that I made with my political science faculty and student colleagues nearly as much as I do my education. The department's size and energy makes it comfortable and engaging. I am confident that the culture of cooperative learning has prepared me to succeed in law school and beyond.

Good luck Class of 2007.

Sincerely,
Ben Ahlstrom '03

Faculty Update

Dr. Mary Bellhouse traveled to Paris, France for a month-long research trip during the early summer. She worked on questions about gender, class, and commerce in eighteenth-century French visual culture. She worked primarily at the Print Collection of the Bibliotheque Nationale and at the Louvre museum. Dr. Bellhouse presented her research in a paper titled "Commerce and the Propertied Elite in the Visual Culture of Eighteenth-Century France: The Transition from Estates to Classes." She presented the paper at the national meeting of the American Political Science Association held in Philadelphia, August 28-31, 2003.

Dr. Doug Blum traveled to Moscow and Astrakhan, Russia, last April, and Baku, Azerbaijan and Almaty, Kazakhstan this past July on research trips. For the past several years, his research has focused on the impact of cultural globalization on national identity formation. Since the fall of the So-

viet Union, former Soviet republics have had to essentially build both the state and the nation from scratch. This is occurring in the context of unprecedented globalization, which limits the states' ability to control national identity formation. In particular, Dr. Blum has focused on youth culture in these countries, as youths are especially susceptible to outside global influences, and at the same time represent the future prospects for social stability in a country. Dr. Blum interviewed central and local government officials, professionals that work with youths in schools, libraries, and youth centers, and activists in non-governmental youth organizations during his research.

Fr. Edward Cleary traveled to Lima and Cuzco in Peru from June 10-24, to put the finishing touches on a chapter on indigenous movements in Peru and Bolivia, in an upcoming book for Rutgers University Press that he is writing and editing with several authors.

Fr. Cleary also went on a trip to California from July 24-August 7, to continue his work on religious interest groups and state politics in California. He will be authoring a chapter in an upcoming book for Roman & Littlefield Publishers on the subject of religion and state politics. Fr. Cleary also attended the national meeting of the American Political Science Association in Philadelphia, August 28-31. At the convention, he participated in meetings with other authors of chapters in the religion and state politics book. These authors include Elizabeth Oldmixon, a PC alumna who currently teaches political science at the University of North Texas.

Dr. Joe Cammarano was honored at the Faculty Convocation on Slavin Lawn on September 10 with the first annual Accinno Award for Teaching Excellence. Dr. Cammarano was selected among all of the College faculty for this recognition of his dedication to teaching the students of PC.

Political Science Film Series debuts this Fall

In conjunction with the Black Studies Program, the Political Science Department will present a film series entitled "The American City in Film." The films will take place in Moore Hall III at 7 p.m. on each listed date.



Monday September 29:

Chinatown
Directed by Roman Polanski,
131 minutes (1974)

Monday October 6:

Shaft
Directed by Gordon Parks,
100 minutes (1971)

Monday October 20:

Zoot Suit
Directed by Luis Valdez,
103 minutes (1981)

Monday November 3:

Roger and Me
Directed by Michael Moore,
91 minutes (1989)

Monday November 10:

Do the Right Thing
Directed by Spike Lee,
120 minutes (1989)

Monday December 1:

City Hall
Directed by Harold Becker,
111 minutes (1996)

Illinois Conference Accepting Undergraduate Student Papers

All undergraduate and graduate students are invited to submit papers for the twelfth annual Illinois Conference for Students of Political Science. The organizers welcome papers on any topic related to government and/or politics. All sub-fields and political perspectives are welcome. Panelists at last years' conference included 55 students attending 15 universities representing 5 states.

This conference provides a rare opportunity for students of political science to present their work in a public forum and receive feedback on their ideas. All conference participants will be guests at an elegant catered luncheon with a special guest speaker. The best three undergraduate and graduate student papers will be awarded a cash prize.

In addition, exceptional papers may be considered for publication in the Spring 2004 issue of the electronic journal, *Critique*: an online student journal of politics (<http://lilt.ilstu.edu/critique>). ; Registration for the conference is free.

If you are interested in participating in this event, complete the online proposal submission form or submit a cover letter, containing your contact information (including email address), your school, and the name of the faculty member with whom you are working, and an abstract of your paper (or the actual paper) by **February 13, 2004** to:

Dr. Gary Klass (gmklass@ilstu.edu)
Dept. Politics and Government
Illinois State University
Normal, IL 61790-4600.

If you would like to serve as a discussant on a panel, please send a letter stating your interest and main areas of scholarly knowledge. Email submissions are welcome. If you have any questions, email Dr. Klass at gmklass@ilstu.edu, or call him at (309) 438-8638.

Online submission is available at www.politicsandgovernment.ilstu.edu/conference/.

This conference is sponsored by the Undergraduate Political Science Association, The Graduate Student Association, Pi Sigma Alpha, and The Department of Politics and Government at Illinois State University

Truman Scholarship Competition open to Juniors

Juniors with outstanding academic records and extensive experience in leadership and community service are encouraged to apply for the Truman Scholarship. The Truman Scholarship gives scholarships of up to \$30,000 for juniors planning to attend graduate or professional school in preparation for

careers in government and public service. The deadline for the scholarship is in early December. Interested students should contact Dr. Susan McCarthy in the department of Political Science, via phone at extension 2626 or via email at smccarth@providence.edu.

Note: students cannot apply directly to the Truman Foundation, but must be nominated by the college they are attending.

Student Update

Alison Natale '05, is currently studying at American University in Washington, D.C., for the Fall Semester through the Washington Semester program. She writes, "I'm working for the Chris Matthews Show on NBC. I'm the only intern there and I actually work with Chris on Fridays. It's a lot of

fun and I'm started to learn the in's and out's of television production. It also requires me to stay on my toes, politically speaking. My research project on elections and media coverage is also coming along. I've set up a few interviews and found a lot of really good books. Hope all is

well in Providence!"

Alumna **Nicole Sawran '03** is also in the Washington, D.C. area. She is currently working for *National Geographic* magazine, doing a variety of special projects.

The newsletter of the political science department

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Important Information

See our website at www.providence.edu/polisci for additional academic information regarding:

- Other Programs (including Black Studies, Business Studies, Environmental Studies, Public Administration Program, and Women's Studies,)
- Washington Semester
- Prerequisites
- "Normal" Progress
- PC-SCE or Transfer Credits
- Departmental Advising System
- Internships
- PSC Honors Program
- Graduate School Advisor
- Department Office

Also on the website is information regarding faculty, major/minor field requirements, Pi Sigma Alpha, course listings, and the departmental mission statement, along with helpful links to Providence College internal sites and political science resources on the Internet.