

Fall 2024
Political Science
Undergraduate Schedule of Classes

Government & Politics in the United States

POLIT:100-001

MWF, In Person, 8:35 a.m. – 9:25 a.m., Dr. Cohen

POLIT:100-002

MWF, In Person, 10:45 a.m. – 11:35 a.m., Steven Caraboolad

POLIT:100-501

MWF, Online Synchronous, 8:35 a.m. – 9:25 a.m., Dr. Cohen

An essential introduction to the American political system at the national level. The course considers the ideas that drive American government, the institutions and processes that make it unique, and the problems it faces in the modern world. Perfect for someone thinking about a major or minor in Political Science!

Introduction to Political Thought

POLIT: 203:001

TTh, In Person, 10:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., Dr. McHugh

Survey of major ideas and concepts of Western political theory from pre-Socrates through period of Enlightenment.

Comparative Politics

POLIT:300-001

TTh, In Person, 2:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m., Dr. Gelleny

Introduction to comparative political analysis; description of political systems of Great Britain, France, Germany and Russia; contrast between democracy and totalitarianism.

Intro to Political Research

POLIT:301-001

T/Th, In Person, 12:20 p.m. - 1:45 p.m., Dr. Coffey

POLIT:301-501

Asynchronous Online, Dr. Marcin

Introduction to the methods employed in contemporary political science research: research design, data collection and analysis, presentation and evaluation of findings.

Politics of Developing Nations

POLIT:326-001

MWF, In Person, 12:55 p.m. – 1:45 p.m., Steven Caraboolad

General introduction to concepts and theories of political development and political institutions, elite-recruitment and political processes of selected emerging nations.

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The American Presidency

POLIT:350-001

MWF, In Person, 9:40-10:30 a.m., Dr. Cohen

POLIT:350-501

MWF, Online Synchronous, 9:40-10:30 a.m., Dr. Cohen

The course is intended to help students develop a familiarity and understanding of the American presidency. It will focus on the historical foundations, traditions, and development of the presidential institution, the individuals who have served as president, and the formal and informal powers of the office. We will also examine current issues confronting the American president and presidency. After completion of the course, students will have a greater understanding and appreciation for the history, traditions, powers, and potential of the American presidency, as well as the unique place the institution holds in the American political system.

The Judicial Process

POLIT:360-501

TTh, Online Real-time, 6:45 p.m. – 8:00 p.m., Dr. Marcin

Role of police, lawyers, courts, and judges in context of American political process. Structure and process of judicial policy making and limitations on judicial power.

Politics of the Criminal Justice System

POLIT:361-501

Asynchronous Online, Dr. McHugh

This course examines the interplay between politics and criminal justice to demonstrate the importance of political influences on the criminal justice system. Through a simulation exercise, students will learn how federal political actors and organizations help to formulate criminal justice policies on the federal, state, and local levels. Political forces on criminal justice in Ohio are also examined.

Selected Topics in Political Science: Movies and the Mob

POLIT:392-001

MW, In-Person, 10:10 a.m. – 11:35 a.m., Dr. Marion

This course will explore how the mob is portrayed in popular film.

Selected Topics in Political Science: Politics and Entertainment

POLIT: 392-002

MW, In-Person, 2:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.

This course will explore how politics is portrayed in music, movies, TV shows, books and more.

Selected Topics in Political Science: LSAT Prep

POLIT:392-004

8W1, T, In-Person, 6:30 p.m. – 8:20 p.m., Todd Gerber

POLIT:392-005

8W2, T, In-Person, 6:30 p.m. – 8:20 p.m., Todd Gerber

This course will help students develop strategies for taking the LSAT. One credit course.

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Special Topics: [Un]class – Get Out the Vote Akron

POLIT: 392-003

8W1, T, 6:15 p.m. – 8:45 p.m., Hybrid, Additional Dates and Times Vary, Includes Evenings and Weekends, Dr. Strachan

Through a collaboration with the Department of Political Science and the Bliss Institute of Applied Politics, students will engage with Asian Services In Action (ASIA) and the campus community to help with voter registration efforts.

Internship in Government & Politics

POLIT:395-* (varies)**

See Dr. Marion for details

Provides students with experiential learning experiences in their field of study. 2-9 credits

Advanced Topics in Research Methods

POLIT:401-001

MW, In-person, 2:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m., Dr. Coffey

Prerequisite: POLIT 301 or SOCIO 301. Special advanced topics of interest in research methods.

Media, Crime, and Public Opinion

POLIT:403-001

MWF, In-person, 10:45 a.m. - 11:35 a.m., Kim Hufgard

Examines the social construction of crime in mass media and how it impacts the public, including fear of crime, beliefs about crime causation, and crime policy.

Politics in the Middle East

POLIT:405-001

MWF, In-person, 12:55-1:45 p.m., Eihab Abousena

The rise of the state system in the Middle East after World War I; an analysis of the socio-cultural, ideological forces influencing the political behavior of the people of the Middle East. In-depth study of selected political systems.

Campaign Battleground

POLIT:427-501

W, Online Real-time, 3:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m., Dr. Cohen

This course will provide a general framework with which to understand presidential, congressional, state, and local elections from the perspective of campaign professional and political observers. The course will follow campaigns in real time, investigating the strategy, tactics, and conduct of major party candidates and campaigns. It will also examine coverage of national, state, and local races by the media as well as analyze current polling. The course will include guest speakers including academics, campaign professionals, public officials, and journalists.

Ohio Politics

POLIT:428-501

Asynchronous Online, Dr. Coffey

This course focuses on factors that make Ohio economically competitive. Material focuses on recent election results, public opinion polling and influence of socioeconomic factors.

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Government Versus Organized Crime
POLIT:437-501 (14618)

Asynchronous Online, Kim Hufgard

The course gives a history of organized crime and the government's responses to fight it. Newly emerging international crime groups are also discussed.

Al-Qaeda and Isis
POLIT:445-001

TTh, In-person, 12:15 p.m. – 1:30 p.m., Dr. Kaltenthaler

This course explores the causes and consequences of Al Qaeda and ISIS ideologies and tactics around the world.

National Security Intelligence
POLIT:446-001

TTh, In-person, 3:30 p.m. – 4:45 p.m., Dr. Kaltenthaler

The aim of this course is to familiarize students with the politics and policy of national security intelligence in the US.

Civic Engagement and Political Behavior (3 Credits)
POLIT:455-501/801

501: Th, Online Real-time, 6:15 p.m. – 8:45 p.m., Dr. Strachan

801: Th, In-Person, 6:15 p.m. – 8:45 p.m., Dr. Strachan

This course examines whether and why average people participate in the political system, as well as how varying levels of social trust and trust in government affect the ability to sustain both civic voluntarism and a robust democracy. Particular attention will be paid to individual motivations for participation in a full array of civic and political activities.

The Supreme Court & Constitutional Law
POLIT:461-501

MW, In-person, 2:00 p.m.- 3:15 p.m., Dr. Marcin

Interpretation of the U.S. Constitution by the U.S. Supreme Court with emphasis on federal judicial, legislative and executive power, separation of powers, federalism, and states' rights

Political Strategy
POLIT:470-501/801

501: M, Online Real-time, 6:15 p.m. – 8:45 p.m., Cyndra Cole

801: M, In-Person, 6:15 p.m. – 8:45 p.m., Cyndra Cole

Explore theoretical concepts, practical applications, roles, and best practices as it relates to political campaign management. Develop critical thinking skills to assess, analyze, act and communicate in situations throughout the election cycle, including message development and delivery, target audiences and voter contact and engagement. Consider real-life and rhetorical situations and hear from campaign professionals equipped to share first-hand perspectives on the operations and infrastructure of political campaigns.

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Electoral Messaging

POLIT:471-501/801

501: W, Online Real-time, 6:15 p.m. – 8:45 p.m., James Crooks

801: W, In-Person, 6:15 p.m. – 8:45 p.m., James Crooks

Explore theoretical concepts, practical applications, roles, and best practices as it relates to campaign and electoral messaging. Develop skills to plan, produce and execute strategic political messages including campaign addresses, press releases and media advisories, constituent, volunteer, and donor communications, and video releases while considering candidate and opposition research, fact sheets, time and budgetary constraints, polling and targeting data, and candidate preferences.

Voter Contact & Elections

POLIT:473-501/801

501: Th, Online Real-time, 6:15 p.m. – 8:45 p.m., Dr. Strachan

801: Th, In-Person, 6:15 p.m. – 8:45 p.m., Dr. Strachan

Theoretical and practical approaches to gaining votes in all types of political campaigns.

The Challenges of Police Work

POLIT:481-001

MWF, In Person, 11:50 a.m. – 12:40 p.m., Kim Hufgard

Analysis of the neighborhood, bureaucratic, electoral, and operational conflicts central to police work, with a focus on efforts and obstacles to improving police work.

Constitutional Problems in Criminal Justice

POLIT:483-001

MWF, In Person, 12:55 p.m. – 1:45 p.m., Kim Hufgard

Analyzes Supreme Court policy-making regarding problems of criminal justice, including search and seizure, self-incrimination, right to counsel, jury selection, and post-appeal prisoner rights.

Selected Topics: Landmark Supreme Court Cases

Polit 492-001

MW, In Person, 11:10 a.m. – 12:35 p.m.

This course will take a closer look at famous Supreme Court cases that have shaped the United States of America.