Department of Political Science

John Vile, Chair
Peck Hall 209

The Department of Political Science offers a minor at the graduate level.

Courses in Political Science [P S]

5000 (500) Quantitative Methods of Research. Three credits. Fundamentals of quantitative methods in empirical research problems in the social sciences. Course is a prerequisite for P S 5110.

5020 (502) Political Science Laboratory. Three credits. Research, statistics, data processing, or simulation studies related to political and social questions.

5050 (505) Introduction to City and Regional Planning. Three credits. Analysis of the basis of particular forms in urban settlements and regions; introduction to planning history, theory, methods, processes, and current trends.

5060 (506) The U.S. Congress. Three credits. An analysis of the United States Congress, The origins of the congress, political power, the nature of the institutionalized congress, campaigns, elections.

5110 (511) Quantitative Methods of Research. Three credits. (Same as SOC 5110.) Prerequisite: P S 5000. Fundamentals of quantitative methods in empirical research problems in the social sciences.


5200 (520) Problems in Government. Three credits. Work done on a tutorial basis under the close direction of a professor. Student must present a proposal for departmental consideration and acceptance before enrolling in this course.

5210 (521) International Relations. Three credits. National power, balance of power, nationalism, imperialism, colonialism, war as an instrument of national policy, economic instruments of national policy, diplomacy, collective security, international law, and organization.

5220 (522) World Politics. Three credits. Experiencing contemporary international politics through the medium of simulation. Particular focus areas include the U.S., former Soviet Union, People’s Republic of China, the Middle East, South Asia, and Southern Africa.

5230 (523) Political Theory. Three credits. Western political theory from the early Greeks to the beginning of the modern world. Includes Plato, Aristotle, Stoicism, the church-state controversies, feudalism, Machiavelli, the Reformation and Counter-Reformation, the early nationalists, Hobbes.

5240 (524) American Foreign Policy. Three credits. Foreign policies in the nuclear age from Kennan and containment to the present with emphasis on contemporary problems and policies.

5250 (525) Public Administration. Three credits. Fundamentals of public management—organization theory, leadership, policy making, planning, budgeting, personnel, administrative law, bureaucratic behavior.

5260 (526) Public Administration. Three credits. Selected issues and problems. Normally entails the application of administrative concepts to administrative problems and learning by doing.

5300 (530) Comparative European Governments. Three credits. Comparative analysis of the governmental forms and practices of England, France, Germany, the European Community, and others.

5320 (532) Public Opinion and Propaganda. Three credits. The nature of public opinion and its role in the political and social process; myths, symbols, other instruments; techniques of propaganda.

5330 (533) Politics and the Party System. Three credits. The nature of democracy, politics, and political parties; party organization and role in government; campaigning, primaries, conventions, general elections; the electoral college; voting behavior and pressure groups.

5360 (536) Legislative Internship. Twelve credits. A cooperative program with the state of Tennessee which provides for student service with the legislature on a full-time basis during the spring semester. Students selected on a competitive basis. Only six hours may count toward the degree for graduate programs.

5370/5380 (537/538) American Constitutional Law. Three credits each. The Supreme Court as a policy-making body in the governmental system. Emphasis on case studies in major areas of conflict including federalism, civil liberties, criminal procedure, and economic regulation.

5400 (540) Municipal Government. Three credits. The structure, powers, functions, and politics of municipal governments from the standpoint of city management. Attention is given to problems of municipal policy implementation.


5440 (544) Governmental Budgeting and Finance Administration. Three credits. Analysis of the legal and social nature of government budgets emphasizing the procedures and administrative methods of fiscal control. Study of budget documents at state and local levels.*

5500 (550) International Law. Three credits. General principles of modern international law taught by the case study method in a seminar format encouraging debate and discussion. Issues concerning the development of international law and human rights.

5510 (551) International Political Economy. Three credits. Prerequisites: P S 1010 and 3210 or permission of instructor. The relationship between politics and economics in international affairs and its implications for global peace, security, the ecology, and social welfare.
5590 (559) **Administrative Law.** Three credits. Procedural aspects, substantive issues, judicial review of the type of law concerned with the powers and procedures of government agencies and the rights of citizens affected by them.

5630 (563) **Personnel Management.** Three credits. Prerequisite: P S 3250 or permission of instructor. The development and characteristics of public personnel administration in the United States with attention to recruitment, selection, position classification, compensation, performance evaluation, promotion, motivation, morale, discipline, separation, and public service unionism.*

5700 (570) **American Political Thought.** Three credits. Major thinkers and movements in American political thought from colonial times to the twentieth century with special emphasis on the thoughts of the framers of the American Constitution and their contemporaries.


5920 (592) **Modern Political Theory.** Three credits. Early democratic theory Hobbes, Locke, Rousseau, Burke, Hegel, the Utilitarians, Conservatism, Liberalism, Anarchism, Marx-Engels, Twentieth Century Communism, and Fascism.

6000 (600) **Comparative Social Change.** Three credits. (Same as SOC 6000.) A historical comparative examination of the structure, institutions, and development of the modern world system; a review of major theoretical and empirical research on the world system.

6260 (626) **Readings in Political Science or Public Administration.** Three credits. Individual study focusing on subject matter selected by the student and approved by the instructor; strengthens knowledge in a sub-field of political science or public administration. Focus guided by the student's professional interests, career objectives, and program requirements.

6300 (630) **Readings in International Relations.** Three credits. The theoretical basis of international politics. The biological, sociological, psychological, economic, and ideological aspects of international relations.

* Offered only in alternate years.