

POLS 2016 Political Movements: Chinese and (3,2,1) (tbc) European

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

For ES major: EURO 1008 Europe: Unity and Diversity

This course is designed to introduce a conceptual toolkit that is useful for understanding the origins, dynamics, and impacts of political movements. It starts with an attempt to distinguish between “normal” political process and political movements. Then it presents two typologies of political movements, one based on claims, the other based on forms of collective action. The third, and most important, part of the course focuses on a number of key concepts, such as relative deprivation, framing, and political opportunity structure, which are often used when analysing the emergence of political movements.

POLS 2110 Statistical and Survey Methods for (3,2,1) (E) Political Science

Prerequisite: POLS 1510 Foundations of Political Science

The 20th century has been described as the age of statistics and modern political research increasingly demands familiarity with the means by which statistically based claims and policy decisions have been developed and advanced. Quantitative analysis also provides new means to describe and analyse social phenomena. In conjunction with qualitative and disciplinary approaches (i.e. historical, economic, psychological, sociological, etc.), quantitative analysis comprises an essential aspect of the discipline of political science. A key aspect of quantitative applications in the social sciences has been survey research, ranging from market research to opinion polling and quality of life surveys. This course provides an introduction to descriptive and inferential statistics and survey design, administration, analysis and theory. Critical understanding of the problems of analysis posed by quantitative databases, qualitative assessment and questionnaire development, and the proper presentation and explanation of quantitative data and its limitations provide primary purposes of the course. This course is open to GIS majors and GIS minors (Year II standing) only.

POLS 2130 Foundations of International (3,2,1) (E) Relations

Prerequisite: EURO 1111-2 Europe: Unity and Diversity or POLS 1510 Foundations of Political Science

This is a course which introduces students to the basic concepts, methods and processes of International Relations by focusing on four major “perspectives” that have framed analytical work in the field, namely “Realism-Power Politics”, “Dominance-Dependence”, “Transnationalism-Interdependency” and “Cultural Interactionism”. International Relations seeks to build upon and integrate the disciplinary foundations students obtained in their first-year Political Science and Political Economy courses. It does this through a “levels of analysis” approach and through a problem-solving treatment of issues relevant, where possible, to Hong Kong’s interaction with its own region and with other areas of the globe. This course is open to GIS and ES majors and GIS minors (Year II standing) only.

POLS 2140 Political Philosophy: Chinese and (3,2,1) (E) European

Prerequisite: EURO 1111-2 Europe: Unity and Diversity or POLS 1510 Foundations of Political Science

The course is a study of the major political thinkers and issues in European and Chinese political philosophy. It will examine theories of the state, their development and their functions in both cultures, and compare the specific approaches of European and of Chinese thinkers to political issues in different periods of time. Special emphasis is put on the attempts to synthesize Chinese and European political thought in the first half of the 20th century. This course is open to GIS and ES majors only.

POLS 2160 European Politics and Society: (3,2,1) (E) French Political and Government System

Prerequisite: EURO 1111-2 Europe: Unity and Diversity or POLS 1510 Foundations of Political Science

After a brief presentation of the legacy of the past (i.e. the French Revolution and the various regimes which followed), the core of the course is an examination of the evolution of the French political and governmental system from the unstable structures of the Fourth Republic to the more effective presidential regime that exists today. Basic concepts of political science, theories and methodologies acquired in POLS 1510 Foundations of Political Science are applied here to the study and analysis of one of the major nation states in Europe. This course is open to GIS and ES majors only.

POLS 2170 European Politics and Society: (3,2,1) (E) German Political Systems and Society

Prerequisite: EURO 1111-2 Europe: Unity and Diversity or POLS 1510 Foundations of Political Science

Basic concepts of political science, theories and methodologies acquired in POLS 1510 Foundations of Political Science are applied here to the description and analysis of one of the major nation states in Europe. The course studies the structure of successive political systems in Germany within their historical context. Special emphasis will be placed on the post-war construction of a “social-constitutional state”, a “social market economy”, and the current multi-tiered political system of the Federal Republic of Germany. The course will finally examine united Germany’s role in European and global politics. It prepares for POLS 3620 Contemporary Europe and Asia and EURO 3140 Current Issues of European Integration. This course is open to GIS and ES majors only.

POLS 2180 Government and Politics of the (3,2,1) (E) United States

Prerequisite: POLS 1510 Foundations of Political Science

American Constitutionalism and the Bill of Rights (the first ten Amendments to the Constitution) comprise one of the major foundations of contemporary notions of modern, democratic government. This course examines the origins and development of US forms of government, federal and state, and also examines conflicts which have challenged, and continue to challenge, in some cases, the functioning of this system. This course is open to GIS majors and GIS minors (Year II standing) only.

POLS 2190 Government and Politics of the (3,2,1) (E) United Kingdom

Prerequisite: EURO 1111-2 Europe: Unity and Diversity or POLS 1510 Foundations of Political Science

The British system of parliamentary government has exercised a profound influence throughout the world. This course examines the growth and workings of the British system. It identifies the key features of the British political and administrative systems, seeks to explain both the change and the continuities within British politics, and examines the various pressures and challenges to which it is currently exposed. It also discusses the British approach to European integration since the Second World War. This course is open to GIS and ES majors and GIS minors (Year II standing) only.

POLS 2205 European Politics and Society: (3,2,1) (tbc) French Political and Government System

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

After a brief presentation of the legacy of the past (i.e. the French Revolution and the various regimes which followed), the core of the course is an examination of the evolution of the French political and government system from the unstable structures of the Fourth Republic to the more effective presidential regime that exists today.

Basic concepts of political science, theories and methodologies acquired in POLS 1510 Foundations of Political Science are applied here to the study and analysis of one of the major nation states in Europe.