



B.A. in Constitutional Democracy

Course Catalogue

COMMON CURRICULUM COURSES

CNST_DEM 2100: The Revolutionary Transformation of America (same as HIST 2100)

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.

CNST_DEM 2120: The Young Republic (same as HIST 2120)

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.

CNST_DEM 2450: Intellectual World of the American Founders (same as POL_SC 2450)

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.

CNST_DEM 2455: The Constitutional Debates (same as POL_SC 2455)

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.

CNST_DEM 4400: History of American Law (same as HIST 4400)

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.

CONCENTRATION AREA 1 ELECTIVE COURSES: U.S. & THE WORLD

BL_STU 2904: Black Studies in Slavery & Freedom (same as HIST 2904)

This course provides study of historical background, economic, political and social implications of slavery and freedom in the African Diaspora (Americas, Africa, Europe, Asia) as well as the legal and extralegal struggles for and meaning of (global, local, and national) freedom.

BL_STU 3804: Resistance in the Black Atlantic

Enslaved black people resisted slavery in the Americas in a variety of ways. From everyday forms of resistance to the planning of revolts, enslaved people displayed an unwillingness to yield to slavery, assertions of their freedom built on political, philosophical, and economic concepts about society and the rights of human beings. Resistance in what is known as the black Atlantic can be divided into nonviolent and violent forms, but within each of these categories were scores of activities validating the claim that the enslaved never accepted slavery or lost their sense of freedom as human beings. By focusing on nonviolent, violent, everyday and periodic forms of resistance, this course examines how the agency of the enslaved served as a foundation for the culture of freedom in the Americas. Resistance is used to explore the influence of blacks on the historical evolution of the Americas, and the overall aim of this course is to give students an understanding of black resistance as one of the most important sources of the progress of the Atlantic world.

BL_STU 4904: Historical & Contemporary Slavery (same as HIST 4904)

An exploration of slavery in both its historical and contemporary context, focusing on the origins, characteristics, and struggles to abolish the practice. Historical slavery examined using African

enslavement in the Americas, and contemporary slavery using human trafficking and forced labor in the developed and developing world.

HIST 2150: The American Civil War, a Global History (same as CNST_DEM 2150)

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 2520: Europe in the 19th Century

Political, social, economic, and cultural development of Europe from French Revolution to outbreak of World War I.

HIST 2570: The First World War & Its Aftermath (same as CNST_DEM 2570)

The First World War was a war like no other one before. It lasted longer than nations had expected, was executed with new technologies, and resulted in long lasting, devastating repercussions. It left roughly ten million soldiers and six million civilians dead and countless others wounded physically and psychologically. Under the strain of war and defeat, four empires fell - Russia, Germany, Austria-Hungary, and the Ottoman Empire all collapsed. Large portions of France lay in ruins and England's wealth shattered. Europe ceased to be the center of the world, as leadership passed to the United States in the west and Japan in the east. In the EuroAsian territories of the old Russian Empire, a new colossus arose, the Soviet Union. Lost, too, was the 19th century's easy confidence in human rationality, perfectibility, and progress. The war set the stage for disastrous events in the 20th century. In the wake of the "war to end all wars", people looked for ways of dealing with the anxieties and pains of the war and that both new and old ways of living brought. There was a desire among the Europeans for stability, yet transformation.

HIST 2820: Taiwan—the First Chinese Democracy

This course is an introduction to the history of Taiwan, from the seventeenth century to the present day. This course examines historical development leading to the contemporary situation. It problematizes the notion that "democracy is not suitable for Chinese society."

HIST 3485: U.S. & the Middle East

This course will explore the history of American relations with the Middle East. How have U.S. Policy-makers defined American interests in this region? How have they sought to protect and advance those interests? We will consider the cultural stereotypes and assumptions Americans have brought to their relations with the Middle East, and the images of the Middle East that have been projected in

American popular culture. Finally, we will explore the ways in which the current political situations in the Middle East reflects the results of past U.S.

HIST 3870: Social Revolutions in Latin America (same as PEA_ST, SOCIOL 3870)

Twentieth century social revolutions in selected Latin American countries.

HIST 4075: Global History at Oxford (same as CNST_DEM 4075)

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.

HIST 4620: Modern England

Surveys British history in the 18th and 19th centuries. Emphasizes social and economic change.

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 4660: Gender, War, & Migration—Europe 1914 to the Present (same as WGST 4660)

Scholars have long recognized the fundamental ways that war and migration marked the lives of European women and men in the 20th century, and yet, rarely have they focused on the interrelations between mobilities, violence and gender. This class explores how war and mass migrations inscribed new gendered, racial and class hierarchies into the European landscape, and created new kinds of political and social divides. The total wars of World War I and World War II, requiring the participation of civilians and soldiers, erasing lines separating the home front from the battlefield, forcing millions to flee their homes, and drawing men and women from the colonies into the war effort reshaped notions of gender, work, family, nation and citizenship within Europe. The subsequent wars of decolonization and post war migrations, followed by the conflicts that erupted at the end of the Cold War challenged the postwar gender ideals underpinning the European welfare state and the European Union, and fueled the rise of contemporary xenophobic and racist populist movements. Course materials will include historical monographs, articles, novels, memoirs and films.

HIST 4680: From the Rise of Nazis to the Fall of the Wall—Germany in the 20th Century

Cultural, social and political history from 1914 to present day. Focus on world wars, national socialism, the holocaust, the cold war and the emergence of East and West Germany.

HIST 4800: Modern China & Japan—War, Imperialism, & Memory

This course examines the interaction between Japan and China since the late nineteenth century in an effort to understand deeper historical reasons behind the rising tension in East Asia at the present.

HIST 4821: 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. The U.S. Constitution was a pioneering document in the Americas, and this course examines the international influence of the United States' experiment with constitutional democracy. While the course will examine the inspiration of the U.S. Constitution, it will also examine republics that drew upon the same philosophical antecedents that inspired the founders of the United States but may have opted for different forms and practices.

HIST 4800: Chinese Migration—From Yellow Peril to Model Minority

This course surveys Chinese emigration in the global context over the span of five centuries. We will pay special attention to the changing relationships between China and Chinese migrants, treating history as a process of negotiation and contestation of heterogeneous groups or individuals through creative and selective activities.

POL_SC 4435: Democracy & Nationalism

This course will introduce you to the major questions and debates within nationalism studies, especially as they relate to democracy. What is a nation? How does a national community arise and

why does it change? Why does nationalism sometimes produce violent protests and wars, and other times drive more development and constructive engagement with government? Is nationalism ultimately good or bad for democracy?

We will explore such questions using the major theories and evidence from comparative politics about the causes and consequences of identity. By the end of the course, you should have a strong grasp of nationalism as a living, ever-shifting sociopolitical phenomenon and be able to discuss its powers and pitfalls, particularly in light of resurgence of nationalist policies across many democracies around the world.

POL_SC 4440: International Organizations

Forms and functions of governmental (United Nations, European Union, NATO) and nongovernmental international organizations.

POL_SC 4540: American Foreign Policies

Bases, formulation, evaluation of current American foreign policies.

POL_SC 4700: America's Wars in Asia

This course is an introduction to the causes and character of conflict in Asia, especially the conflicts that either have involved or could plausibly involve the United States of America. These conflicts often combine aspects of civil conflict with aspects of international politics, and one of the important themes of the course will be to look at Asia's conflicts through both of these lenses. In addition, we will examine America's foreign policy options and how it selected strategies to deal with these conflicts. By the end of the semester, students will 1) Be familiar with the key historical events and concepts related to conflict in East Asia 2) Be able to explain these developments using a range of major theories and conceptual lenses in comparative politics and international relations. The course will explore the questions and topics covered in the course using historical, literary, and audiovisual materials.

POL_SC 4750: Power & Money

This course provides an introduction to comparative political economy by focusing on the following questions. How and why do governments promote economic prosperity? Does democracy make people richer or poorer? Is it true that "money is power"? Can poor countries enjoy a stable democracy?

POL_SC 4780: Dictatorship & Democracy

Why did the Arab Spring happen? Will China survive or collapse? Did North Korea's new dictator Kim Jong Un really execute his old girlfriend? Throughout history, the majority of the world's regimes have been dictatorships rather than democracies. This course is an introduction to the causes and character of contemporary authoritarian and democratic regimes: how and why they are created, why they survive, why people resist dictatorship or don't, and why regimes survive or fall. We will use academic articles, news stories, and films to study dictatorship and democracy. You will come away from this course with an understanding of the major theoretical debates about dictatorship and democracy, and how these debates apply to important countries and issues in the world today.

CONCENTRATION AREA 2 ELECTIVE COURSES: POLITICS & POLICY

BL_STU 4303: Race, Class, Gender, & U.S. Social Policy

Examines the causes and effects of the vast social and economic inequalities that exist between blacks and whites in US society, including the role federal, state and local government plays in creating and addressing these inequalities.

HIST 2210: 20th Century America (same as CNST_DEM 2210)

Survey of American development from 1900 to present.

HIST 2440: History of Missouri

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 have an opportunity to unearth new dimensions to the history of their hometowns.

HIST 3200: Black Freedom Movement, 1955-1973 (same as BL_STU 3200)

Examines the dismantling of American apartheid, its transformation into a new racial control system, and how and why the Civil Rights Movement was converted into a struggle for Black Power.

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

This course explores American women's engagement with U.S. politics, broadly defined, over the course of the 20th century, addressing issues of political identity, organization, ideology, and division.

HIST 4235: *The Wire*: Race, Urban Inequality, & the "Crisis" of the American City (same as BL_STU 4335)

The HBO series "The Wire", a crime drama based on the border city of Baltimore, exposed the interlocking, structural realities giving shape to the landscapes, neighborhoods, and lived experiences of urban America during the early twenty-first century. Through vivid storytelling, "The Wire" complicates understandings of the "urban crisis" through a focus on the inner workings of major institutions such as the media, public schools, politics, underground economies, public housing, and the criminal justice system and on the ways in which poor and working-class black residents negotiate power and survival. Using the cable series as a lens, this class offers students the opportunity to critically examine the historical, economic, social, and political dimensions of urban inequality.

HIST 4270: African Americans in the 20th Century (same as BL_STU 4270)

Surveys the African-American experience from 1900 to the present. Attention is given to economic, political, social, and cultural trends.

HIST 4280: America in the Reagan Years

Examines the major political, economic, social, and cultural currents and developments of the “Long Eighties,” from Jimmy Carter’s “malaise speech” of July 1979 to Bill Clinton’s mid-1990s embrace of welfare reform and pronouncement that the era of big government was over.

HIST 4430: The Great West in American History

Historical development of major regions, with emphasis on response to environment, public land policy, role of government in economic and resource development, citizen action, and cultural pluralism.

HIST 4445: American Political Economy from the Commerce Clause to the Great Depression

This course examines the history of the American political economy from the founding of the United States to the recent Great Recession. Scholars of political economy explore the ways in which politics and public policy intersect with economics, such as the operation of the institutions like the tax system, the first and second Banks of the United States in the late 18th and early 19th centuries, and the Federal Reserve after 1913. We will focus on efforts by the U.S. federal government to regulate the American economy and bring economic affairs under the control of the American people and their representatives through a wide variety of political, legal, and institutional mechanisms.

POL_SC 2250: Missouri Politics

This course examines the government and politics of Missouri. We will study the state constitution, the structure and function of the state government, and the politics—partisan and otherwise—of the state of Missouri. We will consider public policy development and implementation and examine several areas of that policy: health, public safety, education, resource management, and others.

POL_SC 2500: Science of Politics

This course provides an introduction to the Science of Politics. We will consider a variety of research methods, including historical case study research, field research, quantitative analysis, survey research, experimental techniques, and more. Whatever the research method, one of the central objectives of the course is for students to come away with a clear understanding of how to evaluate causal relationships in the political world. The course is also chock-full of real world applications, with the goal of using actual science to empower you in three ways. First, you will appreciate that the root of science is skepticism and logic, allowing you to make freer choices and to become a better problem solver. Second, in this course you will become a practiced consumer of social science, giving you substantial power to understand, evaluate, and utilize scientific knowledge, whether you choose to work in politics, journalism, industry, government, or elsewhere. Third, the course will provide you with actual research explaining why politicians seek and win elections, why countries go to war, why we follow our parents’ political ideologies, why some countries are rich and others poor, and so much more of vital importance for our planet. To think scientifically, in short, is to develop understanding of humanity, seeing the invisible yet powerful forces that shape our lives.

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 4320: Public Policy

Introduction to the study of public policy in the United States. Analyzes public policy choices at the national, state and local level and the variety of forces which serve to shape policy decisions.

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 4550: Environmental Conflict

This course introduces advanced undergraduate students to the linkages between the environment and conflict. This includes the use of natural resources to fund rebellion, the relationship between human-induced environmental stress and political violence, and competition between states over resources. During the course students will develop a basic understanding of climate change science, conflict studies, and conflict management strategies employed by local, regional, and international actors.

POL_SC 4750: Power & Money

This course introduces students to comparative political economy by focusing on the following questions. How and why do governments promote economic prosperity? Does democracy make people richer or poorer? Is it true that “money is power”? Can poor countries enjoy a stable democracy?

CONCENTRATION AREA 3 ELECTIVE COURSES: LAW & INSTITUTIONS

CNST_DEM 2445: American Constitutional Democracy (same as HIST, POL_SC 2445)

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.

ECONOM 3367: Law & Economics (formerly ECONOM4367)

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.

HIST 4821: 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. The U.S. Constitution was a pioneering document in the Americas, and this course examines the international influence of the United States’ experiment with constitutional democracy. While the course will examine the inspiration of the U.S. Constitution, it will also examine republics that drew upon the same philosophical antecedents that inspired the founders of the United States but may have opted for different forms and practices.

PHIL 4610: Philosophy of Law

This course will approach the history of law by examining 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?

POL_SC 2200: The Judicial Process

Analysis of roles played by American judges and courts in democratic policy formation.

POL_SC 2410: Politics of International Law

This course provides an introduction to the development and evolution of international law. Using contemporary events and international relations theory, we explore the origins of international law,

discuss why (or why not) states choose to comply, and consider important areas such as war, trade, environmental protection, and human rights to determine the importance of international law in the contemporary international system.

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 4141: History of American Legislatures

This course is designed to acquaint upper division students with the history of American legislatures from the colonial period to the present.

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 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 4440: International Organizations

Forms and functions of governmental (United Nations, European Union, NATO) and nongovernmental international organizations.

WGST 3260: Gender, Law, & Justice

Course addresses issues related to gender, law and the justice system in the U.S. and /or globally. Topics may include history of women's rights in the U.S.; contemporary issues in law and justice such as incarceration, human trafficking, and gay marriage; and the ways race, class, sexuality and citizenship shape experiences of justice. May be repeated for credit (up to 6 credits) with different semester themes.

CONCENTRATION AREA 4 ELECTIVE COURSES: SOCIAL & POLITICAL THOUGHT

AMS 4800: Political Thought in Classical & Christian Antiquity (same as POL_SC, CNST_DEM 4800)

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.

BL_STU 2804: 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."

CNST_DEM 2425: Race & the American Story (same as BL_STU, POL_SC 2425)

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.

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.

HIST 3560: The Scientific Revolution

We will examine changing scientific beliefs and practices from 1500 to 1800, a time often referred to as the Scientific Revolution and as the birth of modern science. At the core, this is an examination of how knowledge itself changed: how it was gathered, tested and disseminated. We will also examine how the study of the natural world branched from one subject (“natural philosophy”) into multiple specialized disciplines including astronomy, physics, botany, biology, geology and chemistry. Prerequisites: sophomore standing.

HIST 4580: Intellectual History of Europe

This course will explore some of the ideas, institutions and events that shaped modern Western civilization and thought, focusing on Western Europe, but also giving attention to the relationship between the West and the rest of the world. The course will introduce topics such as the rise of, nationalism, the cult of science, scientific racism and sexism, consumer mass culture, fascist ideology, existentialism, psychoanalysis, the modern city, gender and sexuality. Prerequisites: junior standing.

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?

PHIL 4620: Marxism

A philosophical examination of (a) the notion of critique as seen in Marx’s early and middle writings, and (b) specific topics by such authors as Lenin, Lukacs and Plekhanov. Prerequisites: Sophomore standing. Recommended: two courses in Philosophy.

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 4810: Modern Political Theory

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 4820: Contemporary Political Theory

Great contemporary thinkers on Western vs. Eastern Marxism, existentialism, critical theory, political theologies, postmodernism, feminism, environmentalist ideologies, biological approaches to politics.

POL_SC 4830: Democracy in America (and Elsewhere)

This course focuses on the dynamics of democracy. 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.

