POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY /
SOCIAL THEORY

17.000J Political Philosophy
(Same subject as 24.611J)
Prereq: Permission of instructor
G (Spring)
3-0-9 H-LEVEL Grad Credit
Can be repeated for credit
Systematic examination of selected issues in political philosophy. Topic changes each year and subject may be taken repeatedly with permission of instructor.
L. Stanczyk

17.006 Feminist Thought
(Subject meets with 17.007J, 24.237J, WGS.301J)
Prereq: Permission of instructor, based on previous coursework
G (Fall)
3-0-9 H-LEVEL Grad Credit
17.007J Feminist Thought
(Same subject as 24.237J, WGS.301J)
(Subject meets with 17.006)
Prereq: None
U (Fall)
3-0-9 HASS-H
Analyzes theories of gender and politics, especially ideologies of gender and their construction; definitions of public and private spheres; gender issues in citizenship, the development of the welfare state, experiences of war and revolution, class formation, and the politics of sexuality. Graduate students are expected to pursue the subject in greater depth through reading and individual research.
S. Haslanger

17.01J Justice
(Same subject as 24.04J)
Prereq: None
U (Fall)
3-0-9 HASS-H; CI-H
See description under subject 24.04J.
K. Gallagher

17.021J Philosophy of Law
(Same subject as 24.235J)
Prereq: One Philosophy subject or permission of instructor
U (Spring)
3-0-9 HASS-H
See description under subject 24.235J.
J. Markovits

17.03 Introduction to Political Thought
Prereq: None
U (Fall)
3-0-9 HASS-S
Examines major texts in the history of political thought and considers how they contribute to a broader conversation about freedom, equality, democracy, rights, and the role of politics in human life. Philosophers include Plato, Aristotle, Machiavelli, Hobbes, Locke, Rousseau, Marx, Tocqueville, and Mill.
K. Gallagher

17.035J Libertarianism in History (New)
(Same subject as 21H.181J)
Prereq: None
Acad Year 2014–2015: Not offered
Acad Year 2015–2016: U (Spring)
3-0-9 HASS-H
See description under subject 21H.181J.
M. Ghachem

POLITICAL ECONOMY

17.100J Political Economy I: Theories of the State and the Economy
(Same subject as 14.781J, 15.678J)
Prereq: Permission of instructor
G (Fall)
3-0-9 H-LEVEL Grad Credit
Critical analysis of liberal, neoclassical, and Marxist perspectives on modern society. Alternative theories of economic growth, historical change, the state, classes, and ideology.
M. Piore, S. Berger

17.115 International Political Economy
Prereq: None
U (Spring)
Not offered regularly; consult department
3-0-9 HASS-S
Provides an introduction to the politics of international economic relations, including a range of analytical “lenses” to view the global economy. Examines the politics of trade policy, international monetary and financial relations, financial crises, foreign direct investment, third-world development and transition economies, the debate over “globalization,” and international financial crime.
D. Singer

17.145 Political Economy of Technology and Development in Latin America
Prereq: None
Acad Year 2014–2015: U (Spring)
Acad Year 2015–2016: Not offered
3-0-9 HASS-S; CI-H
Presents a broad, historical overview of the political economy of development in Latin America, especially Mexico, Brazil, and Chile. Examines the ways in which these countries rely heavily on foreign technology transfer, especially through multinational corporations, but experience low levels of investment in R&D and education. Addresses some of the pivotal theoretical and policy disputes over the appropriate mix of state and market, the optimum balance between foreign and domestic sources of capital and technology, and the trade-off between growth and equity.
B. Schneider

17.148 Political Economy of Globalization
Prereq: Permission of instructor
Acad Year 2014–2015: G (Spring)
Acad Year 2015–2016: Not offered
3-0-9 H-LEVEL Grad Credit
Analyzes the impact of trade and financial flows and regional integration on the domestic politics of advanced industrial states. Pressures for harmonization and convergence of domestic institutions and practices and the sources of national resistance to these are examined. Cases are drawn from both the advanced economies and developing countries.
S. Berger
17.150 The American Political Economy in Comparative Perspective
Prereq: Permission of instructor
Acad Year 2014–2015: Not offered
Acad Year 2015–2016: G (Fall)
3-0-9 H-LEVEL Grad Credit

Examines the origins and impact of key features of the American political economy in comparative perspective. Considers a range of political-economic topics, including labor markets, finance, taxation, social policy, and the role of money and organized interests. Highlights the distinctive aspects of American political economy in terms of both institutional structure and substantive outcomes (such as poverty and inequality) by comparing the US with other nations, particularly other rich democracies.

K. Thelen, D. Caughey

17.154 Varieties of Capitalism and Social Inequality
Prereq: Permission of instructor
Acad Year 2014–2015: Not offered
Acad Year 2015–2016: G (Fall)
3-0-9 H-LEVEL Grad Credit

Focuses on the advanced democracies of Europe, the United States, and Japan. Explores trajectories of change that bear on issues of economic and social inequality. Examines whether contemporary trends (globalization, deindustrialization) undermine institutional arrangements that once reconciled economic efficiency with high levels of social equality. Considers the extent to which existing theoretical frameworks capture cross-national variation in the dynamics of redistribution in these societies.

K. Thelen, P. Hall

17.156 Welfare and Capitalism in Western Europe
Prereq: Permission of instructor
G (Spring)
Not offered regularly; consult department
3-0-9 H-LEVEL Grad Credit

Considers theoretical models that attempt to capture the distinct paradigms of capitalism and welfare regimes prevalent in Western European economies. Analyzes content and processes of contemporary changes in the political economy and social policy—from a broad view of the challenges, to closer inquiry into specific reforms. Includes a theoretical discussion of how change occurs and trajectories of development.

K. Thelen

17.172 Institutionalism and Institutional Change
Prereq: Permission of instructor
G (Spring)
Not offered regularly; consult department
3-0-9 H-LEVEL Grad Credit

Examines several strands of theorizing on the role of institutions in politics and on the dynamics through which institutions evolve and change over time. Explores the core theoretical assumptions that underpin various approaches, assesses their relative strengths and weaknesses, and considers whether distinct lines of theorizing should be considered complementary or competing.

K. Thelen

17.176J Economic Development and Policy Analysis
(Same subject as 11.491J)
Prereq: 11.701
G (Fall)
Not offered regularly; consult department
3-0-9 H-LEVEL Grad Credit

See description under subject 11.491J.

Staff

17.178 Political Economy of Institutions and Development
Prereq: Permission of instructor
Acad Year 2014–2015: Not offered
Acad Year 2015–2016: G (Spring)
3-0-9 H-LEVEL Grad Credit

Examines alternative conceptions and theoretical underpinnings of sustainable development. Focuses on the sustainability problems of industrial countries, and of developing states and economies in transition. Explores the sociology of knowledge regarding sustainability, the economic and technological dimensions, and institutional imperatives. Considers implications for political constitution of economic performance. 17.181 fulfills undergraduate public policy requirement in the major and minor.

Graduate students are expected to explore the subject in greater depth through reading and individual research.

N. Choucri

17.181 Sustainability: Political Economy, Science, and Policy
(Subject meets with 17.182)
Prereq: None
G (Fall)
3-0-9 HASS-S

17.182 Sustainability: Political Economy, Science, and Policy
(Subject meets with 17.181)
Prereq: None
G (Fall)
3-0-9

Examines changes in the international economy and their effects in the politics, economy, and society of advanced and emerging countries. Topics include the independence of national governments; wage inequality; unemployment; industrial production outside national borders and its consequences for innovation, efficiency, and jobs; fairness in trade; and mass culture versus local values. 17.195 fulfills undergraduate public policy requirement in the major and minor.

Students taking graduate version are expected to complete additional assignments.

S. Berger

17.195 Globalization
(Subject meets with 17.196)
Prereq: Permission of instructor
Acad Year 2014–2015: U (Spring)
Acad Year 2015–2016: Not offered
3-0-9 HASS-S

17.196 Globalization
(Subject meets with 17.195)
Prereq: Permission of instructor
Acad Year 2014–2015: G (Spring)
Acad Year 2015–2016: Not offered
3-0-9 H-LEVEL Grad Credit

N. Choucri
17.198 Current Topics in Comparative Political Economy (New)
Prereq: Permission of Instructor
G (Spring)
3-0-9 H-LEVEL Grad Credit
Analyzes and compares approaches in current political economy literatures. Weekly topics are selected by instructor and participants. Examples include the organization of interests, industrial policy, growth and inequality, resource "curse", late development. Topics vary each year depending on the research interests of the seminar participants. The subject is for graduate students in social sciences with previous coursework in political economy.
S. Berger

AMERICAN POLITICS

17.20 Introduction to the American Political Process
Prereq: None
U (Spring)
3-0-9 HASS-S; CI-H
Provides a substantive overview of US politics and an introduction to the discipline of political science. Surveys the institutional foundations of US politics as well as the activities of political elites, organizations, and ordinary citizens. Explores the application of general political science concepts and analytic frameworks to specific episodes and phenomena in US politics. Enrollment limited
D. Caughey

17.200 Graduate Seminar in American Politics I
Prereq: Permission of instructor
G (Fall)
3-0-9 H-LEVEL Grad Credit
Analyzes mass political behavior within the American political system. Examines political ideology, party identification, public opinion, voting behavior, media effects, racial attitudes, mass-elite relations, and opinion-policy linkages. Surveys and critiques the major theoretical approaches and empirical research in the field of political behavior.
A. Campbell

17.202 Graduate Seminar in American Politics II
Prereq: Permission of instructor
G (Spring)
3-0-9 H-LEVEL Grad Credit
Analyzes the institutions of the American political system, with primary emphasis on the national level. Examines American federalism, political parties, national political institutions, and the policymaking process. Focuses on core works in contemporary American politics and public policy. Critiques both research methodologies and the explicit and implicit theoretical assumptions of such work.
C. Warshaw

17.245 Constitutional Law: Structures of Power and Individual Rights
Prereq: None
Acad Year 2014–2015: U (Spring)
Acad Year 2015–2016: Not offered
3-0-9 HASS-S
Examines American constitutional law in historical and modern context. Focuses closely on the constitutional text and Supreme Court case law. Explores the allocation of decision-making authority among government institutions, including the distribution of power across the branches of the federal government and between the federal and state governments. Examines the guarantees of individual rights and liberties stemming from the due process, equal protection, and other clauses in the Bill of Rights and post Civil War amendments.
C. Warshaw

17.249J Law and Society
(Same subject as 11.163J, 21A.455J)
Prereq: None
U (Fall)
Not offered regularly; consult department
3-0-9 HASS-S
See description under subject 21A.455J.
S. Silbey

17.251 Congress and the American Political System I
(Subject meets with 17.252)
Prereq: 17.20 or permission of instructor
Acad Year 2014–2015: G (Spring)
Acad Year 2015–2016: Not offered
3-0-9 H-LEVEL Grad Credit
Focuses on both the internal processes of the House and Senate and on the place of Congress in the American political system. Attention to committee behavior, leadership patterns, and informal organization. Considers relations between Congress and other branches of government, as well as relations between the two houses of Congress itself. Students taking the graduate version are expected to pursue the subject in greater depth through reading and individual research.
A. Berinsky

17.252 Congress and the American Political System II
(Subject meets with 17.251)
Prereq: Permission of instructor
Acad Year 2014–2015: G (Spring)
Acad Year 2015–2016: Not offered
3-0-9 H-LEVEL Grad Credit
Considers the role of elections in American politics. Issues explored include empirical and theoretical models of electoral competition, the effect of elections on public policy, and proposals to improve elections. Special emphasis is given to mass voting behavior, political parties, the media, and campaign finance. Subject focuses on US elections, but provides some contrasts with other countries, especially the United Kingdom. One subject in American Politics or relevant background required.
A. Berinsky

17.264 Electoral Politics
Prereq: Permission of instructor
Acad Year 2014–2015: Not offered
Acad Year 2015–2016: G (Fall)
3-0-9 H-LEVEL Grad Credit
Analyzes elections in light of theories about voters, parties, and candidates. Topics include election laws and reforms, and the formation of
governments. Focus is mainly on US elections, though other democracies are also examined. Familiarity with statistics recommended but not required. Open to qualified undergraduates.

**D. Caughey**

**17.265 Public Opinion and American Democracy**
Prereq: None
U (Spring)
Not offered regularly; consult department
3-0-9 HASS-S
Introduces students to public opinion in politics and public policymaking. Surveys theories of political psychology and political behavior. Examines empirical research on public understanding of and attitudes towards important issues, including war, economic and social policies, and moral questions.
A. Berinsky

**17.266 Public Opinion**
Prereq: Permission of instructor
G (Spring)
Not offered regularly; consult department
3-0-9 H-LEVEL Grad Credit
Provides an introduction to the scholarly literature devoted to public opinion. Surveys the major theoretical approaches and empirical research in the field of political behavior. Topics include mass-elite relations, racial politics, political ideology, public opinion and war, public opinion and public policy and media effects. Primarily focuses on American public opinion, though research on comparative public opinion is also covered.
A. Berinsky

**17.267 Democracy in America**
Prereq: None
Acad Year 2014–2015: U (Fall)
Acad Year 2015–2016: Not offered
3-0-9 HASS-S
Examines the functioning of democracy in the US beginning with the theoretical foundations of democratic representation. Explores how the views of the public influence policy making. Examines factors, such as malapportionment, that lead to non-majoritarian outcomes. Reviews evidence on how well policy outcomes reflect public opinion, and whether certain groups are over or under-represented in the policy process. Discusses reforms that might make our democracy more responsive to the American public.
C. Warshaw

**17.270 American Political Development**
Prereq: Permission of instructor
Acad Year 2014–2015: G (Spring)
Acad Year 2015–2016: Not offered
3-0-9 H-LEVEL Grad Credit
Examines the evolution of American national political processes over time: how political culture, governing institutions, and structures of political linkage (parties and organized interests) shape political conflict and public policy. Topics include the evolution of electoral politics and the party system, eras of political reform and state expansion (Populist, Progressive, New Deal, and Great Society), major wars and their effects, and the adaptation of government institutions to crisis and complexity in society and in the economy. Open to undergraduates with permission of instructor.
D. Caughey

**17.275 Public Opinion Research Design and Training Seminar (New)**
Prereq: None
Acad Year 2014–2015: U (Spring)
Acad Year 2015–2016: Not offered
3-0-9 HASS-S
Studies the basic skills required to design, use, and interpret opinion surveys and survey experiments. Acts as both a reading subject on survey analysis and a practicum on collecting and analyzing observational and experimental survey data. Culminates in a group project involving a survey experiment on a particular topic chosen by the class and the instructor.
A. Berinsky

**17.276 Public Opinion Research Training Lab**
Prereq: 17.800, 17.266; or permission of instructor
Acad Year 2014–2015: G (Spring)
Acad Year 2015–2016: Not offered
3-0-9 H-LEVEL Grad Credit
Follows 17.266. Offers practical training in public opinion research and provides students with an opportunity to conduct their own survey research. As a group, students design a national sample survey and field the survey. Students analyze the survey results and examine literatures related to the content of the survey. Ideal for second and third year PhD students and advanced undergraduates, though others are welcome.
A. Berinsky, A. Campbell

**17.28J The War at Home: American Politics and Society in Wartime**
(Same subject as 21H.213J)
Prereq: None
Acad Year 2014–2015: Not offered
Acad Year 2015–2016: U (Spring)
3-0-9 HASS-S
Examines the relationship between war and domestic politics in the US since the start of 20th century. Students engage in historical and social scientific research to analyze the ways that overseas military commitments shaped US political institutions, and how domestic politics has in turn structured US engagements abroad. Moving chronologically from World War I to the Iraq War, subject draws on materials across the disciplines, including political documents, opinion polls, legal decisions, and products of American popular culture.
A. Berinsky, C. Capozzola

**PUBLIC POLICY**

**17.30J Making Public Policy**
(Same subject as 11.002J)
Prereq: None
U (Fall)
4-0-8 HASS-S; CI-H
See description under subject 11.002J.
J. Layzer, C. Warshaw

**17.30J Methods of Policy Analysis**
(Same subject as 11.003J)
Prereq: 11.002J; Coreq: 14.01
Acad Year 2014–2015: Not offered
Acad Year 2015–2016: U (Spring)
3-0-9 HASS-S
See description under subject 11.003J.
Staff

**17.307 American Public Policy for Washington Interns**
Prereq: Permission of instructor
U (Fall, Spring)
3-0-9 HASS-S
Examines US policymaking process, with special attention to making of policy for science and technology. Subject spans Spring and Fall terms. Spring term attends to origins and development of American policymaking institutions and their roles in settling controversial policy questions. Fall term focuses on development of representative policies in the US, such as pollution controls, biotechnical engineering, and telecommunications. Selection and participation in Washington Summer Internship program.
required. Fulfills undergraduate public policy requirement in the major and minor.

C. Stewart

17.309J Science, Technology, and Public Policy
(Same subject as ESD.082, STS.082)
(Subject meets with 17.310J, ESD.103, STS.482)
Prereq: None
U (Fall)
4-0-8 HASS-S; CI-H
Analysis of issues at the intersection of science, technology, public policy, and business. Cases drawn from antitrust and intellectual property rights; health and environmental policy; defense procurement and strategy; strategic trade and industrial policy; and R&D funding. Structured around theories of political economy, modified to take into account integration of uncertain technical information into public and private decision-making. Meets with 17.310 when offered concurrently. Limited to 18.

K. Oye

17.310J Science, Technology, and Public Policy
(Same subject as ESD.103, STS.482)
(Subject meets with 17.309J, ESD.082, STS.082)
Prereq: Permission of instructor
G (Fall)
4-0-8 H-LEVEL Grad Credit
Analysis of issues at the intersection of science, technology, public policy, and business. Cases drawn from antitrust and intellectual property rights; health and environmental policy; defense procurement and strategy; strategic trade and industrial policy; and R&D funding. Structured around theories of political economy, modified to take into account integration of uncertain technical information into public and private decision-making. Meets with 17.309 when offered concurrently.

K. Oye

17.315 Health Policy
Prereq: None
U (Spring)
4-0-8 HASS-S
Analyzes the health policy problems facing America including adequate access to care, the control of health care costs, and the encouragement of medical advances. Considers market and regulatory alternatives as well as international models including Canadian, Swedish, British, and German arrangements. Emphasis on historical development, interest group behavior, public opinion, and organizational influences in shaping and implementing policy.

A. Campbell

17.317 US Social Policy
Prereq: None
Acad Year 2014–2015: U (Spring)
Acad Year 2015–2016: Not offered
4-0-8 HASS-S
Explores historical development and contemporary politics of the American welfare state. Examines interactions among political institutions, elites, the media, and the mass public. Emphasis on reciprocal relationship between policy designs and public opinion/political action. Investigates broad spectrum of government policies that shape well-being, opportunity and political influence, including welfare, social security, health care, education, and tax policy.

A. Campbell

17.320 Social Policy (New)
Prereq: Permission of Instructor
Acad Year 2014–2015: G (Spring)
Acad Year 2015–2016: Not offered
3-0-9 H-LEVEL Grad Credit
Examines the politics of social policy in comparative perspective. Empirical and theoretical overview of the origins, development, and future of social provision in industrialized countries, in the context of broader political and historical trends. Examines concepts such as social citizenship, risk sharing, de-commodification, and welfare regimes, and the challenges of globalization, neo-liberalism, and demographic change. Topics include pensions, health care, poverty alleviation, and family policy. Combines classic work and research frontiers.

A. Campbell

17.33 Building a Better World
Prereq: None
Acad Year 2014–2015: Not offered
Acad Year 2015–2016: U (Spring)
4-0-8 HASS-S; CI-H
Explores today’s key policy challenges, including economic development (in both rich and poor countries), state-building, corruption and the rule of law, the provision of basic public services, education, regulation of psychotropic drugs, management of scarce natural resources, and criminal justice. Presents the problem for each topic, reviews potential solutions, discusses failed approaches, and identifies concrete successes. Examples drawn from around the world. Includes projects with a significant practical component and extensive work in small groups. Limited to 18 per section.

C. Lawson

17.391J Human Rights in Theory and Practice
(Same subject as 11.164J)
(Subject meets with 11.497)
Prereq: Permission of instructor
Acad Year 2014–2015: Not offered
Acad Year 2015–2016: U (Fall)
2-0-10 HASS-S
See description under subject 11.164J.

B. Rajagopal

17.393J Environmental Law, Policy, and Economics: Pollution Prevention and Control
(Same subject as 1.801J, 11.021J)
(Subject meets with 1.811J, 11.630J, ESD.133J)
Prereq: None
U (Fall)
3-0-9 HASS-S
See description under subject 1.801J.

N. Ashford, C. Caldart

17.397J Energy Decisions, Markets, and Policies
(Same subject as 11.161J, 14.43J, 15.031J, 21A.415J)
Prereq: 14.01, 15.016, or permission of instructor
Acad Year 2014–2015: Not offered
Acad Year 2015–2016: U (Fall)
4-0-8 HASS-S
See description under subject 15.031J.

D. Lessard, R. Schmalensee, S. Silbey, C. Warshaw

17.398J Energy Policy for a Sustainable Future
(Same subject as 11.369J)
Prereq: Permission of instructor
G (Spring)
Not offered regularly; consult department
3-0-9 H-LEVEL Grad Credit
See description under subject 11.369J.

Staff

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS/SECURITY STUDIES

International Relations

17.40 American Foreign Policy: Past, Present, and Future
Prereq: None
U (Fall)
3-0-9 HASS-S; CI-H
Reasons for America’s past wars and interventions. Consequences of American policies. Evaluation of these consequences for the US and the world. History covered includes World
Wars I and II, the Korean and Indochina wars, the Cuban Missile Crisis and current conflicts, including those in Iraq and Afghanistan, and against al Qaeda.
S. Van Evera

17.405 Seminar on Politics and Conflicts in the Middle East
(Subject meets with 17.406)
Prereq: None
Acad Year 2014–2015: Not offered
Acad Year 2015–2016: U (Fall)
3-0-9 HASS-S

17.406 Seminar on Politics and Conflicts in the Middle East
(Subject meets with 17.405)
Prereq: Permission of instructor
Acad Year 2014–2015: Not offered
Acad Year 2015–2016: G (Fall)
3-0-9 H-LEVEL Grad Credit

Focuses on evolution of contemporary politics and economics. Subject divided into five parts: historical context of conflicts; domestic and regional politics; civil and cross-border conflicts; geopolitical conflicts; conflict resolution; peace processes. Interactions and spillover effects explored, and alternative models of conflict(s) designed. Students taking the graduate version are expected to pursue the subject in greater depth through reading and individual research.
N. Choucri

17.407 Chinese Foreign Policy
Prereq: Permission of instructor
Acad Year 2014–2015: Not offered
Acad Year 2015–2016: U (Fall)
3-0-9 HASS-S
Credit cannot also be received for 17.408

17.408 Chinese Foreign Policy
Prereq: Permission of instructor
Acad Year 2014–2015: G (Spring)
Acad Year 2015–2016: Not offered
3-0-9 H-LEVEL Grad Credit
Credit cannot also be received for 17.407

Explores the leading theoretical and methodological approaches to studying China’s interaction with the international system since 1949. Readings include books and articles that integrate the study of China’s foreign policy with the field of international relations. Requires basic understanding of Chinese politics or international relations theory. Meets with 17.407 when offered concurrently.
M. T. Fravel

17.41 Introduction to International Relations (New)
Prereq: None
U (Fall)
3-0-9 HASS-S; CI-H

Provides an introduction to the causes of international conflict and cooperation. Topics include war initiation, crisis bargaining, international terrorism, nuclear strategy, interstate economic relations, economic growth, international law, human rights, and environmental politics.
R. Nielsen

17.410 Globalization, Migration, and International Relations
(Subject meets with 17.411)
Prereq: Permission of instructor
Acad Year 2014–2015: G (Spring)
Acad Year 2015–2016: Not offered
3-0-9 H-LEVEL Grad Credit

17.411 Globalization, Migration, and International Relations
(Subject meets with 17.410)
Prereq: None
Acad Year 2014–2015: U (Spring)
Acad Year 2015–2016: Not offered
3-0-9 HASS-S

Tracing the evolution of international interactions, subject examines the dimensions of globalization in terms of scope and scale. Includes international environmental issues, impacts and expansion of human activities, and the potential implications for global and national policy. Linkages among individuals, nation-states, international organizations and firms, international systems, and the global environment. Special focus on models of globalization, challenges of sustainable development, and on evolving types. Institutional responses to globalization and global change. 17.411 fulfills undergraduate public policy requirement in the major and minor. Students taking the graduate version are expected to explore the subject in greater depth through reading and individual research.
N. Choucri

17.418 Field Seminar in International Relations Theory
Prereq: Permission of instructor
G (Fall)
3-0-9 H-LEVEL Grad Credit

Provides an overview of the field of international relations. Each week a different approach to explaining international relations is examined. Surveys major concepts and theories in the field to assist in the preparation for further study in the department’s other graduate offerings in international relations.
M. T. Fravel, V. Narang

17.42 Causes and Prevention of War
Prereq: None
U (Spring)
4-0-8 HASS-S; CI-H

Examines the causes of war, with a focus on practical measures to prevent and control war. Topics include causes and consequences of misperception by nations; military strategy and policy as cause of war; religion and war; US foreign policy as a cause of war and peace; and the likelihood and possible nature of great wars in the future. Historical cases include World War I, World War II, the Korean War, the Seven Years’ War, the Arab-Israel conflict, other recent Mideast wars, and the Peloponnesian War.
S. Van Evera

17.420 Advances in International Relations Theory
Prereq: Permission of instructor
Acad Year 2014–2015: Not offered
Acad Year 2015–2016: G (Fall)
3-0-9 H-LEVEL Grad Credit

Critical analysis of contending theories of international relations. Focus is on alternative theoretical assumptions, different analytical structures, and a common core of concepts and content. Comparative analysis of realism(s), liberalism(s), institutionalism(s), and new emergent theories. Discussion of connections between theories of international relations and major changes in international relations. Open to undergraduates by permission of instructor.
N. Choucri

17.422 Field Seminar in International Political Economy
Prereq: Permission of instructor
Acad Year 2014–2015: Not offered
Acad Year 2015–2016: G (Fall)
3-0-9 H-LEVEL Grad Credit

Review of IPE field covering previous and core research focusing on dual national objectives in a global context, namely pursuit of power and pursuit of wealth. Surveys major paradigms of international political economy, including neoclassical economics, marxist economics, development and ecological economics, lateral pressure, and perspectives and structural views of power relations. Examines interaction of politics and economics on international trade, capital flows, foreign investment, intellectual property rights, international migration, and select issues in foreign economic policy in global context. Examines the evolution of international economic institutions and attendant political implications. Open to undergraduates by permission of instructor.
N. Choucri
17.424 International Political Economy of Advanced Industrial Societies
Prereq: Permission of instructor
G (Spring)
3-0-9 H-LEVEL Grad Credit
Focuses analytically on how interest groups, voters, political parties, electoral institutions, ideas and power politics interact to shape policy outcomes. Topics include globalization, international trade, international monetary and financial relations, and security.
D. Singer

17.426 Empirical Models in International Relations
Prereq: 17.802 or permission of instructor
Acad Year 2014–2015: G (Spring)
Acad Year 2015–2016: Not offered
3-0-9 H-LEVEL Grad Credit
Explores statistical methods as applied to international relations, with a primary focus on international security. Discusses methodological issues unique to this subfield. Students examine and critically analyze existing work in the field to gain familiarity with the array of models and methodological choices employed thus far in published research articles. Complements Quantitative Methods I and II by exploring how the methods developed in those subjects have been applied in the field.
R. Nielsen

17.428 American Foreign Policy: Theory and Method
Prereq: Permission of instructor
Acad Year 2014–2015: G (Spring)
Acad Year 2015–2016: Not offered
3-0-9 H-LEVEL Grad Credit
Examines the causes and consequences of American foreign policy since 1898. Readings cover theories of American foreign policy, historiography of American foreign policy, central historical episodes including the two World Wars and the Cold War, case study methodology, and historical investigative methods. Open to undergraduates by permission of instructor.
S. Van Evera

17.430 Research Seminar in International Relations
Prereq: Permission of instructor
G (Spring)
3-0-9 H-LEVEL Grad Credit
While this seminar provides an overview of recent literature, its principal purpose is to help graduate students develop skills suited to production of research papers and/or dissertations. Begins by reviewing general theoretical and methodological issues, then turns to specific empirical studies that examine the effects of systems structure, national attributes, bargaining processes, institutions, ideas, and norms on security affairs and political economy. The last two sessions of the seminar are devoted to evaluating research proposals generated by all members of the class.
K. Oye

17.432 Causes of War: Theory and Method
Prereq: Permission of instructor
Acad Year 2014–2015: Not offered
Acad Year 2015–2016: G (Fall)
3-0-9 H-LEVEL Grad Credit
Examines the causes of war. Major theories of war are examined; case study and large-n methods of testing theories of war are discussed; and the case study method is applied to several historical cases. Cases covered include World Wars I and II. Open to undergraduates only by permission of instructor.
S. Van Evera

17.433 International Relations of East Asia (Subject meets with 17.434)
Prereq: None
Acad Year 2014–2015: Not offered
Acad Year 2015–2016: U (Spring)
3-0-9 HASS-S
17.434 International Relations of East Asia (Subject meets with 17.433)
Prereq: None
Acad Year 2014–2015: Not offered
Acad Year 2015–2016: G (Spring)
3-0-9
Introduces and analyzes the international relations of East Asia. Examines the sources of conflict and cooperation during and after the Cold War, assessing competing explanations for key events in East Asia's international relations. Readings drawn from international relations theory, political science and history. Students taking graduate version are expected to pursue the subject in greater depth through reading and individual research.
M. T. Fravel

17.436 Territorial Conflict
Prereq: None
G (Spring)
3-0-9
Examines why territorial conflicts arise in the first place, why some of these conflicts escalate to high levels of violence and why other territorial disputes reach settlement, thereby reducing a likely source of violence between states. Readings draw upon political geography and history as well as qualitative and quantitative approaches to political science.
M. T. Fravel

17.441 International Politics and Climate Change
(Subject meets with 17.442)
Prereq: None
Acad Year 2014–2015: U (Spring)
Acad Year 2015–2016: Not offered
3-0-9
17.442 International Politics and Climate Change
(Subject meets with 17.441)
Prereq: None
Acad Year 2014–2015: G (Spring)
Acad Year 2015–2016: Not offered
3-0-9
Focuses on critical interconnections of international politics and climate change. Beginning with the 20th-century environmental and strategic legacies, examines politicization of the natural environment and the role of science in this process; types of conflicts and threats to security traced to climate change; and emergent global accords in response to mounting evidence of climate change. Concludes by addressing the question of what is next for theory and policy. Students taking graduate version complete additional assignments.
N. Choucri

17.445 International Relations Theory in the Cyber Age
(Subject meets with 17.446)
Prereq: None
Acad Year 2014–2015: U (Fall)
Acad Year 2015–2016: Not offered
3-0-9
17.446 International Relations Theory in the Cyber Age
(Subject meets with 17.445)
Prereq: Permission of instructor
Acad Year 2014–2015: G (Fall)
Acad Year 2015–2016: Not offered
3-0-9 H-LEVEL Grad Credit
Examines cyber dynamics and processes in international relations from different theoretical perspectives. Considers alternative theoretical and empirical frameworks consistent with characteristic features of cyberspace and emergent transformations at all levels of international interaction. Theories examined include realism and neorealism, institutionalism and liberalism, constructivism, and systems theory and lateral pressure. Highlights relevant features and proposes customized international relations theory for the cyber age. Students taking the graduate version are expected to pursue the subject in...
greater depth through reading and individual research.

N. Choucri

17.447 Cyberpolitics in International Relations
(Subject meets with 17.448)
Prereq: None
Acad Year 2014–2015: Not offered
Acad Year 2015–2016: G (Fall)
3-0-9 H-LEVEL Grad Credit

Fuses on cyberspace and its implications for private and public, sub-national, national, and international actors and entities. Focuses on legacies of the 20th-century creation of cyberspace, changes to the international system structure, and new modes of conflict and cooperation. Examines whether international relations theory accommodates cyberspace as a new venue of politics, and how cyberpolitics alters traditional international politics. Students taking the graduate version are expected to pursue the subject in greater depth through reading and individual research.

N. Choucri, D. Clark

17.473 The Politics of Nuclear Proliferation
Prereq: None
Acad Year 2014–2015: Not offered
Acad Year 2015–2016: U (Fall)
3-0-9 HASS-S

Provides an introduction to the politics and theories surrounding the proliferation of nuclear weapons. Introduces the basics of nuclear weapons, nuclear strategy, and deterrence theory. Examines the historical record during the Cold War as well as the proliferation of nuclear weapons to regional powers and the resulting deterrence consequences.

V. Narang

17.475J Nuclear Forces and Missile Defenses
(Subject meets with STS.072J)
Prereq: None
U (Fall)
3-0-9 HASS-S

17.476J Nuclear Forces and Missile Defenses
(Subject meets with STS.435J)
Prereq: Permission of instructor
G (Fall)
3-0-9 H-LEVEL Grad Credit
See description under subject STS.435J.

T. Postol

17.477J Technology and Policy of Weapons Systems
(Subject meets with STS.076J)
Prereq: None
U (Fall)
3-0-9 HASS-S

17.478 Great Power Military Intervention
Prereq: Permission of instructor
Acad Year 2014–2015: Not offered
Acad Year 2015–2016: G (Fall)
3-0-9 H-LEVEL Grad Credit

Examines systematically, and comparatively, great and middle power military interventions, and candidate military interventions, into civil wars since 1991. These civil wars did not easily fit into the traditional category of vital interest. These interventions may therefore tell us something about broad trends in international politics including the nature of unipolarity, the erosion of sovereignty, the security implications of globalization, and the nature of modern western military power.

B. Posen, R. Petersen

17.482 US Military Power
(Subject meets with 17.483)
Prereq: Permission of instructor
G (Spring)
3-0-9 H-LEVEL Grad Credit

17.483 US Military Power
(Subject meets with 17.482)
Prereq: Freshmen need permission of instructor
U (Spring)
3-0-9 HASS-S

Examines the evolving roles and missions of US General Purpose Forces within the context of modern technological capabilities and Grand Strategy, which is a conceptual system of interconnected political and military means and ends. Topics include US Grand Strategies; the organization of the US military; the defense budget; and the capabilities and limitations of naval, air, and ground forces. Also examines the utility of these forces for power projection and the problems of escalation. Analyzes military history and simple models of warfare to explore how variations in technology and battlefield conditions can drastically alter effectiveness of conventional forces. 17.483 fulfills undergraduate public policy requirement in the major and minor. Students taking the graduate version are expected to pursue the subject in greater depth through reading and individual research.

B. Posen

17.484 Comparative Grand Strategy and Military Doctrine
Prereq: Permission of instructor
G (Fall)
Not offered regularly; consult department
3-0-9 H-LEVEL Grad Credit

A comparative study of the grand strategies and military doctrines of the great powers in Europe (Britain, France, Germany, and Russia) from the late 19th to the mid-20th century. Examines strategic developments in the years preceding and during World Wars I and II. What factors have exerted the greatest influence on national strategies? How may the quality of a grand strategy be judged? Exploration of comparative case study methodology also plays a central role. What consequences seem to follow from grand strategies of different types? Open to undergraduates with permission of instructor.

B. Posen

17.486 Japan and East Asian Security
Prereq: Permission of instructor
G (Spring)
Not offered regularly; consult department
3-0-9 H-LEVEL Grad Credit

Explores Japan’s role in world orders, past, present, and future. Focuses on Japanese
conceptions of security; rearmament debates; the relationship of domestic politics to foreign policy; the impact of Japanese technological and economic transformation at home and abroad; alternative trade and security regimes; Japan’s response to 9/11; and relations with Asian neighbors, Russia, and the alliance with the United States.

R. J. Samuels

COMPARATIVE POLITICS

17.50 Introduction to Comparative Politics
Prereq: None
U (Spring)
3-0-9 HASS-S; CI-H
Examines why democracy emerges and survives in some countries rather than in others; how political institutions affect economic development; and how American politics compares to that of other countries. Reviews economic, cultural, and institutional explanations for political outcomes. Includes case studies of politics in several countries. Assignments include several papers of varying lengths and extensive structured and unstructured class participation. Enrollment limited
M. Nobles

17.504 Ethnic Politics I
Prereq: Permission of instructor
Acad Year 2014–2015: G (Fall)
Acad Year 2015–2016: Not offered
4-0-8 H-LEVEL Grad Credit
17.506 Ethnic Politics II
Prereq: Permission of instructor
Acad Year 2014–2015: Not offered
Acad Year 2015–2016: G (Spring)
4-0-8 H-LEVEL Grad Credit
Introduces students to the classic works on ethnic politics, familiarizes them with new research and methodological innovations in the study of ethnic politics, and helps them design and execute original research projects related to ethnic politics. Readings drawn from across disciplines, including political science, anthropology, sociology, and economics. Students read across the four subfields within political science. Graduate students specializing in any subfield are encouraged to take this subject, regardless of their previous empirical or theoretical background. Designed as a year-long research workshop, but may also be taken in either term.
R. Petersen, M. Nobles

17.509 Social Movements in Comparative Perspective
Prereq: None
Acad Year 2014–2015: Not offered
Acad Year 2015–2016: U (Spring)
3-0-9 HASS-S
Explores why people join grassroots political organizations and social movements. Asks what accounts for the ultimate success or failure of these organizations and examines how social movements have altered political parties, political institutions, and social relations. Critically considers a range of theoretical treatments and several movements, including the US civil rights, poor peoples’, pro-life/pro-choice and gay/lesbian movements.
M. Nobles

17.515 Comparative Electoral Politics
Prereq: None
U (Spring)
Not offered regularly; consult department
3-0-9 HASS-S
Subject discusses classic and current issues in electoral politics. Focus is mostly thematic, although the topics will be discussed in the context of different countries and regions. Examples of the topics are: party systems, old and new political cleavages, representation, electoral systems, and immigration and its effect on the party system. Two country-specific case studies explored in depth.
Staff

17.516 Transitional Justice
Prereq: Permission of instructor
Acad Year 2014–2015: Not offered
Acad Year 2015–2016: G (Spring)
3-0-9 H-LEVEL Grad Credit
Emerging democracies are now confronted with what has been termed “the torturer problem.” The questions are old ones: What is to be done about the perpetrator(s) and what is to be done for the abused? Seminar broadly examines the theoretical and empirical approaches to understanding the issues commonly associated with “transitional justice,” including its motivations, agents, institutions, and decisions. Cases are drawn from various countries and historical periods, including post-World War II Europe, 19th-century America, and 20th-century Africa and Latin America.
M. Nobles

17.517 Participation in Public Life
Prereq: None
Acad Year 2014–2015: U (Spring)
Acad Year 2015–2016: Not offered
3-0-9 HASS-S
Examines how and why people participate in public life and political affairs. Drawing on examples from around the world, students analyze the effects of social networks, community norms, and associational activities on the functioning of democracy, regime stability, state capacity, and international politics.
L. Tsai

17.523 Ethnic Conflict in World Politics
Prereq: None
Acad Year 2014–2015: Not offered
Acad Year 2015–2016: U (Spring)
3-0-9 HASS-S
Ethnic and racial conflict appear to be the hallmark of the post-Cold War world. Students explore the rise of ethnic/racial and nationalist sentiments and movements; the basis of ethnic and racial identity; the political claims and goals of such movements, and whether conflict is inevitable. Introduces the dominant theoretical approaches to race, ethnicity, and nationalism, and considers them in light of current events in Africa, Europe, Asia, and the Americas.
M. Nobles

17.528 Civil Society, Social Capital, and the State in Comparative Perspective
Prereq: None
Acad Year 2014–2015: G (Spring)
Acad Year 2015–2016: Not offered
3-0-9
Examines the growing body of research suggesting that social networks, community norms, and social organizations can have important effects on social welfare, political stability, economic development, and governmental performance. Cases drawn from various countries and focus on the effects of networks, norms, and organizations on outcomes ranging from local public goods provision and the performance of democracies to ethnic conflict and funding for terrorism.
L. Tsai

17.53 The Rise of Asia (New)
Prereq: None
U (Spring)
3-0-9 HASS-S
Focuses on social, economic, political, and national security problems of Japan, China, and India—three rising powers in a dynamic region with the potential to shape global affairs. Examines each topic and country from the per-
17.537 Politics and Policy in Contemporary Japan
(Subject meets with 17.538)
Prereq: None
Acad Year 2014–2015: Not offered
Acad Year 2015–2016: U (Fall)
3-0-9 HASS-S

17.538 Politics and Policy in Contemporary Japan
(Subject meets with 17.537)
Prereq: Permission of instructor
Acad Year 2014–2015: Not offered
Acad Year 2015–2016: G (Fall)
3-0-9 H-LEVEL Grad Credit

Examines the causes and consequences of China’s emergence as a global economic and political force. Employing perspectives from comparative politics and international relations, subject examines the connections between China’s domestic transformation and its foreign policy. Topics include the historical process of China’s rise, contemporary challenges facing the Chinese system, and the impact of China’s rise on issues of regional and global concern, including military security, economic competitiveness, environmental sustainability, and political stability. Students taking the graduate version are expected to pursue the subject in greater depth through reading and individual research.

Staff

R. Bateson

17.544 Comparative Politics and China
Prereq: Permission of instructor
G (Fall)
Not offered regularly; consult department
3-0-9 H-LEVEL Grad Credit

Examines contemporary Latin American culture, politics, and history. Surveys geography, economic development, and race, religion, and gender in Latin America. Special emphasis on the Salvadoran civil war, human rights and military rule in Argentina and Chile, and migration from Central America and Mexico to the United States. Students analyze films, literature, visual art, journalism, historical documents, and social scientific research.

R. Bateson

17.547 The Rise of China
(Subject meets with 17.548)
Prereq: None
U (Fall)
Not offered regularly; consult department
3-0-9 HASS-S

17.548 The Rise of China
(Subject meets with 17.547)
Prereq: Permission of instructor
G (Fall)
Not offered regularly; consult department
3-0-9 H-LEVEL Grad Credit

Examines the causes and consequences of China’s emergence as a global economic and political force. Employing perspectives from comparative politics and international relations, subject examines the connections between China’s domestic transformation and its foreign policy. Topics include the historical process of China’s rise, contemporary challenges facing the Chinese system, and the impact of China’s rise on issues of regional and global concern, including military security, economic competitiveness, environmental sustainability, and political stability. Students taking the graduate version are expected to pursue the subject in greater depth through reading and individual research.

Staff

R. Samuels, M. T. Fravel, V. Narang

17.551 Political Economy of Chinese Reform
(Subject meets with 17.552)
Prereq: None
Acad Year 2014–2015: U (Spring)
Acad Year 2015–2016: Not offered
Not offered regularly; consult department
3-0-9 HASS-S

17.552 Political Economy of Chinese Reform
(Subject meets with 17.551)
Prereq: Permission of instructor
Acad Year 2014–2015: G (Spring)
Acad Year 2015–2016: Not offered
Not offered regularly; consult department
3-0-9 H-LEVEL Grad Credit

Examines the causes and consequences of China’s emergence as a global economic and political force. Employing perspectives from comparative politics and international relations, subject examines the connections between China’s domestic transformation and its foreign policy. Topics include the historical process of China’s rise, contemporary challenges facing the Chinese system, and the impact of China’s rise on issues of regional and global concern, including military security, economic competitiveness, environmental sustainability, and political stability. Students taking the graduate version are expected to pursue the subject in greater depth through reading and individual research.

Staff

17.556 Political Economy of Industrialization
Prereq: Permission of instructor
G (Fall)
Not offered regularly; consult department
3-0-9 H-LEVEL Grad Credit

Examines theoretical and empirical approaches to understanding the process of late development. Topics include the role of the state in alleviating or exacerbating poverty, the politics of industrial policy and planning, and the relationship between institutional change and growth. Considers how, over the past century, some of the world’s poorest nations achieved wealth while others remained mired in poverty. Discusses the social consequences for alternative strategies of development.

Staff

17.561 European Politics
Prereq: None
Acad Year 2014–2015: Not offered
Acad Year 2015–2016: U (Spring)
3-0-9 HASS-S

Examines the organization of political power and the dynamics of political change in Britain, France, Germany, and Italy. Particular focus on the structure of political power within the state, and on important institutions that form the link
between state and society, especially political parties and interest organizations.

K. Thelen

17.565 Israel: History, Politics, Culture, and Identity
Prereq: None
3-0-9 HASS-S
Credit cannot also be received for 17.567

Examines Israeli identity using a broad array of materials, including popular music, film, documentaries and art, in addition to academic historical writings. Topics include Israel’s political system and society, ethnic relations, settlement projects, and the Arab minorities in the Jewish state. Students also discuss whether there is a unique Israeli culture and the struggle for Israel’s identity.

N. Karlinsky

17.567 Israel: History, Politics, Culture, and Identity
Prereq: None
3-0-6 HASS-S
Credit cannot also be received for 17.565

Examines Israeli identity using a broad array of materials, including popular music, film, documentaries and art, in addition to academic historical writings. Topics include Israel’s political system and society, ethnic relations, settlement projects, and the Arab minorities in the Jewish state. Students also discuss whether there is a unique Israeli culture and the struggle for Israel’s identity.

N. Karlinsky

17.568 Comparative Politics and International Relations of the Middle East (New)
Prereq: Permission of instructor
Acad Year 2014–2015: G (Spring)
Acad Year 2015–2016: Not offered
3-0-9 H-LEVEL Grad Credit

Surveys both classic and cutting-edge work on the politics of the Middle East, broadly defined. Topics include the causes and consequences of political and economic development, authoritarianism and democratization, the influence of social movements, the role of women in middle east priorities, regional inter-state relations, Islamism, terrorism, colonialism and foreign occupation, state-building, resistance and rebellion, and the Arab uprisings.

R. Nielsen

17.569 Russia’s Foreign Policy: Toward the Post-Soviet States and Beyond (New)
Prereq: None
3-0-9 HASS-S

Examines Russia’s foreign policy, with a focus on relations with the other post-Soviet states. Frames the discussion with examination of US-Russian and Sino-Russian relations. Looks at legacies of the Soviet collapse, strengths and vulnerabilities of Russia, and the ability of other states to maintain their sovereignty. Topics include the future of Central Asia, the Georgian war, energy politics, and reaction to the European Union’s Eastern Partnership. Readings focus on international relations, historical sources, and contemporary Russian and Western sources.

C. Salzetz

17.570 African Politics
Prereq: Permission of instructor
3-0-9 H-LEVEL Grad Credit

Examines major issues, themes and theories in the politics of contemporary Sub-Saharan Africa. Topics include the nature and legacies of colonial rule; personalism, clientelism and corruption; the politics of identity; civil wars; the causes and consequences of political and economic liberalization; and the reasons for Africa’s economic stagnation and current resurgence.

R. Petersen

17.571 African Politics
Prereq: None
Acad Year 2014–2015: Not offered
Acad Year 2015–2016: U (Fall)
3-0-9 HASS-S

Examines different types of violent political conflict. Compares and contrasts several social science approaches (psychological, sociological, and political) and analyzes their ability to explain variation in outbreak, duration and outcome of conflict. Examines incidents such as riots in the US during the 1960’s, riots in India, the Yugoslav wars, and the Russian Revolution, in addition to current international events.

R. Petersen

17.572 African Politics
Prereq: Permission of instructor
3-0-9 H-LEVEL Grad Credit

Introduces the major arguments, hypotheses and debates in the literature on African politics and development, with the goal of helping students develop the skills to become both more intelligent consumers and more effective producers of this literature. Covers both classic contributions to the literature and more recent research.

F. Christia

17.573 Conflict and the Graphic Novel
Prereq: None
Acad Year 2014–2015: U (Spring)
Acad Year 2015–2016: Not offered
3-0-9 HASS-S

Examines the causes and consequences of violent conflict through the graphic novel. Proceeds thematically and addresses an array of violent dynamics and processes such as revolution, occupation, insurgency, ethnic conflict, terrorism and genocide through graphic novels. Covers some of the most important cases of violent unrest over the last seventy years such as the Holocaust, the war in Vietnam, the 1979 Iranian Revolution, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, the ethnic conflict in the former Yugoslavia, and the recent Iraq war.

F. Christia
MODELS AND METHODS

17.800 Quantitative Research Methods I: Regression
Prereq: Permission of instructor
G (Fall)
4-0-8 H-LEVEL Grad Credit
Introduction to statistical research in political science and public policy, with a focus on linear regression. Teaches students how to apply multiple regression models as used in much of political science and public policy research. Also covers elements of probability and sampling theory. T. Yamamoto, I. S. Kim

17.802 Quantitative Research Methods II: Causal Inference
Prereq: 17.800, 17.871, or permission of instructor
G (Spring)
4-0-8 H-LEVEL Grad Credit
Survey of statistical methods for causal inference in political science and public policy research. Covers a variety of causal inference designs, including experiments, matching, regression, panel methods, difference-in-differences, synthetic control methods, instrumental variables, regression discontinuity designs, quantile regression, and bounds. D. Hidalgo

17.804 Quantitative Research Methods III: Generalized Linear Models and Extensions
Prereq: 17.802 or permission of instructor
G (Fall)
4-0-8 H-LEVEL Grad Credit
Provides a survey of statistical tools for model-based inference in political science and public policy. Topics include generalized linear models for various data types and their extensions, such as discrete choice models, survival outcome models, mixed effects and multilevel models. Covers both frequentist and Bayesian approaches. T. Yamamoto

17.806 Quantitative Research Methods IV: Advanced Topics
Prereq: 17.804 or permission of instructor
Acad Year 2014–2015: G (Spring)
Acad Year 2015–2016: Not offered
4-0-8 H-LEVEL Grad Credit
Covers advanced statistical tools that are useful for empirical research in political science and public policy. Possible topics include missing data, survey sampling and experimental designs for field research, machine learning, text mining, clustering, Bayesian methods, spatial statistics, and web scraping. D. Hidalgo, T. Yamamoto

17.810 Game Theory and Political Theory
Prereq: Permission of instructor
G (Fall)
Not offered regularly; consult department
4-0-8 H-LEVEL Grad Credit
17.811 Game Theory and Political Theory
Subject meets with 17.810
Prereq: None
U (Fall)
Not offered regularly; consult department
4-0-8 HASS-S
Introduces students to the rudiments of game theory within political science. Provides students with the ability to solve simple games. Readings draw from basic texts on game theoretic modeling and applied articles in American politics, international relations, and comparative politics. Students taking the graduate version evaluate applied theory articles in the major journals. Staff

17.830 Empirical Methods in Political Economy
Prereq: Permission of instructor
Acad Year 2014–2015: Not offered
Acad Year 2015–2016: G (Fall)
3-0-9 H-LEVEL Grad Credit
Reviews recent quantitative empirical studies on important, substantive questions in political economy. Designed to increase students’ understanding of the core research designs and measurement strategies employed in the empirical analysis of political institutions and political behavior. Topics include the political and economic consequences of direct democracy, reservations for political minorities, corruption, political effects of the media, and politics in authoritarian regimes. D. Hidalgo

17.850 Political Science Scope and Methods
Prereq: Permission of instructor
G (Fall)
3-0-9 H-LEVEL Grad Credit
Introduces principles of empirical and theoretical analysis in political science. Exposes students to major research questions and different ways of examining them. Limited to Course 17 PhD students. R. Bateson, R. Nielsen

17.584 Civil-Military Relations
Prereq: Permission of instructor
Acad Year 2014–2015: Not offered
Acad Year 2015–2016: G (Fall)
3-0-9 H-LEVEL Grad Credit
Subject consists of five sections. After a general survey of the field, students consider cases of stable civilian control, military rule, and transitions from military to civilian rule. Cases are selected from around the world. R. Petersen

17.586 Warlords, Terrorists, and Militias: Theorizing on Violent Non-State Actors
Prereq: Permission of instructor
Acad Year 2014–2015: G (Spring)
Acad Year 2015–2016: Not offered
3-0-9 H-LEVEL Grad Credit
Examines why non-state actors resort to violence, their means and tactics, and what can be done to counter that violence. Focuses on the production side of non-state violence, including the objectives and organization of insurgents, terrorists, militias and warlords, their mobilization strategies and support base, and how they coerce opponents. Also covers the response violence elicits from governments or other actors such as counterinsurgency or counterterrorism strategies. F. Christia

17.588 Field Seminar in Comparative Politics
Prereq: Permission of instructor
G (Fall)
3-0-9 H-LEVEL Grad Credit
Provides an introduction to the field of comparative politics. Readings include both classic and recent materials. Discusses research design and research methods, in addition to topics such as political culture, social cleavages, the state, and democratic institutions. Emphasis on each issue depends in part on the interests of the students. C. Lawson

17.591 Research Seminar in Applied International Studies
Prereq: Permission of instructor
U (Fall)
3-0-9 HASS-S
Focuses on research methods in the social sciences as they relate to topics in international studies. Students complete an independent research project on a topic chosen in consultation with the instructor; class presentation required. Preference to students pursuing the minor in Applied International Studies. R. Samuels
17.869 Political Science Scope and Methods
Prereq: None
U (Fall)
3-0-9 HASS-S
Introduces principles of empirical and theoretical analysis in political science through research projects currently conducted in the department. Different department faculty lead modules that introduce students to major research questions and different ways of examining those questions. Emphasizes how this research in progress relates to larger themes, and how researchers confront obstacles to inference in political science. Includes substantial instruction and practice in writing (with revision) and oral presentations. Intended primarily for majors and minors.
F. Christia

17.871 Political Science Laboratory
Prereq: 17.869 or permission of instructor
U (Spring)
3-6 Institute LAB
Introduces students to the conduct of political research using quantitative methodologies. The methods are examined in the context of specific political research activities like public opinion surveys, voting behavior, Congressional behavior, comparisons of political processes in different countries, and the evaluation of public policies. Students participate in joint class projects and conduct individual projects. Does not count toward HASS Requirement. Enrollment limited; preference to Course 17 majors who have pre-registered.
C. Stewart

17.878 Qualitative Research: Design and Methods
Prereq: Permission of instructor
G (Spring)
3-0-9 H-LEVEL Grad Credit
Prepares students to conduct independent qualitative research. Topics include research design, human subjects protocols and research ethics, risk management, participant observation and interview techniques, and data collection and analysis. During the term, students complete a qualitative research project in the Boston area. Especially appropriate for students planning to do fieldwork.
R. Bateson

17.901 Political Science Internship and Research
Prereq: None
U (Fall, IAP, Spring, Summer)
Units arranged [P/D/F]
Can be repeated for credit

17.902 Political Science Internship and Research
Prereq: None
U (Fall, IAP, Spring, Summer)
Units arranged [P/D/F]
Can be repeated for credit

17.903 Community Service: Experience and Reflection
Prereq: None
U (Fall, IAP, Spring, Summer)
Units arranged [P/D/F]
Can be repeated for credit

Seminar involves students in the community that exists beyond the labs and classrooms of the MIT campus. Through a combination of community service and academic study, students learn about political, economic, and social issues that confront residents in Boston and Cambridge. Students volunteer in a community service agency or private organization devoted to community needs and development. Students also responsible for directed readings, short writing assignments, and six seminar sessions. Subject can only be repeated for credit if area of community service is different.
T. Weiner

17.905–17.911 Reading Seminar in Social Science
Prereq: None
U (Fall, IAP, Spring, Summer)
Units arranged
Can be repeated for credit
Reading and discussion of special topics in the fields of social science. Open to advanced undergraduates by arrangement with individual staff members. 17.909 is taught P/D/F.
Staff

17.922 Martin Luther King, Jr. Design Seminar
Prereq: None
U (IAP)
3-0-9
Can be repeated for credit
Facilitates design and construction of installations and other community projects in conjunction with and beyond MIT’s celebration of Dr. King. Students discuss the ideas and goals of Dr. King and other human rights leaders in the US and the world. The first half of the class develops in-depth understanding of the history of US racial issues as well as past and present domestic and international political struggles. Addresses issues of justice, equality and racism through videos, readings and writings, and class discussions. In the second half, students work as a group complete the installation and projects which serve as models for connecting academics with real life problems and struggle.
T. Weiner

17.923 Martin Luther King, Jr. Design Seminar for Facilitators/Teachers
Prereq: 17.922
U (Spring)
3-0-9
Can be repeated for credit
Students participate in the class but also assist instructor in the design and execution of the curriculum and actively participate in the instruction and monitoring of class participants. Students prepare subject materials, lead discussion groups, and review progress. Includes daily evaluation and meetings to reflect on the class itself and the students' performance as leaders.
T. Weiner

17.954–17.960 Reading Seminar in Social Science
Prereq: Permission of instructor
G (Fall, Spring, Summer)
Units arranged H-LEVEL Grad Credit
Can be repeated for credit
Reading and discussion of special topics in the fields of social science. Open to advanced gradu-
ate students by arrangement with individual staff members. 17.954 and 17.959 are taught P/D/F.

**Staff**

**17.962 Second Year Paper Workshop**
Prereq: Permission of instructor
G (Spring)
3-0-9 H-LEVEL Grad Credit

Workshop for research and writing of major research paper as part of pre-dissertation requirements. Restricted to doctoral students.

*L. Tsai*

**17.THG Graduate Political Science Thesis**
Prereq: Permission of instructor
G (Fall, Spring)
Units arranged H-LEVEL Grad Credit
Can be repeated for credit

Program of research and writing of thesis; to be arranged by the student with supervising committee.

*Staff*

**17.THT Thesis Research Design Seminar**
Prereq: 17.869, 17.871, or permission of instructor
U (Fall)
3-0-9

Students writing a thesis in Political Science develop their research topics, review relevant research and scholarship, frame their research questions and arguments, choose an appropriate methodology for analysis, and draft the introductory and methodology sections of their theses. Includes substantial instruction and practice in writing with revision and oral presentations.

*C. Lawson*

**17.THU Undergraduate Political Science Thesis**
Prereq: None
U (Fall, Spring)
Units arranged
Can be repeated for credit

Program of research leading to the writing of an SB thesis. To be arranged by the student under approved supervision.

*Staff*

**17.S912 Special Undergraduate Subject in Political Science**
Prereq: None
U (Fall, IAP, Spring, Summer)
Units arranged [P/D/F]
Can be repeated for credit

**17.S914 Special Undergraduate Subject in Political Science**
Prereq: None
U (Fall, IAP, Spring, Summer)
Units arranged
Can be repeated for credit

Reading and discussion of topics in the field of social science not covered in the regular curriculum.

*Staff*

**17.S916, 17.S917 Special Undergraduate Subject in Political Science**
Prereq: None
U (Fall, IAP, Spring, Summer)
Units arranged [P/D/F]
Can be repeated for credit

**17.S918, 17.S919 Special Undergraduate Subject in Political Science**
Prereq: None
U (Fall, IAP, Spring, Summer)
Units arranged [P/D/F]
Can be repeated for credit

Reading and discussion of topics in the field of social science not covered in the regular curriculum.

*Staff*

**17.S950–17.S953 Special Graduate Subject in Political Science**
Prereq: Permission of instructor
G (Fall, Spring, Summer)
Units arranged H-LEVEL Grad Credit
Can be repeated for credit

Open to qualified graduate students who would like to pursue special subjects or projects. Please consult graduate administration prior to registration.

*Staff*
Bachelor of Science in Political Science/Course 17

### General Institute Requirements (GIRs)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Subjects</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Science Requirement</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences Requirement [all but three subjects can inform the Departmental Program]</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restricted Electives in Science and Technology (REST) Requirement</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laboratory Requirement [can be satisfied by 17.871 in the Departmental Program]</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total GIR Subjects Required for SB Degree: 17

### Communication Requirement

The program includes a Communication Requirement of 4 subjects:
- 2 subjects designated as Communication Intensive in Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences (CI-H); and
- 2 subjects designated as Communication Intensive in the Major (CI-M).

### PLUS Departmental Program

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject names below are followed by credit units, and by prerequisites, if any (corequisites in italics).</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Required Subjects</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17.869 Political Science Scope and Methods, 12, HASS-S, CI-M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17.871 Political Science Laboratory, 15, LAB; 17.869*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17.TH1 Thesis Research Design Seminar, 12, CI-M; 17.869, 17.871, or permission of instructor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17.THU Undergraduate Political Science Thesis (at least 12 units; additional units by special arrangement)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Restricted Electives

Normally seven subjects divided as follows:
- Political philosophy/social theory: one political science subject in the field of political philosophy/social theory (17.00–17.0999)
- American politics: one political science subject in the field of American politics (17.20–17.2999)
- Public policy: one political science subject in the field of public policy (17.30–17.3999), or a subject in another field designated as fulfilling the public policy requirement
- International politics: one political science subject in the fields of international relations/security studies (17.40–17.4999) or comparative politics (17.50–17.5999)
- Plus three additional political science subjects representing a coherent plan of study. Specific subjects satisfying these criteria should be chosen in consultation with a faculty advisor.

### Departmental Program Units That Also Satisfy the GIRs

(65–75)

### Unrestricted Electives

120–134

Total Units Beyond the GIRs Required for SB Degree: 180

No subject can be counted both as part of the 17-subject GIRs and as part of the 180 units required beyond the GIRs. Every subject in the student’s departmental program will count toward one or the other, but not both.

### Notes

* Alternate prerequisites are listed in the subject description.

(1) Students typically enroll in subjects as follows: 17.869, fall term, junior year; 17.871, spring term, junior year; 17.TH1, fall term, senior year; 17.THU, spring term, senior year.

For an explanation of credit units, or hours, please refer to the online help of the MIT Subject Listing & Schedule, [http://student.mit.edu/catalog/index.cgi](http://student.mit.edu/catalog/index.cgi).