

**POLS 3760 Security Studies (3,2,1)**

**Prerequisite:** POLS 2130 Foundations of International Relations  
This course is designed for second- or third-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 4005 World Order Issues (3,2,1)**

**Prerequisite:** *For GIS/ES major and GIS minor:* Year IV 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 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 GIS majors. Guest lectures 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. The first few weeks examines the development of world systems and globalization in order to provide a context for present issues and concerns. News analysis skills are taught, then applied in a role-playing, debate format adapted from UN-sponsored forums for a real time experience in negotiating issues of our time. Students choose the topics of debate, and prepare and negotiate proposals to address those issues.

**POLS 4006 International Political Economy (3,2,1)**

**Prerequisite:** *For GIS major:* POLS 1005 Foundations of Political Science, POLS 2006 Introduction to Political Economy and POLS 2017 Foundations of International Relations  
*For ES major:* (1) POLS 1005 Foundations of Political Science; and (2) POLS 2205 European Politics and Society: French Political and Government System, or POLS 2206 European Politics and Society: German Political Systems and Society, or POLS 3207 Government and Politics of the United Kingdom, or POLS 3215 Government and Politics of the United States

This course examines the intertwining and interaction of economics (wealth creation) and politics (political power) in international and global affairs. The nineteenth century term "political economy" is used here because economic and political forces are always enmeshed with each other. The course provides students with an overview of theories and issues of international political economy. In the first part of the course, we discuss the major theoretical perspectives (economic liberalism, economic nationalism, Marxist theory, etc.) that contend for recognition in international political economy. In the second part, we focus on substantive policy issues that concern the operations of international political economy. These issues include international trade and monetary system, foreign investment and multinational corporations, foreign aid and debt, and North-South relations. They will be examined against the backdrop of the changing global political order.

**POLS 4206 China and the World (3,2,1)**

This course is designed to provide Government and International Studies majors and China Studies students with knowledge of Chinese foreign policies during the Cold War and Post-Cold War era. Being a socialist country with a strong nationalistic posture, how China situates herself in the world arena, and shifts her foreign policies from pro-Soviet stance (1950s) to isolation (1960s) then opening up to the West (1970s), will be thoroughly examined. The efforts of constructing a "Chinese Theory of International Relations" by Chinese policy analysts will also be studied.

**POLS 4207 Comparative Public Administration (3,2,1)**

**Prerequisite:** *For GIS major:* (1) POLS 1005 Foundations of Political Science, POLS 3017 Government and Politics of China and POLS 2015 Government and Politics of Hong Kong; and (2) POLS 2205 European Politics and Society: French Political and Government System, or POLS 2206 European Politics and Society: German Political Systems and Society, or POLS 3207 Government and Politics of the UK, or POLS 3215 Government and Politics of the US  
*For ES major:* EURO 2007 The Political Economy of the European Union

This course aims to examine critically the major concepts and theories of public administration within a comparative framework. It compares the European model with those of other countries such as USA, China and other Asian countries. Case studies from those countries will be used in lectures, tutorials, and as research foci for students. Problems in the stages of policy formulation and implementation will be studied with emphasis on two major variables, the civil service and the legitimating ideology of the state concerned. Comparative policy formulation, implementation, ethics, problems, and politics-bureaucracy relations will be discussed with a specific reference to its application in the Hong Kong settings.

**POLS 4215 Contemporary Europe and Asia (3,2,1)**

This is a course designed to integrate the study of Europe with a knowledge of Europe's relations with Asia since 1945. Emphasis is on the post-colonial development of Asian states' ties with Europe, and with Europeans' economic, political, and cultural exchanges with Asia. The problems posed to Euro-Asian relations by relict anti-colonialism, by Cold War rivalries and by geo-strategic political economic competition will be examined within the framework of both continents' internal/external dynamics and the development of world trade, communication, and cultural interchange. The increased movement of Asian peoples to Europe and Europeans' renewed movement into Asia as part of the global processes and trends of the forecast "Asia-Pacific 21st Century" will be examined.

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

**Prerequisite:** *For GIS major:* POLS 1005 Foundations of Political Science and POLS 3017 Government and Politics of China

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 2017 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)**

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)**

Prerequisite: POLS 2017 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 3017 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)**

Prerequisite: POLS 1005 Foundations of Political Science and POLS 2017 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)**

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)**

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)**

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)**

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 that one of the key components of modern globalization can be fully understood in its dynamic international context. The effects of the WTO and international trade on the national policy-maker will be examined, such as its impacts on Hong Kong and mainland China.

**POLS 7040 Law and Public Affairs (3,3,0)**

This course provides advanced studies on the legal knowledge relevant to public affairs with an emphasis on existing practices in Hong Kong and mainland China. Topics include the legal system, constitutional and administrative law, criminal justice and economic law. On the other hand, the course tries to help students to have a comprehensive understanding of public affairs including public policy-making, political economy, mass media in politics and foreign policy. Comparison with Hong Kong and worldwide practices will be highlighted and discussed.

**POLS 7050 Public Administration (3,3,0)**

Public policy has been described as a process, a cycle, an interaction of decision-making and reaction-taking by governmental and non-governmental agents and agencies. Public Administration deals with properly structuring and deploying the assets given to government to achieve stated aims. Public Policy deals with deciding what assets government needs to achieve the aims the public thinks government is both capable of doing and necessary to do. Public Administration is how civil servants employ the assets entrusted to them and effectuate the processes developed by them or designed for them by political entities to achieve these purposes. Public Administration also necessarily includes evaluation of how well those aims have been achieved and those assets have been used, and what must be done to either better accomplish the task or better deploy the social and economic assets involved—that is, to change the policy or change