

Politicus

Spring 2016



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Lots of useful information in this issue of *Politicus*. To prepare you for the upcoming course registration, we have included listings of all courses being offered in the fall and information on course pre-registration of PSC 101 and 102. Please mark your calendars for a couple of special events: Forand Scholar presentation on April 25 and the annual Cleary lecture on April 28 (details on p. 3). Juniors will find important information in these pages on next year's Capstone Seminars and on a Forand research scholar opportunity. As usual students have written several fine articles on current issues, including a fascinating one by Arlin Baez '17. Arlin was in the center of the action following the Paris terror attacks last November 13 as an intern in the French Interior Ministry. Her account shows how a study abroad experience can become life changing. She does not mention it in her article, but as a part of her internship, Arlin wrote, in French, a superb comparative analysis of the French Interior Ministry and the US Department of Homeland Security. The talents and achievements of our political science students make me proud. Thanks for gracing our classrooms with your presence.

Kudos to *Politicus* editor Tom Andrikopoulos '16 for another fine issue – his last. We will miss his steady editorial hand. And, thanks again to Mrs. Ortiz for overseeing production.

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- William Hudson, Chair



PROVIDENCE
COLLEGE

Mark Your Calendars! Upcoming Events in Political Science

PSC Pre-Registration Info Session

When: Thursday, April 7th. 4 PM.
Where: Harkins LL15

Information will be provided regarding courses offered next semester. Political Science Faculty members will be in attendance and available to answer questions regarding Fall 2016 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.

Anyone interested in taking PSC 101 or PSC 102 in the fall semester, especially, should attend. Those students will have an opportunity to sign up to be pre-registered in this course. Anyone who does not express interest in pre-registration prior to April 8, 2016 is not guaranteed a seat in either section of the course. The purpose for this session and pre-registration sign up is to ensure that all students interested in these courses will have the ability to take the class.

Forand Scholar Presentations

When: Monday, April 25th. 3:30 PM.
Where: Harkins LL13

The Political Science Department will be hosting the annual presentation of Forand Scholars. At this event the Forand Scholars will be presenting their research projects.

All Political Science majors/minors and faculty are welcome to attend.

Fr. Ed Cleary Lecture Series Featuring Dr. Guillermo Trejo

When: Thursday, April 28th. 4 PM.
Where: Ruane 105

The Father Edward Cleary, O.P. Memorial Lecture was established in 2013 and occurs annually at Providence College. The lecture honors the memory of Rev. Edward L. Cleary, O.P., who was a professor of Political Science at Providence College for eighteen years and the director of the Latin American Studies program for twelve years. A Dominican Friar and Latin American scholar, he studied the Catholic Church, religion, politics, and human rights throughout his career and wrote or co-authored fourteen books. When he passed away in November of 2011, his colleagues at the college wished to memorialize the large impact he had on the students, faculty and community. The lecture series serves as an ongoing tribute to Father Cleary, and was started with the organization of Dr. Jeffrey Pugh and Rev. David Orique, O.P. The lectures are based on the broad themes that were important to Father Cleary, namely human rights, religion, and politics.

Senior Reception

When: Friday, May 13th. 3-5 PM.
Where: Slavin Overlook Lounge

This event honors the Poli Sci graduates with the highest GPAs, Poli Sci student employees, and Public Administration certificate recipients.

Majors and minors are invited and welcome to bring their families to the event. We ask that anyone attending RSVP to Emerald Ortiz at emerald.ortiz@providence.edu.

Opportunity for Junior Political Science Majors: Apply for a Forand Grant!

Each year, the Political Science Department awards up to six Forand Research Scholarships to junior majors to conduct an independent research project during their senior year. The Scholarship is supported by the Aime J. and Gertrude B. Forand Scholarship Fund. Recipients receive a stipend of \$1000 and up to \$500 in funds to reimburse any research expenses.

The Forand Research Scholars program is aimed at rising seniors who want to conduct research on a public policy issue, with a view to contributing to community improvement in the region. Your research project thus needs to have policy relevance for Rhode Island and/or Southern New England, but beyond that your choice of topic is wide open. In the last several years we have funded many Forand Research Scholars, some of whom have parlayed their Forand research experience into post-college internships, jobs, and graduate programs.

Go to SAKAI - Political Science Connect for more info in the Forand folder under Resources.

Juniors and Seniors – Consider a Fall Political Science Internship

Students can earn political science credit for politics and government related internships by enrolling in PSC 450 Political Science Internship. Professor Tony Affigne will be supervising internships this coming fall. You may enroll in the course whether or not you currently have an internship lined up for the fall. We can assist you in finding an internship through the RI State Internship Program or offer you suggestions for applying for an internship on your own. One terrific internship possibility would be to volunteer internship with a fall political campaign. Both RI members of Congress will be running for re-election and there may be opportunities in the local organizations for the Republican and Democratic presidential campaigns. An internship in a state or local government office or as a campaign volunteer would be perfect for a political science major. If interested in an internship, contact either Professor Affigne or Professor Hudson.

Introducing Dr. Paul Herron



The Political Science Department will welcome a new Assistant Professor to our faculty beginning Fall 2016. Dr. Paul Herron will be teaching courses in Constitutional Law and Judicial politics. His Ph.D. (2014) is from Brandeis University and he possesses a J.D. (2007) from Northeastern University. Dr. Herron was a 2003 Phi Beta Kappa graduate of American University. His research focuses on State Constitutional Development with a book *Revision and Reaction: Writing Constitutions in the Southern States: 1860 – 1902* forthcoming from Kansas University Press next year.

During the fall semester, Herron will teach PSC 311 American Constitutional Law along with two sections of PSC 101. In the spring, he is scheduled to teach PSC 312 Civil Liberties, PSC 300 Law and Society, and a new course on the Supreme Court. Given the on-going controversies surrounding the Court, including the current one regarding replacing Justice Scalia, this new course will be a timely and needed addition to our curriculum.

Dr. Herron brings to the department not only his scholarly expertise but also practical experience as a lawyer. He is eager to advise students interested in a legal career. We look forward to his joining us this fall. Please do not hesitate to stop by his office and introduce yourself.

Merkel's Pro-Asylum Stance Challenged in State Elections

By:Jeff Bausch '16

German Chancellor Angela Merkel is facing increased pressure from within her home country this week. Formerly the beneficiary of the “Merkel Consensus” as many pundits have coined it, her previous lack of opposition has taken a precipitous turn. Her party the CDU (Christian Democrats) lost substantial seats in parliament after regional elections elected many AfD party members in. (Alternative für Deutschland). The AfD is an up-start group of anti-asylum based politics; their gains within parliament will undoubtedly amplify the growing German voice against Merkel’s rather generous refugee policy. Founded in 2013, the party started mainly of economists and journalists has transformed its policy platform from originally lobbying for the abolition of the Euro to anti-refugee.



The debate inside Germany has polarized the country, forcing many of Merkel’s own party peers to distance themselves from her leadership on the issue. Unlike the Euro crisis, where Merkel’s guidance united the country, her pro-asylum judgment has just as quickly divided the country. The anti-asylum movement gained real momentum after the incidents in Cologne on New Years Eve. Hundreds of women were reported as getting sexually harassed and raped by men largely of African and Arabic descent. Regardless of the events in the past few months, Merkel hasn’t flinched. She still possesses the support of the majority of Germans, especially concerning her refugee policy. The insurgence of the AfD in state elections was chiefly due to a record number of voters who have never voted before – these voters sided largely with the anti-refugee AfD party. Although few expect the elections to have any sizable impact on Merkel’s policy, it does send a message to the establishment. These warning signals may or may not be addressed, but it looks clear for Merkel that she needs to find a solution sooner rather than later. Merkel contends that the issue can only be solved with a EU consensus on an action plan.

Merkel’s leadership amongst the EU and her home country will surely be challenged in the short future, as most of the other EU members vehemently reject a pro-asylum stance. For Merkel to succeed at home and abroad, she is going to need to find a common ground that the EU can work together with. Merkel is right in stating that this issue is too complex to be solved by one country, however without the help of others it looks as if Merkel’s reign is in question.



My Paris Internship and the November Terror Attacks

By: Arlin Baez '17

As a junior at Providence College, I had the opportunity to study abroad for the Fall 2015 semester. Naturally, as a French and Political Science double major, I took the opportunity to study in Paris, France to fully immerse myself in the culture and the language. Through my study abroad program, I had the opportunity to intern with the communications department of the Ministry of the Interior in Paris, France.

Oftentimes when our lives are about to change we do not know it. This internship was that moment for me. My responsibilities consisted of participating in the daily development of the Interior Ministry's social media accounts like Facebook, Twitter and YouTube. I assisted photographers during official Ministry events like the performance of their terrorism training and the Minister's personal reunions at which every prefecture of Paris and its surrounding areas met to discuss economical, political and social issues. Furthermore, I had the opportunity to translate official documents and videos for the Ministry's official website and other campaigns.

My Paris academic program immersed its students culturally and linguistically and had a unique way of setting its student interns aside from other students studying abroad. This program aimed to teach us full independence by placing us in the 'real world,' and giving us the opportunity to flourish on our own. However, I never imagined that during this extraordinary experience something even more monumental, even more life changing would happen. On November 13, 2015, Paris was the victim of a malicious terrorist attack. Hundreds of people lost their lives in what was one of the worst terrorist attacks that modern day Western Europe has ever seen.

In the days following the attacks, I experienced life-changing moments. Because I was working at the Interior Ministry, which is responsible for domestic security throughout France, I had the unique experience of seeing what goes on behind the scenes during and after these terrorist attacks. I saw how my office went from a calm hard working environment, to a place of chaos and even more hard work. Every single TV was on throughout the day as we relied on the media to send out the proper message to the French citizens and the rest of the world. We worked vigorously to communicate to the public what was to come after these events. Our job became to control and protect the public through social media and the web. Everyday I woke up with a sense of purpose knowing that I was helping someone in a way that I could and in a way that I knew how.

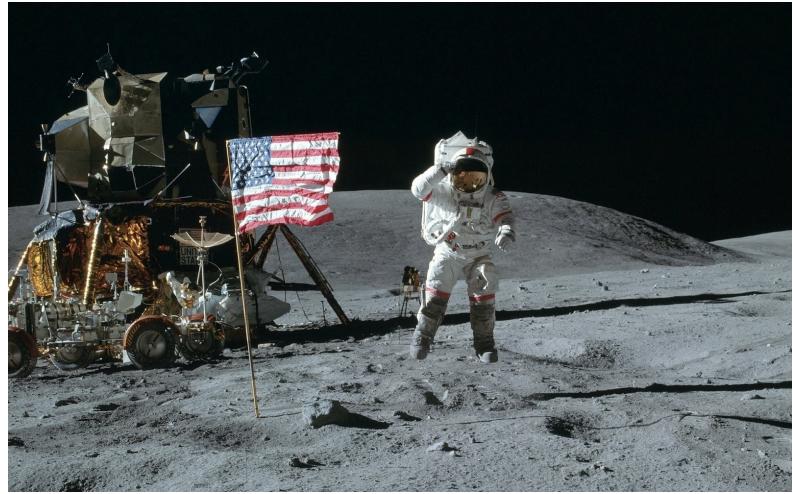
Despite the pain that silently lingered throughout the days after November 13th, I slowly found my purpose. I saw myself belonging to this community. Everyday coworkers grew into friends; I began to think in a language that was once foreign to me; I began to feel a sense of security around me that for a second was lost in the entire city of Paris. While there were other American students studying in Paris during the attacks, my perspective was unique because of my position at the Ministry. Day in and day out I relived those events with my coworkers in order to protect a greater population. Everyday the Republic of France became my priority when I walked through those doors and until I walked out.

The events of November 13th, 2015 were not something that simply happened while I was studying abroad, they became part of my life - part of my journey. They are not tucked away in a silent and removed corner of my heart, but rather these events catapulted me into my future, into my adulthood. The analysis of a horrific situation became an academic and emotional journey for me - one that I will never forget.

Journey to Mars and NASA's budget

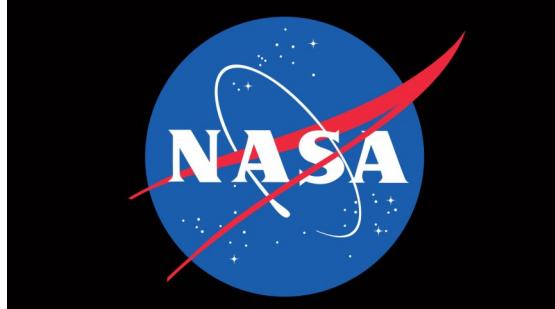
By: Averi Lee '17

NASA was created in 1958 in order to win the space race against Russia who had just launched the first satellite into space. President Kennedy came into office and declared that America would send humans to the moon by the end of the 60s. In 1969, the Apollo 11 landed on the moon's surface, and an American named Neil Armstrong became the first human ever to walk on the moon.



This was a great accomplishment for NASA and even more importantly, a great accomplishment for American history. However, ever since this achievement, the appeal of NASA had continuously declined over the years and consequently, so has funding from Congress. In spite of this, NASA continued to utilize its resources to carry out space exploration missions which has been critical to our knowledge about the universe. Still these accomplishments by NASA have not been as great as they could have been. Though the moon landing was NASA's greatest accomplishment, there has not been another manned moon landing since 1972. President Bush realized that this was an issue and encouraged NASA to launch more people to the moon and beyond. This resulted in the creation of the Constellation Program. Though this was a reasonable program, NASA's budget restrictions forced them to end the space shuttle program which was extremely important in flying US astronauts to the International Space Station.

Though the main goal of the Constellation Program was to send humans to Mars, President Obama decided that the program was too expensive and had it canceled in 2010. This disrupted NASA's plans for returning to the moon. However, there still has been an interest in landing on Mars, and NASA has been putting a lot of its money and resources into the Space Launch System which might help us get there. NASA estimates that humans will land on Mars in the mid-2020s, however, this will be heavily dependent upon the support and steady budgets by Congress. The journey to Mars is a complicated and expensive one, and is one that cannot be interrupted by constant unnecessary program cancellations and plan changes or else it might take up to fifty years before NASA sends humans to Mars. This will be extremely damaging to America's reputation as the world's leader in space exploration.



Trump the Drumpf

By: Joe Clancy '18

The central question that I have been introduced to in my Marketing classes at Providence College is how you can make people want to buy what you are selling. My standard answer for this question was to put caffeine and nicotine in the product and sell it to children, but apparently there are “laws” against that practice. It is no wonder that one of the most famous businessmen in the country is the Republican front-runner, Donald Trump. Trump has played a role in American pop culture as a comical business mogul. After all, he has appeared in *Home Alone* and even got an uncomfortable spotlight on WWE where he shaved another man’s head for losing a bet (that’s what he generally prefers compared to settling in courts). Despite this image however, many Americans associate the Trump brand with success, much like they associate the Kardashians with expensive video tapes, or the Bushes as “low energy” war fanatics.

Trump has been in the front of the Republican pack since August 2015, despite extremely controversial comments about immigrants being rapists, Megyn Kelly’s bodily functions, or even John McCain’s war record. His polls show that he is doing extremely well with the white working class and the poorly educated that he “loves”.



Now, this question of the size of Trumps’ hands and, well, his portfolio (what most people associate with his natural endowment) have been in the public limelight for the past few weeks as former Republican nominee Mitt Romney has attacked Trump’s business record. After all, nothing says understanding the working classes’ struggle than a millionaire trying to stick it to a billionaire. Now Trump has invested in everything from steaks to knives to board games, where landing on red gets Donald a new wife from a former communist country. NPR decided to investigate whether or not Trump’s business ventures have indeed been successful and they made some astounding findings. For example, “Trump Steaks bore the label of Bush Brothers Provision Company, a West Palm Beach vendor that merely supplies meat to Trump resorts. A Bush Brothers spokesman says Trump has no ownership stake in the business.” It is not just the steaks that he falsely claims to have a stake in. For instance, Trump water, or as his supporters call “Jesus Juice”. “Reporters who looked at that water, like Zeke Miller of Time Magazine, noticed it’s bottled in Connecticut by a company called Village Springs. A spokeswoman there says the company supplies private-label water to many customers. Donald Trump has no financial stake in the operation.” What seems to be the common theme here is that when you attach the name Trump to a product, market value increases. This is similar to when you put the word “natural” in front of food. People can’t get enough of it despite the bodily repercussions that follow the consumption of the product. Look at how “natural” that e coli was in those 1000+ calories from Burritos at Chipotle and what it did to individual colons. Trump 2016 is the intellectual equivalent.

The Trump name is an extremely powerful brand even though it generally really has very little to do with the financial health of the product. “Trump 2016” is one of the most successful marketing campaigns of recent memory, especially when you compare it to the koozies “Chillary Clinton” and “Feel the Bern”. I mean, I like Sanders but who seriously let that one slide through PR? That sounds like the aftermath of a weekend in Vegas, not a presidential slogan. Although it does make voters remember the importance of universal health care. It’s time to combat “Trump 2016” and, as John Oliver says, make Donald Drumpf again.

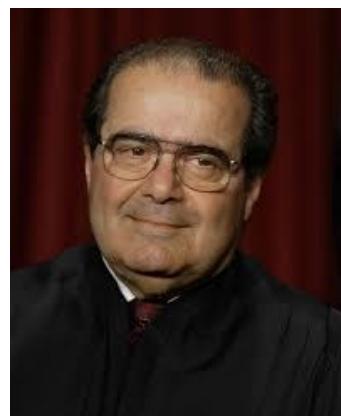
Professor Keck's Timely Lecture on Polarization and the Courts

By: Tom Andrikopoulos '16

Professor Thomas Keck of Syracuse University recently delivered a lecture at PC discussing the findings of his new book, *Judicial Politics in Polarized Times*. He notes that two very different views on the role of judges echo throughout American history. The first, promoted by recent Supreme Court appointee John Roberts, holds that judges are merely modest umpires aiming at a neutral application of the law. The second view, voiced by Senator Jeff Sessions of Alabama during Sonia Sotomayor's nomination hearing, argues that judges have become tyrannical activists forcing their will on the American public. As mentioned, both views have deep roots in American history, and Keck's lecture provided an interesting overview of the extent to which either is true.

Keck uses the four hot-button cultural issues of abortion, affirmative action, gun rights, and same-sex marriage as the vehicle through which to examine judicial polarization. In general, he notes that Courts may be initially quite divided on merits questions relating directly to the legality of a particular practice. For example, federal courts were initially divided on the constitutionality of partial-birth abortion bans, and the Supreme Court issued a narrow 5-4 decision along largely partisan lines relating to the recognition of same-sex marriage in the landmark Obergefell case. Following initial rulings related to these matters, however, the Courts appear to be much less partisan in their treatment of these areas. For example, federal appeals court justices of all political persuasions unanimously struck partial-birth abortion bans following the Supreme Court's ruling in Stenberg. In the past month, the Supreme Court unanimously ruled that states must accept same-sex custody of a child when another state has also determined a child to be in the custody of same-sex parents. In short, once polarizing debates about the merits of particular policy choices are resolved in the Courts, most judges appear to accept the precedent in subsequent cases. Further, public polling data indicates that most instances of so-called judicial activism are generally on behalf of the majority's wishes.

Keck's lecture was particularly thought-provoking against the backdrop of the recently deceased Justice Antonin Scalia and President Obama's nomination of D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals Justice Merrick Garland. Conservatives will hail the late Justice Scalia as a once-in-a-generation defender of a strict interpretation of the Constitution, while liberals will continue to deride his ideological impositions from the bench. Which brings us to the not-so-exciting conclusion that your view of judicial activism depends on the judge, issue, or decision at hand.



Pi Sigma Alpha News



Providence College's Epsilon Chi Chapter of the Pi Sigma Alpha National Honor Society would like to extend their congratulations to the new Spring 2016 members:

2016 Majors:

Julia Caldwell
Lauren Corolla
Thomas Barnett
Chelsea Higgins
Susan Willis

2017 Majors:

Peter Barnes
Lauren Arenz
Cassandra Chislom
Jillian Fitzpatrick
Taylor Gibson
John Hindley
Alexandra Jones
James Lewis
Riley Maloney
Meagan Nolan
Jeffrey Williams
Meaghan Callahan

2016 Minors:

Michael Burke
Aaron Colaiacomo
Alexis Egidio
Olivia Lieberthal
Joseph Thullier

These students have demonstrated academic excellence through their studies in the major/minor of political science. To be inducted into this prestigious society, a student must have completed a minimum of six political science courses while maintaining at least a 3.5 GPA as a Junior or 3.4 GPA as a Senior. Membership in Pi Sigma Alpha is greatly valued within the academic and professional community, and it also provides numerous opportunities for future internships and scholarships. While there are countless personal benefits of Pi Sigma Alpha membership, the inductees also become a part of an active organization dedicated to increasing awareness and interest in political science within the entire PC community.

Pi Sigma Alpha will host its annual Induction Ceremony on Saturday, April 16th, from 5-7PM in Aquinas Lounge. Dinner will be served and students are allowed two guests. In order to accommodate our budget and food limitations, please be aware that we cannot distribute extra tickets.

Registration Procedures and Policies for Capstone Seminars

- * All Political Science majors must take a Capstone Seminar in their Senior Year. In order to be enrolled in a Capstone Seminar, you need "permission of the Instructor/Department," even though it doesn't say that in the Registration booklet. In order to get your choice of a Capstone Seminar, which you can take either in the Fall 2016 or the Spring 2017 semester, you have to indicate your choice, prior to Fall 2016 Registration.
- * If you want to take two Capstones, you'll gain access to the Spring Capstones only after everyone has registered for their one Capstone. To take two Capstones, you have to take one in the Fall and one in the Spring, not two at once. One will be PSC 488, one will be PSC 489.
- * We will register your choice for a Capstone Seminar using Sakai.

The capstone survey will be posted on Sakai and will be ready for you to make your selections, for a 48-hour period beginning on Monday, April 4th at 8:30am ET. PLEASE NOTE: If you do not complete the survey during this 48-hour period, you will be automatically assigned to whichever capstone has availability. This is a first come, first served operation. The purpose for the survey is to give you a chance to indicate your first, second, and third choices for a Capstone Seminar during the 2016-2017 academic year. We will notify you via Sakai which Capstone you'll be registered for.

- * If you are studying abroad this semester, you must still complete the Capstone Survey, or you will be automatically assigned a Capstone. If you are unable to access Sakai please notify Emerald Ortiz at Emerald.Ortiz@providence.edu as soon as possible listing your top 3 Capstone choices in rank order.
- * If you have a financial hold for next semester, you must still complete the Capstone Survey, or you will be automatically assigned a Capstone.
- * This Spring, Juniors register on Monday, April 11th. If you are choosing a Capstone for the Fall 2016 semester, we will register you for it prior to the 11th. You will receive a confirmation email.
- * Students are not authorized to register for a Capstone class on their own; the department will pre-register and inform you which of your 3 choices you'll be assigned to.
- * If you are choosing to do a Capstone in the Spring of 2017 you still have to complete the Capstone Survey on April 4th. After being notified that you are scheduled for a Spring Capstone you can carry on as usual with your course selection for the Fall. We will pre-register you for the Spring semester next Fall, at the appropriate time.
- * Be careful -- all the Capstones for next year are listed and described in one place. Be sure to check the semester and day of the week carefully, because the Fall 2016 Capstones are listed in the same list with the Spring 2017 Capstones.

2016-2017 Capstone Descriptions

Fall 2016 Capstone Seminars:

PSC 488 001: Mass Media, Political Economy & Political Power

Professor Matt Guardino Tuesdays & Thursdays 4:00pm – 5:15pm

We know that mass media affects our ability to act as informed, responsible and critical participants in democratic politics. Much less well appreciated are the political-economic structures and power relations that shape how the media itself operates. This seminar takes up that challenge with a close study of the interactions among governments, corporations and the media in industrialized capitalist democracies. How have nations in different times and places organized and structured their media? How do the political debates and historical residues that shape media systems affect the character and quality of democracy?

We will explore general theoretical perspectives on the political economy of mass media and its relationship to democracy; survey the historical roots of media systems in North America and Western Europe; and compare media structures in contemporary industrialized capitalist democracies. We will spend the second part of the semester on case studies of key government policies that have shaped the U.S. media system, ending with a discussion of broader normative concerns regarding information, communication, power and democracy. In light of the 2016 presidential race, we will devote substantial time to examining the political economy of U.S. election news and campaign advertising.

Our seminar will focus heavily on news and public affairs media, but we will also consider the political economy of popular entertainment and non-traditional media. Many of our examples and focused empirical analyses concern the United States. However, the course will include ample comparative content and a strong emphasis on theory. Readings will include classic and contemporary scholarly works in media studies, political communication, democratic theory and critical theory, as well as “insider” perspectives from government officials, industry sources, journalists and political activists. There will also be substantial first-hand analysis of printed and audio-visual media texts, along with guest speakers. Assignments include occasional reading response essays, student participation (including leading some class discussions), and an original research paper. Students will have broad leeway to pursue a project that interests them (whether primarily theoretical, empirical or historical, focused on the United States or on cross-national comparisons), so long as it relates to the seminar theme.

PSC 488 002: International Security

Prof Doug Blum Tuesdays 4:00pm – 6:30pm

This course focuses on a range of key issues affecting international security, including social, cultural, political, economic, military, technological and institutional aspects of international security. We will begin by considering how security is conceptualized theoretically from different perspectives. Following that we will take a close look at specific security problems, ranging from military to criminal, demographic and environmental. We will consider how these problems arise, how they influence global security in general, and how they affect American interests specifically.

Fall 2016 Capstone Seminars (continued):

PSC 488 003: The Global Politics of Religion

Prof. Susan McCarthy Mondays 4:00pm – 6:30pm

This course explores religion as a force in and focus of politics in a variety of countries around the world. Topics include the influence of religious identity, belief, and organization on political identities, party politics, civic engagement, foreign relations, violence, and social movements. We will examine social science theories of religion as well as political science theories concerning partisanship, generational change, polarization, extremism, and democratization. Although we consider the role of religion in political conflict, we also look at cases where religion may contribute to cooperation and compromise. The focus of the course is largely comparative and contemporary, though some readings examine religion in political history and in the American context. Students are required to write brief reflection papers, facilitate discussion, and complete a substantial research paper, the topic of which will be selected in consultation with the instructor.

Spring 2017 Capstone Seminars:

PSC 489 001: Visualizing Identity/Seeing Unjustly

Professor Mary Bellhouse Mondays 2:30pm – 5:00pm

This seminar is about the relationship between power and visual culture. We will explore methods for interpreting images and ways of seeing, and explore how visual practices influence political outcomes. How does visual culture construct, maintain, and resist modern meanings of class, race, gender, and sexual orientation? What do visual practices and pictures have to do with the construction of identities and the marginalization and exclusion of other identities and histories? How has visual culture worked to demonize specific groups? What are the connections among: 1) visual representations and ways of seeing; 2) familiar, unchallenged, unconsidered modes of thought; and 3) injustice? How is what is seen and not seen related to what is said and

not said in a culture? How does visual culture affect one's sense of self (subjectivity)? What does this all have to do with domination and resistance?

We will be interested in visual markers of identity/difference: for example, skin color, hairstyle, clothing, tattoos, associations with place and space. Visual experience here includes, for example, face-to-face seeing, film, television, photography, street graffiti, advertising, billboards, video games, comic books, postcards, cosmetic surgery, pornography, and formal and informal regulations that attempt to discipline appearance, such as beauty norms or rules about who can wear what in particular places.

What do visual representations and visual practices have to do with empire and war? With racism and sexism? With stereotypes about the rich and the poor? With anti-Muslim sentiment? With environmental catastrophes tied to race and class, such as the current crisis in Flint, or the events surrounding Hurricane Katrina? With surveillance, border control, and refugee crises? What do visual markers--and what is seen and not seen--have to do with the invention of the concept of 'race' in the 1700s, and the fictions of racial hierarchy used to defend white supremacy, the enslavement of Africans, the trans-Atlantic slave trade, and the exploitation of black labor under colonial plantation slavery? What does seeing have to do with contemporary political movements in the US, such as the Black Lives Matter movement? What does visual culture have to do with contemporary American practices of mass incarceration, housing the poor, including homelessness and eviction, employment, and violence—from state violence to domestic violence and rape? Finally, what do visual practices have to do with microaggressions in everyday life?

Spring 2017 Capstone Seminars (continued):

PSC 489 002: The Politics of Climate Change

Professor Anthony Affigne Tuesdays 2:30pm – 5:00pm

How can we best understand the politics of climate change in the world today? This seminar offers a small, focused learning environment in which students work collaboratively to master course material. You will apply skills learned in previous courses to produce a research-based seminar paper about the current crisis of global warming. The seminar will explore political responses to this crisis, looking at reactions of the world's civil societies, political institutions, and non-governmental agencies, at the local, national, regional, and international levels.

PSC 489 003: The Governability Crisis in American Politics and Beyond

Professor Adam Myers Thursdays 2:30pm – 5:00 pm

American government today is regularly referred to as “dysfunctional”, “disordered”, even “pathological.” The parties are polarized, Congress is stalemated, the states are moving in opposite directions, and we’re periodically on the verge of not paying our bills. What are the causes of our current malaise? How did things get to be this way? And, most importantly, what is the way out? In this capstone we will consider the constitutional, historical, and socioeconomic roots of the American governability crisis. In doing so we will compare the U.S. experience to the recent experiences of other advanced democracies. Our goal will be to place contemporary problems in a broader context and think about potential solutions to them.

Student Guide to Meeting Major Field Requirements: Fall 2016

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 2016 that meet the various field requirements. Taking any of the courses listed under the particular field will satisfy the requirement.

Political Theory

PSC 343 Contemporary Political Theory

Comparative Politics

PSC 205 Comparative Politics

PSC 325 Comparative Revolutions

PSC 329 Middle Eastern Politics

International Relations

PSC 207 International Relations

American Politics

PSC 201 American Government and Politics

PSC 211 Public Administration

PSC 306 American Presidency

PSC 311 American Constitutional Law

PSC 315 Elections/Electoral Behavior

Fall 2016 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 | F | 18 | Paul Herron |
| PSC 101 002 | Politics | E | 18 | Susan McCarthy |
| PSC 101 003 | Politics | G | 18 | Paul Herron |
| PSC 101 004 | Politics | H | 18 | Gizem Zencirci |
| PSC 101 005 | Politics | K | 18 | Doug Blum |
| PSC 101 006 | Politics | I | 18 | Gizem Zencirci |
| PSC 101 007 | Politics | L | 18 | Doug Blum |
| PSC 102 001 | Empirical Analysis | K | 20 | Adam Myers |
| PSC 102 002 | Empirical Analysis | L | 20 | Adam Myers |
| PSC 201 001 | American Government and Politics | O | 25 | Matt Guardino |
| PSC 201 002 | American Government and Politics | E | 25 | Matt Guardino |
| PSC 205 001 | Comparative Politics | F | 25 | Thea Riofrancos |
| PSC 205 002 | Comparative Politics | G | 25 | Thea Riofrancos |
| 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 306 001 | American Presidency | A | 20 | Joe Cammarano |
| PSC 311 001 | American Constitutional Law (crosslist AMS) | I | 15 | Paul Herron |
| PSC 315 001 | Elections/Electoral Behavior | L | 20 | Tony Affigne |
| PSC 325 001 | Comparative Revolutions | K | 20 | Susan McCarthy |
| PSC 329 001 | Middle East Politics | M | 20 | Gizem Zencirci |
| PSC 343 001 | Contemporary Political Theory | L | 20 | Mary Bellhouse |
| PSC 343 002 | Contemporary Political Theory | N | 20 | Mary Bellhouse |
| PSC 369 001 | International Law and Organization | I | 20 | Ruth Ben-Artzi |
| PSC 380 001 | Gender and Politics (crosslist WMS) | P | 15 | Mary Bellhouse |
| PSC 450 001 | Political Science Internship | W | 20 | Tony Affigne |
| PSC 470 001 | ST: Politics of Resource Extraction | N | 20 | Thea Riofrancos |
| PSC 470 002 | ST: American Political Geography | E | 20 | Adam Myers |
| PSC 488 001 | Capstone: Mass Media, Pol Economy, and Pol Power | N | 12 | Matt Guardino |
| PSC 488 002 | Capstone: International Security | V | 12 | Doug Blum |
| PSC 488 003 | Capstone: Global Politics of Religion | T | 12 | Susan McCarthy |

Fall 2016 LAW Department Course Offerings

| Course Number | Course Title | Series | Limit | Instructor |
|---------------|--------------|--------|-------|---------------------|
| LAW 201 001 | General Law | T | 25 | Patricia McLaughlin |
| LAW 201 002 | General Law | A | 25 | Ilisabeth Bornstein |