

**POLS 2206 European Politics and Society: (3,2,1) (tbc)
German Political Systems and Society**

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

The course studies the structure of successive political systems in Germany within their historical context. Special emphasis will be placed on the traumatic experience of the *Third Reich*, its origins and its consequences in 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, as it is embedded today in the European Union.

POLS 2620 Ideology and Socialism in China (3,2,1) (tbc)

Prerequisite: POLS 1510 Foundations of Political Science

This course explores the ideological and philosophical foundations of Socialist China after 1949, the concepts, ideas, and theories generated during the periods of revolution and development of socialism in China, and the current political and social changes and relevant political and economic reforms initiated by the party-state. This course is open to GIS and China Studies majors only.

POLS 2630 Chinese Legal System (3,2,1) (E)

This course aims to introduce to students some of the major areas of the Chinese legal system that are of interest to people in Hong Kong. It traces the historical and political backgrounds leading to the current Chinese legal system. Major areas covered include the basic courses such as constitutional, civil, commercial, administrative and criminal laws, as well as the court system and the legislative process. Where appropriate, comparisons with the Hong Kong counterpart will be made. Finally, the Basic Law will be examined in relation to its provisions and its significance to Hong Kong after the change of sovereignty in July 1997. This course is open to GIS and China Studies majors only.

POLS 2640 Government and Politics of Japan (3,2,1) (E)

Prerequisite: POLS 1510 Foundations of Political Science and
POLS 1520 Government and Politics of China

This course focuses on the political development of Japan since 1945. It begins with a historical-overview of the rise of modern Japan and an examination of the legacies of the Second World War. The workings of the major political institutions, central and local, are studied, with particular reference to the process of policy-making. It goes on to identify the main political actors, political parties, business groups and labour unions and examines political culture and mass electoral behaviour. The role of Japan in the international system is also assessed.

POLS 3005 Foundations of International Relations (3,2,1) (tbc)

Prerequisite: *For GIS/ES major:* POLS 1005 Foundations of Political Science or EURO 1008-9 Europe: Unity and Diversity

For GIS minor: Year III standing

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 the first-year Political Science and Political Economy courses. It does this through a “level 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.

POLS 3006 Statistical and Survey Methods for Political Science (3,2,1) (tbc)

Prerequisite: *For GIS major:* POLS 1005 Foundations of Political Science

For GIS minor: Year III standing

The objective of this course is to help students develop some basic working knowledge of quantitative methods in political studies. The course will be divided into three parts. During the

first few weeks, we will discuss some basic principles of survey research. Then we will examine how to use statistical tools to describe political phenomena. Finally, we will look at how to use statistical tools to explore causal relationships among variables. Based on the principle of learning by doing, we will deploy SPSS, a statistical computing package for social sciences, to do nine lab work assignments. By the end of the course, students are expected to develop the capabilities to identify puzzles, develop hypotheses and design questions to test hypotheses; collect data, enter data and transform data; and perform basic univariate, bivariate and multivariate data analyses.

POLS 3110 International Political Economy (3,2,1) (E)

Prerequisite: *For ES major:* (1) POLS 1510 Foundations of Political Science; and (2) POLS 2160 European Politics and Society: French Political and Government System, or POLS 2170 European Politics and Society: German Political Systems and Society, or POLS 2180 Government and Politics of the United States, or POLS 2190 Government and Politics of the United Kingdom

For GIS major: POLS 1120 Introduction to Political Economy, POLS 1510 Foundations of Political Science and POLS 2130 Foundations of International Relations

The global political economy is in many ways not a new phenomenon. Imperialism in the form of single nation-states dominating sub-national areas began to impose forms of government and economic regulation worldwide as early as the 18th century. Yet, even so, one could argue that these nation-state empires were relatively isolated global regionalisms until the mid-20th century. Only in the post-World War II period could a more or less voluntary, systematic, and global framework of political and economic relations begin to develop which, while recognizing the nation-state, nevertheless also sublimated it to international protocols and behaviours, and since the end of the Cold War in 1991 the process has accelerated. Today the isolated nation-state has lost much of its sovereignty to the international political economy. This course examines that process and the actors which have developed, or are developing, the international political economy. Challenges to the global international political economy are raised and potential dangers and opportunities examined. This course is open to GIS and ES majors only.

POLS 3120 World Order Issues (3,2,1) (E)

Prerequisite: Year III standing in GIS major or Year IV standing in ES major or GIS minor (Year III standing)

As the world grows more integrated, as communication and business speed up the changes in our daily lives, the impact of events on our individual lifestyles deepens and the necessity to understand and react intelligently to events and forces affecting us becomes more imperative. This course is the capstone required experience for graduating majors. Guest lectures by outside speakers and members of the Department in their areas of research and specialization are used to inform and provoke students to apply concepts and data acquired in their time of study to current problems facing the global order, and thus, to themselves, their families, and their careers. The personal and the corporate, the local and the global, the present and the future are intended to be brought together in this issue-oriented course which focuses the life experience and academic study of students on their world and the events and forces changing it on a daily, if not hourly, basis.

POLS 3205/ CHSP 3205 Chinese Legal System (3,2,1) (tbc)

The course aims to introduce students to some of the major areas of the current Chinese legal system and traces their historical and political backgrounds. Major areas covered are constitutional, civil, commercial, administrative and criminal laws, as well as the court system and the legislative process. The Basic Law will be examined in relation to its provisions and its significance to Hong Kong after the change of sovereignty in July 1997.