

# POLITICAL SCIENCE - PSC

## PSC 103 The American Constitution 3 Credits

Provides a thorough grounding in the U.S. Constitution, which is America's founding document, and serves as the basis for its governmental system.

**Fulfills College Core:** Field 5 (Social Sciences)

**Offered:** fall & spring.

## PSC 104 American Political Process 3 Credits

An introduction to American politics including political socialization, public opinion and ideologies, political participation in electoral systems and mass movements, political parties and interest groups.

**Fulfills College Core:** Field 5 (Social Sciences)

**Offered:** fall & spring.

## PSC 111 Western Political Tradition 3 Credits

Development of Western political tradition from Machiavelli to present, emphasizing development of liberal, conservative and socialist traditions.

**Fulfills College Core:** (part of the Global Citizenship Core Pathway), Field 4 (History), Justice

**Offered:** fall & spring.

## PSC 140 International Relations 3 Credits

Introduces basic concepts and paradigms of world politics. International security, political economy, and globalization. Power politics, international organizations, transnational politics, and human rights.

**Fulfills College Core:** (part of the Global Citizenship Core Pathway), Field 5 (Social Sciences), Global Awareness

**Offered:** fall & spring.

## PSC 150 Comparative Government and Politics 3 Credits

Comparative analysis of foreign countries. Governments, ideologies, parties, elections, political culture, civil society and democracy in industrialized and developing countries.

**Fulfills College Core:** (part of the Global Citizenship Core Pathway), Field 5 (Social Sciences), Global Awareness

**Offered:** every fall.

## PSC 215 National Issues and Public Policy 3 Credits

Selected policy issues and their relationship to the political process including health care, homeland security, welfare and housing.

**Offered:** fall of even-numbered years.

## PSC 224 Congress and the Legislative Process 3 Credits

Survey of Congressional procedures and practices. Emphasis on recent changes within Congress, and the position of Congress in the U.S. political and governmental system.

**Fulfills College Core:** Field 5 (Social Sciences), Oral Communication

**Offered:** fall of even-numbered years.

## PSC 225 U.S. Presidency 3 Credits

Survey of the U.S. executive branch of government, including President, Vice President, White House staff, Executive office and the bureaucracy.

**Offered:** fall of odd-numbered years.

## PSC 233 Interest Groups and Public Opinion in America 3 Credits

Development of the notions of opinion and interest, their transmission and their influence on decision-making.

**Offered:** spring of even-numbered years.

## PSC 236 Political Campaigning 3 Credits

Campaigning resources, techniques, strategies and goals. Practical and theoretical treatment. Field research.

**Offered:** spring of odd-numbered years.

## PSC 237 State and Local Politics 3 Credits

The institutions and policies of state and local governments, with focus on New York State. State and local elections, gubernatorial politics, state legislatures, community politics.

**Offered:** fall of odd-numbered years.

## PSC 241 Human Rights and Globalization 3 Credits

History and evolution of international human rights laws. Explores human rights violations, challenges for enforcing human rights and prosecuting abuses. Analysis of human rights conditions in different world regions.

**Fulfills College Core:** Field 5 (Social Sciences), Global Awareness

**Offered:** every fall.

## PSC 242 International Organizations 3 Credits

International and transnational. Intergovernmental and non-governmental. Regional and global. Content areas: political, economic and humanitarian.

**Fulfills College Core:** Advanced Writing-Intensive, (part of the Global Citizenship Core Pathway), Field 5 (Social Sciences), Global Awareness

**Offered:** fall of odd-numbered years.

## PSC 245 American Foreign Policy 3 Credits

US foreign relations in political perspective, including diplomatic history since 1945, as well as government structure, decision-making processes, and controversial foreign policy issues.

**Offered:** every fall.

## PSC 250 Politics in Latin America 3 Credits

History of Latin America. Introduces the region's political, economic, and social characteristics. In-depth analysis of issues and countries in the region.

**Offered:** every spring.

## PSC 320 American Constitutional Law I 3 Credits

Development of constitutional law in the U.S. from the founding to present. Use of case-study method with focus on judicial review, the separation of powers and federalism. The growth of executive authority and the emergence of the administrative state.

**Fulfills College Core:** Field 5 (Social Sciences), Justice

**Offered:** every fall.

## PSC 321 American Constitutional Law II 3 Credits

The historical origin and development of the Bill of Rights. Close examination of Supreme Court decisions interpreting and expanding rights. Freedom of speech and religion, due process and equal protection. Current controversies over the right to privacy, affirmative action and gender equality.

**Fulfills College Core:** Field 5 (Social Sciences), Justice

**Offered:** spring of even-numbered years.

## PSC 334 Public Administration 3 Credits

The Federal Bureaucracy: its relationship to the executive and the public. Elements and issues of public-sector management.

**Prerequisite:** PSC 103 or PSC 104 or permission of instructor.

**Offered:** every spring.

## PSC 335 Political Parties 3 Credits

Development and present conditions of political parties. What they do and why they do it. Parties' past and present roles, as well as their future prospects.

**Offered:** fall of odd-numbered years.

## PSC 336 Urban Government and Politics 3 Credits

Structure, function, operation and politics of local government. Machine and reform models, power and participation. Significant policy issues to be addressed include schools, finances, land use, planning and crime.

**Fulfills College Core:** Field 5 (Social Sciences)

**Offered:** fall of even-numbered years.

- PSC 345 Transnational Crime After 9/11** 3 Credits  
 Cross-border organized crime and responses, especially in North America and Europe. Emphasis on drug trafficking, terrorism and irregular immigration. Crime-fighting, counter-terrorism, border management and international police cooperation. Guest speakers and video.  
**Fulfills College Core:** (part of the Global Citizenship Core Pathway), Field 5 (Social Sciences), Global Awareness  
**Offered:** spring of even-numbered years.
- PSC 355 European Union** 3 Credits  
 History of European integration. Structure, process and politics of EU policies. Optional co-curricular international, intercollegiate simulation of the EU and travel (EuroSim).  
**Fulfills College Core:** (part of the Global Citizenship Core Pathway), Field 5 (Social Sciences), Global Awareness, Oral Communication  
**Offered:** spring of odd-numbered years.
- PSC 360 Political Economy of the Developing World** 3 Credits  
 Reviews the main theories on development. Explores the relationship between international and domestic factor in fostering development.  
**Offered:** every spring.
- PSC 370 Domestic Conflicts & Peace** 3 Credits  
 Examines the factors that account for domestic conflicts. Explores the different mechanisms for their resolution and the challenges faced by post-conflict societies.  
**Fulfills College Core:** Advanced Writing-Intensive, Field 5 (Social Sciences)  
**Offered:** fall of even numbered years.
- PSC 401 Political Science Capstone** 1 Credit  
 Focuses on professional development and career planning related to the major, including law, government, politics, lobbying, security, international affairs, teaching, and business. Classroom sessions and online assignments to prepare students for post-graduate success. Offered with cooperation of career planning experts in the GriffCenter.  
**Offered:** every fall.
- PSC 420 The Constitution, The War on Terror and Civil Liberties** 3 Credits  
 Civil liberties issues in the war on terrorism. Treatment and rights of detainees, enhanced interrogation, ethnic and racial profiling, use of the war power including drone strikes, data collection, Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act; U.S. citizens as enemy combatants. Military detention and trial of terrorist suspects.  
**Offered:** spring of odd-numbered years.
- PSC 442 Seminar in International Relations** 3 Credits  
 Theoretically informed perspectives on global affairs explored through selected topics and issues unified by a central theme, such as leaders and leadership in international politics.  
**Prerequisite:** senior International Relations major, or permission of instructor. **Restriction:** must be an International Relations major or obtain permission of instructor.  
**Fulfills College Core:** Core Capstone, (part of the Global Citizenship Core Pathway)  
**Offered:** every spring.
- PSC 452 Politics of Identity in Europe** 3 Credits  
 Nationalism, separatism and European identities. Immigrant communities and responses by Europe's governments and political parties. Islam in Europe and challenges for identity and security. Lessons for U.S. public policy.  
**Restriction:** seniors only.  
**Fulfills College Core:** Core Capstone, (part of the Global Citizenship Core Pathway)  
**Offered:** occasionally, currently scheduled for fall 2018.
- PSC 498 Internship** 1-12 Credits  
 A variety of opportunities are available locally, as well as in Washington, DC and Albany. Internships arranged by faculty members in government, law offices and non-profit organizations. Prior to seeking approval, a student must work with a faculty member to develop a syllabus of learning goals, written outputs and deadlines. Pass-Fail. Does not apply as a major elective.  
**Prerequisite:** permission of chair of the political science department & associate dean.  
**Offered:** fall & spring.
- PSC 499 Independent Study** 1-3 Credits  
 Research and/or directed reading under direction of faculty members associated with the Political Science department. Prior to seeking approval, a student must work with a faculty member and his/her on-site supervisor to develop a syllabus of learning goals, written outputs and deadlines. Independent studies require an application and approval by the associate dean.  
**Prerequisite:** permission of the instructor, department chair, & associate dean.  
**Offered:** fall & spring.