The Department is likely to offer some courses, or sections of a course, in “hybrid,” that is partly online and partly face-to-face, or entirely online. During registration please consult course listings in PeopleSoft where such courses are identified.

**Lower Division**

**PLSI 101 American Government and Politics (5)**
An examination of the ways in which those who practice political science view the American political system. Students can expect to gain a basis for systematic, informed thinking about the processes by which Americans govern each other and govern themselves, the manner in which those processes affect the policies we adopt in response to issues, and the way in which issues influence changes in the decision making processes. Prerequisite: Must have completed or be currently enrolled in ENGL 99. **GE D3, USCA/USCN**

**PLSI 102 World Politics (5)**
An examination of the basic elements influencing global politics. Central themes of the course include the emergence of the modern nation state system, the origins of international law and organization, and the impact of technology and globalization on society in the 21st century. The course concludes by focusing on contemporary world problems such as the threats posed by nuclear war and proliferation, environmental degradation, climate change, global inequality, and international financial crises. **GE D3**

**PLSI 208 The Politics of Change in Asian Societies (5)**
An examination of the economic, social, and geographical factors of political culture in the Asian nations of Japan and India. The focus of the course is on a comparative study of change in the two societies, particularly on the interaction of cultures and politics in the processes of modernization. The focus will be on examining political and economic change in Asia. The thrust of the course is comparative and students will be exposed to the history, politics, culture and economy of states in the region. The purpose of the course is to introduce students to the revolutionary and evolutionary changes in the region from a political and economic perspective, while providing a broader understanding of the regional and international implications of these changes.

**PLSI 218 Politics in the Novel and Film (5)**
An analysis of the form, content, and effect of various sorts of political novels and films, paying special attention to the emergence and success of various sorts of political expression at different points in American political experience. Students can expect to gain an acquaintance with the conventions of novels and films, a basis for systematic, informed criticism of such works, and some understanding of the nature of political life.

**PLSI 240 Honors Seminar: The Nature of Politics (5)**
An examination of some of the central concepts of political science and some of the continuing issues of politics. Students can expect to gain exposure to and practice in each of the major kinds of activity in which political scientists engage. Emphasis will be on the preparation, presentation, and critical evaluation of a series of brief papers. Prerequisite: Freshman standing and invitation by the department.

**PLSI 277 Special Topics (1-5)**
An examination of selected contemporary political problems. Subjects vary from term to term but might include such topics as the politics of Black America, the politics of student protest, the politics of ecology, etc. Prerequisite: One course in Political Science or consent of instructor. May be repeated once for credit.

**PLSI 289 Experiential Prior Learning (variable units)**
Evaluation and assessment of learning which has occurred as a result of prior off-campus experience relevant to the curriculum of the department. Requires complementary academic study and/or documentation. Available by petition only, on a credit, no-credit basis. Not open to postgraduate students. Interested students should contact the department office.

**Upper Division**

**PLSI 300 Political Inquiry (5)**
An analysis of political science methods and the design of political research. Includes an examination of social problems, formulation of research hypotheses, and introduction to social science statistics. Prerequisite: One course in Political Science and sophomore standing.

**PLSI 302 American Foreign Policy (5)**
An analysis of the major schools and approaches in the study of U.S. Foreign policy. Particular attention is paid to historical, ideological, and economic influences on the decision-making process. Includes a survey and evaluation of the major developments in U.S. foreign policy from the Cold War to the current Post-Cold War system.
PLSI 303 Global Security Issues (5)
An examination of the theoretical and pragmatic factors relevant to the formulation and execution of U.S. national defense policy. The course will focus on the role of various factors (executive, legislative, public opinion, military, etc.) in the defense policy-making process. This course focuses on both international and domestic security problems. While traditional concepts of power and the use of force are covered, this course also looks at other elements impacting the global security environment. These include the increasing impact that international organizations, revolution(s) in military affairs, enduring interstate rivalries, economic globalization, terrorism, ethnic cleansing and genocide, and the perspectives of role competing political ideologies concerning have on issues related to global security.

PLSI 304 International Relations (5)
An examination of theories and logic behind nation-state strategies with regard to power, defense, stability, and economic development, among others. This course examines the theories that explain how states prioritize goals by analyzing state actions via individual, state, and international levels of analysis. GE T3

BEHS 307 Developing Political Systems (5)
(For course description, see listing under “Interdisciplinary Courses.”)

PLSI 308 Government and Politics of China (5)
An examination of institutions, participants, and processes of government in China. This course examines the impact of ideology and leadership in the processes of modernization and liberalization in contemporary China. GE T3

PLSI 309 Government and Politics of Latin America (5)
A comparative analysis of selected nations in Latin America, with a primary focus on the Southern Cone region (especially Argentina, Brazil, and Chile) and Central America. Emphasis is on social and economic structures as determinants of contemporary politics and policy change in Latin American society. Challenges to development are also examined within the contemporary “neoliberal” policies currently practiced throughout the region.

BEHS 311 Small Group Dynamics (5)
(For course description, see listing under “Interdisciplinary Courses.”)

PLSI 313 Electoral Behavior and Political Parties (5)
An examination of the organization and activities of political parties and electoral behavior in America combined with an analysis of the political, social, and psychological factors that promote and inhibit individual and group participation in electoral activity. Within the context of voting behavior, this course explores political parties in America and how they attempt to win popular control of government through the electoral process. Prerequisite: Upper division standing or consent of instructor.

PLSI 314 Judicial Power and the Constitution (5)
An examination of the judicial role in American constitutional adjudication, both historical and contemporary. Particular emphasis on federalism, separation of powers, and other topics on the exercise and extent of national power. Prerequisite: One course in Political Science or consent of instructor.

PLSI 315 Civil Rights and Civil Liberties (5)
An examination of the principles, reasoning, and politics of private and individual rights in American constitutional adjudication. Emphasis on Equal Protection, Criminal Justice Due Process, Freedom of Expression, and Right to Privacy. Prerequisite: One course in Political Science or consent of instructor.

PLSI 316 Congress (5)
An examination of Congressional decision making and the factors that shape legislative processes. Students will analyze the history of the institution, the electoral process that leads to service in the national legislature, and the rules and norms that govern its internal processes. Prerequisite: One course in Political Science or consent of instructor.

PLSI 317 The Presidency (5)
An examination of the constitutional design and practical operation of the American Presidency. The course includes investigations into the nature of executive leadership, the constitutional and administrative powers of the president, legislative-executive relations, and role of public opinion, and the role of personality as expressed in presidential character.

PLSI 319 California Politics and Public Policy (5)
An examination of the issues, institutions, and processes that affect public policy in California. Topics include the constitution, the history and political culture, and the impact of policies regarding such matters as taxes, energy, education, criminal justice, immigration, and home rule for local governments.
PLSI 320 Social Groups and Political Power in America (5)
An examination of the ways in which non-governmental groups influence the formation, direction, execution and change in public policy in America. Emphasis is on factors that contribute to such influences. Students can expect to pursue a research project on a selected topic. Prerequisite: PLSI 300.

BEHS 321 Community Politics (5)
(For course description, see listing under “Interdisciplinary Courses.”)

PLSI 323 Government and Politics of the Middle East (5)
An examination of contemporary conflicts and policies among nations in the Middle East. Emphasis is on religion, nationalism, political sovereignty, and economic modernization affecting regional relations. The role of the United States will also be discussed.

PLSI 324 Politics of Mexico (5)
An analysis of the historical and social roots of Mexican politics and contemporary policy issues in Mexico. Particular emphasis is given to U.S.-Mexican relations, challenges of development and peasant economies, the history of one party rule in the 20th century, NAFTA, and the key issues surrounding “post-PRI” Mexico.

PLSI 328 Media, Propaganda, and Public Opinion (5)
An examination of the psychological processes involved in the formation and change of public opinion. Attention focused on the role of propaganda in attitude acquisition and change. Several examples of political propaganda and mass appeals will be examined. Prerequisite: Upper division standing. GE T3

PLSI 329 Latino Politics (5)
An overview of Latino political experience in the U.S. with special attention to Mexican-Americans. Particular emphasis on cultural background, social history, politics, education, and the law. Other issues deal with political impacts of Latino family structure and Latinos’ role in the economy. GRE

BEHS 330 Political Psychology (5)
(For course description, see listing under “Interdisciplinary Courses.”)

BEHS 331 Political Sociology (5)
(For course description, see listing under “Interdisciplinary Courses.”)

PLSI 332 Political Geography (5)
Lectures, analysis and field work on the relationships between physical and cultural geography and the power in nations, states, and communities. Case studies in both U.S. and other nations and GIS exercises. Satisfies the Geography requirement for Liberal Studies. Cross-listed as GEOG 332. GE T3

PLSI 333 Political Philosophy and Thought (5)
This course examines various theories of the nature of social and political life. Significant contributions to Western political philosophy, such as those of Plato, Hobbes, Locke, Mill, Marx, and Rawls, will be examined along with the concepts of rights, equality, justice, obligation, liberty and utility. Additional readings may contribute to analysis of the development of political institutions and civil society in the West and their effects on non-European nations and cultures. This course carries credit in either Philosophy or Political Science. Cross-listed as PHIL 333. GE T2

PLSI 334 Democratic Theory (5)
An analysis of fundamental assumptions about democratic government and practices. Students can expect to develop tests for evaluating performance of political institutions and practices based on the results of that examination. Special attention will be given to American experience as a whetstone for shaping those tests. Prerequisite: Upper division standing or consent of instructor.

PLSI 335 American Political Theory (5)
The course investigates the theoretical foundations, the functional processes, and contemporary theories of the American Regime. Students investigate the political and social institutions established under the U.S. Constitution, review important changes in the political and social institutions, and study changes in relations between government and citizens. Taken as a whole, the themes explored in this course lie at the intersection of politics, philosophy, history, and sociology, and should appeal to students wishing to pursue a career in teaching civics or social studies at the secondary school level.

PLSI 339 Women in Politics (5)
The course presents a general understanding of feminist concepts and gender cultural differences that affect American and International politics. For American politics, the emphasis is on how gender ideas affect public opinion, voting patterns, campaigning and women as leaders. The course applies a gender lens to basic questions of international relations, such as national security questions, economic development, and foreign policy. GRE

PLSI 340 Racial and Ethnic Politics in the United States (5)
Focus on political experiences of African Americans, American Indians, Asian Americans, and Latinos. This course examines the major theories explaining American politics in light of race and ethnicity. Particular emphasis on intra- and intergroup conflict and cooperation, and the nature and dynamics of American political values, discourse, leadership, organizations, institutions, and policies, when analyzed from the perspectives of four major racial and ethnic groups.
PLSI 349 Food Politics and Policy
Study of food politics at national and international levels. Case studies of food industry politics and trade conflicts in the United States, the European Union, México, Japan, and India, along with examination of the role of multi-national corporations, the World Trade Organization, and financial institutions. Consideration of cultural influences on food markets. Carries credit in either pre-law or international relations-comparative politics emphases in the major.

INST 369 Environmental Politics (5)
(For course description, see listing under “Interdisciplinary Courses.”)

PLSI 370 Legal Reasoning (5)
Discussion and practice in the logic, analysis, data interpretation, and writing that characterizes Anglo-Saxon jurisprudence. Special topics taken from contemporary issues include torts and remedies, administrative authority, freedom of speech, death penalty, entertainment law, and antitrust policy.

PLSI 371 International Organizations (5)
The subject matter of this course is the network of international organizations redefining global politics. By the end of the 20th century, international organizations challenge the nation-state’s political authority and power. Two types of international organizations are examined in this course: intergovernmental organizations (IGOs) and nongovernmental organizations (NGOs). This growth of transnational organizations reflects the processes of social, economic, and technological globalization that creates a complex network of participants in global politics.

PLSI 376 Politics of International Terrorism
This course will examine terrorism from both the historical and international perspectives. The historical and ideological roots and development of terrorism will be explored along with the different types of terrorism, such as state terrorism, state-sponsored terrorism, and rebel terrorism. Additionally, attention will be given to cases drawn from different regions of the globe, including Europe, the United States, Latin America, Africa, and the Middle East.

PLSI 377 Special Topics (15)
An intensive examination of issues of current political concern with attention to the development of the problem and alternate ways of responding to it. The issues examined vary from term to term but include such topics as political corruption, the political implications of multinational corporations, terrorism and political subversion, etc. Course credits can also be applied for the Model United Nations experience. Prerequisite: Upper division standing, or permission of instructor. May be repeated for different course content.

PLSI 380 Political Inquiry II (5)
One of the alternatives for applications after PLSI 300, with emphasis on practice of social research, including inferential statistics, data management using SPSS, and other computer-based analytical techniques, and other skills important in political science careers. Prerequisite: PLSI 300.

BEHS 400 Data Processing in the Behavioral Sciences (5)

PLSI 404 Politics of International Commerce (5)
An examination of the international political economy focusing on the structures and patterns of trade and trade agreements. Particular emphasis is given to international banking, currency exchange, problems of international lending, debt management in developing countries and the former Soviet bloc, and multinational corporate approaches to economic development. Agreements and protocols of the post-WWII period and the World Trade Organization are emphasized throughout.

PLSI 411 U.S. Immigration Law and Policy (5)
This course explores how the laws enacted in the U.S. reflect the politics, demographics, economics, and security issues of immigration to the United States. Consideration and contrast of immigration laws and policy with refugee policies. Comparisons to immigration laws and policies in other developed nations.

PLSI 418 Politics and Culture (5)
Study of the relationship between culture and politics, with emphasis on how culture and subculture shape political processes and values and how regimes utilize popular culture to achieve their goals in domestic and foreign policy. Among the forms of popular culture in these analyses will be music, film, literature, and sports. Emphasis is on the U.S., but with attention also to other nations and culture. Prerequisite: Upper division standing.

PLSI 420 Religion and Politics (5)
This course explores the relationship between religion and politics. The purpose of this course is to understand the role of religious ideas, values, and beliefs in influencing politics within and between states. The course may examine diverse aspects beyond religion such as nationalism, colonialism-orientalism, human rights and cultural globalization.

BEHS 471 Colonialism and Culture Change (5)

PLSI 477 Selected Topics in Political Science (1-5)
Current concerns challenging the discipline’s theories and methods. Topics include governmental regulation of innovation in medical treatment, ethics in the intelligence community, the impact of development on ideology, politics and mass media, etc. Offered periodically to respond to student and faculty interests. Prerequisite: Upper division standing. May be repeated for different course content.
PLSI 480 Directed Research Seminar in Political Science (5)
Student conducts and writes up an individual study under faculty supervision. Prerequisite: PLSI 300 and consent of instructor.

PLSI 481 Directed Research in Political Science (1-5)
Student conducts and writes up a research project under faculty supervision. Prerequisite: PLSI 300 and consent of instructor.

PLSI 489 Experiential Prior Learning (variable units)
Evaluation and assessment of learning which has occurred as a result of prior off campus experience relevant to the curriculum of the department. Requires complementary academic study and/or documentation. Available by petition only, on a credit, no credit basis. Not open to postgraduate students. Interested students should contact the department office.

PLSI 490 Senior Seminar (6)
This course reflects on the nature of the discipline of Political Science. Synthesis and integration of coursework is the focus of this course. The seminar format facilitates discussions of theories, and research questions including those that cross boundaries between the disciplines. Analysis and policy essays. The student will also submit a portfolio that is not graded, but used in assessment for the program and the individual graduate’s career planning.

PLSI 496 Internship in the Political Process (1-5)
Students are assigned to either public or private agencies involved in the public choice process. Supervision of internship is shared by agency director and the course instructor. Assigned readings and projects where appropriate. Prerequisite: Permission of instructor. Up to five units may be applied to elective requirements in the major. With departmental approval, additional units (up to a total of ten) may be used if the internship experience generating the additional units is in a different institutional setting or involves a significantly greater responsibility on the intern’s part.

PLSI 497 Cooperative Education (5)
The Cooperative Education program offers a sponsored learning experience in a work setting, integrated with a field analysis seminar. The field experience is contracted by the Cooperative Education office on an individual basis, subject to approval by the department. The field experience, including the seminar and reading assignments, is supervised by the cooperative education coordinator and the faculty liaison (or course instructor), working with the field supervisor. Students are expected to enroll in the course for at least two quarters. The determination of course credits, evaluation, and grading are the responsibility of the departmental faculty. Offered on a credit, no-credit basis only. See statement on credit under PLSI 496, above.

PLSI 499 Individual Study (1-5)
Consent of department.

Graduate Courses

BEHS 500 Quantitative Methods in the Behavioral Sciences (5)
(For course description, see listing under “Interdisciplinary Courses.”)

BEHS 501 Philosophy and Methodology of the Behavioral Sciences (5)
(For course description, see listing under “Interdisciplinary Courses.”)

BEHS 695 Master’s Thesis in Behavioral Science (5-9)

PLSI 699 Individual Graduate Study (1-5)
Investigation of an approved project leading to a written report. Project selected in conference with professor in area of major interests; regular meetings to be arranged with professor.