

*In This Newsletter:*

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| Welcome Dr. Riofrancos!                  | 2   |
| Farewell Dr. Romans                      | 2   |
| Upcoming Events-Mark your Calendars!     | 3-4 |
| A Look Back on Jon Stewart's Career      | 5   |
| Israeli Elections-Voting for Status Quo? | 6   |
| Spring 2015 Subfield Courses             | 9   |
| Fall 2015 Course Listings                | 10  |

# Politicus

Spring 2015



PROVIDENCE  
COLLEGE

Check out the latest news online at:

<http://www.providence.edu/polisci/Pages/default.aspx>

Like Us on Facebook!

Providence College Political Science Department

Follow PC Political Science on Twitter! @PC\_Polisci

Howley Hall third floor will experience departures, returns, and arrivals over the next few months. First, two amiable visiting professors: Dr. Angela Gapa and Dr. Casey Stevens, will be departing at the end of this semester. We were quite fortunate to have both of them with us this year to fill in the gaps in our teaching ranks due to multiple sabbaticals and leaves. Having excellent visiting faculty like Drs. Gapa and Stevens allowed us to offer a number of courses normally not available to our students. Thanks to Dr. Gapa we were able to provide our students with her insights into the fascinating politics of Africa. Dr. Stevens taught the American Foreign Policy course and International Law and Organization, both which have not been offered in a while, as well as teaching Latin American Politics. We are grateful to both for being with us this semester and offering their unique expertise to our students. We hope, as they move on to the next step in their academic careers, that they will take with them fond memories of their time at Providence College. We certainly will remember the good they did for our academic community this year.

One special departure at the end of this year will be the retirement of Dr. Neil Romans. His retirement has a special poignancy for me personally as he is the last of the colleagues who were on the political science faculty when I joined in 1974. I will miss our many hallway chats about the continuing absurdities of Rhode Island politics. Read more about Professor Romans in this issue.

In regard to returns, several department faculty members will be coming back to their Hawley offices next fall. Dr. Julia Jordan-Zachery will be back from what, I am sure, was a productive Spring sabbatical offering PSC 380 Gender and Politics fall semester. After a yearlong sabbatical which included trips to China and Paris plus intense work on a new book, Dr. Susan McCarthy will return to PC classrooms to teach PSC 250 Comparative Politics, PSC 325 Comparative Revolutions along with a Capstone on Global Politics of Religion. Dr. Ruth Ben-Artzi will return from maternity leave (and quality time with a beautiful new baby) to teach PSC 207 and a section of PSC 361 International Politics of the Middle East - just in time to bring students up to date on the turbulent events of that region. Dr. Mary Bellhouse will be on sabbatical next Fall, but we anticipate her return in the Spring to teach, along with sections of Modern Theory, her popular course on Politics and Culture of the 1960s.

And, finally, we look forward to the arrival of our new political science faculty member Dr. Thea Riofrancos about whom you can read more on the next page. We are quite fortunate to have her as part of third floor Howley learning community.

Thanks, as always, to Mrs. Emerald Ortiz and the several student assistants who put together this issue of *Politicus*. Good luck with course registration and best wishes for happy and productive final weeks (and warm snow-less weather!) of this academic year.

Professor Hudson

# Welcome Professor Riofrancos



A new member of the department faculty will join us in September. Dr. Thea Riofrancos, pictured at left, will be teaching PSC 344—Democratic Theory and PSC 336 Latin American politics. Dr. Riofrancos looks forward to leading next year's group of Model OAS students and, in the future, developing new student learning opportunities in Latin America. For the past few years, she has been conducting research in Ecuador on political conflict surrounding national mining policies including

their impact on the environment and indigenous peoples.

Dr. Riofrancos is currently a Visiting Fellow at the Kellogg Institute for International Studies at the University of Notre Dame. Previously, she was a graduate fellow in the Program on Democracy, Citizenship, and Constitutionalism at the University of Pennsylvania and held a one-year appointment as a visiting scholar at the *Facultad de Ciencias Sociales* (FLACSO) in Quito. She received her PhD in political science from the University of Pennsylvania in the summer of 2014. She received her BA (Phi Beta Kappa) from Reed College in 2006, where she majored in political science.

# Farewell Dr. Romans



Dr. Neil Romans will retire at the end of this semester after a 48 year career on the Providence College faculty. During his years at PC, Dr. Romans has been our expert in both Legislative Politics and Constitutional Law and, for many years, taught American Political Theory. He also has taught the intro Politics class and American Government and Politics. His classes always have been known for the lively debates that he encourages among his students. His Civil Liberties classes especially have challenged students to think through the intricacies and nuances of this important subject. Along with his teaching, Dr. Romans has served the department in multiple ways from overseeing book orders for the library to helping to shape the evolution of our curriculum. His office, most recently in the Northeast corner of Howley third floor, has continually welcomed many students and faculty colleagues through an always open door. As he moves into retirement, we are thankful to Dr. Romans for his years of service to our students and for all that he has contributed to the Political Science Department over the years. Best Wishes!

# Mark your Calendars for these Upcoming Events

## Registration Info Session

PSC 101 and PSC 102 pre-registration sign up April 9, 2015 4:00pm in Harkins Hall 300

Information will be given regarding courses offered next semester. Political Science Faculty members will be in attendance and available to answer questions regarding Fall 2015 course offerings. Come and find out about the exciting line up of courses for next semester. Professor Hudson, Political Science Department Chair, along with other faculty members will be available to advise on major and minor requirements.

## Pi Sigma Alpha Induction Ceremony

The Epsilon Chi Chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha will be hosting their annual induction ceremony on April 11, 2015 in Aquinas Lounge at 2:00pm. All new Fall 14 and Spring 15 members will receive their certificates and all class of 2015 members will receive their graduation chords and medallions. Any class of 2015 member unable to attend should contact Mrs. Emerald Ortiz, department Administrative Assistant at 401-865-2434 or Emerald.Ortiz@providence.edu to set up a time to pick up their graduation materials.

## Grad School Info Session

Dr. Matthew Guardino will be meeting with all students interested in pursuing Graduate School on April 13, 2015 at 6:00pm in Howley 300 (Conference Room)

Refreshments will be provided. (flyers and emails will be sent prior to the event)

# Mark your Calendars for these Upcoming Events

## *Pi Sigma Alpha event*

“Politics and Journalism in the Age of Social Media” event on April 20, 2015 at 6:00pm, location TBD.

Refreshments will be provided. (flyers and emails will be sent prior to the event)

## *Fr. Ed Cleary Memorial Lecture*

The Political Science Department and the Latin American Studies Program are pleased to announce that the third annual Edward Cleary, O.P. Memorial Lecture will feature world-renowned Peruvian theologian and Dominican friar, Gustavo Gutierrez, O.P. and will occur on Monday, April 27, 2015. The Cleary Lecture was established in memory of our late colleague and prolific Latin American scholar Fr. Ed Cleary who served the College as Professor of Political Science and Director of Latin American Studies from 1994 until his retirement in 2011.

The Cleary Lecture series intends to bring to our campus each year a distinguished scholar of Latin American society who shares Fr. Cleary's passion for the region and his commitment to human rights, social justice, and human liberation.

(flyers and emails will be sent prior to the event)

## *Senior Reception*

The Political Science department will be hosting the annual Senior Reception to recognize all graduating Political Science majors, minors and Public Administration certificate recipients. We will recognize the majors with the highest GPA's as well as all of the department's class of 2015 Student Employees. The event will take place on Friday, May 15, 2015 at 3pm in Aquinas Lounge.

(flyers and emails will be sent prior to the event)

# No longer The Daily Show with Jon Stewart



On February 10<sup>th</sup>, political comedian Jon Stewart shocked the American people when he suddenly announced his retirement from his legendary fake news show, *The Daily Show*. It will be hard to imagine the late night comedy line-up without Stewart's satirical spin on the daily headlines. Anchoring the show for the past sixteen years, Stewart has covered a wide range of topics including the "Indecision" of the 2000 Presidential Election, the September 11<sup>th</sup> attacks, the War in Iraq, and the 2008 financial meltdown, as well as yesterday's news and everything in-between. During the tenure of Jon Stewart, the *Daily Show* has won 18 Emmy Awards for excellence in television.

Stewart has attained a great deal of popularity among young people. According to a Pew Research Poll, the majority of his viewers are between the ages of 18 and 49. This popularity among America's youth has brought the political issues of the day to the forefront of pop-culture by making the stories more understandable and ultimately influencing their views on the issues. He has been able to cement his popularity even more with his published satirical books.

Over the years, a large number of celebrities have appeared on *The Daily Show*. For instance, President Obama, President Clinton, Hillary Clinton, Senator John McCain, Paul McCartney, LeBron James and so many more have been interviewed by Stewart. Interestingly, former members of the cast on the show include well-known comedians like Steve Carell, John Oliver, Stephen Colbert, and Larry Wilmore.

There is no disputing Stewart's lasting impact on the political standing of the country. Stewart's former correspondents have found success in following his lead of political satire. John Oliver is now the host of the extremely popular political satire show, *Last Week Tonight*. Following the wild success of his show, *The Colbert Report*, Stephen Colbert is slated to take over for the legendary David Letterman on *The Late Show*. Also, Larry Wilmore recently launched his own political satire show called *The Nightly Show*.

Aside from his role in shaping late night television, Stewart has had a significant impact on a number of political issues. *The James Zadroga Act*, for instance, would have expanded death benefits to families of 9/11 workers who died from cancer or respiratory diseases. After Senate Republicans filibustered the bill, it ultimately failed. Stewart came right out after the vote and publically attacked these actions and raised public awareness for the issue. A week later, the Senate then passed the bill following mounting political pressure. In 2009, Stewart had Maziar Bahari, an Iranian journalist, on his show. When he returned to Iran, he was arrested on charges of espionage and sentenced to prison. Stewart and other reporters closely followed the case on their respective shows and in 2011, he was ultimately released. In 2013, Stewart took a twelve-week break from the show to direct a movie about Bahari's time in prison. Finally, Stewart has called for the media to be more responsible for their coverage. In 2004, Stewart appeared on the CNN show *Crossfire* and criticized the show. Not long afterwards, the show was canceled.

There is no doubt that Jon Stewart has played a massive role in American pop-culture and politics. With his impending retirement approaching, a number of questions arise. Will the late night political satire show still thrive? Who will replace Jon Stewart on the show? Will young people still be engaged in the news? What will Jon Stewart do next? It will surely be heartbreaking to see Jon leave, but there is no doubt about what he has accomplished and will still accomplish to keep the American people laughing and engaged in politics.

-Joe Clancy, '18

# Israeli Elections: Voting for Status Quo?

Tom Andrikopoulos, '16

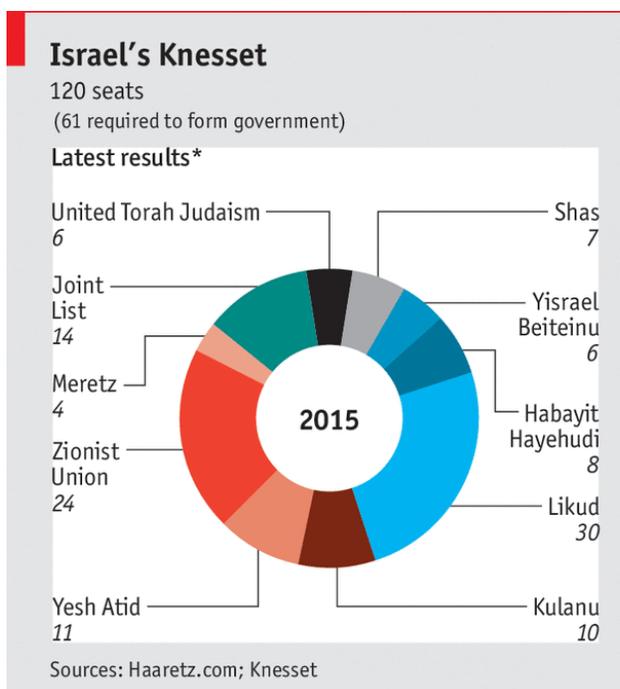
Israeli voters made little change in the most recent round of elections, which were held Tuesday, March 17th. Despite reports of a close race between Benjamin Netanyahu's Likud party and Isaac Herzog's Zionist Union, voters elected to maintain Likud's control of the Knesset, Israel's legislative body.



Benjamin Netanyahu's coalition will likely feature several right-wing parties besides his own Likud, including Yisrael Beiteinu and the Jewish Home party, as well as two religious parties. To reach the threshold of government control, the new coalition will likely feature center-right party Kulanu, which focused heavily on economic issues during the campaign. Although the elections initially garnered much attention in the U.S. news media, the final results will likely have little effect on the overall trajectory of politics in the region or in U.S.-Israeli relations.

Benjamin Netanyahu wasted no time in proclaiming what he called "a huge victory" after the Tuesday elections. Drawing on familiar themes from his campaign, he announced, "I am proud of the Israeli people that, in the moment of truth, knew how to separate between what's

important or what's not...for the most important thing for all of us, which is real security, social economy and strong leadership". The victory affords Netanyahu the ability to continue key policies, including a hard line on Iran's nuclear aspirations and quashing any discussion about negotiations with the Palestinians. Opponents had hoped to restart negotiations with the Palestinians by curtailing Israeli settlements, and repair relations with the Obama Whitehouse, whose relations with Netanyahu have been frosty at best. In the meantime, however, they will have to wait for the next opportunity for change.



Economist.com

Source: The Economist

# **Forand Research Program**

## **Information, Timetable, and Application Process**

### **Overview**

The Political Science Department's Forand Research Program awards a scholarship of \$1,000 to seniors majoring in Political Science, and awards up to \$500 to support a research project for those students. The number of Forand Research Scholars depends on the funds available in the Forand Scholarship Fund, donated in the memory of Congressman Forand by his family. The program supports students who will undertake a research project in a public policy area of their own choosing that will contribute to community improvement in Providence, the state of Rhode Island, or elsewhere in Southern New England. Students interested in receiving this scholarship and support should talk to the Department Chair for more information.

### **Timetable**

Students interested in participating in the Forand Research Program should talk with a faculty member in their Junior year. Students need to identify a faculty member who will direct and advise their research project, which will be undertaken during the Senior year. Students must produce a research proposal describing the project, its goals and objectives, its significance academically, and its potential impact in the community.

### **Application Process**

With a proposal in hand, a faculty mentor identified, and the research proposal approved by the faculty mentor, the student will apply for the program late in their Junior year by meeting with the Department Chair. The Chair, in consultation with an advisory group of faculty and community members, will announce the Forand Scholarships on or around July 1.

### **Implementation**

Working with the faculty mentor, the student will begin the research project as soon as practical during the Senior year. Normally, students will enroll in one Independent Studies course (PSC 490) during either semester of the Senior year, the course to be conducted by the student's faculty mentor. Students also have the option of incorporating the Forand research into an Honors Thesis, providing they meet the requirements of this program. Students can consult the PSC Department Chair to find out about these requirements.

The research project will be complete when the results have been written in the form of a research paper. Students will also be asked to make a short presentation in the Spring of their senior year. The department will retain copies of these research papers.

For more information, contact Dr. William E. Hudson, [bhudson@providence.edu](mailto:bhudson@providence.edu)

### **Forand Scholar Research Presentation**

Andrew Sayer will be making his Forand Research presentation on Tuesday, April 29, 2015 at 4:30 pm in Ruane 206. All members of the Political Science Department community are welcome to attend.

The following are the students who will be acknowledged at this year's Pi Sigma Alpha induction ceremony on April 11, 2015. Any senior unable to attend should contact Emerald Ortiz at [Emerald.Ortiz@providence.edu](mailto:Emerald.Ortiz@providence.edu) to set up a time to pick up your certificates, chord and medallion.

Class of 2015 new members:

Cayla Barbour  
Elyse Butterworth  
John Bugnacki  
Kevin Donovan  
Kelly Ann Girandola  
Mark Hamilton  
Zachary Keefe  
Aubrey Moore  
Emily Morin  
Matthew Pavia  
Clare Plassche  
Emily Reers  
Nathan Rosadini  
Nicholas Rossini  
Andrew Sayer  
Greta Schaaf  
Alexia Shea  
Kevin Sullivan

Class of 2016 new members:

Thomas Andrikopoulos  
Jessica James  
Austin King  
Kimberly Lynch  
Caroline McDonnell  
Alexander Nunnelly  
Mary Smith  
Katelyn Sudlik  
Hailey Tavares  
Daniel Tosiano  
Jamie Wilson

# Student Guide to Meeting Major Field Requirements:

**Fall 2015**

Political Science majors are required to take at least one course from each of the traditional fields of the discipline: political theory, American politics, comparative politics, and international relations. Students have a choice among multiple courses to meet these requirements. Listed below are the courses offered Fall semester 2015 that meet the various field requirements. Taking any of the courses listed under the particular field will satisfy the requirement.

## *Political Theory*

PSC 341 Classical Political Theory

PSC 344 Democratic Theory

## *Comparative Politics*

PSC 205 Comparative Politics

PSC 325 Comparative Revolutions

PSC 336 Latin American Politics

## *International Relations*

PSC 207 International Relations

PSC 361 International Politics of the Middle East

## *American Politics*

PSC 201 American Government and Politics

PSC 211 Public Administration

PSC 311 Constitutional Law

## Fall 2015 Course Offerings in Political Science

\*\*\*Check Cyberfriar for the most up-to-date course listings\*\*\*

| Course Number | Course Title   | Series | Limit | Instructor           |
|---------------|--|--------|-------|----------------------|
| PSC 101 001   | Politics   | A      | 18    | Joe Cammarano        |
| PSC 101 002   | Politics   | H      | 18    | STAFF                |
| PSC 101 003   | Politics   | K      | 18    | Doug Blum            |
| PSC 101 004   | Politics   | L      | 18    | Doug Blum            |
| PSC 101 005   | Politics   | J      | 18    | STAFF                |
| PSC 101 006   | Politics   | M      | 18    | STAFF                |
| PSC 102 001   | Empirical Analysis   | C      | 20    | Matt Guardino        |
| PSC 102 002   | Empirical Analysis   | F      | 20    | Matt Guardino        |
| PSC 201 001   | American Government & Politics                                 | N      | 25    | Adam Myers           |
| PSC 201 002   | American Government & Politics                                 | U      | 25    | Adam Myers           |
| PSC 205 001   | Comparative Politics   | L      | 25    | Susan McCarthy       |
| PSC 207 001   | International Relations  | H      | 25    | Ruth Ben-Artzi       |
| PSC 207 002   | International Relations  | J      | 25    | Ruth Ben-Artzi       |
| PSC 211 001   | Public Administration  | M      | 25    | Joe Cammarano        |
| PSC 217 001   | Environmental Politics   | K      | 25    | Tony Affigne         |
| PSC 311 001   | American Constitutional Law crosslist AMS                      | E      | 15    | STAFF                |
| PSC 325 001   | Comparative Revolutions  | K      | 20    | Susan McCarthy       |
| PSC 336 001   | Latin American Politics  | N      | 20    | Thea Riofrancos      |
| PSC 341 001   | Classical Political Theory                                     | E      | 20    | Rick Battistoni      |
| PSC 344 001   | Democratic Theory  | C      | 20    | Thea Riofrancos      |
| PSC 344 002   | Democratic Theory  | G      | 20    | Thea Riofrancos      |
| PSC 361 001   | International Politics of Middle East                          | P      | 20    | Ruth Ben-Artzi       |
| PSC 380 001   | Gender and Politics crosslist WMS & BLS                        | N      | 12    | Julia Jordan-Zachery |
| PSC 419 001   | Public Program Evaluation                                      | E      | 20    | Adam Myers           |
| PSC 450 001   | Political Science Internship                                   | V      | 20    | Bill Hudson          |
| PSC 470 001   | ST: Social Media, Rebellion & the Power of Youth crosslist BLS | L      | 12    | Tony Affigne         |
| PSC 470 002   | ST: Surveillance and Freedom in World Politics                 | Q      | 15    | Tony Affigne         |
| PSC 470 003   | ST: Globalization  | V      | 15    | Doug Blum            |
| PSC 488 001   | Capstone: Mass Media, Political Economy & Pol Power            | L      | 12    | Matt Guardino        |
| PSC 488 002   | Capstone: Global Politics of Religion                          | W      | 12    | Susan McCarthy       |

## Law Course Offerings

| Course Number | Course Title (limit 30 characters) | Series | Limit | Instructor          |
|---------------|------------------------------------|--------|-------|---------------------|
| LAW 201 001   | General Law                        | K      | 25    | Ilisabeth Bornstein |
| LAW 201 002   | General Law                        | T      | 25    | Patricia McLaughlin |