POSC 109: The U.S. Political System
MWF 11:40-12:30 Justin Buchler
This course provides an overview of governmental institutions and processes in the United States, the political forces that combine to shape them, and how we might best understand the system that government and politics create.

POSC 160: Introduction to Comparative Politics
MW 12:45-2:00 Pete Moore
Comparative politics is the study of processes and institutions within countries. Prompted by real-world puzzles, comparativists investigate broad, theoretical questions such as: What constitutes a revolution, and why do revolutions occur? How does one country become more democratic than another? Why do relations between some ethnic groups turn violent? This course introduces students to some of the central puzzles and theories of comparative politics in order to help them better understand world events. Counts for CAS Global & Cultural Diversity Requirement.

POSC 172: Introduction to International Relations
TR 2:30-3:45 Kathryn Lavelle
Why do countries fight wars? Can nuclear proliferation be curtailed? Does trade help developing countries or harm them? This survey of the field of International Relations examines “big questions” in world politics. It introduces themes including the rise, development and changes of the nation-state system; patterns and causes of international conflict and cooperation; international law, organizations, and transnational institutions; the roles of both state and non-state actors in international politics; and the methods used to understand this field.

POSC 322: Political Movements and Political Participation
TR 1:00-2:15 Karen Beckwith
Political Movements and Political Participation is concerned with the variety of ways citizens engage in collective activism in the United States and across national boundaries, and with the conditions under which citizens identify common concerns and join together in political movements to bring about change. The course begins with an examination of three general bodies of theory and research on political movements: resource mobilization, political opportunity structures, and cultural framing. We will also investigate frameworks of political participation for understanding the relationships among different expressions of collective activism and representation. In the context of these sometimes competing theories, we will consider 1) the conditions under which political movements are likely to emerge, as well as the circumstances in which collective political action is precluded; 2) how citizens come to recognize collective grievances and shared political identities; 3) the strategies and tactics of organized movements, and their likelihood of political success; and 4) the relationship between political movements, political parties, and the state. Offered as POSC 322 and POSC 422.

POSC 323: Judicial Politics
TR 5:30-6:45 Michael Wager
Rejecting the view that judges mechanically apply the law, the study of judicial politics seeks to understand the behavior of judges as political actors with policy goals. Topics include judicial selection and socialization, judicial policy change, judicial strategy (especially the strategic interaction of judges on multi-judge panels), the interaction of courts in hierarchical judicial systems, the policy impact of judicial decisions, and the courts’ interactions with coordinate branches of government (the executive, Congress, state governments, state courts). Primary focus will be on the federal judiciary, with some discussion of state judicial systems. Offered as POSC 323 and POSC 423.
POSC 327: Civil Liberties in America  
TR 11:30-12:45 Laura Tartakoff  
Supreme Court's interpretation of the First Amendment: liberty of religion through the establishment and free exercise clauses, freedoms of speech and the press, of assembly and association. The "pure tolerance" view examined against subversive speech, "fighting words," libel, and obscenity. Survey of content-neutral regulation, symbolic expression, and current efforts to limit expression (campus speech codes and the feminist anti-pornography movement). Offered as POSC 327 and POSC 427.

POSC 348: History of Modern Political and Social Thought  
M 3:20-5:50 Miriam Levin  
This course explores the responses of philosophers, economic theorists, culture critics, and public policy makers to changes in western society wrought by industrialization by focusing on their concerns with technological change. Offered as HSTY 348, HSTY 448 and POSC 348.

POSC 349: Political Science Research Methods  
MWF 2:15-3:05 Justin Buchler  
This course examines approaches that political scientists use to understand events and processes. In doing so, the course provides students with skills helpful to completing senior projects, such as the ability to evaluate and conduct research. Through exercises and projects, students will take part in the research process from constructing a question to developing a research design to interpreting results. Students will learn and apply key techniques, including inductive and deductive reasoning, hypothesis construction, operationalization of concepts, measurements, sampling and probability, causal inference, and the logic of controls. They will produce materials common to the discipline, such as research designs. Offered as POSC 349 and POSC 449.

POSC 351: Modern Political Thought  
MW 3:20-4:35 Matthew Hodgetts  
Examination of a limited topic in the study of modern political thought. Topics vary. Offered as POSC 351 and POSC 451.

POSC 367: Western European Political Systems  
MWF 2:15-3:05 Girma Parris  
Comparative analysis of sociopolitical systems of selected Western European industrial democracies, using North American systems as a point of comparison. Offered as POSC 367 and POSC 467.

POSC 370H: China's Foreign Policy  
TR 10:00-11:15 Paul Schroeder  
The rise of China is evident in the country's more forward and robust foreign policy that began in 1979. At every turn, nations throughout the world must now consider China wherever their interests are at stake, be it Korea and Northeast Asia, Indochina and Southeast Asia, India/Pakistan and South Asia, or Afghanistan and Iran in the Middle East, not to mention the many African states that welcome Chinese investment but chafe at China's presence. Further, China is increasingly aggressive in international trade, a major determinant of its foreign policy. This course describes the key factors that make up Chinese foreign policy, including its cultural tradition, policy-making institutions, the role of the military, and domestic determinants of foreign policy. The course also examines China's ever-changing foreign policy strategies, from an aggressive posture to charming its neighbors only to become more strident once again. The course will also examine China's role involving possible mercantilism, currency manipulation, and the hunt for traditional and alternative energy sources. Throughout the course, we will pay attention to how China's foreign policy relates to international relations theories and what strategies might be used to manage China's growing role in international affairs. Offered as POSC 370H and POSC 470H.

POSC 370M: Theories of Political Economy  
TR 11:30-12:45 Kathryn Lavelle  
This course is a SAGES departmental seminar in political economy that brings a wide range of theoretical perspectives to bear on the relations between market and state in the contemporary world. It focuses on three questions: What have been the major debates concerning the role of the government in the economy? How were these debates resolved in the compromise of embedded liberalism, and What experiences have individual states had with these questions of political economy? To answer these questions, we will read original literature to uncover the connections among politics, economics, and the world of ideas that has resulted in the political debates we confront today. Offered as POSC 370M and POSC 470M.
**POSC 374: Politics of Development in the Global South**  
TR 2:30-3:45 Paul Schroeder  
Exploration of the post-World War II emergence of the Global South nations of Africa, Asia, the Middle East, Latin America, and the Eastern Europe arena. Offered as ETHS 374, POSC 374, and POSC 474.

**POSC 383: Health Policy and Politics in the United States**  
MWF 9:30-10:20 Joseph White  
Overview of the principal institutions, processes, social forces, and ideas shaping the U.S. health system. Historical, political, economic, and sociological perspectives on the health system are explored as well as the intellectual context of recent policy changes, challenges, and developments. Students will acquire a sense of how health services are financed and delivered in the U.S. They will also learn how to assess its performance compared to that of other similar countries. Offered as POSC 383 and POSC 483.

**POSC 385: U.S. Bureaucratic Politics**  
MW 12:45-2:00 Joseph White  
Bureaucracy is one of civilization’s most important inventions. It is a way of coordinating very large numbers of people so as to do work, make decisions, and exercise power. Without it, much of modern life would be impossible. Yet “bureaucracy” is normally seen, in public discussion, as a problem, instead of as a solution. This course will consider both the reasons for and pathologies of bureaucratic organization. Its special focus is bureaucracy in American government. The course therefore will provide some introduction to the study of American public administration, but with special emphasis on how the work and performance of public bureaucracies in the United States is shaped by the specific tasks they are given and the distribution of power in the American political arena. Offered as POSC 385 and POSC 485.

**POSC 388: Politics, Policy, and the Global Environment**  
MWF 11:40-12:30 Matthew Hodgetts  
This course examines the law, politics and policy surrounding global environmental challenges such as climate change. The course aims to provide a broad overview of the key concepts, actors, debates, and issues in global environmental politics. It aims to illustrate the complexities of addressing environmental problems—from the proliferation of global institutions and international actors, to the absence of central enforcement mechanisms. We examine the causes of environmental degradation and competing views on the gravity of the problem. Using concepts from political science and economics, we investigate the challenges in getting states to act jointly to address environmental problems. We examine the actors and institutions of global environmental politics, to understand how conditions are defined as problems and responses are chosen and implemented. The course concludes by applying the tools and concepts to the case of climate change. Offered as ESTD 388, POSC 388 and POSC 488.

**POSC 389: Special Topics in American Politics and Policy**  
MWF 10:35-11:25 Girma Parris  
Topic: Race, Immigration, and American Political Development. Offered as POSC 389 and POSC 489.

**POSC 391: Pathologies of Democracy: Argentina, Paraguay, Ecuador, and the USA**  
TR 4:00-5:15 Laura Tartakoff  
Democracy is fragile and should not be taken for granted. Though it does not change human nature, democracy generally allows nation-states to address challenges peacefully in a constitutional manner, curtailing leaders' ambitions through checks and balances. Most nation-states in Latin America are now electoral multiparty representative presidential democracies. However, they have been (and still are), more than the USA, marked by serious disorders -- among them, demagogic authoritarian leaders, political populism, weak political parties, nationalism, gerrymandering, both private and public corruption, and discontent. After touching on different types of democracy, this course will focus on such ailments in Argentina, Paraguay, Ecuador, and the USA to gain both a realistic perspective regarding them and to touch on possible remedies -- trustworthy institutions, rule of law, human rights, governmental accountability, civic vigilance, intermediate associations, and communal practices. Offered as POSC 391 and POSC 491.