# Politics

Website: Politics (https://new.sewanee.edu/programs-of-study/politics/)

Politics majors critically engage with competing values and interests that guide and orient politics. Students learn about concepts, theories, and principles that deal with the nature, purpose, and characteristics of government and political change, which they apply in the analysis of politics. The major encompasses the theoretical and empirical study of government institutions, leadership, conflict resolution between and within states, political ideas and ideologies, political culture and discourse, political economy, and the politics of gender, race, and class. While introductory courses help to ground students in fundamental theories and concepts used in the study of politics, seminars and many 300-level courses provide students opportunities to develop their research and analytical skills while also introducing students to how to write within the discipline.

## Faculty

Professors: Dragojevic (Chair), Hatcher, A. Patterson, Pearigen, C. Peterson, S. Wilson

Associate Professors: Manacsa, Riley, Simpson

Assistant Professors: Cerja, Colbert, Gauding, Kim, Saint Jean

## Major

## Requirements for the Major in Politics

The major requires successful completion of the following:

| Code | Title | Semester Hours |
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| **Course Requirements** [1] | | |
| Two foundational (100-level) courses in politics (POLS) from the following subfields: | | 8 |
| POLS 101 | American Government and Politics | |
| POLS 103 | Comparative Politics | |
| POLS 105 | Introduction to Political Theory | |
| POLS 150 | World Politics | |
| Two POLS courses numbered 200 or above in subfields not taken to satisfy the foundational (100-level) requirement: | | 8 |
| American Politics/Policy (attribute PTAP): | | |
| POLS 101 | American Government and Politics | |
| POLS 203 | The Presidency | |
| POLS 204 | The American Congress | |
| POLS 206 | State Politics | |
| POLS 207 | The Political Agenda | |
| POLS 209 | Immigration, Politics, and Identity | |
| POLS 210 | The Politics of Poverty and Inequality | |
| POLS 212 | Campaigns and Elections | |
| POLS 215 | Reel Politics: Exploring the Politics of Film | |
| POLS 216 | Media and Politics | |
| POLS 223 | Introduction to Public Policy | |
| POLS 307 | Women in American Politics | |
| POLS 312 | Policy Analysis | |
| POLS 313 | Environmental Politics and Policy | |
| POLS 317 | Criminal Justice Policy | |
| POLS 328 | Parties and Interest Groups in the United States | |
| POLS 330 | Race and Ethnicity in American Politics | |
| POLS 331 | Constitutional Law: Balancing Powers | |
| POLS 333 | Constitutional Law: First Amendment | |
| POLS 334 | Identity and U.S. Public Policy | |
| POLS 335 | The Politics of the American South | |

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| POLS 336 | U.S. Immigration Law and Policy |
| POLS 337 | Constitutional Law: Civil Liberties |
| POLS 338 | Constitutional Law: Civil Rights |
| POLS 348 | Social Movements: Race and Political Activism |
| POLS 378 | Immigration Law in Action |
| POLS 395 | Research Seminar on Political Behavior |
| POLS 403 | Voting |
| POLS 405 | American Voting Behavior |
| POLS 409 | Religion and American Politics |
| POLS 441 | Gender, Violence, and Power |
| WMST 220 | The Politics of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Rights |
| Comparative Politics (attribute PTCP): | |
| ECON 319 | Institutional and Political Economy of Global Underdevelopment |
| INGS 325 | Globalization and the Challenges of Development in Ghana |
| POLS 103 | Comparative Politics |
| POLS 209 | Immigration, Politics, and Identity |
| POLS 215 | Reel Politics: Exploring the Politics of Film |
| POLS 227 | Africa in World Politics |
| POLS 228 | The Politics of the Modern Middle East and North Africa |
| POLS 242 | Politics in South Africa |
| POLS 248 | China's Environmental Crisis |
| POLS 249 | China and the World |
| POLS 261 | Multiculturalism and Equality |
| POLS 311 | Politics of Central America and the Caribbean |
| POLS 314 | Civil Wars |
| POLS 318 | Comparative Politics: South America and Mexico |
| POLS 319 | Global Gender Issues |
| POLS 320 | Gender and Politics in the Middle East and North Africa |
| POLS 329 | Comparative African Politics |
| POLS 351 | Modern European Politics |
| POLS 363 | Comparative Democratization |
| POLS 372 | Remembering in Post-Conflict Societies |
| POLS 402 | Topics in Political Economy |
| POLS 411 | The Politics of Aids |
| POLS 412 | Terrorism and Global Security |
| POLS 431 | Ethnicity and Political Violence |
| POLS 433 | Human Rights |
| POLS 441 | Gender, Violence, and Power |
| WMST 220 | The Politics of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Rights |
| International Relations (attribute PTIR): | |
| POLS 150 | World Politics |
| POLS 220 | International Conflict |
| POLS 221 | Peace and Diplomacy |
| POLS 222 | United States Foreign Policy |
| POLS 249 | China and the World |
| POLS 270 | Introduction to International Security |
| POLS 271 | Law and Politics of International Justice |
| POLS 280 | The Politics of Development and Foreign Aid |
| POLS 319 | Global Gender Issues |
| POLS 321 | Global Health Governance |
| POLS 365 | Global Institutions and Policies |
| POLS 366 | International Political Economy |

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|---|---|---|
| POLS 370 | International Law in International Relations | |
| POLS 402 | Topics in Political Economy | |
| POLS 411 | The Politics of Aids | |
| POLS 412 | Terrorism and Global Security | |
| POLS 433 | Human Rights | |
| Political Theory (attribute PTPT): | | |
| POLS 105 | Introduction to Political Theory | |
| POLS 238 | Punishment | |
| POLS 260 | Political Theory of the Environment | |
| POLS 261 | Multiculturalism and Equality | |
| POLS 308 | Feminist Political Theory | |
| POLS 371 | Loneliness, Alienation, Disenchantment | |
| POLS 373 | African-American Political Thought | |
| POLS 376 | Legal Theory | |
| POLS 404 | Race, Politics, and Empire | |
| POLS 431 | Ethnicity and Political Violence | |
| One POLS course numbered 200 or above with the Black Politics in the U.S. Political Context attribute (PTBP): | | 4 |
| POLS 330 | Race and Ethnicity in American Politics | |
| POLS 334 | Identity and U.S. Public Policy | |
| POLS 348 | Social Movements: Race and Political Activism | |
| POLS 373 | African-American Political Thought | |
| POLS 300 | Research Design and Methods [2] | 4 |
| or POLS 374 | Archival Research Methods | |
| Select one of the following 400-level writing-intensive seminars: | | 4 |
| POLS 403 | Voting | |
| POLS 404 | Race, Politics, and Empire | |
| POLS 405 | American Voting Behavior | |
| POLS 409 | Religion and American Politics | |
| POLS 411 | The Politics of Aids | |
| POLS 412 | Terrorism and Global Security | |
| POLS 431 | Ethnicity and Political Violence | |
| POLS 433 | Human Rights | |
| POLS 441 | Gender, Violence, and Power | |
| 16 additional hours from POLS courses numbered 200 or above | | 16 |
| **Total Semester Hours** | | **44** |

| Code | Title | Semester Hours |
|---|---|---|
| **Additional Requirements** | | |
| A comprehensive examination [3] | | |

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Students contemplating professional careers in international affairs are encouraged to take several upper-level courses in economics (for example, microeconomics, macroeconomics, and international economics). Students considering graduate work in politics are encouraged to take POLS 300, several economics courses, statistics, and at least one semester of upper-level coursework in political theory. Those students interested in pre-law are strongly urged to take courses in Anglo-American history and constitutional development, political theory, economics, and logic. The Law School Admissions Test (LSAT) is required for all schools and should be taken early in the senior year.

2

To be taken before the 400-level seminar.

3

The Politics comprehensive assessment consists of a final paper completed in the 400-level seminar that shows excellent research skills and knowledge of the relevant theories and concepts from the course. The final paper should also integrate material from at least one other Politics course with the research completed for the specific 400-level seminar. The paper will be assessed by faculty based on the criteria of theoretical knowledge, application of concepts and theories, evidentiary content, integration, and organization, with the student requiring a pass in three of those five areas. Students who do not successfully complete the paper assessment will be required to complete a written comprehensive exam in the spring of the senior year.

## Honors

Honors is awarded to a major who completes the Honors Tutorial (POLS 450) with a grade of A- (A-minus) or above and an oral presentation of the honors paper to an audience of faculty and students.

An invitation to complete an honors paper in Politics offers outstanding students an opportunity to work with faculty mentors to explore a political research question of the students' choosing. It would be misleading to suggest a specific minimum length for the paper, for the proper length is necessarily determined by the nature of the project itself. However, this project should be more substantial in both research effort and writing than a typical course paper. The purpose of the honors project is not to display prolixity but, rather, to develop and demonstrate a high level of competence in elucidating an important and interesting problem in the field of politics. The problem may be one that the student encountered in a previous course, perhaps the focus of a term paper or the 400-level seminar, or it may be a problem unrelated to any course but one that the student has a particular interest in studying. The student will work with a faculty member to develop a research question in order to assure the student's preparation to address the question, as well as the faculty member's expertise for guiding the project.

Students who anticipate their eligibility to pursue honors should, if possible, take Research Design and Methods (POLS 300) in either the fall or spring semester of their junior year to acquaint themselves with methods useful for political science research. After mid-semester of the spring term, the departmental chair will notify eligible juniors (those who have a 3.6 GPA in at least six politics courses) that they may write an honors thesis in their senior year. (This eligibility, of course, is contingent on maintaining the GPA through the end of the semester.)

The student in honors should strive to complete a 300-level course with a research component or the 400-level seminar prior or during the fall of the senior year, as the student is working to conceptualize and conduct research on the honors thesis.

The student who wishes to complete honors should enroll in a two-credit Independent Study (POLS 444) during the Advent semester of the senior year. Before enrolling in POLS 444, the student should identify a faculty member with whom they will work on the honors thesis, and they should discuss with said faculty the proposed research topic, question, or both. The faculty member should have expertise in the student's area of interest, and will serve as the instructor for POLS 444.

By the end of the second week of classes in the Advent semester, the student should submit to the thesis advisor for approval a proposal developed in consultation with a faculty advisor around the research question. The proposal will present the student's research question; a brief review of the appropriate literature; a research design (including data and methodology) for answering the research question; and a preliminary bibliography. After the advisor approves the proposal, the department will be given the proposal for approval at its next meeting. (This will occur by mid- to late-September). If the project is approved to continue, the chair will ask another member of the faculty with expertise related to the topic to serve as a second reader. If the proposal is not approved, the student can either continue with the Independent Study (POLS 444) with the faculty member or drop the two-credit course.

During the Advent semester, the student will work closely with the thesis advisor on the project that the department has approved. The candidate and the advisor will together set up a schedule for project deadlines and meetings to be held throughout the semester. (See supplementary forms and guidelines. The department expects the student to accomplish significant research during the Advent semester, including development of the literature review and research design and collection of data as appropriate. (Please note that if the student anticipates any research with human subjects, for example through interviews, there is need to get IRB approval before such research occurs.)

If sufficient progress is made on the project, the student will then complete the thesis in spring of the senior year, enrolling in the Honors Tutorial (POLS 450) for two semester hours during the Easter semester. If insufficient progress is made during the Advent semester, the candidate will not be approved to register for POLS 450 and should maintain a full course load or, pending an advisor's willingness to support this, continue with the research via an Independent Study (POLS 444) during the Easter semester of the senior year.

The honors paper will be presented in final form to the advisor and second reader no later than three weeks before the end of the Easter semester. In a week's time, the paper will be returned to the candidate, either with a final grade or, more likely, with suggestions for revision. If the paper is to be revised, *the revised version* must be submitted to the advisor and second reader by the last day of classes in the semester. At the advisor's request, additional members of the Faculty may be asked to read and comment on the paper. A minimum grade of A- (A-minus) on the thesis, and an oral presentation of the honors paper to an audience of faculty and students, will enable

the student to attain departmental honors. The presentation typically coincides with Pi Sigma Alpha induction ceremony, Scholarship Sewanee, or both.

## Student Learning Outcomes

A Student Majoring in Politics will

1. Demonstrate knowledge of important concepts and theories used in political science;
2. Apply concepts and theories in the study of political action, public policy, political behavior, and political structures;
3. Use evidence and arguments in the analysis of political processes and outcomes;
4. Integrate knowledge from various courses across the politics curriculum;
5. Write a coherent and organized essay;
6. Demonstrate the ability to communicate an argument effectively in an oral presentation.

## Minor

## Requirements for the Minor in Politics

The minor requires successful completion of the following:

| Code | Title | Semester Hours |
|---|---|---|
| **Course Requirements** | | |
| Select two courses in politics (POLS), exluding POLS 445. | | 8 |
| Select three additional courses in politics (POLS) numbered 200 or above | | 12 |
| **Total Semester Hours** | | **20** |

## Courses

## Politics Courses

**POLS 101 American Government and Politics (4)**
A study of the United States federal government. *Open only to first-year students and sophomores.*

**POLS 103 Comparative Politics (4)**
An introduction to the comparative study of politics, employing a conceptual or thematic approach. Selected countries' political systems will be examined with a focus on major features, including their governmental institutions, political parties, and political culture. *Open only to first-year students and sophomores.*

**POLS 105 Introduction to Political Theory (4)**
This course will examine the ways in which the political theories that have shaped the modern world have addressed perennial questions of politics-such as the reconciliation of individual and society; the meaning of justice, equality, and power. Theories to be considered include liberalism, socialism, conservatism, fascism, communitarianism. *Open only to first-year students and sophomores.*

**POLS 150 World Politics (4)**
An introduction to the study of international relations concentrating on perspectives and policies of major countries, principal institutions, international law and international organization, and selected topics-for example, arms races and arms control, economic and political integration, disparities of income, problems of food and population, and human rights. Course requirements may include simulation. *Open only to first-year students and sophomores.*

**POLS 153 Power, Politics, Policy: A Local View (4)**
Power has been defined as the ability of one individual to get another to do something they wouldn't otherwise do. But power is more nuanced than this definition: it is multifaceted, relational, dynamic, and manifest in many forms. This course investigates how politicians, advocates, experts, and local organizations harness different forms of power to achieve their goals of policy change and resource allocation. Students explore who wields power and how they utilize it in the context of local policy issues, such as affordable housing, access to healthcare, child poverty and food insecurity. Community engagement and collaborative research on the South Cumberland Plateau inform students' final projects that analyze power's role in local action (or inaction).

**POLS 156 Memory of Peace and Conflict (4)**
How do states and societies remember political violence? How, and whether, are peace initiatives or nonviolent resistance efforts commemorated across different historical and cultural contexts? Building on the vast and growing interdisciplinary comparative research, political activism, and art on memory studies, truth and reconciliation, and transitional justice, the course will introduce students to various ways in which certain events, individuals, and initiatives connected to conflict and peace are remembered in memorials, museums, monuments, and other commemorative spaces and practices.

**POLS 203 The Presidency (4)**
A study of the office and powers of the President, presidential leadership, and the relations between the Chief Executive, Congress, and the executive agencies.

**POLS 204 The American Congress (4)**
A study of the institution and processes of the American Congress, including its design and development over time. This course studies Congress by 3 approaches—Congress and its constituents, Congress and its members, Congress and the American political system—with special attention to its representation and law-making functions.

**POLS 206 State Politics (4)**
An introduction to the political development, institutions, and processes in the American states; how they differ from the national; and the consequences of this subnational variation. Course topics include the political development of the early colonies and states; the differences among legislative, executive, and judicial state institutions; state and local campaigns and elections; and the relationships among states and between states and nation.

**POLS 207 The Political Agenda (4)**
A course devoted to examining a variety of contemporary issues in American Politics. Students engage in written and oral discourse to consider the emergence of problems, their political development, and possible resolution. In so doing, they learn about the institutions and processes of American government. Students may not receive credit for both POLS 101 and POLS 207.

**POLS 209 Immigration, Politics, and Identity (4)**
This course examines circumstances that facilitate or hinder the political, social, and economic incorporation of immigrants. In addition to reviewing early twentieth-century sociological theories of immigration, the course analyzes contemporary research on immigration from the standpoint of political science and related disciplines. While focused primarily on explaining patterns by which immigrants are incorporated in the United States and Europe, it also compares cases from Latin America, Eurasia, the Middle East, and other regions in relation to shared or dissimilar immigration policies, levels of economic development, and demographic compositions.

**POLS 210 The Politics of Poverty and Inequality (4)**
An introduction to the study of a significant social problem: poverty. Course topics include the development of an economic underclass in the United States and the programmatic response of government, the feminization of poverty, the causes of persistent rural and urban poverty, race and poverty in the South, and the connections between poverty in the U.S. and the international trade regime. Not open for credit to students who have earned credit for POLS 310.

**POLS 212 Campaigns and Elections (4)**
A study of campaigns and the electoral process in the United States, focused particularly on campaigns for federal offices. Course topics include the structure of the American electoral system; strategies used by candidates, parties, and the media; and the influence of campaigns on voters. Because the course is offered during election years, students can apply class theories and concepts to current campaigns. *Prerequisite: POLS 101 or POLS 107.*

**POLS 215 Reel Politics: Exploring the Politics of Film (4)**
An introduction to the use of film as a medium for expressing political themes. Concepts of world and comparative politics (war, terrorism, human rights, repression, conflict, economic development, migration) are used to analyze feature films from around the world. The course also addresses the relationship between politics and art and the artist. Visiting filmmakers and scholars contribute their perspectives. Not available to students with credit for POLS 111.

**POLS 216 Media and Politics (4)**
This course examines how the media affect politics and government, focusing primarily on this relationship in the United States. Topics discussed include the role of media in a democracy; mass media coverage of campaigns, politics, and government; media effects on the behavior of citizens; and entertainment news coverage.

**POLS 220 International Conflict (4)**
This course examines the processes, causes, and consequences of interstate war and internationalized intrastate conflicts—from a theoretical as well as an empirical perspective. It identifies the key variables, causal paths, and conditions under which conflicts begin, intensify, and terminate. The study is organized and conducted at various levels of analysis, ranging from individual and domestic to interstate and global. The course also considers how theoretical explanations and empirical findings can inform the selection of foreign policy instruments to resolve contemporary armed international conflicts.

**POLS 221 Peace and Diplomacy (4)**
This course examines the dynamics of diplomacy, with a focus on various processes and forms of conflict resolution, negotiation, and mediation. Concepts, such as preventive diplomacy, multi-track diplomacy, neutrality and impartiality, as well as peacemaking and peacekeeping are introduced. Theories and concepts are applied to several cases with an aim to understand how to prevent violence, help to transition from violence to diplomacy, negotiate peace agreements, and implement enduring peace.

**POLS 222 United States Foreign Policy (4)**
An examination of changes in national security policies in the post-World-War-II period. The course will focus on containment, mutual defense in Europe and Asia, deterrence, arms control and force reduction, detente and U.S. Chinese relations.

**POLS 223 Introduction to Public Policy (4)**
Students are introduced to foundational theories of public policy, gaining valuable insight into "who gets what, when, and how" in the political process. Through a series of case studies in environmental, social welfare, criminal justice, and health policy, students are asked to apply and critically evaluate policy problems and solutions, given existing public policy theories.

**POLS 227 Africa in World Politics (4)**
This course attempts to develop an understanding of both Africa's position in world politics and the effect of international factors on African nations, focusing on the period since 1945. Africa's relations with the major powers, as well as interaction with other states of the developing world, are explored. The vehicle of international organization through which much of Africa's diplomacy is conducted is emphasized.

**POLS 228 The Politics of the Modern Middle East and North Africa (4)**
An introduction to the politics of the modern Middle East and North Africa that explores topics such as diversity of political regimes; state-society relations; religious, ethnic, and territorial conflict; political economy; the transition to nation-states; and regional social movements. The course utilizes a theoretical and comparative approach but also considers in detail the specific cases of Iraq, Syria, Turkey, Egypt, Algeria, Israel-Palestine, and Iran. *Prerequisite: POLS 103 or POLS 150.*

**POLS 238 Punishment (4)**
Why punish? How might one justify it? Is punishment, ultimately, good? This course will begin with the thesis that punishment, as a whole, is good: the rehabilitative and restorative traditions, along with relevant readings from thinkers like Kant and Hegel, articulate the moral and social benefits of punishment. A look to more instrumental utilizations of punishment will follow, including utilitarian and deterrent traditions and readings from Bentham and Machiavelli. Finally, critical historical genealogies of punishment in Nietzsche and Foucault will serve as a bridge to the covering violence inherent in mass incarceration and the alternative of prison abolition.

**POLS 242 Politics in South Africa (4)**
The course investigates South African politics using the lenses of race, class, gender, and nationality. It focuses on politics in post-apartheid South Africa (post 1994), although anti-apartheid mobilization is examined. Using perspectives from South African activists, political leaders, and scholars, it examines governance, citizenship, social justice, and community mobilization from feminist, class-based, and racial identity perspectives. Students question their own perspectives in light of these South African voices. A simulation to construct South Africa's postapartheid constitution elucidates how economic, social, and political identities affect institutional outcomes.

**POLS 248 China's Environmental Crisis (4)**
This course analyzes the emergence of China's environmental crisis and its national and global implications. Students explore the historical development of China's current environmental crisis, with special focus on institutions, laws, and regulations that have contributed to environmental degradation during the post-1949 era. The course addresses the efforts, and limited ability, of civil society and China's state to rein in pollution and remediate environmental damage, as well as China's engagement with global environmental norms and policymaking.

**POLS 249 China and the World (4)**
Beginning in the third century B.C.E., China began construction of its Great Wall, an attempt to keep out "barbarian invaders." Since that time, China has had an uneasy relationship with foreign powers. Students analyze early Chinese conceptions of its proper relations with foreign powers, contemporary relations with Japan and the United States, and attempts by foreigners to change Chinese politics, culture, and economy. Readings emphasize Chinese notions of nationhood and the dynamics of globalization.

**POLS 251 Studies in Politics (4)**
A course which examines political concepts, theories, and methodologies on a particular theme chosen by the instructor.

**POLS 260 Political Theory of the Environment (4)**
An applied course in the theoretical literature that underlies understandings of the natural environment, human interaction with the environment, and the rights both of humans and of elements of the natural order. Readings and discussion emphasize the theoretical underpinning of environmental justice, both domestic and international, as well as the intersection of environmental theory with international political economy.

**POLS 261 Multiculturalism and Equality (4)**
This course introduces key theories and concepts related to managing diversity in democratic states, such as social identities, multiculturalism, liberalism, crosscutting cleavages, and consociationalism. Students critique and analyze different models of states' attempts to recognize and represent various groups while protecting equality and human rights. Among other issues, states' attempts to reconcile contending appeals for cultural group rights and gender equality are analyzed. Not open to students who have received credit for POLS 161.

**POLS 270 Introduction to International Security (4)**
A study of the major concepts, theories, methods, and issues involved in international security. The course considers competing contentions about how security should be understood and the impact of such debate on the evolving subfield of security studies. It covers traditional security topics like conventional weapons proliferation, militarized interstate disputes, nuclear deterrence, and international terrorism as well as emerging issues involving criminal, energy, environmental, and cyberspace security. *Prerequisite: POLS 150 or INGS 200.*

**POLS 271 Law and Politics of International Justice (4)**
A three-week intensive, this course combines study on campus with immersive study abroad in Croatia. The campus portion examines processes, participants, and institutions involved in justice in the international system, introducing students to the international judicial system, the problems produced for international lawmaking and dispute settlement, and the various attempts to resolve them. It also considers substantive areas of international law and the international judicial system. While abroad, students are exposed to a range of transitional justice policies, explore specific cases, meet practitioners active in the field, and attend day trips around Croatia which illustrate mechanisms of transitional justice. *Prerequisite: Only open to students admitted to the Sewanee Law and Politics of International Justice program.*

**POLS 280 The Politics of Development and Foreign Aid (4)**
An introduction to the major political, social, historic, and economic reasons for development and underdevelopment in the Global South. This course explores the theoretical approaches of neoliberalism, dependency, human capabilities, and post-development, as well as topics such as gender, globalization, non-governmental organizations, sustainability, and foreign aid policies. International, national, and local institutions and actors involved with development processes are investigated, as well as questions of power, representation and accountability in both donor and developing states.

**POLS 290 Special Topics (2 or 4)**
Though content varies from semester to semester, this intermediate class focuses on a special topic in Politics not fully covered in existing courses. This course may be repeated for credit when the topic differs.

**POLS 300 Research Design and Methods (4)**
This course introduces students to the fundamentals of the scientific process of social inquiry. Students develop skills enabling them to better digest the social science literature and produce causal theories related to important outcomes, behaviors, or institutions. Additionally, students learn how to assess the validity of social theories by collecting data, testing observable implications and exploring an interesting question about domestic or international political behavior or institutions. *Not open to new first-year students.*

**POLS 307 Women in American Politics (4)**
An analysis of the role of gender in American politics, specifically how gender affects the political activities of American residents, political candidates, and elected officeholders. Students evaluate differences in men's and women's political participation, party affiliations, and campaign strategies and styles. They also examine reasons for women's political underrepresentation and implications of gender inequality in political office holding. *Not open to new first-year students.*

**POLS 308 Feminist Political Theory (4)**
By surveying contemporary feminist political theories that use gender and sexuality as critical lenses, this course re-reads the Western canon in political philosophy and develops new substantive theories of politics. It focuses on feminist theories of democracy, citizenship, and the state, exploring these concerns via a broad range of feminist writings, including feminist legal theory, critical social theory, queer theory, public policy, and political economy. Students will also learn how to construct, analyze, compare, and critique theories, and will use these skills to read and evaluate new scholarly work. *Not open to new first-year students.*

**POLS 311 Politics of Central America and the Caribbean (4)**
An intensive study of political life in selected countries in the region, including both domestic and foreign influences and policies. Substantial attention is given to United States relations with the region. *Not open to new first-year students.*

**POLS 312 Policy Analysis (4)**
This course examines the study and analysis of public policy, with emphasis on the concepts and techniques of policy thinking. The methods of policy description, explanation, evaluation, and choice will be applied to a variety of policy topics, (e.g. health care, defense, environmental protection, education, etc.) The course emphasizes critical thinking and analytical skills, with the goal of consistently producing clear and concise communication of actionable analysis. *Prerequisite: STAT 204 or ECON 133 or POLS 300.*

**POLS 313 Environmental Politics and Policy (4)**
The course explores the ideas that influence environmental thought, examines various environmental problems and suggested solutions, and critically evaluates the role that political institutions play in creating and enforcing environmental policy. Specific topics include environmental justice, environmental federalism, environmental health, and regulatory behavior. Not open for credit to students who have completed ENST 334. *Not open to new first-year students. Prerequisite: POLS 101 or POLS 223.*

**POLS 314 Civil Wars (4)**
This course examines the causes, patterns, and resolutions of civil wars and insurgency movements in comparative perspective, drawing on a diverse set of cases from Europe, Latin America, Africa, and the Middle East. The course's introductory portion is dedicated to conceptualizing and categorizing civil wars by their intensity, types of violence, nature of combat, and types of combatants. A principal question driving the inquiry is why the level of violence -- measured by the number of casualties, refugees, and other victims of war -- is higher in some places than others within the same country or region. This question is addressed through critical assessment of the most prominent conventional and revisionist theories of civil wars, theories highlighting either local or national influences. *Not open to new first-year students.*

**POLS 317 Criminal Justice Policy (4)**
This course examines the politics and policy of the criminal justice system, with a focus on the United States. Course goals include understanding the origins and purposes of criminal justice, the system's current implementation, the role of mass incarceration and punitiveness, the role of federalism, and the process and debate around criminal justice reform.

**POLS 318 Comparative Politics: South America and Mexico (4)**
A general survey of political life in Latin America, as well as specific study of the most important countries-Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Mexico, and Venezuela. Determinants and outcomes of political process are studied, as well as the political process itself. Consideration is given to both domestic and foreign influences and policies. *Not open to new first-year students.*

**POLS 319 Global Gender Issues (4)**
Recent U.N. studies document the continuing systematic inequality that exists between men and women around the world. Approaching the study of sex-based inequality from a cross-cultural perspective reflects the reality that it is a universal phenomenon, but with complex and varied roots. The course will include an analysis of the ways in which this inequality impacts political decision-making, political representation, and public policy relevant to women and families. The course will also include the study of how factors such as race, class, religion, sexual orientation, and ethnicity, and social forces such as global capitalism, militarism, and nationalism interact with gender and affect the economic and political status of women and men around the world. *Not open to new first-year students.*

**POLS 320 Gender and Politics in the Middle East and North Africa (4)**
Gender and politics are intricately related and this course examines them through study of the Middle East and North Africa region. It begins with a general overview of gender and politics broadly defined, and then applies these themes in a comparative way to particular issues that are relevant for the discussion of politics and gender in the region. Themes such as state feminism, gender and revolution, war, conflict and terrorism, religion, the history of imperialism and its contemporary consequences, law and social norms, and the regulation of the female body and dress as methods of political control will be examined. *Not open to new first-year students.*

**POLS 321 Global Health Governance (4)**
Trade, migration, and widespread travel have transformed population health from a domestic to an international issue, one in which state cooperation is increasingly necessary. Investigating the role of international organizations, the media, advocacy groups, and individuals, this course questions how international cooperation can facilitate the promotion and protection of health. To do so, it considers a variety of theoretical approaches including the securitization of health and health as a human right. It also examines such issues as smallpox eradication, tobacco control, AIDS treatment, and bioterrorism agreements. *Not open to new first-year students.*

**POLS 328 Parties and Interest Groups in the United States (4)**
An examination of the activities and influence of political parties and interest groups in the US. Course topics include: the history and development of parties and interest groups, the activities of party organizations, party identification in the electorate, how parties shape elections and the behavior of elected officials, and how much influence interest groups have on campaigns and in government. *Not open to new first-year students.*

**POLS 329 Comparative African Politics (4)**
A comparison of the politics of sub-Saharan Africa. An exploration of state-society relationships in independent Africa and the challenges of warlord politics to the African state system. *Not open to new first-year students.*

**POLS 330 Race and Ethnicity in American Politics (4)**
This course examines the many ways in which race and ethnicity play a role in American politics, including how race and ethnicity affect personal identity, political preferences, political participation, candidates and campaigns, public officeholders, and policymaking. Topics considered include racial identity, descriptive and substantive representation, intersectionality (the interaction of race, gender, class and other social categories), and the effect of race and ethnicity on current public policy debates. *Not open to new first-year students.*

**POLS 331 Constitutional Law: Balancing Powers (4)**
This course examines Supreme Court cases related to separation of powers and checks and balances by situating cases within varying theories of constitutional interpretation and by assessing the socio-political implications of those decisions. Cases studied include controversies about executive privilege, the Commerce Clause, the Tenth Amendment, and federalism. The course emphasizes, above all, the political role of the judiciary. *Not open to new first-year students.*

**POLS 333 Constitutional Law: First Amendment (4)**
This course examines Supreme Court cases related to the First Amendment by situating cases within varying theories of constitutional interpretation, and by assessing the socio-political implications of those decisions. Civil liberties are protections of individual liberties against governmental intrusion and First Amendment freedoms of speech, press, religion, and association are preeminent among these. The course emphasizes, above all, the political role of the judiciary.

**POLS 334 Identity and U.S. Public Policy (4)**
This course focuses on American histories of identity-based policies to develop a deeper understanding of the privileges accrued (and adversities inherited) from one's position in this country. This course questions positional terms of "minority" and "majority," examines how debates over rights structure political institutions, and addresses how policy enforces identity stereotypes. With case studies, the course explores how voting, education, workplace, housing, and religious policies affect the lives of Americans based on their identities. *Prerequisite: POLS 101 or POLS 223.*

**POLS 335 The Politics of the American South (4)**
At the Founding, it was clear that regional differences nonetheless divided a legally united nation. The South was distinct by the center of its political culture and its economy—slavery. Differences persisted after the Civil War and the social and partisan realignment in the twentieth century. This course examines the politics of the South in historical and contemporary contexts and addresses concepts of political culture, identity, race, gender, religion, economics, federalism, rural-urban divide, partisanship and ideology, campaigns and elections, voter suppression, equality, civil rights, law enforcement and violence, and criminal justice. *Not open to new first-year students.*

**POLS 336 U.S. Immigration Law and Policy (4)**
This course explores U.S. immigration and immigration policy, with special attention to the period from 1996 to the present. Taking into account the ideological shifts resulting in previous immigration reforms, the course examines causes of migration, current strategies used by the U.S. government to control the flow of immigrants into the United States, the costs and benefits of immigration to the U.S. and sending countries, security concerns, and ethical and human rights implications. The course prepares students to analyze current rhetoric and policy proposals and engage with the question of what immigration reform might look like. *Not open to new first-year students.*

**POLS 337 Constitutional Law: Civil Liberties (4)**
This course examines Supreme Court cases related to the Bill of Rights by situating cases within varying theories of constitutional interpretation, and by assessing the socio-political implications of those decisions. Civil liberties are protections of individual liberties against governmental intrusion and include First Amendment freedoms of speech, press, religion, and association; Second Amendment liberty of arms; Fourth and Ninth Amendment protections of privacy; and Eighth Amendment protections against "cruel and unusual punishment." The course emphasizes, above all, the political role of the judiciary. This course may not be taken by students who have taken POLS 332. *Not open to new first-year students.*

**POLS 338 Constitutional Law: Civil Rights (4)**
This course examines Supreme Court cases related to equality: by situating cases within varying theories of constitutional interpretation, and by assessing the socio-political implications of those decisions. Civil rights are specific governmental provisions to secure individual entitlements, as exemplified by the Fourteenth Amendment's guarantee of "equal protection of the laws." Claims centering on race, gender, sexual orientation, and disability are examined, along with other claims of equality arising from the Fifteenth Amendment's prohibition of voting discrimination. The course emphasizes, above all, the political role of the judiciary. This course may not be taken by students who have taken POLS 332. *Not open to new first-year students.*

**POLS 346 Contemporary Social Movements (4)**
This course examines 1) some of the major social and political ideologies of the 20th century (such as liberalism, socialism, nationalism, feminism, environmentalism); 2) theories of social and political movements in modern societies and market democracies; and 3) concrete examples of such social and political movements in the contemporary world. *Not open to new first-year students.*

**POLS 348 Social Movements: Race and Political Activism (4)**
This course will examine, explore, and investigate Black social movements as methods of political activism, resistance, and protest. We will explore the foundations of Black politics and how they have been used as methods of social and political activism. Specifically, we will examine social movements such as the Civil Rights Movement, Black Lives Matter, and many others. This course will provide students with the academic and intellectual thought behind various forms of political resistance by examining peaceful protest, civil disobedience, and the intersection of violence. We will also examine internal disagreements and perspectives among scholars regarding effective methods of social and political activism.

**POLS 351 Modern European Politics (4)**
A survey of the politics, institutions, and contemporary topics of concern in the European region. After a brief historical overview of the interwar period and of the aftermath of World War II, students examine a range of topics central to European politics. Such topics include the formation of party systems and party cleavages, welfare states, and political culture. The development of the European Union, its institutions, and debates concerning its enlargement are addressed in the latter part of the course. It concludes with an overview of the literature concerning the incorporation of immigrants in Europe. *Not open to new first-year students.*

**POLS 363 Comparative Democratization (4)**
Students analyze the major theoretical issues and substantive developments surrounding the global spread of democracy. The central foci include the following topics: theories and case studies concerning "paths" of democratic transition including roles of specific class and state actors, historical patterns and cycles of democracy, theories and issues of "Democratic Peace," and issues and dilemmas concerning the "quality" of contemporary democracies. Not open for credit to students who have earned credit for POLS 420. *Not open to new first-year students.*

**POLS 365 Global Institutions and Policies (4)**
This course compares international organizations, regimes, and policy processes and discusses the central concepts, principles, and processes that are employed in studying global governance. It also examines the different organizational forms and mechanisms through which international political actors structure their interactions and relationships. Self-contained regimes are studied in several issue areas: nuclear weapons proliferation, human trafficking, product standardization, global commons, and terrorism, among others. *Not open to new first-year students. Prerequisite: POLS 150 or INGS 200.*

**POLS 366 International Political Economy (4)**
This course examines the dynamics of international political and economic relations. Issues of trade, monetary and financial networks, investment, North-South relations, and the international system will be explored. The international context of development will receive particular attention. *Not open to new first-year students.*

**POLS 370 International Law in International Relations (4)**
The sources, subjects, and major principles of international law. The function of law in the international community. *Not open to new first-year students. Prerequisite: POLS 150 or INGS 200.*

**POLS 371 Loneliness, Alienation, Disenchantment (4)**
In this course, we will examine the politics of loneliness through political theory, philosophy, and literature. We will ask: From what does loneliness stem? Is it native to the human condition; or is it a function of capitalist life? What does it mean to be lonely? Are there different forms of loneliness? Is there a difference between solitude and loneliness? What impact does loneliness have on our collective political life? Is there a connection between the rise of loneliness and the resurgence of nationalism, illiberalism, and the far right? Does social media exacerbate loneliness? What does a politics of loneliness, whether against or for, look like?.

**POLS 372 Remembering in Post-Conflict Societies (4)**
This course will examine what and how states and societies choose to remember in the aftermath of political violence. Building on the vast and growing interdisciplinary comparative research on memory studies, truth and reconciliation, and transitional justice, the course will introduce students to various ways in which certain events, individuals, and initiatives connected to conflict and peace are remembered in memorials, museums, monuments, and other commemorative practices. The course will include lessons, open questions, and dilemmas that international and U.S. examples offer to scholars, political leaders, and peace activists.

**POLS 373 African-American Political Thought (4)**
This course focuses on important African-American writers whose unique perspectives challenge us to think about questions of justice, equality and difference, morality, and rule. Readings begin in the nineteenth century (Frederick Douglass, Booker T. Washington) and proceed into the late twentieth century with selections from authors such as Martin Luther King Jr., Malcolm X, Stokely Carmichael, James Baldwin, Shelby Steele, Cornel West, and Toni Morrison. *Not open to new first-year students.*

**POLS 374 Archival Research Methods (4)**
This course introduces the essential concepts, methods, and politics of archival research in academia and applies them to the critical understanding of Black and Indigenous voices from Sewanee's domain. Course content will feature readings on Black and Indigenous archival research practices, the role of digital archival practices, and Black and Indigenous life in the Southeastern United States. Ultimately, students will examine the dominant narratives that exist about Sewanee while utilizing the numerous archives on campus to uncover how we can tell multiple stories about Sewanee's past and present.

**POLS 376 Legal Theory (4)**
Could a different approach to the law help us bring into being a better world? This course will explore different approaches to understanding what law does and which purposes it serves. Readings will include selections from influential approaches to understanding the role of the law including legal realism, feminist legal theory, critical race theory (CRT), and critical legal studies (CLS) more broadly. The course will cover contemporary legal movements - including law and political economy (LPE) and the conservative legal movement - which combine their own theory of law with explicit political mobilization and goals.

**POLS 378 Immigration Law in Action (4)**
Students in this course participate in the legal representation of immigrants seeking benefits from U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services and complete readings and written assignments providing related academic content and context. Through direct case work and class seminars, students are prepared to think critically about the immigration system's structures and procedures and the immigration attorney's relationship to the system; they gain substantive knowledge of immigration laws and policies; and they develop basic lawyering skills. *Prerequisite: POLS 209 or POLS 336.*

**POLS 391 Advanced Topics in Politics (2 or 4)**
A seminar on a topic related to politics. This course may be repeated for credit when the topic differs.

**POLS 395 Research Seminar on Political Behavior (4)**
A study of the political opinion and behavior (including voting) of the general public, with special attention given to developing appreciation of, and skill in, empirical analysis. *Open only to juniors and seniors.*

**POLS 402 Topics in Political Economy (4)**
Globalization is a term that social scientists have used to explain everything from trade and investment patterns to changes in popular culture such as the introduction of McDonalds and Mickey Mouse throughout the world. At root, globalization points to a pattern of institutional change wrought by close interaction of economics. Students read works that clarify what is meant by the term globalization and how globalization is affecting the following three areas related to political economy: trade and investment, welfare institutions, and rule of law. *Open only to juniors and seniors.*

**POLS 403 Voting (4)**
This course is a comprehensive and intensive study of voting. We will trace the historical path to suffrage, consider current laws and policies that restrict voting, and engage the debate on vote security versus voter suppression. We will examine studies on electoral psychology, considering being a voter as an identity. We will study research on how individuals make voting decisions as well as trends in overall voter turnout, which varies with both individual and institutional factors. We will evaluate alternative methods of voting, such as ranked choice voting. And, of course, we will consider the "so what" question: does voting matter for democracy?. *Open only to juniors and seniors.*

**POLS 404 Race, Politics, and Empire (4)**
This course examines eighteenth- and nineteenth-century philosophies of race in the context of the political history of empire as well as twentieth-century post-colonial challenges to those philosophies and practices. *Open only to juniors and seniors. Prerequisite: POLS 238 or POLS 260 or POLS 371 or POLS 373.*

**POLS 405 American Voting Behavior (4)**
This course exposes students to essential theories on American voting behavior developed by leading political scientists. At the end of the course, students will be equipped to contribute competently to academic discussions on the topic. *Open only to juniors and seniors.*

**POLS 409 Religion and American Politics (4)**
An exploration of systematic contemporary research that draws on work in several subfields of political scholarship which interface with religion: First Amendment constitutional law, political parties and interest groups, voting behavior, and congressional and presidential elections. Main themes seek to integrate both behavioral and institutional approaches to the study of politics. *Open only to juniors and seniors.*

**POLS 411 The Politics of Aids (4)**
This course analyzes the global AIDS pandemic, questioning how power inequalities, resource allocations, and representation affect vulnerability to HIV infection and responses to the disease. The course explores how AIDS shapes local governance structures, political development, global norms, and global institutions. It questions how global institutions and national governance use human rights norms, economic calculations, and security interests to frame and develop HIB/AIDS policies. Particular attention is paid to the intersection of disease and political marginalization. The course also explores the roles -- in applying mobilization strategies and influencing AIDS identities -- of activists, scientists, and nongovernmental organizations. *Open only to juniors and seniors.*

**POLS 412 Terrorism and Global Security (4)**
This course involves systematic consideration of the key concepts, theories, and methods that can be applied to the study of terrorism. It analyzes contesting theories -- and the empirical grounds of such theories -- for why actors employ terrorist instruments. Among the theories of terrorism considered are those linked to psychological, ideological, cultural, and structural explanations. Finally, the course discusses and evaluates the effectiveness of various counter-terror methods and operations. *Open only to juniors and seniors. Prerequisite: POLS 150 or POLS 270.*

**POLS 431 Ethnicity and Political Violence (4)**
This course examines the role of ethnicity in political conflict. Students explore theories and definitions of ethnic and collective identities and consider the role that these identities play in the emergence and resolution of political conflict. Case studies include India, Lebanon, Northern Ireland, South Africa, and the former Yugoslavia. Not open for credit to students who have completed POLS 240 or POLS 340. *Open only to juniors and seniors.*

**POLS 433 Human Rights (4)**
The course introduces human rights conditions in today's world. While it covers varying philosophical traditions of human rights, major emphasis is placed on how different actors and institutions are able to influence human rights conditions, both from an international and domestic perspective. *Not open to new first-year students. Prerequisite: POLS 150 or POLS 270.*

**POLS 434 Gun Politics and Policy (4)**
This course is an exploration of contemporary American politics research through the lens of gun politics: Second Amendment constitutional law, political psychology, political behavior, media, and policy design/efficacy. Main themes seek to integrate both behavioral and institutional approaches to the study of politics. Students will produce a paper suitable for comprehensive qualification in the major. *Open only to juniors and seniors. Prerequisite: Two courses in American Politics (PTAP attribute).*

**POLS 439 Special Topics in Politics (4)**
Study of a variable topic of special interest pertaining to politics. This course may be repeated for credit when the topic differs. *Open only to juniors and seniors.*

**POLS 441 Gender, Violence, and Power (4)**
A cross-cultural examination of the social, economic, and political factors that predict gender-based violence, and the response of women's rights activists and organizations to the issue. Topics of inquiry include customary, formal, and international legal frameworks, intimate partner and family violence, sexual assault, traditional harmful practices such as child marriage, and gender-based violence during conflict and in post-conflict environments. *Not open to new first-year students. Prerequisite: One course in politics with a WMST attribute..*

**POLS 444 Independent Study (2 or 4)**
For selected students. This course may be repeated for credit when the topic differs. *Prerequisite: Instructor prerequisite override required.*

**POLS 445 Public Affairs Internship (2 or 4)**
In order to receive credit for a public affairs internship, a student must complete a substantial writing project in the semester following the internship. That project must be approved by the Political Science Department prior to the commencement of the internship. To secure approval the student must submit a proposal which 1) describes the nature of the internship and the duties it entails, 2) outlines the writing project, 3) contains a substantial bibliography of related materials, and 4) is signed by a member of the department who has agreed to supervise the project. The proposal must be approved prior to the commencement of the internship. Pass/fail is not permitted. *Prerequisite: Instructor prerequisite override required.*

**POLS 446 Political Simulations (4)**
Students learn not only about theories and institutions, but also about how actors behave within them. In the simulation modules, students assume the roles of political participants appropriate to the particular exercise learn to respond pragmatically to changing conditions of political situations. The simulations for a particular module derive from the institutions and events related to American or international politics, and might include the United Nations, U.S. National Security Council, or the U.S. Supreme Court. *Open only to sophomores, juniors, and seniors. Prerequisite: POLS 101 or POLS 331 or POLS 336 or POLS 337 or POLS 338 or POLS 378.*

**POLS 450 Honors Tutorial (2 or 4)**
Permission of the department chair required. *Prerequisite: Instructor prerequisite override required.*