

SPECIAL AND UPPER DIVISION COURSES IN POLITICAL SCIENCE SPRING 2016

PLS 2513 Moot Court (Oral Argument), 1 credit hour

Instructor: Dr. Karen Swenson

Would you enjoy arguing a case as a lawyer before the Illinois Supreme Court? During class meetings, we will practice that and in late February 2015 join Model Illinois Government (MIG) in Springfield.

Moot Court is a role-playing simulation in which students represent attorneys in simulated appellate court competitions. The course may be repeated for a total of six semester hours, but no more than two semester hours may count towards the Political Science major or Political Science minor. Grades are based on participation, attendance, and written work. All students are welcome to take the class; no previous MIG or Moot Court experience is necessary.

PLS 2611 Model Illinois Government, 1 credit hour

Instructor: Dr. Jeffrey Ashley

Have you ever thought that you could do a better job running the Illinois government than our current officials? How are decisions made in Springfield? Who has a role in the policy process? Do you want to gain experience in state politics?

If any of these questions interest you, then you should get involved in Model Illinois Government (MIG). Participants will represent state government officials from the executive branch or the General Assembly, serving as senators, representatives, lobbyists, budget staff, or journalists. You can also earn one credit hour by enrolling in PLS 2611, which meets weekly during the spring semester. During class meetings, we will prepare for the simulation by studying Illinois politics and the policy process. Grades are based on participation, attendance, and written work. The class is run in a seminar style. Students who have taken the class before may repeat it twice for credit. All students are welcome to take the class; no previous MIG experience is necessary.

PLS 3253 Human Rights and International Law, 3 credit hours

Instructor: Paul Janssen Danyi

This course examines the evolution in international human rights and humanitarian law during the 19th and 20th century. It addresses efforts by both leaders and average people's movements to establish legal norms concerning genocide, crimes against humanity, racism, and political and economic rights, as well as the institutions involved in the implementation of international law.

PLS 3343 Government and Politics of the Middle East, 3 credit hours

Instructor: Dr. David Carwell

This course is an introduction to the political cultures of the contemporary Middle East with an emphasis on the political organization and behavior of the states of this region, the problems of political modernization, the inter-regional conflicts, and the American role in the Middle East. The class format will be a combination of lectures and discussions of recent regional developments. (Writing Intensive).

PLS 3543 Civil Liberties in America, 3 credit hours

Instructor: Dr. Karen Swenson

This is a public law class, focusing on significant and controversial Supreme Court decisions in the following areas: freedom of religion, freedom of expression, the right to bear arms, the right to privacy, and civil rights (discrimination based on race, gender, and sexual orientation). This class emphasizes discussion of the assigned case materials. Prerequisite: PLS 1153G or permission of the instructor.

PLS 3703 African American Politics, 3 credit hours

Instructor: Dr. Kevin Anderson

This course is designed to analyze how African Americans have interacted with the American political system. It will provide an overview of the roles and processes by which African Americans have engaged the political system in the United States as well as consider the historical background and context of the constitutional framework and broad interactions with the major institutions of American Government. This course will also study the role of political parties, elections, and social movements in the development of African American political activity.

PLS 3763 Environmental Politics & Policy, 3 credit hours

Instructor: Dr. Melinda Mueller

This course provides an overview of U.S. environmental policy, focusing on the politics that shape environmental laws and programs. We will learn public policy models that help explain the role of issue framing, agenda development, and policy outcomes. We will analyze the tools and approaches used to create environmental policy alternatives. Finally, we apply these concepts and models to several case studies, focusing on U.S. climate change policy.

PLS 4600 Political Science Capstone, 3 credit hours

Instructor: Dr. Melinda Mueller

This seminar provides a culminating experience for PLS majors, allowing students to integrate what they've learned, to better understand the "big" questions all Political Scientists ask. Students write and present their own research project. Class meetings rely heavily on class discussion and collaboration. Students will also gain editing skills as they serve as the editorial board of the undergraduate journal, *EIU Political Science Review*.

Prerequisites: Restricted to undergraduate Political Science majors and Political Science majors with International Studies Option who have completed at least 75 hours of coursework, and have completed the following course prerequisites: PLS 1153G/1193G, PLS 2253G/2293G, PLS 1003, PLS 2001, PLS 2033, PLS 2103, PLS 2603, and 9 additional hours in political science.(Writing Intensive).

PLS 4774 American Constitutional Law, 3 credit hours

Instructor: Dr. Karen Swenson

This course is comparable to Constitutional Law courses offered in most law schools. This class is "case oriented." There is an intensive discussion of major cases decided by the United States Supreme Court. The topics covered by these cases concern institutional powers and constraints; powers of the Courts, powers of the Legislature, and powers of the President, and federal-state relations.

PLS 4793 Civic and Nonprofit Leadership, 3 credit hours

Instructor: Dr. Jeffrey Ashley

Examines the role of leadership and organizational structures and procedures in the delivery of public and nonprofit service delivery. As both the public and nonprofit sectors are inherently people driven, it is useful to see how to best structure jobs and work to motivate people in a time of declining fiscal resources.

PLS 4893 Budgeting in Government and Nonprofit Organizations, 3 credit hours

Instructor: Dr. Richard Wandling

Processes, techniques and strategies of budgeting in government and nonprofit organizations. The course includes analysis of political and policy environments; revenues, from taxes to grants; spending priorities and decision-making; major types of budgets; capital budgeting; and financial management. This is a redesign of the department's long-standing government budgeting course, primarily to reflect the growing significance of nonprofit organizations in public policy and programs at the federal, state and local levels of the U.S. system. Any junior, senior or graduate student with an interest in revenues and spending in governmental and nonprofit organizations is welcome to join this class. Grades will be based on exams; research/writing projects; and participation.

PLS 4933 Ideologies of the Developing World, 3 credit hours

Instructor: Dr. David Carwell

Third World ideologies is an exploration of some of the theories of political development and mobilization used in the lesser-developed world. Particular writers examined include Gandhi, Frantz Fanon, Julius Nyerere and Marx. Mobilizing ideals covered include nationalism, religion (especially Islam and Liberation Theology), and the desperation that leads to such extremist ideologies as the Khmer Rouge in Cambodia and the Shining Path movement in Peru. No previous experience in political theory is necessary. Exams are essay, and the reading load is heavy.