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# Political Science

In the College of Arts and Letters

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## Faculty

Emeritus: Andrain, Feierabend, Gripp, Heck, Hobbs, Janssen, Johns, Kahng, Keiser, Lewin, Little, Loveman, Miles, Schultze, Soule, Strand, Terrell

Chair: King

Professors: Gupta, Hofstetter, King

Associate Professors: Abdel-Nour, Adams, Alexseev, Carruthers, Fairlie, Graubart, Guang, Kennedy, McCall, Maher, Schreiber

Assistant Professors: Branch, Kuru, Saccarelli, Varadarajan

Lecturers: Bee, Binder, Epps, Gastelum, Ingram, Mercurio, Samstad, Smith, Speckmann, Stoddard, Sullivan

## Offered by the Department

Master of Arts degree in political science.

Major in political science with the B.A. degree in liberal arts and sciences.

Minor in political science.

## The Major

Political science is the study of governments. Its concerns, however, are not limited to formal governmental institutions such as the executive and legislative branches or the justice systems. Political science is also interested in other organizations and activities which are part of the process of government, including political parties, interest groups, and the press.

Students who become political science majors will learn about who creates the rules by which people are governed, the attitude and behavior of leaders and members of the public which cause certain decisions to be made, and how these decisions affect such values as liberty, equality, welfare, and justice. Political science is concerned with contemporary public affairs, problems in other political systems and contemporary international politics, as well as with historical growth, evolution, and decline of various types of governments.

The many career opportunities which might be available to political science graduates include teaching at the secondary level; positions with the federal government in areas such as intelligence, foreign affairs, environmental protection, and budget and computer administration; positions with state and local governments, including administrative aide for a city manager, staff assistant for a county supervisor, and assistant to the registrar of voters; administrative positions on the staffs of national, state, and local legislators; claims adjuster or claims representative; statistical technician; marketing researcher; lobbyist for a business or trade organization; political reporter; and title office trainee.

## Impacted Program

The political science major is an impacted program. To be admitted to the political science major, students must meet the following criteria:

- Complete with a grade of C or higher: Political Science 101, 102 (or 320), 103, 201 (one of the following equivalent courses can be taken in place of Political Science 201: Economics 201, Psychology 270, Sociology 201, Statistics 119 or 250, or logic course Philosophy 120). These courses cannot be taken for credit/no credit (Cr/NC);
- Have a cumulative GPA of 2.50 or higher.

To complete the major, students must fulfill the degree requirements for the major described in the catalog in effect at the time they are accepted into the premajor at SDSU (assuming continuous enrollment).

## Advising

All College of Arts and Letters majors are urged to consult with their department adviser as soon as possible; they are required to meet with their department adviser in order to declare or change the major.

## Major Academic Plans (MAPs)

Visit <http://www.sdsu.edu/mymap> for the recommended courses needed to fulfill your major requirements. The MAPs Web site was created to help students navigate the course requirements for their majors and to identify which General Education course will also fulfill a major preparation course requirement.

## Political Science Major

### With the B.A. Degree in Liberal Arts and Sciences (Major Code: 22071)

All candidates for a degree in liberal arts and sciences must complete the graduation requirements listed in the section of this catalog on "Graduation Requirements." A total of 40 upper division units must be taken, of which 27 must be selected as described in the major. No more than 48 units in political science courses can apply to the degree.

A minor is not required with this major.

**Preparation for the Major.** Political Science 101, 102, 103, and three units of either statistics or logic (Political Science 201; Economics 201; Psychology 270; Sociology 201; Statistics 119, 250; Philosophy 120). (12 units)

These prerequisite courses may not be taken Cr/NC. The minimum grade in each class is C or higher.

**Language Requirement.** Competency (successfully completing the third college semester or fifth college quarter) is required in one foreign language to fulfill the graduation requirement. Refer to section of catalog on "Graduation Requirements."

**Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement.** Passing the Writing Proficiency Assessment with a score of 10 or above, or History 450W, or Linguistics 305W, or Rhetoric and Writing Studies 305W or 500W with a grade of C (2.0) or better. See "Graduation Requirements" section for a complete listing of requirements.

**International Experience.** The department encourages international experience for its majors. It will facilitate the transfer of political science credits for appropriate study abroad, student exchange, or other overseas programs. International internships may also receive political science credit, if approved in advance by a department adviser.

**Major.** A minimum of 27 upper division units to include (a) 24 upper division units in political science (students are permitted to take up to six units selected from Africana Studies 321, 322, American Indian Studies 331, 485, Women's Studies 375), provided that at least three units are taken in each field; and (b) a three unit capstone requirement, fulfilled by Political Science 495, 497, 498, or any 500-level political science course excluding Political Science 515 and 516.

**Field I. Political Theory:** Political Science 301A-301B, 302, 305, 406, 507, 510.

**Field II. American Politics:** Political Science 321, 322, 333, 334, 335, 336, 338, 346, 347A-347B, 348, 422, 425, 426, 428, 430, 435, 436, 530, 531, 533, 535, 541.

**Field III. Comparative Politics:** Political Science 356, 357, 359, 361, 362, 363, 364, 366, 370, 555, 560, 562, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568.

**Field IV. International Politics:** Political Science 375, 380, 393, 478, 479, 482, 485, 575, 577.

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### Political Science Minor

The minor in political science consists of a minimum of 21 units in political science to include Political Science 101, 102, and 103. Twelve of the 21 units must be in upper division courses and at least nine of these units must be selected from one of the following subject matter areas (a or b or c) as listed in the major.

- Political Theory (Field I)
- American Politics (Field II)
- Comparative Politics and International Politics (Fields III and IV)

**International Experience.** The department encourages international experience for students in the political science minor. It will facilitate the transfer of political science credits for appropriate study abroad, student exchange, or other overseas programs. International internships may also receive political science credit, if approved in advance by a department adviser.

Courses in the minor may not be counted toward the major, but may be used to satisfy preparation for the major and general education requirements, if applicable. A minimum of six upper division units must be completed in residence at San Diego State University.

### Courses (POL S)

Refer to *Curricula and Courses and University Policies* sections of this catalog for explanation of the course numbering system, unit or credit hour, prerequisites, and related information.

#### LOWER DIVISION COURSES

##### **POL S 101. Introduction to American Politics in Global Perspective (3) [AI]**

Politics and basic political concepts as applied to the American political system. American political system as a constitutional democracy viewed in comparative perspective and within context of the global system. When taken with Political Science 102 will satisfy graduation requirement in American Institutions.

##### **POL S 102. Introduction to American and California Government and Politics (3) [AI]**

Political processes and institutions in the United States and California. Considers a variety of public policy issues such as environmental quality, health, education, relation between government and business, taxation, and foreign affairs as reflected in the dynamics of national and state politics. When taken with Political Science 101 will satisfy graduation requirement in American Institutions. Credit will not be allowed for both Political Science 102 and 320.

##### **POL S 103. Introduction to Comparative Politics (3) [GE]**

Analytical models and techniques for examination of problems of decision making and control in various political systems. Emphasis on patterns of political action in various cultural contexts.

##### **POL S 201. Elementary Statistics for Political Science (3) [GE]**

Prerequisites: Satisfaction of the Entry-Level Mathematics requirement; course in intermediate algebra; Political Science 101 and 102.

Quantitative methods in political science. Tabular and graphic presentation, measures of central tendency, simple correlation and sampling techniques. Students with credit or concurrent registration in the following lower division statistics courses will be awarded a total of four units for the two (or more) courses: Political Science 201; Administration, Rehabilitation and Postsecondary Education 201; Biology 215; Civil Engineering 160; Economics 201; Psychology 270; Sociology 201; Statistics 119, 250.

##### **POL S 296. Experimental Topics (1-4)**

Selected topics. May be repeated with new content. See *Class Schedule* for specific content. Limit of nine units of any combination of 296, 496, 596 courses applicable to a bachelor's degree.

#### Field I: Political Theory

##### UPPER DIVISION COURSES (Intended for Undergraduates)

##### **POL S 301A-301B. History of Western Political Thought (3-3) [GE]**

Prerequisite: Completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations of Learning II.B., Social and Behavioral Sciences required for nonmajors.

Development of political ideas from the Golden Age of Greece until the French Revolution. Relevance of theory to a critical understanding of concrete political and social problems involving power, freedom, equality, justice and action. Political Science 301A emphasizes Plato, Aristotle, Augustine, Aquinas, and Marsilius of Padua. Political Science 301B stresses major political theorists such as Machiavelli, Hobbes, Locke, and Rousseau.

##### **POL S 302. Modern Political Thought (3) [GE]**

Prerequisite: Completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations of Learning II.B., Social and Behavioral Sciences required for nonmajors.

Major writers of political thought in the last two centuries, including Burke, J.S. Mill, Freud, Marx, Weber and Sartre. The following topics may be covered: conservatism, liberalism, utilitarianism, socialism, fascism, positivism and existentialism.

##### **POL S 305. American Political Thought (3) [AI]**

Origin and development of American political ideas from colonial times to the present. Meets the graduation requirement in the United States Constitution. When taken with Political Science 320, 321 or 422, will also satisfy graduation requirements in American Institutions.

##### **POL S 406. Democracy and Mass Society (3)**

Origin and development of theories of democracy and application of democratic ideas to contemporary political life.

##### UPPER DIVISION COURSES (Intended for Senior and Graduate Students) (Also Acceptable for Advanced Degrees)

##### **POL S 507. Marx and Marxism (3)**

Prerequisite: Three units in political theory.

Marxism as an important tradition in political theory and with its history as a political movement. Theoretical and political debates in development of Marxism.

##### **POL S 510. Contemporary Political Thought (3)**

Prerequisite: Political Science 301B or 302 or 305 or 406.

Contemporary political questions and theoretical attempts to address them. Debates about justice, citizenship, and multiculturalism; as well as controversies over nature and scope of politics. (Formerly numbered Political Science 410.)

#### Field II: American Politics

##### UPPER DIVISION COURSES (Intended for Undergraduates)

##### **POL S 321. State Politics (3) [AI]**

Politics and policy making at the state and local levels, relations among national, state, and local governments. Emphasis on California problems and politics. Meets the graduation requirement in California government. When taken with Political Science 305 or 320, will also satisfy graduation requirements in American Institutions.

##### **POL S 322. Politics and Conflict (3)**

Prerequisite: Political Science 102.

Nature of interpersonal, group, and societal conflict and mechanisms that can facilitate conflict resolution and bargained agreement.

##### **POL S 331. American Indian Political Experience (3) (Same course as American Indian Studies 331)**

Prerequisite: Political Science 102 or American Indian Studies 110.

Social and political responses to dominant group policies by American Indian as compared to other minority groups.

**POL S 333. Politics of Race and Ethnicity (3)**

Prerequisite: Political Science 102.  
Complexity of identity politics, addressing issues as discrimination, integration, immigration, and fair political representation.

**POL S 334. Politics of the Environment (3)**

Analysis of political process as it shapes environmental policy in a world characterized by finite resources. Emphasis on expanding national and international claims made upon these resources. May include a substantial amount of material about foreign political systems.

**POL S 335. Public Policy (3)**

Prerequisites: Political Science 101 and 102.  
Theory and practice of process of formulating public policy; roles of administrators, legislators, courts, interest groups, and political parties; public agencies and public interest; case studies in formulating public policies. May include a substantial amount of material about foreign political systems.

**POL S 336. Women's Issues in the American Political Process (3) [GE]**

Prerequisite: Completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations of Learning II.B., Social and Behavioral Sciences required for nonmajors.  
American politics and public policy debates around women participating in politics, including support of and restrictions to feminism, legal strategies, and new understandings of public and private issues.

**POL S 338. The Legislative Process (3)**

Detailed analysis of legislatures. Special attention devoted to impact of dynamic factors on formal procedures. May include a substantial amount of material about foreign political systems.

**POL S 346. Law and the Political System (3)**

Forces influencing the making of law; relationship between social and legal change; nature and limits of the judicial function.

**POL S 347A-347B. American Constitutional Law (3-3)**

Substantive principles of American constitutional law. Rights and liberties protected by the Constitution against action of federal and state governments. May include problems of judicial review, federal system, separation of powers, nature of selected congressional-presidential powers. Satisfies graduation requirement in United States Constitution. (Formerly numbered Political Science 547A-547B.)

**POL S 348. The Supreme Court and Contemporary Issues (3)**

Recent decisions of the Supreme Court of the United States and their relationship to contemporary political and social issues. Not open to students with credit in both Political Science 347A and 347B.

**POL S 422. Urban Politics (3) [AI]**

Prerequisite: Political Science 101 or 102.  
The processes by which social conflicts in American urban areas are represented and regulated. Urban political culture; ecology; group development and activity; power structures; and reform movements are surveyed. The character of the urban political "problem" and proposed solutions are evaluated. Meets graduation requirement in California state and local government. When taken with Political Science 305 or 320, will also satisfy all requirements in American Institutions.

**POL S 425. Political Behavior (3)**

Prerequisite: Political Science 102.  
Social and attitudinal variables in political behavior. Quantitative research data as used in electoral studies. May include a substantial amount of material about foreign political systems.

**POL S 426. Political Communication (3)**

Communication as a political process; the effects of political communication on individuals and groups. May include a substantial amount of material about foreign political systems.

**POL S 428. Campaigns and Elections (3)**

Prerequisite: Political Science 102.  
Campaigns and elections are essential to proper functioning of democracy. Theories concerning decision-making processes of individual voters, actors who seek to influence electoral outcomes, and the strategies used by organized political campaigns in attempt to affect voting behavior.

**POL S 430. Immigration and Border Politics (3)  
(Same course as Latin American Studies 430)**

Prerequisite: Completion of the American Institutions requirement.  
U.S. immigration and border politics within a global and historical perspective. Transformations of sovereignty, communities, identity, and rights within an era of mass migration and economic interdependence. Policy and popular debates about admission, border control, and the incorporation of migrants.

**POL S 435. Power and Poverty in the United States (3)**

Prerequisites: Political Science 101 and 102.  
Impact of government upon income inequality and poverty in the United States. Examines programs of U.S. welfare state in comparative perspective and their successes and failures. Minimum standards for distributional justice and inquiries into obligations we have toward our fellow citizens.

**POL S 436. The American Presidency (3)**

Prerequisites: Political Science 101 and 102.  
Analysis of principal institutions, functions and problems of the presidency and federal executive branch. Attention given to presidential leadership, staffing, executive-legislative relations and policy formation.

**UPPER DIVISION COURSES  
(Intended for Senior and Graduate Students)  
(Also Acceptable for Advanced Degrees)**

**POL S 530. Political Parties (3)**

Prerequisite: Political Science 102 or 320.  
The political party as a part of the process of government; party organization and activities; nominating and campaign methods; theories and functions of the party system; party responsibility. The functioning of political parties in the American political system. May include a substantial amount of material about foreign political systems.

**POL S 531. Interest Groups and Political Movements (3)**

Prerequisite: Political Science 101 or 102.  
Pressure group activity, lobbies, mass movements; factors which explain origins and motivations of group behavior; votes, money, information, protest as political resources; theories of pluralism, power elite and mass society; class and ethnic politics. May include a substantial amount of material about foreign political systems.

**POL S 533. Democracy in America (3)**

Prerequisite: Political Science 102 or 320.  
Quality and quantity of democratic experience in contemporary America. Construction of American regime, arrangement of power within that regime, expansion and contraction of citizen participation, and principles that Americans generally espouse.

**POL S 535. Gender and Politics (3)**

Prerequisites: Political Science 101 and 102.  
How gender matters in understanding key political science concepts including democracy, public/private participation and representation. Women involved in political institutions as elected officials, activists, and policy makers from U.S. and comparative perspectives.

**POL S 541. Special Problems in Public Law (3)**

Prerequisite: Three units selected from Political Science 346, 347A, 347B, or 348.  
Issues of contemporary relevance in field of public law, examining legal, moral, and political implications. (Formerly numbered Political Science 454.)

**Field III: Comparative Politics**

**UPPER DIVISION COURSES  
(Intended for Undergraduates)**

**POL S 356. Governments of Continental Europe (3) [GE]**

Prerequisite: Completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations of Learning II.B., Social and Behavioral Sciences required for nonmajors.  
The political systems of countries of western continental Europe.

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### **POL S 357. Politics of England (3)**

The structure and functioning of the English parliamentary system with emphasis on present-day political principles and parties.

### **POL S 359. Government and Politics of Russia and the Commonwealth (3) [GE]**

Prerequisite: Completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations of Learning II.B., Social and Behavioral Sciences required for nonmajors.

Contemporary developments in Russia and states of former Soviet Union. Focus on Gorbachev era and post-Gorbachev transformations of political, economic, and social systems.

### **POL S 361. Governments and Politics of the Developing Areas (3) [GE]**

Prerequisites: Political Science 101 or 103; and completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations of Learning II.B., Social and Behavioral Sciences required for nonmajors.

Internal political systems, governmental structures and the foreign policies of developing nations.

### **POL S 362. Governments and Politics of East Asia (3) [GE]**

Prerequisite: Completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations of Learning II.B., Social and Behavioral Sciences required for nonmajors.

The internal political structure and foreign policies of China, Japan, and Korea.

### **POL S 363. Governments and Politics of the Middle East (3) [GE]**

Prerequisite: Completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations of Learning II.B., Social and Behavioral Sciences required for nonmajors.

The governmental and political structures of representative states in the Middle East including Turkey, Israel, and the Arab states.

### **POL S 364. Political Change in Modern Africa (3)**

Dynamics of social and political change in modern Africa.

### **POL S 366. Latin American Politics (3) (Same course as Latin American Studies 366)**

Prerequisite: Completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations of Learning II.B., Social and Behavioral Sciences required for nonmajors.

Introduction to Latin American politics. Knowledge of political change and political systems in Latin America, viewed historically and comparatively, using concepts and theories applicable to more general political analysis.

### **POL S 370. Political Violence (3) [GE]**

Prerequisites: Political Science 101, 102 or 103; and completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations of Learning II.B., Social and Behavioral Sciences required for non-majors.

Underlying conditions, expressions, and consequences of violence within political systems.

#### **UPPER DIVISION COURSES (Intended for Senior and Graduate Students) (Also Acceptable for Advanced Degrees)**

### **POL S 555. Comparative Political Systems (3)**

Prerequisite: Political Science 103.

An examination of selected political and governmental systems for purposes of comparative study and analysis to determine similarities, differences and general patterns and universals among political systems.

### **POL S 560. Comparative Public Policy (3)**

Prerequisite: Political Science 103 or 335.

How political, social, and economic forces shape public policy in selected countries. Focus on policies related to minority and immigrant populations, environment, or poverty.

### **POL S 562. Religion and Politics in Comparative Perspective (3)**

Prerequisite: Political Science 103.

Various types of relationships between contemporary states and religious institutions. Concepts and theories on religion and politics. Cases of state-religion interaction.

### **POL S 564. Environmental Politics in Global Perspective (3)**

Prerequisite: Upper division or graduate standing.

Comparative examination of environmental politics and policy in major world regions. Considers environmental politics with related policy challenges of economic growth, equity, and social justice. Course content varies with regional focus.

### **POL S 565. Nations and Nationalism (3)**

Prerequisite: Upper division or graduate standing.

Debates surrounding origins, meaning and future of nationalism, and its most common embodiment, the nation-state form. Theoretical analyses of phenomenon and empirical case studies. (Formerly numbered Political Science 408, 468.)

### **POL S 566. Political Change in Latin America (3)**

Prerequisite: Political Science 101 or 103.

General pattern of politics and political development in Latin America with an emphasis on those features which condition domestic and foreign policy making.

### **POL S 567. Political Systems of Latin America (3)**

Prerequisite: Political Science 566.

Domestic and international politics of selected Latin American states.

### **POL S 568. Mexican Politics (3)**

Prerequisite: Political Science 101 or 103.

Principal factors in Mexican governmental decision making. Ideology, political groups, tactics of leaders and governmental structure.

## **Field IV: International Politics**

### **UPPER DIVISION COURSES (Intended for Undergraduates)**

### **POL S 375. International Relations (3)**

Dynamics of conflict and cooperation among national, international and transnational actors; contributing political, economic, and social factors.

### **POL S 380. Human Rights in a Global Perspective (3)**

Historical development of international human rights standards and global, political, moral, and legal debates concerning when and how to implement human rights standards.

### **POL S 393. Institute on World Affairs (3)**

Weekly lectures by visiting experts on contemporary international relations. Speakers may include scholars, diplomats, government officials, journalists, military officers and international business executives.

### **POL S 478. Conduct of American Foreign Relations (3)**

Institutional arrangements by which American foreign policy decisions are formulated and implemented. Issues confronted by American foreign policy decision makers.

### **POL S 479. National Security Policy (3)**

Objectives, instruments, and consequences of national security policy.

### **POL S 482. International Relations of the Latin American States (3)**

Foreign policies of Latin American states; the Organization of American States; relationships with the United Nations and the United States.

### **POL S 485. Politics of Globalization (3)**

Prerequisite: Political Science 103 or six units of political science.

Ideas and practice of globalization since end of World War II, focusing on political debate around contemporary changes in trade, production, and global social relations, and on impact of globalization on political institutions such as state, civil society, social movements, and democracy.

**UPPER DIVISION COURSES**  
**(Intended for Senior and Graduate Students)**  
**(Also Acceptable for Advanced Degrees)**

**POL S 575. International Relations of the Pacific Rim (3)**

Prerequisite: Political Science 362 or 375.

Dynamics of conflict and cooperation among nations of the Pacific Rim. Stress on political and economics factors that shape interstate relations.

**POL S 577. Principles of International Law (3)**

The function of law in the international community. The historical development of the ideas and rules of international law and their place in the modern diplomatic and legal structure.

**Elective Courses**

**UPPER DIVISION COURSES**  
**(Intended for Undergraduates)**

**POL S 320. American Institutions (3) [AI]**

The principles of the Constitution of the United States of America, and a survey of the political and social institutions which have developed under the Constitution. Meets the graduation requirement in the United States Constitution and California state and local government. When taken with Political Science 305, 321 or 422, will also satisfy graduation requirements in American Institutions. Credit will not be allowed for both Political Science 102 and 320.

**POL S 495. Internship in Local Politics (3)**

Prerequisites: Limited to senior political science majors; three upper division units within Field II.

Seniors in the major choose internships within San Diego County in government agencies, offices of elected officials, or others approved by instructor. Requires 80 hours of fieldwork and periodic analytical essays.

**POL S 496. Experimental Topics (1-4)**

Selected topics. May be repeated with new content and used for field-specific credits for the major as approved by the department. See *Class Schedule* for specific content. Limit of nine units of any combination of 296, 496, 596 courses applicable to a bachelor's degree.

**POL S 497. Senior Thesis (3)**

Prerequisite: Limited to senior political science majors with a cumulative 3.0 in upper division political science courses.

Senior thesis. Analysis of special topics.

**POL S 498. Internship in National Politics (12)**

Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.

Students will be assigned to political agencies in Washington, D.C., such as congressional staffs, interest groups, executive agencies, legal/judicial offices and political party committees. For information on internship opportunities, especially state politics, refer to the internship section on the department Web site. Maximum credit six units applicable to the major in political science; maximum credit three units applicable to the minor in political science.

**POL S 499. Special Study (1-3)**

Prerequisites: Twelve upper division units in political science and consent of the instructor.

Individual study. Maximum credit six units.

**UPPER DIVISION COURSES**  
**(Also Acceptable for Advanced Degrees)**

**POL S 515. Research Design and Analysis in Political Science (3)**

Prerequisite: Political Science 201.

Does not fulfill undergraduate capstone major requirement. Modeling and design of formal research projects. Theoretical underpinnings and logic of social science analysis. Issues in measurement and scaling. Introduction to testing, including elementary statistical analysis of behavioral data.

**POL S 516. Statistics for Political Scientists (3)**

Prerequisite: Political Science 201.

Does not fulfill undergraduate capstone major requirement. Basic concepts, theories, and methods that are utilized by political and other social scientists using statistics and microcomputers. Intermediate level introduction to statistical methods in political science.

**POL S 596. Topics in Political Science (1-3)**

Prerequisites: Upper division or graduate standing.

Selected topics in political science. May be repeated with new content. See *Class Schedule* for specific content. Limit of nine units of any combination of 296, 496, 596 courses applicable to a bachelor's degree. Maximum credit of six units of 596. Credit for 596 and 696 applicable to a master's degree with approval of the graduate adviser.

**GRADUATE COURSES**  
**Refer to the *Graduate Bulletin*.**

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