POLITICAL SCIENCE (POLS)

Course Descriptions (Per Subject)

POLS 1101. American Government. (3 Credits)

The course is an introduction to essentials of national government in the United States including modules on political institutions, elections, and political culture. The course also includes a module on the Georgia State government. This course satisfies the legislative requirement for U.S. History, U.S. Constitution, Georgia History, and Georgia Constitution.

POLS 1101H. Honors American Government. (3 Credits)

An introductory course covering the essentials of national government in the United States. This course gives some attention to the State of Georgia and satisfies the state law requiring an examination of United States history and Constitution.

POLS 1105. Current World Problems. (2 Credits)

An introduction to the political issues that transcend national boundaries such as the environment, population, immigration, nuclear proliferation, terrorism, religion, natural resources, etc. Corequisite: None. Prerequisite: READ 0099, ENGL 0989 or satisfactory English scores to place into corequisite remediation or higher. Offered: On demand.

POLS 2101. Introduction to Political Science. (3 Credits)

A survey of different areas of political science, basic concepts and approaches to the study of Political Science, the nature of the state, government and law in society.

POLS 2102. Introduction to Law. (3 Credits)

Introduction to the nature of the law; legal mechanisms and judicial processes underlying American jurisprudence.

POLS 2104. Introduction to Globalization. (3 Credits)

As we enter the second decade of the twenty-first century, the world in which we live is defined by two intertwined trends; constant rapid change, and interdependence between different parts of the world. Due to the continuous rapid developments of technologies in trade, travel, and communications, the world is now a global village in which boundaries are shrinking and interconnections are expanding. With this globalization comes the necessity for literacy about other societies, cultures, and countries and the common issues faced by the global community. To introduce students to the high-velocity, geopolitical border permeable, interconnected world that is blurring the lines of social, political, economic and cultural boundaries.

POLS 2105. Introduction to Professional Legal Writing. (3 Credits)

This course explores writing methods appropriate to the legal profession. It emphasizes critical reading, logical thinking, cogent analysis and argument, and clear, exact language. Introduction to Professional Legal Writing is not designed to teach substantive law; rather, the course provides an opportunity to develop skills in expository and argumentative writing. Students will develop strong legal writing skills including precision and clarity, legal citation and format, drafting of law office and trial memoranda, trial court briefs, appellate briefs, and abstracting depositions.

POLS 2106. Introduction to Legal Research. (3 Credits)

This course provides students with a practical understanding of the types of legal authority, including how to access and use them in print and online formats. Advantages and disadvantages of online and print resources will be covered as each type of authority is discussed. Methods for making research more efficient will also be discussed.

POLS 2201. American State & Local Govt. (3 Credits)

Organization, structure, and operation of American state and local governments, with Georgia used as a basis for study. Corequisite: None. Prerequisite: POLS 1101 with a grade of "C" or better. Offered: On demand.

POLS 2301. Intro. to Comparative Politics. (3 Credits)

A comparative survey of the politics and structure of government in major nation-states. Corequisite: None. Prerequisite: POLS 1101 with a grade of "C" or better. Offered: On demand.

POLS 2401. Introduction to Global Issues. (3 Credits)

An overview of the structure and processes of the international political-economic system, including topics such as economic and social interdependence, international trade, war and power, oil politics, green politics and the problems associated with developing countries. Corequisite: None. Prerequisite: POLS 1101 with a grade of "C" or better. Offered: On demand.

POLS 2501. Public Policy. (3 Credits)

An analysis of diverse public policy issues, as well as the decision process leading to the formulation of government policy. An analysis of societal factors that influence policy, and the effect of government policy on society.

POLS 3111. Comparative Government. (3 Credits)

Must be enrolled in one of the following Class(s): Junior, Senior A survey of political structures, institutions, and ideologies of major governmental systems. This course also analyzes the decision-making processes, political conflicts and change, and group interactions. Theories and basic concepts that political scientists use in comparative analysis.

POLS 3201. Intro to Public Administration. (3 Credits)

A focus on the study of public administration processes and underlying theories within American government structures. Emphasis is on the pragmatic aspects of current government leadership and public agency management.

POLS 3511. Comparative Government. (3 Credits)

This course helps students understand the process and components of research methods in social sciences, especially in political science. It covers topics such as empirical research, research questions, hypotheses, research design, data collection, data analysis, and ethical issues in conducting research. It focuses on practical examples and skills by which students can develop, design, and conduct empirical research.

POLS 3601. Political Science Methods II. (3 Credits)

A study of the forms and structures of state and local government, the formal and informal political and administrative processes of state legislatures, municipal chambers, and judicial bodies. This course also
addresses social, community, economic, and political issues that are relevant to both types of government.

POLS 3609. American Foreign Policy. (3 Credits)

Must be enrolled in one of the following Class(s): Junior, Senior. An analysis of the formulation and execution of American Foreign Policy, its purposes and trends. This course covers historical backgrounds, economic and political factors, domestic and international determinants, and major contemporary problems in American Foreign Policy. It also examines the roles of the major institutions such as the presidency, congress, and the media in the policy making process.

POLS 3610. Public Admin & Policy Form. (3 Credits)

Development of desktop publishing concepts and their application to the modern office. Basic, intermediate, and advanced features of a variety of application programs for page design will be used to create various business-related documents.

POLS 3611. Urban Politics. (3 Credits)

Must be enrolled in one of the following Class(s): Junior, Senior. Study of urban political processes concentrating on the problems of government and administration of cities, as well as key issues of public policy in the urban arena.

POLS 3612. African-American Politics. (3 Credits)

Must be enrolled in one of the following Class(s): Junior, Senior. This course addresses the historic and contemporary roles that African Americans have played in the American political process from 1865 to the present. Designed to provide a holistic approach, this course explores the impact of slavery, political, social and economic movements, as well as the impact of key leaders in the civil rights movement and landmark legal decisions.

POLS 3614. The Presidency. (3 Credits)

Must be enrolled in one of the following Class(s): Junior, Senior. Nature and problems of presidential leadership, including the historical evolution of the office, contemporary power, and relationships with other institutions and agencies of government.

POLS 3616. Political Parties/Pressure Group. (3 Credits)

History, organization and functioning of American political parties and pressure groups, with emphasis upon their roles in the formation of public policy.

POLS 3617. The Legislative Process. (3 Credits)

Must be enrolled in one of the following Class(s): Junior, Senior. Introduces the elements of the legislative process, the role and behavior of lawmaking officials and interest groups with which they interact in the process of making law at the national and state levels.

POLS 3618. Elections & Electoral Behavior. (3 Credits)

Considers elections, electioneering in the American democratic process and current research on American electoral behavior.

POLS 3701. Judicial Process. (3 Credits)

Nature of the judicial process in the United States with special emphasis on the functions of the courts and court personnel in the pursuit of justice.

POLS 3702. American Constitutional History. (3 Credits)

Study of judicial interpretation of the Constitution of the United States, through the review of selected decisions of the United States Supreme Court.

POLS 3703. Constitutional Law I. (3 Credits)

Must be enrolled in one of the following Class(s): Junior, Senior. Federal system in Constitutional law. Uses a case by case approach to uncover the meaning and dimension of federalism.

POLS 3704. Constitutional Law II. (3 Credits)

Focus is on the Constitution and the individual. Treats basic rights of the individual in the Bill of Rights, the 14th, 15th and 19th Amendments, using a case by case approach.

POLS 3705. Trial Advocacy. (3 Credits)

Must be enrolled in one of the following Class(s): Junior, Senior. A hands-on participatory course designed to introduce students to the planning, analysis and strategy in presenting civil and criminal litigation at the trial stage.

POLS 3708. Civil Rights & Minorities. (3 Credits)

Must be enrolled in one of the following Class(s): Junior, Senior. Constitutional rights as they pertain to minorities in American society, through a case-by-case approach.

POLS 3813. Public Administration. (3 Credits)

Must be enrolled in one of the following Class(s): Junior, Senior. Introduction to the basic theories of the administration of the public's business. Prerequisite: POLS 1101 or permission of instructor.

POLS 3815. Municipal Government. (3 Credits)

Forms and structures of municipal governments in America and the problems of administering the delivery of services to citizens.

POLS 4200. Principles of Public Admin. (3 Credits)

An introductory examination of the characteristics of the public organization and its impact on society. Analysis of the theories of public administration, personnel issues, budgetary activities, legal dynamics, as well as historical development of the field are included.

POLS 4202. Interorganizational Behavior. (3 Credits)

This course is designed to provide an understanding of the dynamics of and the interrelationships among and between the federal, state, and local levels of government.

POLS 4204. Public Finance. (3 Credits)

A study of the equity and economic effects of government spending programs, taxes, and debt. The course is primarily applied microeconomics.
Political Science (POLS)

Various changes in the management of public organizations are identified and analyzed. Includes the role of technology, modification of the relationship between public and private spheres, and current trends in the management of change and supervision of a diverse work force.

POLS 4215. Mgmt of Non-profit Orgs. (3 Credits)
This course is designed to explore the theoretical principles and practical applications of management for charities and/or nonprofit organizations. The underlying thesis of this course is that by understanding fundamental principles such as developing effective mission and objectives statements, fundraising, marketing and accounting strategies, nonprofits can become more effective and responsive to their constituency's needs. The course will include a field research component.

POLS 4217. Grant Writing Nonprofit Orgs. (3 Credits)
This course introduces students to the world of grant-writing and management, and provides an opportunity to experience writing actual grants. Students will learn the process of identifying prospective funders, developing relationships with funders, understanding the basics of writing grants, submitting proposals, working as a collaborative, and preparing for the follow up. Students will apply course learning to write and prepare actual grant proposals.

POLS 4218. Project Mgmt in Public Sect.. (3 Credits)
This course will discuss the theory, principles, tools, and techniques necessary to build a solid project management foundation. The Project Management Institute's (PMI) standards for project management will be emphasized throughout the course.

POLS 4219. Public Human Resource Mgmt. (3 Credits)
This course will examine the processes, policies, procedures and laws concerning public personnel. It will also cover the issues of employee protection, motivation, efficiency and responsibility.

POLS 4220. Administrative Law and Government. (3 Credits)
This course introduces the student to the relationship between administrative law and American government as well as the ethics and challenges inherent in administrative law decision making. It is designed for undergraduates who are interested in public administration and public policy. While the course reviews and discusses the cases that form the basis of administrative law, the focus is on the understanding and application of principles rather than case law.

POLS 4221. Gov. Org and Admin Theory. (3 Credits)
A systematic analysis of theories or organization, management, and administration. Special consideration will be given to institutional, behavioral, and psychological factors.

POLS 4371. Research Methods I. (3 Credits)
Must be enrolled in one of the following Class(s): Junior, Senior. Two-part course provided as enrichment experience for senior level students. Structured to provide enrichment on two levels-extension of methodology for studying political behavior and substantive knowledge about the political system. Particular emphasis will be on the experience of planning and executing research projects.

POLS 4372. Research Methods II. (3 Credits)
Must be enrolled in one of the following Class(s): Junior, Senior. Two-part course provided as enrichment experience for senior level students. Structured to provide enrichment on two levels-extension of methodology for studying political behavior and substantive knowledge about the political system. Particular emphasis will be on the experience of planning and executing research projects.

POLS 4401. History of Political Thought. (3 Credits)
Must be enrolled in one of the following Class(s): Junior, Senior. This Course explores the philosophies of such men as Plato, Machiavelli, Hobbes, Locke, Marx, and Hegel. Focus will be on the assumptions that each thinker makes about human nature and the vision of a good society that flows from those assumptions.

POLS 4512. Politics and Institutions in Developing Countries. (3 Credits)
Must be enrolled in one of the following Class(s) Junior, Senior. An examination of the institutions and political processes in developing countries, with an emphasis on the economic, cultural, and political trends in these states. Problems arising in transitions from traditional to modern industrial state will be examined.

POLS 4513. Issues in Global Politics. (3 Credits)
Must be enrolled in one of the following Class(s) Junior, Senior. An examination of the institutions and political processes in developing countries, with an emphasis on the economic, cultural, and political trends in these states. Problems arising in transitions from traditional to modern industrial state will be examined.

POLS 4514. International Relations. (3 Credits)
Must be enrolled in one of the following Class(s): Junior, Senior. The historical and analytical study of basic concepts and theories of International Relations, such as realism, idealism, pluralism, and globalism. This course also focuses on the study of the diplomatic, ideological and imperialistic rivalries in the contest for world power.

POLS 4515. International Organizations. (3 Credits)
Must be enrolled in one of the following Class(s): Junior, Senior. A study of national and international organizations utilized in the conduct and regulation of international transactions and their procedures. Emphasis is placed on a critical survey of the major themes, ideas and trends of international organizations. Special attention will be paid to the United Nations and related organizations.

POLS 4600. Govt Org & Admin Theory. (3 Credits)
A systematic analysis of theories of organization, management, and administration. Special consideration will be given to institutional, behavioral, and psychological factors.

POLS 4610. Public Personnel Admin. (3 Credits)
An examination of procedures and problems of governmental personnel administration. Studies of governmental agencies are encouraged to give students first-hand knowledge of governmental personnel administration.

POLS 4619. Legislative Internship. (9 Credits)
Albany State is one of several university system schools to participate in the legislative internship program that allows students to serve as interns with members of the Georgia General Assembly during the legislative session (usually Jan to the 1st of April). Most schools converted to a
POLS 4620. Public Finance Admin.. (3 Credits)
A study of the activities involved in the collection, custody, and expenditure of public revenue, such as the assessment and collection of taxes, public borrowing and debt administration, the preparation and enactment of the budget, financial accountability and the audit.

POLS 4650. Intergovernmental Relations. (3 Credits)
A study of federal, state, and local governmental interactions, with an emphasis on the implications of these interactions for public management.

POLS 4814. Theory & Practice of Public Administration. (3 Credits)
Must be enrolled in one of the following Class(s): Junior, Senior. Study of organizational theory, bureaucratic behavior, administrative structures, process, and planning.

POLS 4816. Model United Nations. (3 Credits)
Designed to provide an orientation to the activities of the United Nations, as well as provide an understanding of the modalities of international diplomacy.

POLS 4817. Politics of Globalization. (3 Credits)
A critical analysis of the trends and contradictions that produce increasing interconnectedness of economics, cultures, and peoples in today’s “borderless world.”

POLS 4818. Public Administration Internship. (3 Credits)
Must be enrolled in one of the following Class(s): Junior, Senior. Independent study course utilizing the service-learning experiences as a basis for intensive study of public administration and the political process.

POLS 4819. International Political Economics. (3 Credits)
Must be enrolled in one of the following Class(s): Junior, Senior. This course focuses on the social, political, and economic arrangements affecting the global systems of production, exchange, and distribution of goods and services. The course also seeks to examine the dynamic interactions between market and state, and how they are impacted by ideology, culture, and values.

POLS 4820. Area Studies of Africa, Caribbean, Eastern Europe & Latin America. (3 Credits)
Must be enrolled in one of the following Class(s): Junior, Senior. This Area Studies course explores the historical, cultural, political, and economic factors that underscore the relations of African states, the Caribbean states, Eastern Europe, and Latin America. The course also examines the systemic obstacles that mitigate against a more sustainable interface of these nation-states as a result of their insertion into the world system.

POLS 4821. International Internship/Seminar. (3 Credits)
Must be enrolled in one of the following Class(s): Junior, Senior. This course deals with experimental education through work-study, field research, and study abroad for students. Participants will work side by side with experienced professionals in the international area.