



American Constitutional Democracy Minor/Certificate *Course Catalogue*

THREE-CREDIT HOUR COURSES

Ancient Mediterranean Studies

AMS 3100: The Age of Pericles

This course will focus on the literature and culture of the fifth and early fourth centuries B.C. in Athens, with special attention paid to the nature of democratic institutions under Pericles as well as to the contributions of Athenian political theory and practice to the development of American democracy. Authors will include Thucydides, Herodotus, Xenophon, Plato, Aristotle, the tragedians and Aristophanes.

AMS 4800: Political Thought in Classical & Christian Antiquity

In providing an introduction to the governmental systems and political philosophy of Classical Greece, Republican and Imperial Rome, and Christian Late Antiquity, this course will engage students with a legacy of thought that was passed on to and incorporated by the architects of modern democracies. Through a dual focus on theory and practice—on, specifically, both the major writings and constitutional arrangements of the time period being examined—students will develop a foundation for approaching the tension between universalizing and historicizing understandings of such key socio-political conceptions as democracy and autocracy, freedom and slavery, and citizen and alien.

Black Studies

BL_STU 2004 (Topics): Black Political Thought

Black Political Thought develops a set of critical tools to help explain the distinctiveness of Black Politics. The distinctiveness of Black Political Thought first emerged from spaces of exclusion in Western nations and colonies. The thinking surrounding Black Political Thought originates in a standpoint, or perspective, profoundly different from that of mainstream Political Theory. Out of this encounter comes a deeper understanding of Black intellectual traditions as well as an enhanced understanding of Political Theory's core concepts. Black Political Thought uses the lens of the African

diaspora to investigate the abiding concerns of Political Theory, i.e. the meanings of justice, freedom, and equality; the nature of power, obligation, and “the good life.”

Important questions to investigate include: How do past and present Black philosophers simultaneously reflect and complicate “mainstream” political theory? What are the important differences and key tensions not only among but also within Black liberal, conservative, Marxist, and nationalist strains of thought? What is the place of race and racism in the canons of political philosophy? How does the study of Black Political Thought promise to reshape our notions of citizenship, justice, power, freedom, and equality? How has anti-black racism shaped the traditions and canons of political thought we inherit from the past?

BL_STU 2425: Race & the American Story

This course represents a collaboration between the University of Missouri’s Department of Black Studies and the Kinder Institute on Constitutional Democracy. Building upon the existing Citizenship@Mizzou program, the course aims to carry forward the goals of the Citizenship program and to further solidify and magnify its impact on campus. In so doing, the course will also serve as a model for improving diversity education on campuses across the country and contribute to a more informed and unified national culture.

The course’s core syllabus will consist in readings that tell the story of the confrontation between American political principles and the practice of racial injustice throughout our history. Students will read and discuss the Declaration of Independence, the slavery clauses in the Constitution, the poetry of Phillis Wheatley, and the speeches of Frederick Douglass, Abraham Lincoln, and Martin Luther King, Jr., among others. They will achieve a greater understanding of how diversity relates to humanity and will learn to dialogue productively and civilly with others who may not share their background or opinions.

Economics

ECONOM 4004 (Topics): American Political Economics

This course provides an introduction to the theory of social choice and applies these lessons to the positive analysis of American political institutions. Topics covered include citizen participation and representation, money in politics, and legislative organization and the budget process.

ECONOM 4320: History of Economic Thought

This course offers a broad historical survey of economic thought. Students will consider the contributions of major social and political philosophers to modern economic thought, with particular attention paid to the economic theories that have influenced American political economy since the nation’s founding.

ECONOM 4367: Law & Economics

This course will provide students with a practical introduction to the economic analysis of American legal and political institutions. Students will apply basic microeconomic theory to the study of

property, contracts, torts, the legal process, crime, and the judiciary, in order to gain a deeper understanding of the nuanced relationship between economic policy and political action.

History

HIST 1500: Foundations of Western Civilization

We will chart the development of characteristic ideas and institutions of Western cultural tradition, from the origin of civilization in the Near East to the beginning of the rapid social, political, and intellectual transformation of Europe in the eighteenth century.

HIST 1540: England Before the Glorious Revolution

This course provides a survey of English institutions, culture, and politics from the Roman invasion to the Revolution of 1688, with particular attention paid, in the final weeks of the class, to the dawn of the age of Enlightenment in England and the subsequent development of an intellectual tradition that would prove foundational to American democracy.

HIST 2004 (Topics): British Empire, 1560-1858: Colonialism & Controversy

Through all its sins and glories, the British Empire fundamentally shaped the culture, economy, and geopolitics of our modern world. We will hold these competing ideas of empire in opposition, tracing the makings and unmakings of this empire over its formative centuries from c. 1560 to 1858. Our examination of the people, goods, and ideas binding the British Empire together will begin in the sixteenth century with tentative English forays into global trade and colonization. Tracing through the rise and fall of trade companies, colonial governments, slave-trading networks, and informal networks of empire, we will end with the abolishing of the East India Company in 1858. Through a combination of short lectures, discussion, group work, written assignments, and debate, students will be asked to evaluate the perspectives of both imperialists and colonial subjects.

HIST 2100: The Revolutionary Transformation of America

This course is designed to provide students with an opportunity to explore the practical and theoretical causes and ramifications of colonists' resistance to British rule, as well as the major events of the independence movement and ensuing Revolutionary War. In examining the process that set the British Empire's mainland American colonies on a surprising, transformative trajectory toward republicanism, students will also engage with primary and secondary sources that expose how, during the Revolutionary era, Americans began to confront such contradictions as fighting for liberty and equality in a slave society.

HIST 2120: The Young Republic

Students will focus in this course on the time period during which the nation's political institutions and identity began to take shape. On one hand, this will involve examining practical questions regarding commerce, religion, and international order (among many other topics) that the United States faced during the early national era. On the other hand, the course will address broad, theoretical concerns and tensions regarding the nature and character of the new union that arose as the nation's

leaders and citizens engaged in the process of building a working political system following the Constitution's minimal instructions.

HIST 2150: The American Civil War, a Global History

In this class students will study the American Civil War from the perspective of global history. The familiar actors and events will be covered—the debate over slavery, the secession of the South, the rise of Abraham Lincoln, the great battles and generals, etc. But these familiar episodes will take on different meanings when viewed in relation to global structures of politics, economics, social relations, and ideology. The 1860s was at once a formative moment in the history of globalization *and* the key decade for the formation and consolidation of modern nations. There are two objectives to this class: first, to expose undergraduates to the historical, political, and moral education that the Civil War offers all of its students; and, second, to introduce students to the enterprise of global history through a familiar and particularly illuminating historical event.

HIST 2430: History of American Religion

This course focuses on the overall development of American religion from the seventeenth century to the present. On one hand, students will be invited to think about the larger questions concerning American religion, such as why religion in America has developed in the way that it has, and how and why it continues to thrive in American popular culture. Class time will also be devoted to studying particular themes in the history of American religion, including: the Constitution's protection of religious liberties and encouragement of religious pluralism, evangelicalism in twentieth-century America, and landmark Supreme Court rulings regarding First Amendment religious rights.

HIST 2440: Missouri History

In providing an overview of the state's history from long before the colonial era through the late 20th century, this course encourages students to explore not only Missouri's own rich story but also how this story is entwined with, and has been integral in shaping, the broader narrative of the nation as a whole. Through readings and films on topics ranging from the Missouri Crisis, to Kansas City's Pendergrast era, to suburbanization and public housing in the state's major cities, students will consider the social, economic, political, and cultural forces that have affected Missourians' lives over the centuries and also have an opportunity to unearth new dimensions to the histories of their own hometowns.

HIST 2445: American Constitutional Democracy (online/on-ground)

This course has the dual objective of providing students with insight into both the history and theory of American constitutional democracy. We will thus examine the development of constitutional democracy in the United States in relation to larger social, political, economic, and military events, while also leaving ample time to study the character, nature, and philosophical foundations of the American democratic system.

HIST 3000: History of American Religion to the Civil War

This course will examine major American religious traditions from the Age of Discovery to the Civil War, with particular focus placed on such topics as the evolution of religious practices and institutions

and their influence on American social and intellectual life; religion's role in the development of American democracy; and the significance of the religious language invoked in some of the nation's founding documents, including the Mayflower Compact, the Declaration of Independence, and the Gettysburg Address.

HIST 3210: History of Religion in Post-Civil War America

This course surveys major American religious traditions, patterns, and themes from 1865 to the present. Special attention will be devoted to such topics as: the role religion played in American social, cultural, and intellectual developments, its increased place in political life, and the adjudication of First Amendment religious rights cases on the state and federal levels.

HIST 3220: U.S. Women's Political History, 1880-Present

During the twentieth century, American democratic institutions and notions of citizenship were expanded to embrace previously excluded groups. This course explores American women's engagement with the American political process over the course of the late-nineteenth and twentieth centuries, beginning in the years before women's suffrage. Through readings, discussions, and written assignments, we will address questions of women's political history including the following: In what ways did America's founding political ideas and institutions allow for the participation of women? How has this changed over time? On what grounds have women organized as a group? What political goals have women activists sought? How have class and race affected women's political identities? How is women's political activism best understood in relationship to the conventional political spectrum (left vs. right)? In what ways have women political activists affected political outcomes? What is the relationship of women's politics to feminism? Is "women's politics" a useful concept?

HIST 4000: Age of Jefferson

We will examine political, cultural, domestic, and economic developments in the United States during the formative revolutionary and early republic periods, spanning from 1775-1826. Special attention will be given to political ideas and realities, broadly conceived, as well as the ramifications of the changing political landscape in everyday life.

HIST 4004 (Topics): 18th-Century Atlantic Revolutions

This course deals with the three events that not only rocked the Atlantic world in the eighteenth century but also accounted for the rise, and profoundly shaped the early development, of constitutional democracy in the United States: the American, French, and Haitian Revolutions. While we will approach each rebellion on its own terms, we will also employ a comparative strategy to see how the revolutions both converged and diverged. Each moment of crisis, this class argues, has a much broader global context, especially in an Atlantic world that was connected through migration, commerce, ideas, and slavery. Further, we will examine how these revolts inaugurated a new political order that in many ways ushered in what we now refer to as modernity.

HIST 4004 (Topics): Music & Politics in the United States

The contributions of music to American political life can be easy to observe but hard to assess. What is the point of a presidential campaign song? How can we measure the impact of a protest song? And

what does a larger history of music and politics tell us about the American political experience? This course provides a foundation for thinking through the political implications of American music and a framework for considering how and why connections between music and politics may have changed over time. Beginning in the colonial period and continuing through to present day, we explore how Americans of all kinds have approached the politicization of music and ask what light a musical perspective can shed on the connections between American art, culture, society, and power.

HIST 4004 (Topics): Constitutionalism in the Americas

This course looks at the history of constitutions and constitutional democracy in the Americas as a whole—the United States and Latin America. Specifically, by treating the U.S. Constitution as a pioneering document in the Americas, we will be able to compare and contrast various nations' practical experiences with constitutional democracy, examining not only the international influence of the U.S. Constitution but also how and why, even in drawing on the same philosophical antecedents as the founders of the United States, the architects of many of these republics opted for different democratic forms and practices.

HIST 4010: Age of Jackson

Historians debate whether any one person can define an age. Covering 1824-1854, this course will explore the forces that shaped a period styled by some as an era of “democratic revolution” ushered in by Andrew Jackson and allies and by others as a time of wholesale dispossession and disenfranchisement during which the U.S. grew into a continental power but fractured from within.

HIST 4040: Slavery & the Crisis of the Union: The Civil War Era, 1848-1877

This class examines the history of the Civil War era, a transformative moment in both U.S. and world history, and prompts students to explore and answer a number of questions: How and why did slavery persist in an age of liberal democracy? Why did the pre-war Union prove unable to tolerate the plural visions and diverse institutions of its people? Was the descent into war more a measure of institutional weakness than of the intensity of moral conflict? What were the constituent elements of the competing wartime ‘nationalisms’ that evolved in both north and south? How and why did a war over the Union become a war about slavery and emancipation? How far was it the forerunner of modern, ‘total’ warfare? Did the governmental, socio-economic, and racial changes wrought by war constitute a ‘second American revolution’? Were the limits or the achievements of post-war Reconstruction more notable? And, last but certainly not least, how did the triumph of the Union condition the political and economic development of a rapidly globalizing world?

HIST 4060: Period of the American Revolution, 1760-1789

This course will analyze the revolutionary era in American history, through the establishment of the new government in 1789. We will focus not only on the causes and consequences of the Revolution itself, but also on the intellectual and political traditions underlying the new democratic system and the debates regarding the practical and theoretical nature of American democracy that arose during the process of drafting and ratifying the Constitution.

HIST 4075: Global History at Oxford (formerly HIST 4004)

This course examines global and transnational history in the 'modern' period since 1400. It includes an embedded week of study abroad at Oxford University over spring break. **Students will earn 4 credit hours for this course.** The class begins by interrogating how and why national history emerged as the default method of studying the past in the late nineteenth and twentieth centuries, before considering the limitations of national history. The class then shifts to examining global and transnational approaches, which emerged as potential successors to national history in the decades following the end of the Cold War. From here, students turn their attention to the best work (in my opinion) of global history so far produced: John Darwin's *After Tamerlane: The Rise and Fall of Global Empires, 1400-2000*. We will spend several weeks working our way through this book, which provides students with a grounding in the history of global empires *and* the development of global history as a historiographical genre. While reading this book, students will begin to identify the topics of their research papers that are due at the end of the semester.

Over spring break, the class will convene in the U.K., where students will experience a teaching intensive week with Oxford faculty. Rather than simply visiting foreign sites, students will immerse themselves in the intellectual, pedagogic, and social life of Corpus Christi College at the University of Oxford. Each day, students will have two sessions of 2 hours led by a faculty member of Oxford University. This will be a chance for students to be exposed to cutting-edge work on global/transnational history, in which the U.K. has emerged a global leader. More than that, it also will be an opportunity for students to experience foreign teaching methods and styles.

HIST 4080: The United States & the World to 1904

This class probes the entwined development of the U.S. nation and empire to the backdrop of accelerating structures of global economic integration, technological innovation, and the hardening of national, racial, and ideological formations. If you invest your time and intellect in this class, you will be rewarded. If not, you will miss an opportunity to learn an important topic and to practice thinking analytically, to ask incisive questions, and to apply knowledge to problems that need solving.

HIST 4100: American Cultural & Intellectual History to 1865

This course explores the origins and development of American values and ideas, broadly conceived, in their various sociocultural contexts from the American Revolution to the eve of the Civil War. Key topics include the struggles by ordinary men against their elite counterparts for equality and political power; by women for equality with men; and by African-American slaves for freedom. As such, interrelated beliefs and sentiments to be examined include foundational principles of the early Republic; evangelicalism, empirical science, and moral philosophy; the political economies of market capitalism and slavery; transcendentalism and democratic romanticism in literature and the visual arts; the distinctive versions of constitutional equality and individual rights advanced by free African Americans; and contending anti-slavery and pro-slavery arguments.

HIST 4200: American Cultural & Intellectual History since 1865

This course explores tensions and transformations in American culture from the Civil War to the present, with special attention given to the legal and ideological re-conception of citizenship and individual rights that began with the Reconstruction Amendments and continued to define and divide

American society throughout the era. Given our focus, key topics that we will examine include: spiritual crisis in Christianity; the rise of welfare state liberalism; socialist and feminist alternatives; and labor and Progressive-era politics in literature and the visual arts.

HIST 4400: History of American Law

This course seeks to illuminate the interaction of American law, society, and culture from the early colonial era through the early twenty-first century. Broadly speaking, it looks at the persistently tense relationship between understandings of the public good grounded in religion and the ideas advanced by empirical enquiry; individual liberties and police power; the rights and duties of citizenship; free-market capitalism and economic regulation; freedom of expression and community well-being; majority preferences and equality for minorities; and the relationship of all these tensions to rising popular politics and judicial paternalism. In the second half of the course, we will turn our attention to the uneven advance of fundamental rights to individual privacy, taking into account ever-changing modes of individual and mass communication and the way that concerns with personal and collective security have shaped this broad pattern of development.

HIST 4510: Law in Classical Athens

This course examines the main principles of Athenian law and judicial procedure, with special emphasis placed on the history of law codes in Athens and the study of actual speeches from a variety of lawsuits and procedures. Students in the course will be introduced to a number of concepts that pertain to the study of the theory underlying the organization and function of the American government's judicial branch as well as the practical application of constitutional law.

HIST 4515: Power & Oratory in Ancient Greece

We will concentrate on the rise of oratory in Greece and how it was exploited for political ends. Special attention will be paid to the Athenian democracy in the fifth and fourth centuries B.C., as well as to the influence of its central concepts and institutions on the development of American democracy.

HIST 4620: Modern England

From its place as a peripheral island in the North Atlantic, England emerged as a dominant cultural, economic, and geopolitical world power during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. How should we understand the relationship between British liberties, Victorian values, class conflict, and an exploitative colonial empire? Key themes of our inquiry include social reform movements, political revolution and reform, and global trade and colonization. Each week, we will consider a central historical debate through the lens of a particular school of historiographical interpretation, focusing as much on the historical events as on the act of historical writing and inquiry itself.

HIST 4650: The French Revolution & Empire, 1789-1815

The French Revolution is one of the best-known events and turning points in history, an event with enormous repercussions for both French and world history. The personal dramas, sudden changes of fortunes, and dramatic consequences of the Revolution have inspired innumerable artists, novelists, playwrights, and filmmakers over the centuries. Regarded as the first "social" revolution, it marked a decisive transition in European history, established the "rights of man" as a new ideal of legitimacy,

and created the model of the modern nation-state. This course examines the origins, process, and impact of the French Revolution. It will begin by tracing the *ancien regime* and those structures that the revolutionaries attempted to dismantle. The course will follow with an examination of Enlightenment concepts and their influence on revolutionary fervor. With an understanding of the historical processes leading to revolution, the course will then launch into an investigation of both traditional and more recent interpretations of the Revolution itself. We will conclude with the rise of Napoleon and the establishment of his Empire. The course pays attention to issues concerning public/private life, the relationship between the family and the state, and inclusion vs. exclusion—here with special attention to class, race, religion, and gender. We will make use of both primary and secondary materials and a variety of textual, visual, and audio sources.

HIST 4900: Beltway History & Politics

Taught in Washington, D.C., by University of Missouri faculty, this course provides an experiential overview of American political history for students in the Kinder Scholars summer academic internship program. Emphasis is placed on the interplay between constitutional theory and actual political experience over time, and the tensions and institutional changes that emerged as Americans and their government coped with cataclysmic social changes, unparalleled economic development, and fearsome international challenges.

HIST 4940: History Internship

The History Internship provides students with the chance to participate in the process of creating a record of the nation's legacy. Opportunities within the internship program are various and include: archival and museum work, contributing to ongoing, national oral history projects, and working with historical preservation organizations. In all cases, internships in history will allow students to develop a deeper understanding of how the artifact, broadly conceived, is integral both to drawing connections between the nation's past and present and to shaping the future of American democracy.

HIST 4975: Journal on Constitutional Democracy

Available to past and current members of the Kinder Institute's Society of Fellows, this yearlong course will provide students with a thorough introduction to the process of creating a scholarly publication focused on the evolution of certain key aspects of American constitutional democracy. On the academic side, all students enrolled in the course will compose a scholarly article for the *Journal*, which will be organized each year around a new theme jointly chosen by internship participants and instructors. On the practical side, students will manage all aspects of producing the *Journal* and meeting its spring publication deadline. Tasks associated with the practical component of the course include (but are by no means limited to): soliciting and copyediting submissions, marketing and designing the *Journal*, and conceiving of all supplementary written and visual content. The class meets for two hours in the fall and one hour in the spring.

Honors

GN HON 2230: Race & Nationalism in American Political History

What is a nation? Do nations exist primordially, or are they manufactured products of relatively recent human history? What makes possible the imagined "kinship" of an individual with millions of living,

dead, and unborn members of a given nation, most of whom are completely unknown to him/her? What social forces turn complete strangers into relatives, and how is this community of intimate strangers maintained? These and other questions will be addressed in this survey of American nationalism as a force in American politics from the Founding to the present day.

Moreover, in recent years, political commentators have noted the increasing prominence of ethnic nationalism in American political discourse. This interdisciplinary course will also contextualize these observations by offering the opportunity to analyse the extent to which declarations of American nationalist sentiment have existed alongside and in conjunction with understandings of racial difference.

Philosophy

PHIL 4600: Political & Social Philosophy

This course will examine contemporary and/or historical theories of justice and the state. Views covered in the course might include: Utilitarianism, Libertarianism, Marxism, and Feminism. In the course of their studies, students will be introduced to a number of concepts relevant to any examination of the founding principles and the historical development of American democracy from its origins through the present day.

PHIL 4610: Philosophy of Law

This course will approach the history of law through an examination of texts that explore the philosophical origins and development of theories of justice and individual rights. We will ask and answer foundational questions, such as: What is law? Are there pre- or trans-legal rights? Is punishment justifiable? How can judicial decisions be justified? What are the relations between law and morality?

Political Science

POL SC 2445: American Constitutional Democracy (same as HIST 2445)

POL SC 2450: Intellectual World of the American Founders

An overview of “what the Founders were reading,” this course will introduce students to the antecedents of early American political thought, from the philosophy of Classical Greece and Republican Rome through the political and social innovations and upheavals of the Protestant Reformation and the European Enlightenment. Focus will be placed on analyzing both influence and divergence, with the ultimate goal that, upon completion of the course, students will understand the currents of thought that the Founders took into account when shaping the political values and institutions of the new nation as well as the ways in which they deviated from prior models in order to construct a system that would meet the unique demands and conditions of North America.

POL SC 2455: The Constitutional Debates

The focus in this class is on political thought in practice. Specifically, the course’s goal is for students to arrive at a nuanced understanding of the issues and objectives that shaped the design of the U.S.

Constitution, a goal that can only be achieved by examining the practical problems of governance that the Founders took it upon themselves to resolve as well as the debates about the ultimate structure and function of the new government that raged during the process of drafting and ratifying the nation's founding document.

POL SC 2800: Liberty, Justice, and the Common Good

This course offers a survey of the history of political thought, from antiquity through the twentieth century. Beginning with Plato, students will engage with texts that have shaped civilization by addressing questions about principles and ideals, such as liberty and justice, which are central to political society. While our study will be broad in the political systems examined, particular attention will be paid to the thinkers who influenced the development of American constitutional democracy.

POL SC 2860: American Political Thought

This course will examine works that shaped three centuries of American political thought, from the founding of the nation through the present day. In focusing on the theory and practice of American constitutional democracy—on those currents of thought responsible for its formation and transformation—we will explore such themes as federalism, representation, slavery, religion, and the tension between unity and difference. Readings are drawn from primary sources (Jefferson, Adams, Mason, Tocqueville, Calhoun, Lincoln, Stowe, Baldwin), as well as from contemporary analytic commentary on those sources (Bercovitch, Hartz, Wolin, Guinier, Morrison).

POL SC 4004 (Topics): The Constitutional Debates

This course will provide a thorough overview of the often times contentious discussions about the nation's founding document that occurred on a national and state level during the process of drafting and ratifying the original Constitution. Our study will, on one hand, be broad and theoretical, concentrating on debates about the Republic's core organizing principles, such as the public arguments between federalists and anti-federalists regarding the distribution of political power. We will also leave room for a more narrowly focused examination of particular issues—such as slavery, the terms of territorial expansion, and the enumeration of personal freedoms—that arose in the course of these debates. With regard to this second line of inquiry, we will discuss not only how the framers of the Constitution attempted to resolve these issues but also on how they continued to be debated after ratification and, in turn, required further legislative attention.

POL SC 4004 (Topics): Natural Law & Natural Rights

The concept of natural law is commonly taken to define a sphere of moral obligation or duty, while that of natural (or "human") rights suggests a range of freedom or autonomy. How do these concepts fit together? Or are they ultimately contradictory? This course will explore the concepts of natural rights and the natural law, focusing on the meaning of each concept as well as potential areas of overlap or tension between them. This exploration will be conducted primarily through a broad tracing of the development of each concept, both singly and in tandem, through the history of political thought up to the present time.

POL SC 4004 (Topics): The Politics of Emergency

Through a theoretical examination of the political and legal debates regarding emergency powers, we will explore the question of whether or not liberal democracy can effectively respond to domestic and international crises without undermining its own legitimacy and constitutional identity.

POL SC 4130: African-American Politics

This course examines historical and contemporary efforts by African Americans to gain full inclusion as citizens within the United States political system. We will begin in the Reconstruction era, focusing on the social, political, and economic conditions that led to the passage of the Fourteenth Amendment and reading the Amendment alongside the original Constitution and Bill of Rights to identify the language that it invokes in order to guarantee equal rights protection for African-American citizens. We will then turn our attention to the years leading up to and including the Civil Rights movement, looking at the factors underlying the continued denial of African-Americans' constitutional and natural rights and at the twentieth-century legislation and Supreme Court cases that worked to ensure that the terms and spirit of the Fourteenth Amendment were honored. Other themes and topics that we will examine in the course of our study include: the origins of African-American political philosophy, black nationalism, black presidential bids and the historic election of Barack Obama, and race and voting behavior.

POL SC 4140: Congress & Legislative Policy

This course provides a comprehensive theoretical, historical, and practical overview of the U.S. legislature, beginning with an examination of the philosophy underlying the constitutional separation of governing powers in the United States and concluding with a study of contemporary congressional policy making. Over the course of the semester, we will address a wide variety of relevant topics, including the implications of the changing dynamics of congressional elections, the history of interactions between Congress and other national political actors and institutions, and the significance of party politics within the context of internal legislative leaders and organizations.

POL SC 4150: The American Presidency (online/on-ground)

This course provides students with an opportunity to deepen their understanding of the role of the executive branch in American politics and history from the founding of the nation through the modern day. The course will begin with an examination of the constitutional design of the executive office, addressing topics such as the framers' intentions for the presidency and the historical precedents for its relationship with the other branches of government. After defining the presidency within the context of the American constitutional tradition, students will engage in an extended case study of the constraints that history and context have placed on executive power and action. For example, students will study the dynamics of presidential morality and agency by comparing and contrasting the presidencies of Polk and Lincoln and explore the early twentieth-century modernization of the executive office through examining the legacies of Teddy Roosevelt, Woodrow Wilson, and FDR.

POL SC 4170: Politics of the American South

This course focuses on the unique, fascinating, and often frustrating politics of the American South in the latter part of the twentieth century and the early years of the new millennium. We will begin

with a broad, theoretical examination of Southern politics within the larger context of the founding principles of American democracy, and then shift our attention to a study of the economic, legal and historical factors that shaped the “old” South and led to revolutionary transformations in the region during the middle decades of the twentieth century. In the second half of the course, we will explore more contemporary topics and themes, including: presidential and sub-presidential politics in the South, the political landscapes in deep and rim South states, and the dynamics of racial representation.

POL SC 4190: Elections & Democracy in the United States

This is a class on United States election processes and their relationship to democratic governance. By election processes I mean the rules and procedures under which elections are contested. These include franchise, balloting methods, vote aggregation rules, apportionment, districting, and related subjects. The class does *not* engage public opinion, partisanship, voter choice, and other subjects typically classified as political behaviors.

Elections are a means to an end; that end is normatively defensible democratic governance. Consequently, we discuss these subjects in the context of American democratic thought and ideals. Election processes can either contribute towards our democratic goals and aspirations or detract from them. More precisely, different election methods privilege different democratic values. To understand whether United States elections work well or poorly, one must understand the democratic ideals that have most deeply influenced the American experience. Consequently, we study election processes from a historical development perspective informed by political thought. However, our assessment of United States elections is deeply informed by contemporary theory and empirical analysis.

POL SC 4200: The American Constitution

This class provides a survey of landmark Supreme Court cases involving the division and distribution of political power under the United States Constitution. The core themes of the course are the separation of powers, federalism, judicial review, congressional power, war making under the Constitution, and the judiciary’s role in policing the political process.

POL SC 4210: Constitutional Rights

This class provides a survey of landmark Supreme Court cases involving the Constitution’s protections for life, liberty, and property and its guarantee of equal protection of the law. We begin by considering rights protections in the original Constitution and Bill of Rights before exploring the significance and impact of the Fourteenth Amendment, which was ratified in 1868.

POL SC 4220: The United States Supreme Court

This course will examine the historical and legislative significance of the United States Supreme Court from the early Republic-era through the modern day. We will begin by taking a theoretical approach to our topic, looking at the debates regarding the proper role of the judiciary in the nation’s government that occurred during the framing and ratification of the U.S. Constitution. From here, we will turn our attention toward studying the practical influence of the Supreme Court on public life in America. While we will focus on discussing how certain landmark Court decisions advanced or, in some instances, hindered the realization of some of the most fundamental principles of American

democracy, we will also devote class time to examining the historical implications of different theoretical models of constitutional interpretation as well as the legacies of specific Court Justices.

POL SC 4230: The Constitution & Civil Liberties

This course explores the place of civil liberties in the American constitutional system. The balance between collective interests and individual freedoms presents a tension that political societies must inevitably confront. In this course, we examine the framework for negotiating this tension provided by the U.S. Constitution, especially through the Bill of Rights, as it has developed through two centuries of jurisprudence. We focus especially on issues around freedoms of speech, press, religion, association, and privacy, as well as rights of the accused. Readings will consist primarily of Supreme Court case law but will also include supplementary texts in legal theory and political philosophy.

POL SC 4370: The Administrative State, Public Policy, and Constitutional Democracy

This course will allow students to explore the nuanced, often overlooked relationship between democratic theory and the administrative state. This will first require a practical overview of the significant role that bureaucratic actors play in the implementation of public policy. From here, we will study U.S. bureaucracy in a larger democratic context, focusing on how the architecture of the Constitution accounts for the creation and necessity of an administrative state and, in turn, on how the bureaucratic component of U.S. politics has historically influenced the dynamic interactions between the branches of national government.

POL SC 4390: U.S. Health Politics & Policy

This course deals with the politics and public policy of health in the United States. This topic is broader than you may think—when many Americans hear “health policy,” they probably think first of the Affordable Care Act (Obamacare) and other policies dealing with health insurance. There is no doubt that these issues are important and deserve our attention, but they are just the tip of the iceberg of how politics and policy affect the health of the U.S. population. In addition to issues of health insurance coverage, this course will cover topics ranging from the quality of medical care, to socioeconomic disparities in health outcomes, to substance abuse and addiction, to gender and reproductive health, to the question of what counts as a “disease,” and more. All of these issues are deeply political, whether you may realize it or not, and all present public policy challenges. In addition to building your subject matter knowledge, this course will help you to develop critical thinking and argumentation skills about public policy issues. It will also give you experience in conceiving and drafting a policy memo, a common format of written communication in the policy world.

POL SC 4540: American Foreign Policies

Keen observers of American foreign policy have puzzled over its apparent paradoxes. The United States is at once both engaged and disengaged from world politics at nearly every critical juncture in world affairs. This observation, however, should not surprise. Although the United States has played a key role in the shaping of international order, and although American statesmen were present at the construction of some of the most robust and comprehensive international institutions and alliances ever established, some of the most preeminent practitioners of American statecraft often have advocated for a restrained, non-interventionist foreign policy. This course investigates American foreign policies, and with them, the debates over America’s strategic posture toward the world.

Readings and assignments will introduce students to the debates for and against an engaged foreign policy. Close attention will be paid to the enduring traditions of engagement and restraint. These traditions trace their origins to the American founding and they develop in tandem with each other throughout the rise of the United States as a world power. By contrasting these major traditions, students can expect to acquire a familiarity with the construction and advocacy of distinct foreign policies.

POL SC 4780: Dictatorship & Democracy

Why did the Arab Spring happen, and what explains why some of those countries have since become democracies, while others have slid back into dictatorship? Will China survive and become the next world superpower, or will it collapse? Why did North Korea's Kim Jong Un execute his uncle? Why did Bashar al-Assad hold a presidential election in Syria during the middle of a civil war in 2014? Why did Ferdinand Marcos refer to the martial law era in the Philippines as a "constitutional dictatorship," and what is a "constitutional dictatorship" anyway?

This course will introduce students to the causes and character of contemporary authoritarian and democratic regimes through an examination of topics including: how and why democracy and dictatorship are created; how the leaders of these two types of political systems rule; why they survive; why people resist dictatorship or don't; and why certain regimes survive or fall. For those of you who have taken coursework on American constitutional democracy, the course will provide an interesting frame of reference: what are the alternatives to constitutional democracy, and what do they look like in practice?

POL SC 4790: The Age of Democratization

Framed within the context of democracy having become a global norm in recent decades, as well as the new challenges that have arisen as it has spread far beyond the affluent West, this course will introduce students to the fundamental political science debates about the phenomenon of democratization; explore the explanatory strength of key paradigms; and assess the extent to which such paradigms apply to the developing world. Specific topics will include: definitions of democratization and democratic consolidation, capitalist development and democratization, civil society, elite transitions and international interventions, democracy in divide societies, and electoral authoritarianism.

POL SC 4800: Classical Political Theory

This course examines the classical foundations of the western intellectual tradition by engaging influential works in Greek, Roman, and Medieval political thought, focusing on questions regarding politics, nature, law, justice, and the best form of government.

POL SC 4810: Modern Political Theory (formerly POL SC 4004)

This course surveys the development of political concepts in modern Western thought, beginning with an examination of Machiavelli's challenge to Christianity and Classical political philosophy, and then tracing other paradigmatic shifts in political ideas as they begin to surface in 17th and 18th century Europe in the writings of Hobbes, Locke, and Rousseau. The course's journey through intellectual history will also explore the political ideas of liberal and democratic thinkers like the Federalists,

Tocqueville, and Mill, before concluding with an investigation of important political philosophers of the 19th and 20th centuries, including Marx, Nietzsche, Washington, Du Bois, and Mussolini.

POL SC 4830: Democracy in America & Elsewhere

This course focuses on the dynamics of democracy. Specifically, we will explore various topics in the history, development and practice of democracy through an examination of the writings of Alexis de Tocqueville, one of the most insightful and prescient observers of American political culture. Over the course of the semester, we will look at the factors that brought this young French nobleman to the United States in the 1830s; consider what he saw and experienced during his travels in the early American republic; and explore many of his perceptive observations about the practical workings of democracy in America, including his studies of intellectual movements and public sentiments in the young nation, the relationship between democracy and religion, and the effects he anticipated democratic government and culture having on the evolution of a national literature. We will also examine Tocqueville's writings about the French Revolution, focusing on how he contrasted the French and American experiences with democracy and weighing how his insights have echoed through time to our current age.

POL SC 4840: Developing Dynamics of Democracy (Study Abroad)

This course examines developments in the theory and practice of democracy from the ancient Greeks to the present. After studying the origins of democracy in the Hellenic city states, we will consider the transformation of democratic concepts in the classical liberal period, review the development of democratic institutions in the United States and Europe, examine the emergence of supra-national democratic institutions such as the European Union, and assess the future of democratization in the 21st century.

POL SC 4900: Beltway History & Politics (same as HIST 4900)

POL SC 4940: Political Science Internship

The Political Science Internship provides students with a unique opportunity to contextualize their scholarship in the field of American constitutional democracy. By working in government or with a related non-governmental organization, students will wed theory and practice, gaining firsthand experience with the nation's political process. In addition, they will develop a more nuanced understanding of the continuities that exist within this process through observing how the nation's foundational principles still determine the course of contemporary politics.

POL SC 4975: Journal on Constitutional Democracy (same as HIST 4975)

Public Affairs

PUB_AF 4001: Ethics & Leadership

Ethical literacy is a significant dimension of the discovery of who we are as human beings. A sophisticated awareness of ethical literacy is especially important for those who wish to understand or act within the political realm. This course draws on a mix of ancient and contemporary texts in ethics to examine the role of ethical decision-making processes in leadership. We will give attention to

examples in the American context. Along the way, we will address questions of justice as they relate to race, economic disparity, indigenous cultures, and veterans, among others. Students will gain practice in ethical decision-making skills.

ONE-CREDIT HOUR HONORS COLLEGE TUTORIALS (ALL GN HON 2010H)

Crisis and Constitutional Government
Give Me Liberty or Give Me Arbitration
The Unalienable Right to the Pursuit of Happiness
The Affordable Care Act & the Constitution Order
Constitutional Interpretation
The Idea of Human Rights
Whitman's Democratic Legacy
An Overview of Liberal Democratic Theory & Practice
Hamilton & the Constitutional Foreign Affairs Powers
Justice
"Dynamic Disequilibrium" in American Markets & Politics
Housing Segregation
The Cold War
How the Law Recognizes and Defines Property Rights
Nuclear Weapons, Wartime Drafts, and Cyber Warfare
The Presidency & Ethics
Justice and Celebration in the Ethics of What We Eat
From Dred Scott to Mike Brown
Voting in America: Is There a Better Way?
Strategic Leadership & Moral Responsibility
The Impeachment Power & American Constitutional Balance

