

# POLITICS

PROFESSORS STRONG, CONNELLY, JOHN,  
McCAUGHRIN, RUSCIO  
ASSOCIATE PROFESSORS RUSH, VELÁSQUEZ  
ASSISTANT PROFESSORS LeBLANC, MOREL

## MAJOR

A major in **politics** leading to a Bachelor of Arts degree requires completion of at least 41 credits as follows:

1. Politics 100, 111, 190, 201, Economics 101 and 102
2. Either Politics 101 or 104
3. 15 additional credits in politics, including at least three credits from each of the following fields:
  - a. *Political Philosophy*: Politics 265, 266, 396
  - b. *Comparative Government and International Relations*: Politics 214, 221, 223, 227, 240, 245 (Sociology 245), 246 (Sociology 246), 260, 327, 357, 380, 385, 392, 395
  - c. *American Government*: Politics 229, 230, 232, 233, 250, 330, 335, 340, 342, 350 (Sociology 350), 397, 466
4. Six additional credits chosen from anthropology, economics, psychology, or sociology

*HONORS: An Honors Program in politics is offered for qualified students; see department head for details.*

### ★POLITICS 100 (3)—American National Government

A study of the constitutional origins and historical development of the national government with special attention to Congress, the Presidency, the Judiciary and the role of political parties, interest groups and the media in the policy process. *Staff.*

*Fall, Winter*

### ★POLITICS 101 (3)—Comparative Government

A survey of principles in the comparative study of politics. Topics include conflicting ideologies, alternative political institutions, problems in political and economic development, and contrasting ideas about justice. *Staff.*

*Fall, Winter*

### ★POLITICS 104 (3)—International Relations

A survey of principles in the study of international relations. Topics may include causes of and alternatives to war, power distributions in the international system, models of national behavior, and conflict resolution. *Staff.*

*Fall, Winter*

### ★POLITICS 111 (3)—Introduction to Political Philosophy

An introduction to some of the perennial themes of politics such as the relationship between human nature and political institutions, individual freedom and community, private conscience and civic virtue, the claims of reason and faith, thought and practice, and the nature of law, obligation culture, history and rights. This course also examines less obvious but equally important political topics such as friendship, family, gender, race and character. Our inquiry is guided by selections from influential works in the history of political thought, ancient, modern and contemporary, as well as plays, comedies, tragedies and other works of literature. *Staff.*

*Fall, Winter*

### POLITICS 190 (1)—Bibliographical Resources

An introduction to the use of the Washington and Lee library and other compilations of information on politics and government. Degree credit is awarded for only one 190 course regardless of academic discipline. *Directed by Politics faculty and library staff.*

*Fall, Winter*

### ★POLITICS 201 (4)—Political Data Analysis

Introduction to the use of quantitative and statistical methods of analyzing data in order to study political phenomena. Students who have taken Economics/Management 203 may not receive credit for Politics 201. *Rush.*

*Winter*

### ★POLITICS 203 (Journalism 203) (3)—State and Local Government

*Prerequisite: Sophomore standing. Corequisite: Journalism 190 or Politics 190.* An introduction to the structures and functions of United States subnational governments, with particular emphasis on the policy-making process and on the relationships between policy-makers and the public. Computer-assisted analysis of survey-research data is included. *Smith.*

*Fall, Winter*

### ★POLITICS 214 (3)—The Conduct of American Foreign Policy

*Prerequisite: Politics 100 or 104.* Constitutional basis, role of the President and the Congress, the State Department and the Foreign Service, role of public opinion, political parties and pressure groups. Relation to other political areas and to the United Nations and other international agencies. *Strong.*

*Fall*

### POLITICS 221 (3)—The British Political System

*Prerequisite: Politics 101.* A study of British constitutional development and the present government. Analysis of the processes, institutions, and values of the British political system in comparison with other political models. *John.*

*Fall*

### POLITICS 223 (3)—The Commonwealth of Independent States

*Prerequisite: Politics 101 or permission of the instructor.* A study of the CIS with special reference to the Russian Federation in comparison with other political models. *McCaughrin.*

*Winter*

### POLITICS 227 (3)—East Asian Politics

An investigation of East Asian political systems and the global, historical and cultural contexts in which their political institutions have developed. Students consider the connections between political structure and the rapid social and economic changes in East Asia since World War II, as well as the effectiveness of varied political processes in addressing contemporary problems. Emphasis is given to China, Korea and Japan, and political change in Southeast Asia is included. *LeBlanc.*

*Fall*

**POLITICS 229 (3)—Parties, Interest Groups, and the Media**

*Prerequisite: Politics 100.* A study of the three central extra-constitutional mediating institutions in the American political system: political parties, interest groups and the media. The course explores theoretical and practical, historical and contemporary developments in party politics, interest group politics, and media politics. Special attention to the debate between the Federalists and the Anti-Federalists. *Connelly.*

*Winter*

**POLITICS 230 (3)—Public Administration**

*Prerequisite: Politics 100.* A study of American governmental administration, primarily at the national level, as a central feature of modern government. Emphasis is on the differing values, concerns, and organizational implications of the political, managerial, and legal approaches to public administration. Policy issues and case studies are used as illustrations. *John.*

*Winter*

**POLITICS 232 (3)—Public Policy**

*Prerequisite: Politics 100.* Introduction to public policy formation and implementation, decision-making in government, the concepts and techniques of policy analysis, and ethical analysis of policy. Policy issues such as education, the environment, and public health are used as illustrations. *Ruscio.*

*Fall*

**★POLITICS 233 (3)—Environmental Policy and Law**

*Prerequisite: Economics 101 or Politics 100.* A study of major environmental laws and the history of their enactment and implementation. Discusses different theoretical approaches from law, ethics, politics, and economics. Reviews significant case law and the legal context. Emphasis is on domestic policy with some attention to international law and treaties. *Ruscio.*

*Winter*

**★POLITICS 240 (3)—Seminar on Elections and Government in Western Democracies**

*Prerequisite: Politics 100 or 101.* This course addresses foundations of and developments and changes in the electoral systems, constitutions, and political processes of western democracies (Europe, the Americas, Australia, and New Zealand). Emphasis is on theories of government, electoral laws and reform, and the impact of different institutional arrangements on political processes. Each year, the course also includes case studies of contemporary reform movements in particular countries. *Rush.*

*Fall*

**★POLITICS 245 (Sociology 245) (3)—European Politics and Society**

A comparative analysis of European political systems and social institutions. The course covers the established democracies of western and northern Europe, the new democracies of southern and east-central Europe, and the post-communist regimes in eastern and southeastern Europe. Mechanisms of European integration are also discussed with attention focused on institutions such as European Union, NATO, OSCE and Council of Europe. This course meets the general education requirement in sociology only (area 4d.) *Jasiewicz.*

*Winter 2003 and alternate years.*

**★POLITICS 246 (Sociology 246) (3)—Post-Communism and New Democracies**

A comparative analysis of transition from Communism in the countries of the former Soviet bloc. Cases of successful and unsuccessful transitions to civil society, pluralist democracy and market economy are examined. The comparative framework includes analysis of transition from non-Communist authoritarianism and democratic consolidation in selected countries of Latin America, the Mediterranean, Southeast Asia and South Africa. This course meets the general education requirement in sociology only (area 4d.) *Jasiewicz.*

*Winter 2002 and alternate years.*

**POLITICS 250 (3)—Black American Politics**

*Prerequisite: Politics 100 or permission of the instructor.* A study of important black figures in American political thought. The course focuses on the intellectual history of black Americans but also considers contemporary social science and public policies dealing with race in America. *Morel.*

*Winter*

**POLITICS 260 (3)—Comparative Public Policy**

*Prerequisite: Politics 101 or 232.* A comparative analysis of the major trends in social policy development in the democratic, industrially-developed nations of western Europe, Japan, Canada, and the United States. Emphasis is on the politics of social choice through a cross-national comparison of selected social policies (e.g., in education, housing, taxation, environmental issues, urban planning), followed by an analysis of the major goals, issues, and policy alternatives in the areas of national health care. *John.*

*Spring*

**POLITICS 265 (3)—Classical Political Philosophy**

*Prerequisite: Politics 111.* An examination of the origins of political philosophy in ancient Greece and Rome, and of the synthesis of classical philosophy and Christianity. We turn to some of the most important religious and philosophic texts of the ancient and medieval worlds, as well as epics, tragedies, comedies and other works of literature. Some of the proposed topics for discussion include: the idea of nature, virtue and vice, the relation between body and soul, philosophy and politics, reason and faith, human agency and fate or Providence, and the constitution of the "best regime." *Velásquez.*

*Fall*

**POLITICS 266 (3)—Modern Political Philosophy**

*Prerequisite: Politics 111.* An examination of the philosophic sources of Modernity, with focus on the French, Scottish and English Enlightenments. Topics include, but are not restricted to, the relation between natural science and political science, the psychology of the passions and of the self, the origin of natural rights doctrine and of government by representation or consent, the virtue of toleration or civility, and the conflict between nature and freedom. *Velásquez.*

*Winter*

**POLITICS 295 (3)—Special Topics in Politics**

*Prerequisite: Freshman or sophomore standing and permission of the instructor.* A seminar in political science for students at the introductory or intermediate level. Topic, hour and instructor will be announced prior to registration. May be repeated for degree credit with permission and if the topics are different. *Staff.*

**POLITICS 327 (3)—Japanese Political System**

*Prerequisite: Politics 101, 227 or permission of the instructor.* An examination of the origin, structure, operation and evolution of Japanese political institutions. Students discuss the importance of Japan's international position and historical experience to contemporary politics and address the development of the modern Japanese electoral system, political party system and policy-making processes. The relationship between political leaders and their constituents on the national and local levels is also examined. *LeBlanc.*

*Winter 2002 and alternate years*

**POLITICS 330 (3)—Congress and the Legislative Process**

*Prerequisite: Politics 100.* A review of the constitutional origins and historical development of Congress as a representative and deliberative institution. Course focus includes the relation between the President and Congress, bicameralism, congressional elections, congressional reform, legislative rules and procedures and the policy process. The course follows the current Congress using C-SPAN and *Congressional Quarterly Weekly Report*. *Connelly.*

*Fall*

**POLITICS 335 (3)—The Presidency**

*Prerequisite: Politics 100.* A review of the origins and development of the office of the presidency from Washington to the present with an emphasis on post-war administrations. Topics include constitutional issues arising from presidential powers, policy-making within the executive branch, and modern presidential leadership styles. *Connelly, Strong.*

*Winter*

**POLITICS 340 (3)—The American Supreme Court and Constitutional Law**

*Prerequisite: Politics 100 or permission of the instructor.* A survey of the development of American constitutional law and a study of the role of the Supreme Court as both a political institution and principal expositor of the Constitution. *Connelly, Rush.*

*Fall*

**POLITICS 342 (3)—Law and the Judicial Process**

*Prerequisite: Politics 100, 111 or permission of the instructor.* A survey of legal theories and the problems of reconciling such theories with the realities of administering a legal system. The course draws upon readings from literature, philosophy, legal scholarship, and political science. Topics include the nature of law and justice, constitutionalism, the role and power of courts and judges, and the function of a legal system. *Rush.*

*Winter*

**POLITICS 350 (Sociology 350) (3)—Social Movements**

*Prerequisites: Junior standing and permission of the instructor.* A survey of American social movements, including an evaluation of competing theoretical approaches to the study of social movements and an examination of the strategies, successes, failures, and political and social consequences of the civil rights, labor, student, and women's movements. Close attention is given to factors contributing to the rise and decline of these movements. *Staff.*

*Not offered in 2001-2002*

**POLITICS 357 (3)—National Security Policy**

*Prerequisite: Politics 104 or 214.* An examination of American national security policy-making with an emphasis on how information and intelligence is gathered, analyzed, and used by senior policy-makers. The course usually focuses on a single national security issue such as terrorism, nuclear proliferation, or arms control to illustrate the policymaking process. *Strong.*

*Spring*

**POLITICS 363 (3)—Leadership**

*Prerequisites: Junior standing and permission of the instructor.* This course explores several issues related to the nature and meaning of leadership throughout history and in contemporary society. The course is interdisciplinary and draws from social sciences, literature, history, and philosophy. The emphasis is on broad questions of authority, legitimacy, power, responsibility, ethics, and moral purpose. *Ruscio.*

*Spring*

**POLITICS 375 (Sociology 375) (3)—Methods of Social Inquiry**

*Prerequisite: Politics 201 or Sociology 102 and the completion of the sociology major statistics requirement, or permission of the instructor.* The rationale and utility of research and its relationship to social and political theory. The two major aspects of social inquiry—measurement and interpretation—are examined focusing on the structuring of inquiry, modes of observation (experiments, surveys, field research, unobtrusive research, etc.), and analysis of data. The course includes lectures, discussions and field exercises. *Jasiewicz.*

*Fall*

**POLITICS 376 (Sociology 376) (3)—Seminar in Survey Data Analysis**

*Prerequisites: Politics/Sociology 375, or permission of the instructor.* This course is designed as a group research project. Students select a topic, prepare a list of hypotheses, select indicators, construct a questionnaire, conduct interviews, analyze data, and write research reports. *Jasiewicz.*

*Winter*

**POLITICS 380 (3)—Comparative Politics Seminar**

*Prerequisites: Politics 101 and permission of the instructor.* Examination of selected topics dealing with variation among political systems. *Staff.*

*Winter*

**POLITICS 385 (6)—British Politics in London**

*Prerequisites: Approval of the International Education Committee, permission of the instructor, and either Politics 100 or 101.* Enrollment limited to 20 students. Study in London of the processes, institutions and mores of the British political system, including class meetings, guest lectures and site visits. Comparative analysis of British and American legislatures, executives and judiciaries. *John and Connelly.*

*Spring 2003 and alternate years*

**POLITICS 390 (3)—Special Problems in Contemporary Political Science**

*Prerequisites: Junior standing and permission of the instructor.* A seminar in which advanced students examine an issue, concept, or phenomenon of government. Topic, hour and instructors will be announced prior to registration period of the term in which it is offered. May be repeated for degree credit with permission and if the topics are different. *Staff.*

**POLITICS 392 (3)—Issues in Asian Politics**

*Prerequisites: Politics 227 and permission of the instructor.* A topical seminar focusing on Chinese politics, other Asian countries or selected subjects in Asian politics. May be repeated for degree credit with permission and if the topics are different. *LeBlanc.*

*Spring*

**POLITICS 395 (3)—International Relations Seminar**

*Prerequisites: Politics 104 and permission of the instructor.* Selected problems in the analysis of international relations. May be repeated for degree credit with permission and if the topics are different. Open to majors and non-majors. *Staff.*

*Spring*

**POLITICS 396 (3)—Seminar in Political Philosophy**

*Prerequisites: Politics 111 and permission of the instructor.* An examination of selected questions and problems in political philosophy. May be repeated for degree credit with permission and if the topics are different. *Staff.*

*Spring*

**POLITICS 397 (3)—Seminar in American Government**

*Prerequisites: Politics 100 and permission of the instructor.* Examination of selected topics in American political institutions, ideas, and processes. May be repeated for degree credit with permission and if the topics are different. *Staff.*

*Winter*

**POLITICS 401 (1), 402 (2), 403 (3), 406 (6)—Directed Individual Study**

*Prerequisites: Grade-point average of 3.000 in politics and permission of the instructor.* This course permits a student to follow a program of directed reading, library research or data collection and analysis in some area not covered in other courses. May be repeated for degree credit with permission and if the topics are different. *Staff.*

**POLITICS 453 (3), 456 (6), 459 (9)—Internship**

*Prerequisites: Grade-point average of 2.500 in politics and 2.500 overall, and permission of the instructor.* Supervised off-campus experience in a governmental agency or political institution. May be repeated for degree credit with permission and if the topics are different. *Connelly.*

**POLITICS 466 (6)—Washington Term Program**

*Prerequisites: Grade-point average of 3.000 overall and in politics courses; Politics 100, 101, or 111.* The Washington Term Program aims to enlarge students' understanding of national politics and governance. Combining the practical experience of a Washington internship with academic study, it affords deeper insight into the processes and problems of government at the national level. A member of the politics faculty is the resident director, supervising students enrolled in this program while they are in Washington. *Connelly.*

*Spring*

**POLITICS 493 (3-3)—Honors Thesis**

*Fall-Winter*

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