

DEPARTMENT OF GOVERNMENT

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Faculty

Professors: Carlson, Green

Associate Professors: Barnello, Busch, Camobreco,
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Assistant Professors: Kempin Reuter, Kraxberger,
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Visiting Assistant Professor: Freund

Lecturer: Shou

Emeriti: Doane, Killam, Miller, Williams, Winter

Mission Statement

It is our mission to help our students become more conscious of the many and complex ways in which political forces shape their lives. We seek to do this by teaching our students to understand the nature of the American political system, by providing an understanding of some other important political systems around the world and educating them to view politics in a global perspective and to understand the dynamics of international relations and the functioning of global institutions, by raising their awareness of the deep and fundamental questions raised for centuries by classical and contemporary political philosophers, and also to lay before them some of the answers these philosophers have proposed to such questions, and by developing in them an understanding of how critical analysis and the scientific method can be applied to understand the workings of government and politics.

These goals are rooted in our understanding that our students need to be able to think, write, and speak clearly and thereby ultimately become capable of pursuing a broad variety of career objectives. Our mission of imparting knowledge takes place within a broader context of teaching our students the intellectual skills that will prove important to them as ethical thinking people, as engaged citizens, and as working professionals.

Graduate Studies Preparation

The Bachelor of Arts in political science is excellent preparation for admission to and success in graduate school. Recent graduates have gone on to study at schools such as University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, University of Michigan, Penn State University, Purdue University, The College of William and Mary, George Mason University, American University, Virginia Tech University, University of Illinois, University of Florida, University of Mississippi, University of San Diego, and University of Maryland. Students interested in pursuing graduate studies should consult their academic advisors to plan an appropriate

course of study.

Law School Preparation

The Bachelor of Arts in Political Science is excellent preparation for admission to and success in law school. Courses involving rigorous analytical skills are strongly recommended by law school admissions committees. Recent graduates have been admitted to law schools at schools such as University of Richmond, University of Virginia, The College of William and Mary, George Mason University, University of Delaware, University of Nebraska, Penn State University, University of Pittsburgh, and University of Wisconsin. Students interested in attending law school should contact their academic advisors to plan an appropriate course of study. For additional information on law school preparation, see the *Pre-Law Program* located in this catalog.

Internship Opportunities

We encourage our majors to take political and government-related internships at the local, state, federal, and international levels. Internships might be as varied as working with government agencies, international organizations, political campaigns, private firms, or domestic foreign-based non-profit organizations.

Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science

The major in political science is a rigorous academic program that provides a general liberal arts background for the study of politics and policy. The department offers courses in six principal subfields of political science: American politics, international relations, comparative politics, public policy, public law, and political theory. The Department's faculty presents a diversity of ideological orientations and methodological approaches that offer students a wide variety of viewpoints and perspectives on political and policy issues.

The major in political science requires successful completion of 36 credit hours, including the following:

- 1. Core Courses:** GOVT 100, 101, 215, 352, 490(W).
- 2. Major Electives:** Select 21 hours in GOVT courses in consultation with your academic advisor. At least 18 hours must be numbered at the 300-400 levels.

Minor in Political Science (18 credits)

The minor in political science requires the successful completion of 18 credits, including six credit hours from GOVT 100, 101 or 202. Select twelve additional credit hours chosen in consultation with a departmental academic advisor.

Teacher Preparation in History/Social Science

Those students who wish to become teachers should apply to the five-year Master of Arts in Teaching (M.A.T.) program. Application to the program must be made in spring of the junior year and will require: 3.0 GPA; passing scores on the PRAXIS I exam or SAT score of 1100 with at least 530 in critical reading and mathematics subtests; essay specifying the reason for applying to the program; and two letters of recommendation. Students will earn a **B.A. in Political Science** after the first four years and then complete an additional year of study leading to an M.A.T. degree. Students majoring in Political Science can prepare to teach elementary school, pre-kindergarten through grade six, all core subjects, or secondary school, grades six through 12, in the content area of **History and Social Science**. The courses and degree requirements for the M.A.T. are found in the graduate catalog. Students accepted into this program must complete one of the following tracks for graduation with the bachelor's degree:

Elementary level (PK-6) Track

Major courses required:

See major requirements for the B.A. in Political Science.

Support courses required:

ENGL 123; ULLC 223; MATH 125; HIST 111; GOVT 101; COMM 201 or THEA 230; two science courses and one science lab; HIST 121; GEOG 201; PSYC 207 or 208; SOCL 314/314L; PSYC 312; NSCI 310; MATH 109; ENGL 310 or 430, 314W or 316; CPSC 110.

Graduate courses* required (senior year):

Select six credits: MATH 570; ENGL 532, 514.

Secondary level (6-12) Track: History/Social Science Endorsement

Major courses required:

See major requirements for the B.A. in Political Science.

Support courses required:

MATH 125; CPSC 110, COMM 201 or THEA 230; PSYC 207 or 208, 312; SOCL 314/314L; ECON 201 or 202; GEOG 201, 202; HIST 111, 112, 121, 122, 390; and two upper level history electives.

Graduate courses* required (senior year):

Select six credits: 500 level History courses; or GOVT 570.

*See the graduate catalog for graduate course descriptions.

THE CURRICULUM IN GEOGRAPHY

GEOG 195. Special Topics (3-3-0)

Topics vary, determined by the special interests and needs of students and the expertise of faculty.

GEOG 201. Introduction to Geography I (3-3-0)

This course begins with a broad overview of certain physical aspects of geography (world landforms, climates, and ecosystems) and of map and globe skills. The course then moves to an examination of the developed regions of the world (Europe, North America, Russia, the newly independent states of the former Soviet Union, and Japan) as well as Latin America. Attention will be given to customs of the people, urban and rural patterns of settlement, regional economic activities, and political units. Throughout the course relationships between people and their environment will be stressed. A variety of visual aids will be used. Recommended for teacher education students.

GEOG 202. Introduction to Geography II (3-3-0)

Continuation of Geography 201, with emphasis on certain underdeveloped regions of the world (Africa, the Middle East, and Asia). Special exercises in summarizing and presenting geographic information. Recommended for teacher education students.

GEOG 295. Special Topics (3-3-0)

Topics vary, determined by the special interests and needs of students and the expertise of faculty.

GEOG 311. Physical Geography (3-3-0)

Prerequisite: GEOG 201 or consent of instructor.

This is a survey course stressing the aerial distribution and functional interrelationships of the physical elements over the surface of the earth. The course aims to increase student awareness of similarities and differences in the physical environment from place to place. In order to understand these place to place variations, students study the physical processes involved. Topics to be covered include the study of landforms and the processes that create them (weathering, erosion, deposition, diastrophism and volcanism), aspects of the atmosphere and weather (including global climate change), and the soils and minerals of the world. How human activities are influenced by the environment and how humans alter their environment will be analyzed. The development of map reading and interpretation skills is another important aspect of the course. Recommended for teacher education students.

GEOG 315. Political Geography (3-3-0)

[same as GOVT 315]

Prerequisite: ULLC 223.

This course is an introduction to the sub-field of political geography. We will address the ways that humans divide up the world into formal and informal territories, staking

claims to resources and regulating the movement of people, goods and information. The course will examine the politics of geography and the geography of politics. With regard to the politics of geography, we will address how uneven and diverse spatial patterns and processes influence political affairs. With regard to the geography of politics, we will take a look at the territorial organization of states, the world political map, and international relations.

GEOG 352. Economic Geography (3-3-0)

Prerequisite: GEOG 201 or consent of instructor.

The course analyzes the spatial differentiation of economic activity and development throughout the world. The interdependence of economic development at all spatial scales international, national, regional and local is examined. The course seeks to provide an understanding of the regularities and diversities present in the economic landscape. Special attention will be given to the international spatial patterns of production, consumption, investment and trade. The course also examines the spatial distribution of the benefits from economic development. Finally, the relationship between human economic activity and the physical environment in the areas of resource usage and environmental degradation are covered.

GEOG 395. Special Topics (3-3-0)

Topics vary, determined by the special interests and needs of students and the expertise of faculty.

GEOG 495. Special Topics (3-3-0)

Topics vary, determined by the special interests and needs of students and the expertise of faculty.

THE CURRICULUM IN POLITICAL SCIENCE

GOVT 100. Political Thought and Society (3-3-0) AIWT

Fall, Spring and Summer.

This course is an introduction to western political theory. The course focuses on the theoretical foundations of politics including the principal concepts, ideas, and theories of the study of the political world. Particular focus is given to the state, citizen, government, power, justice and conflict in the development of the modern western political system.

GOVT 101. Power and Politics in America (3-3-0) AIII

Fall, Spring and Summer.

An introduction to the dynamics of the American political system. The course focuses on political institutions such as the presidency, Congress, the judiciary, and topics including the bureaucracy, elections, political parties, and interest groups. The course emphasizes critical thinking about politics, governmental institutions, and power in the United States.

GOVT 195. Special Topics (3-3-0)

Topics vary, determined by the special interests and needs of students and the expertise of faculty.

GOVT 202. State and Local Government (3-3-0)

This course focuses on state governments and the political forces at work at the state and local levels within the United States. While containing many of the same political institutions as the federal government, the states have their own unique social and cultural backgrounds. In addition, the states make and implement their own public policies, many of which impact the daily lives of their citizens more often than some at the federal level. Topics covered include: federalism, state legislatures, and local governments.

GOVT 204. Hate Crime Realities and Consequences (3-3-0) AIII

This course examines the causes and effects of “hate crime” –crimes motivated in whole or in part by a bias against the victim’s perceived race, religion, ethnicity, sexual orientation or disability. The class discusses the problematic issues related to defining and recording hate crimes, the theoretical perspectives on motivation to commit hate crime, and governmental policies designed to reduce it.

GOVT 215. Comparative and International Politics (3-3-0)

Fall and Spring.

This course will introduce students to the political world beyond our borders. It combines the study of the international state system with the study of politics within states. The course will involve critical thinking about world issues and the organization of society and require students to debate contemporary political issues such as what responsibility rich countries have towards poor countries, legitimacy of tactics for pursuing political gains, when war is just and the challenges that exist to organizing internationally.

GOVT 240. The Supreme Court in American Politics (3-3-0) AIII

This course provides an examination of the United States Supreme Court as a political institution and as the custodian of the American system of government. The history of the court and its role in the federal judicial process is reviewed, and individual cases are examined to analyze developments in constitutional interpretation, federal-state relations, and individual rights and liberties. The course will highlight the distinctly varied philosophies of justices and how the dynamics of the court shift over time.

GOVT 243. Crime and Punishment in America (3-3-0)

A survey of the criminal justice system and overview of the major system components: law enforcement, judiciary and corrections; theories of crime causation and use of crime

statistics. The focus is on identifying the relationships among the components of the criminal justice system and other components of government, critical thinking and issues confronting the system and its various components.

GOVT 291. Community Service Internship (Credits vary 1-3)

The community service internship provides opportunities for students 1) to serve the community, 2) to explore a possible career field, and 3) to gain experience in understanding the effectiveness of organizations and their programs. Interns serve in a governmental or non-profit organization. For-profit organizations may be utilized if there is a clear connection between the program's purpose and the public's well-being. The course may be enrolled for one, two or three credit hours, requiring 25, 50 or 75 hours of community service respectively with an organization approved by the instructor of record. The discussion of assigned readings and a weekly journal are required of all participants on such topics as the role of volunteers in formal organizations, liability, services delivery effectiveness, political pressure, and career opportunities. A final paper analyzing the experience is required. 1-3 hours lecture and online.

GOVT 295. Special Topics (3-3-0)

Topics vary, determined by the special interests and needs of students and the expertise of faculty.

GOVT 301. Politics and Travel (3-3-0)

Prerequisite: GOVT 100. Pre or Corequisite: 101 or consent of instructor.

This course will allow students from all disciplines to study politics and governmental institutions abroad. Destinations and topics will depend upon faculty expertise and student interest. Departmental application and Office of International Programs paperwork required. Additional fees may be required.

GOVT 311W. WI: Comparative Politics (3-3-0)

Prerequisite: ENGL 123, ULLC 223, GOVT 100 or 101.

A comparative study of the governmental processes of selected nations in terms of their ideologies, institutions, political organizations, and policies such as social welfare, crime control, urbanization, economic management, and foreign affairs. Partially satisfies the Writing Intensive requirement.

GOVT 315. Political Geography (3-3-0)

[same as GEOG 315]

Prerequisite: ULLC 223.

This course is an introduction to the sub-field of political geography. We will address the ways that humans divide up the world into formal and informal territories, staking claims to resources and regulating the movement of people, goods and information. The course will examine the politics

of geography and the geography of politics. With regard to the politics of geography, we will address how uneven and diverse spatial patterns and processes influence political affairs. With regard to the geography of politics, we will take a look at the territorial organization of states, the world political map, and international relations.

GOVT 316. Constitutional Law (3-3-0)

Prerequisite Courses: Minimum junior standing or consent of instructor.

This course will explore the fundamentals of constitutional law. Civil rights and civil liberties through the study of many landmark U.S. Supreme Court cases will be studied. The restrictions on government and resolution of political questions through the courts will be covered.

GOVT 320. Religion and Politics in America. (3-3-0) AIII

Prerequisite: ULLC 223.

This course explores the link between religion and politics in America from a social scientific standpoint. It includes an examination of how religion has influenced American politics and policy both historically and currently. Topics include the religious roots of American culture, church-state relations, and the changing nature of religion's impact on American political behavior.

GOVT 323. American Foreign Policy (3-3-0)

Prerequisite: GOVT 100, 101 or consent of instructor.

A seminar examining the foundations of American foreign policy including issues of world leadership, military strategy, economic relations, and the institutional processes in the formulation of foreign policy.

GOVT 322. Conflict and Peace Studies (3-3-0)

Prerequisite: GOVT 215.

For millennia, philosophers, religious thinkers, and political activists have written about peace and war. Conflicts are found in all human communities; but peace is the state of mind everyone desires. This course examines the nature and causes of conflict, conflict resolution, and the foundations of peace. By analyzing different case studies, we discuss the sources, causes and determinants of conflict, present the various perspectives on conflict management, and study different ways of peacemaking. We study academic writings in international relations, politics, and conflict and peace studies to explore a variety of techniques employed in managing, resolving, and preventing conflict.

GOVT 327. International Law (3-3-0)

Prerequisite: GOVT 215.

This course provides a formal introduction to international law and international organizations and emphasizes the relationship between law and the political behavior of states, institutions, and other international actors in world politics. International law is more relevant than ever before.

From the international wars to environmental challenges, from human rights violations to the question of statehood, globalization, and the law of war, international law has a direct influence on international affairs. This course focuses on the nature, sources, and applications of international law and analyses its effect on issues in contemporary international relations.

GOVT 329. International Human Rights (3-3-0)

Prerequisite: GOVT 215.

Human rights and especially human rights violations are some of the most discussed issues on the international agenda. The conflicts in the former Yugoslavia, Israel/Palestine, Rwanda, and Sudan are only among the best-known examples involving gross violations of human rights. This course examines human rights issues from different academic perspectives including politics, history, and law. The main focus is on the international management of human rights and the protection of individuals and groups on the international level. A number of exemplary case studies are considered to illustrate achievements, efficiency, and outcome of today's international human rights protection regime.

GOVT 332. Citizen-Organizations (3-3-0)

Prerequisite Courses: Minimum junior standing or consent of instructor.

Examines organizations as citizens in the sociopolitical context of the social contract, with emphasis on rights of organizations, legal theories of organizational civil and criminal liability, political behavior and power relations among organizations in polity, routine organizational conditions likely to generate unlawful conduct, and societal policing of organizations.

GOVT 333. Legislative Politics (3-3-0)

Prerequisite: GOVT 100, 101 or consent of instructor.

This course focuses on a general overview of the powers of Congress. Particular attention is devoted to understanding how an individual wins a congressional election, factors that affect congressional behavior, and the impact Congress has on public policy making. Topics covered include: congressional elections, representation, coalition building, voting behavior, leadership, committees, legislative process and decision making, and organized interests.

GOVT 338. Politics of Weapons Proliferation (3-3-0)

Prerequisite: GOVT 215.

This course examines the threats posed by the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction to aspiring states and terrorist groups and the strategies that the United States and the international community have employed to prevent the spread of these weapons. Key topics that we will examine include the technologies necessary for these weapons, the relevant treaties and international agreements that attempt to prevent WMD proliferation, and the primary countries

and terrorist groups that are attempting to acquire these weapons.

GOVT 340. Might and Right Among Nations (3-3-0)

Prerequisite: GOVT 100 or 215.

The main purpose of the course is to acquaint students with the evolution of international relations thought by means of a critical examination of classics in the tradition of political philosophy. Readings will be drawn from works of classical thinkers including Thucydides, Machiavelli, Grotius, Hobbes, Rousseau, and Kant, as well as some representative contemporary theorists. From these will emerge the concepts, assumptions, and issues that continue to dominate thinking about world politics today, including: the legitimate basis of political authority, the nature of sovereignty, the implications of "human nature" for world politics, and the possibilities and limits of international ethics.

GOVT 344. The Presidency (3-3-0)

Prerequisite: GOVT 100, 101 or consent of instructor.

A seminar examining the American presidency, with a particular focus on its constitutional foundation, the process of selection, presidential leadership, and presidential relations with other political institutions and the public.

GOVT 347. Justice, Politics and Policy (3-3-0)

This course examines how public opinion shapes politics which, in turn, shapes policy in the criminal justice agencies. The American representative form of government is examined in the context of how and why we create and implement public policy in the federal, state and local justice systems.

GOVT 352. Research Methods and Quantitative Analysis (3-3-0)

Prerequisite: MATH 125 or consent of instructor.

Fall and Spring.

An examination of the common methodological issues of social science research along with an introduction to the quantitative method. Topics include the conceptual foundations of research and the basic elements of research, research design and structure, data collection, and data-analysis techniques.

GOVT 354. Political Campaigns and Elections (3-3-0)

Prerequisite: GOVT 100, 101 or consent of instructor.

A seminar examining the theoretical, historical and political principles of political campaigns and elections in the United States. Particular attention is given to understanding the various factors that influence individual election outcomes, how elections impact the operation of government and public policy, and influences on elections such as the media, political action committees, and political parties.

GOVT 357. Classical Political Thought (3-3-0)

Prerequisite: GOVT 100 or consent of instructor.

Beginnings of the Western political heritage as shaped by the great political thinkers from Plato to Cicero.

GOVT 358. Modern Political Thought (3-3-0)

Prerequisite: GOVT 100 or consent of instructor.

Political thought of the Renaissance to that of the late nineteenth century, as represented by such thinkers as Machiavelli, Hobbes, Locke, Rousseau, Wollstonecraft, Hegel, Marx, and Nietzsche. Particular emphasis is placed on the aspirations of liberalism and the criticisms these aspirations inspired.

GOVT 359. American Political Thought (3-3-0)

Prerequisite: GOVT 100, 101 or consent of instructor.

History of American political thought from the founding to the Progressives, as represented by such thinkers as Locke, the Founders, federalists and anti federalists, Tocqueville, and Lincoln. Particular emphasis is placed on views of democracy, liberty, equality, property and the Union.

GOVT 363. The Judicial Process (3-3-0)

Prerequisite: GOVT 101 or consent of instructor.

An examination of institutional analysis of the judiciary in the context of sociopolitical conceptions of adjudication with emphasis on the role of courts in American society.

GOVT 368W. WI: Comparative Criminal Justice Systems (3-3-0)

Prerequisite: ENGL 123, ULLC 223.

The course presents an overview of the criminal justice systems in the United States and other countries. The law enforcement, judiciary and corrections components are examined within various national systems to identify the functions which best serve host political systems. Issues relating to the administration of justice within the context of urban and rural settings are also examined. Partially satisfies the Writing Intensive requirement.

GOVT 371W. WI: Public Administration and Policy (3-3-0)

Prerequisite: ENGL 123, ULLC 223.

An introduction to management in public, non-profit, and international career fields. The course concentrates upon examining resources for creating successful, high performance organizations. Primary topics of study include the role of politics in public administration, structural and human resources available for creating efficient and effective programs, communication styles and strategies, and budgeting and evaluation techniques and strategies. Partially Satisfies Writing Intensive requirement.

GOVT 375. Labor Law and Politics (3-3-0)

This course will examine political and court decisions, as well as state, federal, and constitutional laws that impact

the employment environment. Particular emphasis will be given to federal laws such as Title VII, Americans with Disabilities Act, Equal Pay Act, Age Discrimination Act, and specific Civil Rights Acts. Students will gain an understanding as to why these laws came into existence and how prospective/current employees and supervisors are affected.

GOVT 380. Terrorism (3-3-0) AIWT

Prerequisite: ULLC 223.

This course will examine the modern phenomenon of terrorism. We will define terrorism, consider its motivations, review the new dangers associated with terrorist access to weapons of mass destruction, and debate policy proposals that might be taken by democratic regimes to reduce the likelihood of terrorism or mitigate its consequences. Although we will examine a number of different types of terrorism and terrorist groups (including left-wing and right-wing terrorism), we will pay particular attention to the events leading up to and following September 11, 2001 – including a close examination of Al Qaeda and the U.S. “war on terrorism.”

GOVT 382. Women and Politics (3-3-0) AIII

Prerequisite: ULLC 223.

This course introduces students to the various roles of women in American politics. It covers a wide range of topics from the history of women’s involvement in politics in America to the future of women in politics. Other topics covered include: feminist theories, women’s political participation, and contemporary public policies of particular interest to women. Overall, the course investigates the role women have played in shaping the American political system and the significant political accomplishments of women.

GOVT 395. Special Topics (3-3-0)

Prerequisite: junior standing or consent of instructor.

Topics vary, determined by the special interests and needs of students and the expertise of faculty. A maximum of nine credits may be counted toward a degree.

GOVT 402. International Relations Theory and World Issues (3-3-0)

Prerequisite: GOVT 100 or 101 or consent of instructor.

Fall, alternate years.

A seminar examining the central international relations theories including realism, neo-realism, liberalism, neo-liberalism, within the context of contemporary world issues.

GOVT 410. Ethnic Conflict and Nationalism (3-3-0)

Prerequisite: GOVT 215.

Conflicts in the Balkans, Northern Ireland, Rwanda, Darfur, Iraq, Israel/Palestine, Sri Lanka, and India, among others, have led to tremendous human suffering and massive

political mobilization. This course provides an overview of the causes, character, and dynamics of ethnic conflicts and the strategies that can be employed to resolve them. It discusses the relationship between the theory of nationalism and ethnic conflict and puts issues accompanying ethnic conflict in a broader context of international politics. A number of exemplary case studies are considered to illustrate causes, trends, and consequences of conflicts and to discuss their resolution.

GOVT 450. Ethics in Government and Politics (3-3-0)

An examination of the process of generating criteria derived from democratic theory for making ethical judgments. The application of criteria to political situations as depicted in selected case studies. A review of ethical principles and their application, misleading assumptions, and false distinctions that may obstruct effective ethical decision-making about political actions.

GOVT 454. American Political Behavior (3-3-0)

Prerequisite: GOVT 100 and 101.

Why do some people vote and others do not? Why are some people turned off by the political process and others are not? How are people mobilized to participate in the political process? How is public opinion formed? What is ideology and how is it formed? This course will develop answers to these and other questions using the behavioral approach to the study of politics. We will look at the major theories of political behavior, the effect of long-term social change on political behavior, the socialization process, and the media.

GOVT 490. WI: Senior Seminar in Political Science (3-3-0)

Prerequisite: ENGL 123; ULLC 223; senior standing, departmental major; and completion of all other core courses in political science.

Fall and Spring.

This seminar course is designed as a capstone academic experience in which each student is expected to demonstrate independent research skills, prepare and present a formal paper, and participate in the discussion and analysis of presentations by other members of the seminar. The formal paper should be a significant example of the student's academic credentials in terms of knowledge, skills, and abilities. In addition, each student will complete a standardized assessment relevant to the political science field. Partially satisfies the Writing Intensive requirement.

GOVT 491. Senior Practicum (3-3-8)

Prerequisite: GOVT 101, 202, or GOVT 100, 101 and senior standing, or consent of instructor.

Part-time and full-time internships with government, military, for-profit, or non-profit organizations. Periodic conferences, written evaluations, and final paper relating theory and practice are required. Recommended for ad-

vising tracks in American Politics, Justice Studies, Public Administration and International Relations. A maximum of six credits maybe counted toward a degree.

GOVT 495. Special Topics (3-3-0)

Prerequisite: senior standing and consent of instructor.

Topics vary, determined by the special interests and needs of students and the expertise of faculty. A maximum of nine credits may be counted toward a degree.

GOVT 499. Independent Studies in Political Science (credits vary 1-3)

Prerequisite: junior or senior standing, consent of instructor and Department Chair.

As needed.

The purpose of this course is to enable a qualified student to enrich his/her program through independent work. The topic and evaluation are agreed upon in writing by the student and faculty member supervising the effort. This should be completed by the end of pre-registration for the session in which the study will take place. A student should have a minimum overall GPA of 2.50. Copies of the study plan, attached to an independent study authorization form, must be filed with appropriate college offices. A student may take a maximum of three hours of independent study in a semester and a maximum of six hours in his/her total academic program.