

POLITICAL SCIENCE (PLSC)

PLSC 1101 Global Affairs. (Formerly 101) This course explores some of the major issues in contemporary world politics. The end of the Cold War and the demise of the bipolar superpower relationship has reverberated across all issues in international affairs. We will consider such international issues as military security, ethnicity and nationalism, the international economy, the environment, and regional issues. Each week's readings presents an overview of the topic for that week, discussing the changing nature and relevance of the issue in light of the momentous changes taking place in the "world order." The final week will explore the role of the US in this changing world. IAI S5904 3 semester credit hour/s.

Designation: Political, Global, and Economic Systems (QPE); Global
Campus: LISLE (Typically Offered: Fall and Spring Terms)
 MESA (Typically Offered: Periodically)

PLSC 1102 American Government. (Formerly 102) This course is an introduction to the institutions of the American government as well as the behavior of its political actors. Students will gain a solid understanding of the workings of democracy in the United States as well as the challenges it presents. There is NOT an emphasis on the Illinois Constitution in this course. IAI S5900 3 semester credit hour/s.

Designation: Political, Global, and Economic Systems (QPE)
Campus: LISLE (Typically Offered: Fall and Spring Terms)
 MESA

PLSC 1104 Model Illinois Government. (Formerly 104) It should be either a 1000 or 2000 level course. This class will meet once per week and we will use the time to prepare for the Model Illinois Government simulation in Springfield at the end of February. Students will be able to enroll in this course multiple times - up to three total enrollments - and this will count in the major for 3 semester hours if someone takes the course three times 1 semester credit hour/s. Course Repeatable. Maximum number of units allowed: 3.

Designation: Political, Global, and Economic Systems (QPE); Engaged Learning
Campus: LISLE (Typically Offered: Spring Term)

PLSC 1160 Politics and Film. (Formerly 160) A study of political themes as they appear in film and the use of film for political purposes. Specific topics vary. 3 semester credit hour/s.

Designation: Political, Global, and Economic Systems (QPE)
Campus: LISLE (Typically Offered: Periodically)
 MESA

PLSC 2105 Law and Politics. (Formerly 105) An analysis of law, justice, rights, court procedures, and legislation. The development of various concepts of law and individual and group rights. 3 semester credit hour/s.

Designation: Political, Global, and Economic Systems (QPE)
Campus: LISLE (Typically Offered: Fall and Spring Terms)
 MESA

PLSC 2200 Comparative Politics. Concerned with identification of political trends and empirical generalizations of selected political systems. IAI S5905 3 semester credit hour/s.

Designation: Anthropology/Political Science Core Elective
Campus: MESA

PLSC 2201 State and Local Government. This course examines the inter-relationships between national, state, county, and local governments across the United States. Students will learn about federalism as a part of the American democratic system. (Satisfies the Illinois Constitution requirement for teacher certification.) IAI S5902 3 semester credit hour/s.

Designation: Political, Global, and Economic Systems (QPE); Learning Community; Engaged Learning
Campus: LISLE (Typically Offered: Spring Term)
 MESA

PLSC 2210 Introduction to International Relations. (Formerly 210) Analysis of the processes of interaction among nations and groups of nations within the international political system. 3 semester credit hour/s.

Designation: Writing Intensive; Political, Global, and Economic Systems (QPE); Global
Campus: LISLE (Typically Offered: Fall Term)
 MESA

PLSC 2211 Contemporary World Issues. (Formerly 211) This course explores several major current political issues in the world, issues which are among the most controversial and vexing problems facing international organizations, states, and people everywhere. We will spend roughly five weeks each exploring issue which may include globalization, global inequality, climate change, ethnic conflict, democracy/democratization, etc. The basic format is that of a reading and discussion seminar. There will be a research paper due at the end of the course exploring the connections between the major themes of the semester. Core elective, Please note, May not count towards credit in the major/minor or in the Social Science Major. 3 semester credit hour/s.

Designation: Political, Global, and Economic Systems (QPE); Global
Campus: LISLE (Typically Offered: Periodically)
 MESA

PLSC 2213 American Foreign Policy. (Formerly 213) This course offers an overview of recent American Foreign policy and concentrates on both international and domestic pressures placed on foreign policy leaders. Students will participate in decision situations and debate policy options. 3 semester credit hour/s.

Designation: -
Campus: LISLE (Typically Offered: Periodically)
 MESA

PLSC 2215 Model United Nations. (Formerly 215) The use of simulation techniques to develop an understanding of the processes and operations of the United Nations. The course culminates with the students participating in the National Model United Nations Conference in New York City. 3 semester credit hour/s. Course Repeatable. Maximum number of units allowed: 12.

Designation: Writing Intensive; Sustainability; Political, Global, and Economic Systems (QPE); Learning Community; Global; Engaged Learning
Campus: LISLE (Typically Offered: Spring Term)
 MESA

PLSC 2216 Genocide: The Politics of Hate, Fear, Terror and Power. (Formerly 216) This is a survey course on genocide, one of the most controversial and deadly concepts in all of contemporary politics. We will learn how hate, fear, terror and power have repeatedly converged to produce the most deadly crime humanity has yet conceived. Genocide – against Armenians in Turkey, The Holocaust, Cambodia's Killing Fields, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Rwanda, Kosovo, and Darfur – has been a repeated policy used by murderous regimes of many types over the last 100 years. We will study these cases, and the general concept of genocide, in the context of basic themes from the Political Science fields of international relations, comparative politics, and foreign policy studies. No pre-existing knowledge of or exposure to any of these areas is assumed or necessary. 3 semester credit hour/s.

Designation: Political, Global, and Economic Systems (QPE); Global

Campus: LISLE (Typically Offered: Periodically)

MESA

PLSC 2217 Revolutions and Political Violence. (Formerly 217) Analyzes theories of revolution and studies a variety of 20th century revolutions. Also considers concepts of terrorism, guerilla warfare and nonviolent revolution. 3 semester credit hour/s.

Designation: Political, Global, and Economic Systems (QPE); Global

Campus: LISLE (Typically Offered: Periodically)

MESA

PLSC 2218 Nationalism and Terrorism. (Formerly 218) This course applies theoretical and analytical tools from the fields of International Relations and Comparative Politics in an attempt to understand the two most serious threats of global security in the post-Cold War world - nationalism and terrorism. Most of the death due to political violence in recent years has been directly or indirectly linked to nationalist movements of terrorist methods. It is critical that citizens in democratic states be informed on these matters, to understand what they are and are not, in order to be responsible citizens. 3 semester credit hour/s.

Campus: LISLE (Typically Offered: Periodically)

PLSC 2220 The Political Roundtable. This course develops civil, thoughtful and evidence-based dialogue through the study of current affairs and historical events. Analyses of news coverage and punditry are conducted by students, and their findings are critically examined and discussed in small groups. Emphasis is on improving discourse across differences, objective evaluation of facts and learning to write in creative and critical ways. 3 semester credit hour/s.

Campus: LISLE (Typically Offered: Periodically)

PLSC 2222 Russian Politics in Comparative Perspective. (Formerly 222) Analyzes the politics, economics, and social changes of post-communist states, comparing Russia's post-communist experience with that of other states in the Former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe. The fundamental focus of all discussions and readings is on the requirements of and obstacles to the creation of a democratic political system. Prerequisite: PLSC 1102, 2105, 2201, 2210. 3 semester credit hour/s.

Campus: LISLE

PLSC 2224 Democracy & Democratization. (Formerly 224) Examines the theory and practice of democracy around the world, and the question of "transitions to democracy" through analysis of the problems of creating a democratic political system. 3 semester credit hour/s.

Designation: Political, Global, and Economic Systems (QPE); Global

Campus: LISLE (Typically Offered: Periodically)

PLSC 2230 US Constitutional Law I. (Formerly 230) A study of the Constitution as a living and changing document underlying our entire system of government; the role played by the judiciary in developing Constitutional law in the issue area of federalism and separation of powers. 3 semester credit hour/s.

Campus: LISLE (Typically Offered: Fall Term)

MESA (Typically Offered: Periodically)

PLSC 2231 Constitutional Law II. (Formerly 231) A study of the Constitution as a living and changing document underlying our entire system of government; the role played by the judiciary in developing Constitutional law in the area of civil rights and liberties. 3 semester credit hour/s.

Campus: LISLE (Typically Offered: Spring Term)

MESA (Typically Offered: Periodically)

PLSC 2236 Women in the Law. (Formerly 236) This course introduces students to basic concepts in the history and development of feminist thought while applying the knowledge to actual cases and legal situations affecting women. By examining the various controversies and problems that pervade this aspect of politics, students will achieve a greater awareness of how the American legal system helps to shape issues relating to gender. 3 semester credit hour/s.

Designation: Individuals, Organizations, and Societies (QIO)

Campus: LISLE (Typically Offered: Spring Term, Even Years)

MESA (Typically Offered: Periodically)

PLSC 2237 Mock Trial. (Formerly 237) An overview of the mechanics of courtroom procedure. Usually taught in conjunction with the American Mock Trial Association annual mock trial competitions. 3 semester credit hour/s. Course Repeatable. Maximum number of units allowed: 6.

Designation: Engaged Learning

Campus: LISLE (Typically Offered: Fall and Spring Terms)

MESA

PLSC 2241 Presidential and Congressional Politics. (Formerly 241) This class examines presidential and congressional study of Politics, the study of the American presidency: the background, powers, and relations with the other components of the political system. 3 semester credit hour/s.

Campus: LISLE (Typically Offered: Periodically)

MESA

PLSC 2243 American Political Thought. Analyzes major American political theorists and the effects their thoughts have had on structuring our governmental institutions and shaping the political values and behavior of Americans. Prerequisite: PLSC 1102, 2105, 2201, or 2210. 3 semester credit hour/s.

Campus: MESA

PLSC 2245 Campaigns, Elections and Political Behavior. (Formerly 245) An analysis of individual and group political behavior within the context of the U.S. election system. Emphasis is placed on the nature of campaigns and the impact of elections on government. Class features student projects on campaign tactics and strategy. 3 semester credit hour/s.

Campus: LISLE (Typically Offered: Fall Term, Even Years)

MESA (Typically Offered: Periodically)

PLSC 2247 Politics and Religion in the United States and Beyond. (Formerly 247) In this course we will examine the intersection of religion and politics from both a domestic and comparative perspective, including contemporary debates about political identities, secularization, modernization, culture, conflict and collaboration. Religious institutions will be evaluated as potential vehicles for citizen discourse and mobilization; we will also assess the broader impact of religion in the public square. Emphasis will be on domestic American politics, but many of these phenomena will also be considered from a comparative perspective. Prerequisite for 3347 only: PLSC 2000-level course. 3 semester credit hour/s.

Campus: LISLE (Typically Offered: Periodically)
MESA

PLSC 2251 Introduction to Public Policy. This course serves as an introduction to the policy-making process, covering the various institutions, actors, and procedures involved in getting an idea for solving a policy problem adopted into laws and implemented. The themes discussed may be relevant at the local, state, or national levels, and may include, but not limited to, such matters as health, education, environmental and fiscal policy issues. Prerequisite: PLSC 1102, 2105, 2201, or 2210. 3 semester credit hour/s.

Campus: MESA (Typically Offered: Periodically)

PLSC 2255 Environmental Politics. The politics of environmental protection and regulation in the United States and selected other states. Prerequisite: PLSC 102, 105, 201, 205 or 210, or Environmental Science Major. 3 semester credit hour/s.

Campus: MESA (Typically Offered: Periodically)

PLSC 2256 Political Parties and Organized Interests. (Formerly 356) This course aims to consider the origins and evolution of groups in U.S. politics, the presence and influence of interest groups and political parties in our contemporary politics - the ways they lobby, fund raise, campaign, and, more broadly, shape the political landscape, and what the future holds for parties, interests, and other groups. Prerequisite for 3356 only: PLSC 2000-level course. 3 semester credit hour/s.

Campus: LISLE (Typically Offered: Periodically)

PLSC 2257 Mass Media and Democracy. (Formerly 257) Democracy is predicated on the principle of open politics, which requires the transmission of quality information and an informed electorate. Mass media plays a critical role in informing the public and holding government in check, and also informing government about society's needs. The mass media environment is rapidly changing as a result of new forms of communication, technologies and globalization. This course aims to address these changes, and their implications for democracy, taking a broad, "landscape" look at the importance of traditional mass media, as well as contemporary, "new" media in democracy. Prerequisite for 3357 only: PLSC 2000-level course. 3 semester credit hour/s.

Campus: LISLE (Typically Offered: Periodically)

PLSC 2261 Belonging, Inclusion and Exclusion: Political Identities and the Politicization of Identity. The idea for this course emerged during the 2016 presidential election, as the phrase "identity politics" burst into popular lexicon while issues of race, religion, gender, nationality and class all played central roles in the campaign. Further, extreme partisanship, with labels of "tribalism" applied, became a greater cause of popular and media attention and concern. This course will explore the various notions of the concept of "identity", the individual and collective identities people hold, and how these become politicized in both positive and negative ways. The course seeks to shed practical light on what can be an esoteric topic in academic literature, as the political significance of both the labels and groups is growing in ways alarming for democracy. 3 semester credit hour/s.

Campus: LISLE (Typically Offered: Periodically)

PLSC 2271 Appellate Advocacy: Brief Writing and Oral Argument. (Formerly 271) This course introduces the student to the art of appellate advocacy by learning how to write an appellate brief based on a hypothetical appellate case and argue the legal issues presented in that case before a panel of judges. Usually taught in conjunction with the annual American Moot Court Association annual competition. 3 semester credit hour/s. Course Repeatable. Maximum number of units allowed: 6.

Designation: Engaged Learning

Campus: LISLE (Typically Offered: Fall Term)

PLSC 2291 Topics. (Formerly 291) A study of selected matter in the discipline of political science. Recent topics have included Politics of Western Europe, Politics of Soviet Union. Prospective topics may include Politics on Latin America, Politics of Southeast Asia, Politics of Sub-Saharan Africa, and Feminist Politics. 1-3 semester credit hour/s. Course Repeatable. Maximum number of units allowed: 12.

Designation: Political, Global, and Economic Systems (QPE)

Campus: LISLE (Typically Offered: Periodically)
MESA

PLSC 2295 Independent Study. (Formerly 295) Course work in political science in which the student in cooperation with one of the faculty members, designs the course in some area of political science of interest to the student. 3 semester credit hour/s. Course Repeatable. Maximum number of units allowed: 9. Department Consent Required.

Campus: LISLE

PLSC 3313 American Foreign Policy. (Formerly 313) This course offers an overview of recent American Foreign policy and concentrates on both international and domestic pressures placed on foreign policy leaders. Students will participate in decision situations and debate policy options. Prerequisite: PLSC 2000-level course. 3 semester credit hour/s.

Campus: LISLE (Typically Offered: Periodically)

PLSC 3316 Genocide: The Politics of Hate, Fear, Terror and Power. (Formerly 316) This is a survey course on genocide, one of the most controversial and deadly concepts in all of contemporary politics. We will learn how hate, fear, terror and power have repeatedly converged to produce the most deadly crime humanity has yet conceived. Genocide – against Armenians in Turkey, The Holocaust, Cambodia's Killing Fields, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Rwanda, Kosovo, and Darfur – has been a repeated policy used by murderous regimes of many types over the last 100 years. We will study these cases, and the general concept of genocide, in the context of basic themes from the Political Science fields of international relations, comparative politics, and foreign policy studies. No pre-existing knowledge of or exposure to any of these areas is assumed or necessary. Prerequisite: PLSC 2000-level course 3 semester credit hour/s.

Campus: LISLE (Typically Offered: Periodically)

MESA (Typically Offered: Periodically)

PLSC 3317 Revolutions and Political Violence. (Formerly 317) Analyzes theories of revolution and studies a variety of 20th century revolutions. Also considers concepts of terrorism, guerilla warfare and nonviolent revolution. Prerequisite: PLSC 2000-level course. 3 semester credit hour/s.

Campus: LISLE (Typically Offered: Periodically)

PLSC 3318 History of Political Thought: 17th Century to the Present. A chronological survey of more modern political philosophers emphasizing theories of Natural Rights as well as the empirical aspects of modern-day theorists. Prerequisite: PLSC 2000-level course. 3 semester credit hour/s.

Campus: LISLE (Typically Offered: Periodically)

MESA (Typically Offered: Periodically)

PLSC 3322 Russian Politics in Comparative Perspective. (Formerly 322) Analyzes the politics, economics, and social changes of post-communist states, comparing Russia's post-communist experience with that of other states in the Former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe. The fundamental focus of all discussions and readings is on the requirements of and obstacles to the creation of a democratic political system. Prerequisite: PLSC 2000-level course. 3 semester credit hour/s.

Campus: LISLE (Typically Offered: Periodically)

PLSC 3324 Democracy & Democratization. (Formerly 324) Examines the theory and practice of democracy around the world, and the question of "transitions to democracy" through analysis of the problems of creating a democratic political system. Prerequisite: PLSC 2000-level course. 3 semester credit hour/s.

Campus: LISLE (Typically Offered: Periodically)

PLSC 3330 US Constitutional Law I. A study of the Constitution as a living and changing document underlying our entire system of government; the role played by the judiciary in developing Constitutional law in the issue area of federalism and separation of powers.

Prerequisite: PLSC 2000-level course. 3 semester credit hour/s.

Campus: LISLE (Typically Offered: Fall Term)

MESA (Typically Offered: Periodically)

PLSC 3331 Constitutional Law II. (Formerly 331) A study of the Constitution as a living and changing document underlying our entire system of government; the role played by the judiciary in developing Constitutional law in the area of civil rights and liberties. Prerequisite: PLSC 2000-level course. 3 semester credit hour/s.

Campus: LISLE (Typically Offered: Spring Term)

MESA

PLSC 3336 Women in the Law. (Formerly 336) This course introduces students to basic concepts in the history and development of feminist thought while applying the knowledge to actual cases and legal situations affecting women. By examining the various controversies and problems that pervade this aspect of politics, students will achieve a greater awareness of how the American legal system helps to shape issues relating to gender. Prerequisite: PLSC 2000-level course. 3 semester credit hour/s.

Designation: Individuals, Organizations, and Societies (QIO)

Campus: LISLE (Typically Offered: Spring Term, Even Years)

PLSC 3341 Presidential and Congressional Politics. (Formerly 341) This class examines presidential and congressional study of politics, the study of the American presidency: the background, powers, and relations with the other components of the political system. Prerequisite: PLSC 2000-level course. 3 semester credit hour/s.

Campus: LISLE (Typically Offered: Periodically)

MESA

PLSC 3343 American Political Thought. Analyzes major American political theorists and the effects their thoughts have had on structuring our governmental institutions and shaping the political values and behavior of Americans. Prerequisite: PLSC 1102, 2105, 2201, or 2210. 3 semester credit hour/s.

Campus: MESA

PLSC 3345 Campaigns, Elections and Political Behavior. (Formerly 345) An analysis of individual and group political behavior within the context of the US election system. Emphasis is placed on the nature of campaigns and the impact of elections on government. Class features student projects on campaign tactics and strategy. Prerequisite: PLSC 2000-level course. 3 semester credit hour/s.

Campus: LISLE (Typically Offered: Fall Term, Even Years)

MESA

PLSC 3347 Politics and Religion in the United States and Beyond. (Formerly 247) In this course we will examine the intersection of religion and politics from both a domestic and comparative perspective, including contemporary debates about political identities, secularization, modernization, culture, conflict and collaboration. Religious institutions will be evaluated as potential vehicles for citizen discourse and mobilization; we will also assess the broader impact of religion in the public square. Emphasis will be on domestic American politics, but many of these phenomena will also be considered from a comparative perspective. Prerequisite for 3347 only: PLSC 2000-level course. 3 semester credit hour/s.

Campus: LISLE (Typically Offered: Periodically)

MESA

PLSC 3354 Seminar on International Theories. (Formerly 354)

An advanced study of the main and latest theories and issues in international relations. 3 semester credit hour/s.

Campus: LISLE

PLSC 3356 Political Parties and Organized Interests. (Formerly 356)

This course aims to consider the origins and evolution of groups in U.S. politics, the presence and influence of interest groups and political parties in our contemporary politics - the ways they lobby, fund raise, campaign, and, more broadly, shape the political landscape, and what the future holds for parties, interests, and other groups. Prerequisite for 3356 only: PLSC 2000-level course. 3 semester credit hour/s.

Campus: LISLE (Typically Offered: Fall Term)

MESA

PLSC 3357 Mass Media and Democracy. (Formerly 257) Democracy is predicated on the principle of open politics, which requires the transmission of quality information and an informed electorate. Mass media plays a critical role in informing the public and holding government in check, and also informing government about society's needs. The mass media environment is rapidly changing as a result of new forms of communication, technologies and globalization. This course aims to address these changes, and their implications for democracy, taking a broad, "landscape" look at the importance of traditional mass media, as well as contemporary, "new" media in democracy. Prerequisite for 3357 only: PLSC 2000-level course. 3 semester credit hour/s.

Campus: LISLE (Typically Offered: Periodically)

MESA

PLSC 3361 Belonging, Inclusion and Exclusion: Political Identities and the Politicization of Identity. The idea for this course emerged during the 2016 presidential election, as the phrase “identity politics” burst into popular lexicon while issues of race, religion, gender, nationality and class all played central roles in the campaign. Further, extreme partisanship, with labels of “tribalism” applied, became a greater cause of popular and media attention and concern. This course will explore the various notions of the concept of “identity”, the individual and collective identities people hold, and how these become politicized in both positive and negative ways. The course seeks to shed practical light on what can be an esoteric topic in academic literature, as the political significance of both the labels and groups is growing in ways alarming for democracy. Prerequisite: PLSC 2000-level course. 3 semester credit hour/s.

Campus: LISLE (Typically Offered: Periodically)
MESA

PLSC 3371 Appellate Advocacy: Brief Writing and Oral

Argument. (Formerly 371) This course introduces the student to the art of appellate advocacy by learning how to write an appellate brief based on a hypothetical appellate case and argue the legal issues presented in that case before a panel of judges. Usually taught in conjunction with the annual American Moot Court Association annual competition. 3 semester credit hour/s.

Designation: Engaged Learning

Campus: LISLE (Typically Offered: Fall Term)

PLSC 3391 Topics. (Formerly 391) A study of selected matter in the discipline of political science. Recent topics have included Politics of Western Europe, Politics of Soviet Union. Prospective topics may include Politics of Latin America, Politics of Southeast Asia, Politics of Sub-Saharan Africa, US-Asian Relations, Politics of Policy change in America. Prerequisite: PLSC 2000-level course. 3 semester credit hour/s. Course Repeatable. Maximum number of units allowed: 12.

Designation: -

Campus: LISLE (Typically Offered: Periodically)
MESA

PLSC 3392 Political Leadership. (Formerly 392) Intensive study of the principles and practice of the politics of leadership including hands-on leadership experiences in conjunction with the professor. 3 semester credit hour/s. Course Repeatable. Maximum number of units allowed: 12. Department Consent Required.

Campus: LISLE (Typically Offered: Periodically)
MESA

PLSC 3395 Independent Study. (Formerly 395) Course work in political science in which the student in cooperation with one of the faculty members, designs the course in some area of political science of interest to the student. 1-3 semester credit hour/s. Course Repeatable. Maximum number of units allowed: 9. Department Consent Required.

Campus: LISLE
MESA

PLSC 3397 Internship. (Formerly 397) Federal, state, and local government institutions in the area serviced by the university offer opportunities for interested students to gain practical experience in governmental offices. Prerequisite: Sophomore, Junior or Senior standing. 1-12 semester credit hour/s. Course Repeatable. Maximum number of units allowed: 12. Department Consent Required.

Designation: Engaged Learning

Campus: LISLE
MESA (Typically Offered: Periodically)

PLSC 4299 Research Methods in Political Science. (Formerly 299) An analysis of the various theoretical approaches to the study of social sciences as well as discussion and completion of a scientific research design. Prerequisite: Junior or Senior Standing; a grade of “C” or better in PLSC 1102, 2201, 2210, and 2105; recommended (but not required) a grade of “C” or better in at least one 3000 level PLSC elective. 3 semester credit hour/s.

Designation: Writing Intensive

Campus: LISLE (Typically Offered: Fall Term)
MESA (Typically Offered: Periodically)

PLSC 4399 Thesis Research and Writing. (Formerly 399) Continuation of PLSC 4299. Systematic integration of political theory and research. Preparation and completion of an independent undergraduate thesis. Prerequisite: PLSC 4299. 3 semester credit hour/s. Department Consent Required.

Designation: Writing Intensive

Campus: LISLE (Typically Offered: Spring Term)
MESA (Typically Offered: Periodically)