

Political Science Department / J-Term 2022 Courses

NUMBER	TITLE	MODE	INSTRUCTOR
Introductory / Core			
100	Political Theory	online	Schumacher
101	American Politics	online	Blackmond-Larnell
American Politics			
300A	Hollywood, Law and Politics	online	Savage
International Relations			
300D	The Morality and Legality of War	online	Maxey
358	War, Peace and Politics	online	Melin

PLSC 100 / Political Theory / Professor Michael Schumacher



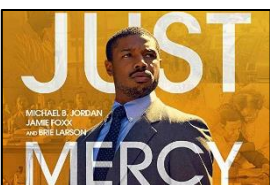
A requirement for PLSC majors that also satisfies the Tier 2 Philosophical Knowledge component of the Core Curriculum, this course takes a thematic approach to introduce students to the subfield of political theory. The theme for this course is “violence.” Are humans violent by nature? Is politics necessarily violent? We will address questions like these from a philosophical perspective by engaging with historic debates from preeminent thinkers about morality, values, and justice. This course will be online and completely asynchronous.

PLSC 101 / American Politics / Professor Twyla Blackmond-Larnell



Let’s talk U.S. politics!!! We will examine various aspects of American national government, politics, and policy-making, including public opinion and political participation, elections, news media, as well as the various elected/appointed offices. Students will review lectures asynchronously and complete exams online but meet periodically (via Zoom) to discuss how the course materials relate to current political and policy events. Office hours will be conducted daily. This course is a Tier 2 option in the Societal & Cultural Knowledge Area of the Core Curriculum.

PLSC 300A / Hollywood, Law and Politics / Professor Amanda Savage



Politics and the law have played major thematic roles in American movies. This course analyzes eight films that focus on justice, the law, and the legal system, to see what they tell us about our political and legal culture. We will read about, watch, talk about, and write about movies. The course will focus on questions about the relationship between law and justice, the disparate impact of the legal system on marginalized groups, and the role of courts and trials in a political system. The course will be primarily asynchronous, with three hour-long synchronous discussion sections.

PLSC 300D / The Morality and Legality of War / Professor Sarah Maxey



Can war be humane? Can it be legislated? This course will confront the moral and legal challenges of combining humanitarianism with military force. We begin by examining the origins of humanitarianism and the laws of war. Tracing changes in the nature of warfare over time, we then discuss contemporary challenges such as humanitarian interventions, refugee crises, and autonomous weapons. The course combines asynchronous materials and activities with weekly discussion sections to maximize student engagement and flexibility.

PLSC 358 / War, Peace and Politics / Professor Molly Melin



Civil war is currently the most violent and deadly forms of violence in the international system. Why do internal conflicts break out and how can civil peace be restored? This course provides an introduction to and overview of the concepts and approaches related to the causes of civil conflict and cooperation. The mode of instruction for this online short course will be completely asynchronous.