

**POLS 4216 Democratization in East and Southeast Asia (3,2,1) (E)**

Prerequisite: *For GIS major:* POLS 1005 Foundations of Political Science and POLS 2005 Government and Politics of China

*For GIS minor:* Year IV standing

This course examines the theories on democratic transition and process of democratization in East and Southeast Asia. Comparisons will be made with current situations in Taiwan, South Korea, China, ASEAN states, etc. China's prospect of democratization will be a major focus, too. The course exposes students to the theoretical debate on the universality of liberal democracy by exploring conceptual issues such as "Asian values and democracy" and "illiberal democracy". The course will use a broadly comparative methodology incorporating evidences from a range of countries in East and Southeast Asia.

**POLS 4217 International Organizations and Regimes (3,2,1)**

Prerequisite: POLS 1005 Foundations of Political Science, POLS 2006 Introduction to Political Economy and POLS 3005 Foundations of International Relations

The course examines the international organizations and regimes which play a vital part in protecting life and imparting order to international intercourse from transport to environmental pollution, from drug smuggling to AIDS.

**POLS 4225 Political Cultures and Economies in Transition (3,2,1)**

Prerequisite: *For GIS major:* POLS 1005 Foundations of Political Science, POLS 2006 Introduction to Political Economy or POLS 2015 Government and Politics of Hong Kong

*For ES major:* EURO 1008-9 Europe: Unity and Diversity and EURO 2007 The Political Economy of the European Union

This is an interdisciplinary course which explores the recent political and socio-economic evolution of selected societies in the East and West. It focuses on the dynamic interplay of political, economic and cultural forces at the state level of the international system. It also considers similar forces at the regional and global levels which may link or interact with the development of states. Emphasis will be on Hong Kong and China, Asia, Eastern Europe, the Soviet successor states, and the European Union in exploring such transitional currents.

**POLS 4226 Public Affairs and Public Policy (3,2,1) (E)**

Prerequisite: Year III standing

This course introduces public affairs and public policy analysis to students, particularly how to understand these issues as relations between governments and different segments of society, such as professional interests, social and civic organizations, local communities, etc. Students will be taught to identify main public policy issues such as economic growth, social inequalities, urban development, community conflicts and environmental protection faced by contemporary governments.

**POLS 4227 Security Studies (3,2,1) (E)**

Prerequisite: POLS 3005 Foundations of International Relations

This course is designed for third- or fourth-year GIS major students or advanced master candidates. It seeks to deepen their knowledge in important fields of IR that are security and strategy. The course will address five main areas of security studies: theoretical approaches to security, key concepts of security, institutions of security, contemporary challenges to security and strategy in general.

**POLS 4235 Social and Political Developments in Contemporary China (3,2,1)**

Prerequisite: POLS 1005 Foundations of Political Science and POLS 2005 Government and Politics of China

The course examines the social and political dynamics of China's reform. It will begin with a conceptual overview of transition

politics in a comparative perspective. It then will analyse political context and reform strategies. The main part of this course will focus on issues such as rural and industrial reform, political and administrative reform, ideological debates and intellectual political thinking. Social consequences of reforms will be critically assessed.

**POLS 4236 Theories of International Relations (3,2,1) (E)**

Prerequisite: POLS 1005 Foundations of Political Science and POLS 3005 Foundations of International Relations

This course aims to investigate the various theoretical and analytical frameworks in the field of international relations. In an increasingly interdependent world where the new world order is yet to be established, a review of the dominant paradigms in international relations will facilitate a better understanding among students of the transformation of global order in the world in the world entering a new millennium.

**POLS 4237 Topics in Asian Politics (3,2,1) (E)**

Prerequisite: POLS 1005 Foundations of Political Science and Year IV Standing

The course is intentionally designed to be flexible in order to allow discussion of a range of contemporary issues in Asian politics.

**POLS 4245 Topics in Comparative and Global Politics (3,2,1) (E)**

Prerequisite: POLS 1005 Foundations of Political Science and Year IV Standing

The course is intentionally designed to be flexible in order to allow discussion of a range of contemporary issues in global politics.

**POLS 4246 Topics in European Politics (3,2,1)**

Prerequisite: POLS 1005 Foundations of Political Science or EURO 1008-9 Europe: Unity and Diversity

The course is intentionally designed to be flexible in order to allow discussion of a range of contemporary issues in European politics.

**POLS 4898-9 Honours Project (6,\*,\*)**

Prerequisite: Year IV Standing in the GIS major

A final year project is required from all prospective graduates of the GIS major. The project is an extended written report on a specific topic within the field of political science, produced by the student under the supervision of a member of staff.

**POLS 7010 Advanced China Studies (3,3,0)**

This course is designed to give students an understanding of the origin and development of China studies from an interdisciplinary perspective. In general, it evaluates the state of research and substantive knowledge in the field of contemporary China studies. It also examines the works of such noted American China-watchers as Edgar Snow, John Fairbank, A Doak Barnett, Ezra Vogel, Lucian Pye, Andrew Walder, Harry Harding and Nicholas Lardy as well as the recent trends in China studies.

**POLS 7020 E-Government (3,3,0) (E)**

This course provides an overview of the development of e-government in different countries. The various essentials of e-government are presented and discussed in light of prevailing practice. The tools for assessing e-government performance are also explored. Selective aspects of e-government such as integrating operations among the public sectors and outsourcing will be highlighted, with special references to the settings in Hong Kong and mainland China.

**POLS 7030 Globalization and the World Trade Organization (3,3,0)**

To focus on the historical origins, development, institutions, practices and effects of globalization, with a particular emphasis on international trade and the international organizations which developed to regulate and negotiate it. The WTO will be placed in its historical and development context with other international institutions, with a selection of case studies to highlight particular areas of the WTO's greatest accomplishments or weaknesses so