POLITICAL SCIENCE COURSE OFFERINGS FOR FALL 2018

POLS20000 American National Government (3) S. Nawara, J. Delacour, M. Lowry-Fritz (Online only)
A comprehensive survey of the basic premises, permanent institutions and policy-making processes of the American national government is presented.

POLS21000 State and Local Government (3) L. Liesen (Service Learning), J. Gaziano (Online only)
A review of the institutions, functions and operations of state and local government, this class takes a comparative approach, examining the similarities and differences of political institutions in the 50 states.

POLS30600 Community Engaged Learning Leadership Seminar (3): I. Wilmarth-Tyna
The Community Engaged Learning Leadership Seminar provides an engaged learning and leadership development experience for students who are Community Engaged Learning Facilitators (CELF) through the Office of Service Learning. This course will investigate the distinctions among volunteerism, service, and community engagement, with attention to the strengths and challenges of service learning pedagogy. Course readings and discussion will challenge students to connect their community involvement to Catholic Social Teaching and Lewis University’s Lasallian tradition, and will provide opportunities for dialogue about mutually beneficial community relationships and leadership for social change. All course content is meant to prepare students to serve in a peer leadership role (e.g., CELF) in which the student leader will provide support to students enrolled in a service learning course. Instructor permission is required to enroll.

POLS32100 – Comparative Government (3) J. Delacour
This course will analyze the major Western European governments (Great Britain, France, Germany) along with Japan, Russia, China and several less developed countries. Students will comparatively analyze the institutional arrangement of the legislative and executive branches, political culture, and policy issues.

POLS32200 Mock Trial (1-2 Credits): Staff
Participation in competitive forensics allows students to apply the legal concepts learned in other courses in actual trial competition. Techniques of testifying and rules of evidence are analyzed. This course is offered as a credit option for University team members and may be repeated for credit.

POLS32700 Mediation (1-2 Credits): Staff
Participation in mediation helps undergraduate students understand the value of resolving disputes through mediation (peacemaking) so that they can apply these principles and methods to their personal and professional lives. All participants engage in mediation activities including tournament rounds, organizational meetings, and team practices. There are two categories of the competition in the tournament: Mediation, determined by scores assigned to co-mediators; and Advocacy, determined by scores assigned to advocate/client units. Professional, ethical, and collegial behavior is expected at all times. This course is offered as a credit option for University team members and may be repeated for credit.

POLS32800 Model United Nations (3) J. Delacour
This course provides students with a hands-on exploration of the organization and activities of the United Nations and in-depth understanding of modern diplomacy. Students will learn about the UN’s creation and development, the basics of international law, current events and major international issues related to the UN. Students will acquire practical skills in the procedures of diplomacy while developing their public speaking, writing, and research skills in preparation for participation in the National Model United Nations conference. The course will be offered fall semesters to coincide with the American Model United Nations International Conference (www.amun.org), which takes place at the end of November every year in Chicago, IL.

POLS33800 International Political Economy (3) J. Delacour
This course is an introduction to the interdisciplinary field of international political economy. Students analyze several key topics in the field related to poverty, development, international trade, and international institutions.

POLS35300 Congress (3) S. Nawara
An analysis of the structure, organization, and operation of the American legislative branch. Special attention is paid to the behavior of members of Congress, policy-making, and relationships with other branches of government. This course fulfills the advanced writing requirement in the major.

POLS35600 Campaigns and Elections (3) S. Nawara
This course analyzes the role of campaigns and elections in the American political system at the national, state, and local levels. The course covers issues such as campaign strategy, campaign finance, advertising, canvassing, voter targeting, and surveying. In addition, it identifies and assesses the roles of parties, interest groups, and the media. Finally, significant time is spent on the behavior of citizens in the elections, such as turnout and voter choices.

POLS36200 Western Political Thought I (3): L. Liesen
This course examines the history of political thought from the ancient Greeks through Machiavelli. Students will learn various political theorists' understanding of the world and human behavior, the political crises they addressed, and their proposed solutions for these crises. This course fulfills the advanced writing requirement.

POLS38200 Issues in Public Policy (3): S. Reed
This course analyzes various policy issues in detail in terms of the policy-making process: agenda setting, policy formation, implementation, and evaluation. In addition to examining the key actors and institutions, students explore the political factors and policy problems that affect each stage of the policy-making process. Policy topics may include social welfare programs, drug control policy and gun control policy.

POLS40000 Senior Capstone (3): L. Liesen
This course gives political science majors the opportunity to analyze and evaluate political issues, utilizing the skills and knowledge acquired during their years of study. This should be one of the final courses taken by students in the major. This course in an intensive, advanced writing course that satisfies the advanced writing requirement for General Education.