Political Science (POL)

Correction to POL 2603: Credit cannot be earned for both POL 2603 and GLA 2603.

Political Science (POL) Courses

POL 1013. Introduction to American Politics. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours. (TCCN = GOVT 2305)
This course provides an introduction to American politics. The course centers on the fundamental role played by the institutions of American government including Congress, the Presidency, Federal Judiciary, and the Bureaucracy in understanding political dynamics in the United States. The course also examines public opinion and participation as inputs to the institutions of American government, and the mediating role of organizations such as interest groups, the news media, and political parties. Considerable time is devoted to thinking about how these components fit together, and how they shape the nature and importance of citizenship and civic engagement. The course also makes connections between politics at the federal level of government and the political institutions and processes of the state of Texas. This course is required to fulfill the Core Curriculum requirement in Government-Political Science. Generally offered: Fall, Spring, Summer. Course Fees: LRC1 $12; LRLF $10.

POL 1133. Texas Politics and Society. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours. (TCCN = GOVT 2306)
This course involves the analysis of Texas government institutions, political behavior, civic engagement and their political and philosophical foundations. Topics may include discussions of the Texas and U.S. Constitutions; the role of state in the federal system; the diverse demographic, economic, and cultural bases of state politics; elections, interest groups, and elites; and legislative, executive, judicial, urban, and county politics. Considerable time is devoted to thinking about how these components fit together, and how they shape the nature and importance of citizenship and civic engagement in Texas. May be applied toward the Core Curriculum requirement in Government-Political Science. Generally offered: Fall, Spring, Summer. Course Fees: LRC1 $12; LRLF $10.

POL 1213. Civil Rights in Texas and America. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours. (TCCN = GOVT 2306)
This course presents the central elements of traditional introductory political science courses on Texas politics using an alternative, contextual method that teaches students to understand broader political and legal subjects through the lens of civil rights issues and struggles. May be applied toward the Core Curriculum requirement in Government-Political Science. (Formerly titled “Studies in Texas and American Politics.”) Course Fees: LRC1 $12; LRLF $10.

POL 2403. Mexican American Politics. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours. (TCCN = GOVT 2311)
The study of Mexican American and other Latino/a group participation in the American experience. Topics include Mexican American and Latinos/as in the electoral process, political and economic institutions, political behavior and opinion, civil rights, representation, social movements, and contemporary public policy debates. (Formerly POL 3093. Credit cannot be earned for both POL 2403 and POL 3093).

POL 2503. Introduction to Political Theory. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisite: POL 1013. An examination of fundamental concepts in political science such as justice, democracy, obligation, freedom, and equality. Generally offered: Fall, Spring.
POL 2703. Quantitative Methods in Political Science. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisite: POL 1013. An introduction to fundamental quantitative analysis geared to provide the student knowledge and skills applicable for graduation and beyond. Emphasis will be placed on literacy and basic proficiency in statistical topics and techniques (e.g., classic hypothesis testing, univariate through multivariate analyses); and, data management (e.g., entry and manipulation) and graphical presentation of analysis. Standard statistical software packages will be used. Generally offered: Fall, Spring.

POL 3013. The American Legal Process. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisite: POL 1013. An introduction to how the United States legal system is organized and functions. A broad overview of the system and its actors is combined with a focus on particular areas of the law such as domestic relations, personal injury liability litigation, criminal procedure, and alternative dispute resolution. (Same as PAL 3013. Credit cannot be earned for both PAL 3013 and POL 3013.) Generally offered: Fall.

POL 3033. International Governance. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisite: POL 1013. International law, organizations, regimes, hierarchies, and norms such as sovereignty govern the international system. These factors help create a world order that limits armed conflict, regulates the world economy, advances environmental protection, and sets human rights standards. This course explains theories of international governance, and compares these perspectives to the analysis of political scientists on the past record and likely future of world order. (Same as GLA 3033. Credit cannot be earned for both POL 3033 and GLA 3033.) Generally offered: Summer.

POL 3043. International Human Rights. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisite: POL 1013. This course explores the philosophical and political meaning of fundamental human rights; cases of human rights violations (such as genocide in the Holocaust, Rwanda, Kosovo, and Cambodia; the death penalty; female genital mutilation; violations of workers’ rights; and torture); and the role that states, international organizations and individuals can play in ending human rights abuses. Course readings may include contemporary theories of human rights and case studies on the enforcement of rights around the world. (Same as GLA 3043. Credit cannot be earned for both POL 3043 and GLA 3043.) Generally offered: Summer.

POL 3103. Contemporary Theories of Justice. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisite: POL 1013. An exploration of competing contemporary accounts of the political, economic, and cultural components of a just society. Some of the following theories will be discussed: libertarianism, liberalism, socialism, Marxism, communitarianism, multiculturalism, feminism, critical race perspectives, and environmentalism. (Formerly titled “Political Ideology.”).

POL 3113. American Political Thought. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisite: POL 1013. Consideration of American political thought with an emphasis on primary sources. Readings may include the works of Winthrop, Madison, Hamilton, Jefferson, Tocqueville, Calhoun, Lincoln, Melville, Twain, Douglass, DuBois, Addams, Croly, Wilson, Roosevelt, MLK, Malcolm X, and other diverse works of a political, philosophical, or literary nature. May be organized chronologically or topically. Generally offered: Spring.

POL 3123. Political Psychology. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisite: POL 1013. Political psychology seeks to explain the behavior of political leaders and mass publics by focusing on the psychological underpinnings of such behavior—their personalities, identities, values, attitudes, and feelings. Attention will be given to the interaction of these factors within different political environments. Topics may include political socialization; personality and political leadership; the psychology of small group decision making; the psychology of mass participation; and affect and cognition in political judgment. Generally offered: Spring.

POL 3133. Political Philosophy: Ancient and Medieval. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisite: POL 1013. The major works of Western political philosophy from ancient times to the Renaissance. Writers examined may include Plato, Aristotle, Thucydides, Augustine, and Machiavelli.

POL 3143. Political Philosophy: Modern. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisite: POL 1013. The major works of political philosophy from the Renaissance to the 19th century. Writers examined may include Hobbes, Locke, Rousseau, Hegel, Marx, and Mill.

POL 3153. Political Philosophy: Contemporary. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisite: POL 1013. Political thought from the late 19th century to the present. Topics examined may include contemporary Marxism and critical theory, analytic political theory, positivism and social science, phenomenological approaches, existentialism, and contemporary ethics.

POL 3173. Justice and Social Policy. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisite: POL 1013. This course examines social policies relating to the family, education, health care, old age, poverty, and other issues from a normative or social justice perspective. Questions that this course addresses may include: What role, if any, should the state play in the family? What should be the goals of a just education system? Should the United States support universal health care? What responsibility, if any, does society have toward the poor?

POL 3183. Women in Politics. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisite: POL 1013. An examination of the roles and forms of participation of women in contemporary American politics. Topics may include the fight for civil rights and equality; media portrayals of women in politics; women as candidates and as voters; women as elected officials, activists, and political professionals; and women in the military, including theories of gender and war.

POL 3203. African American Political Thought. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisite: POL 1013. This course examines the political thought of African Americans from the ante-bellum era to the present. May include the works of Frederick Douglass, Booker T. Washington, W.E.B. DuBois, Ida B. Wells, Marcus Garvey, Richard Wright, Ralph Ellison, Martin Luther King, Jr., Malcolm X, Angela Davis, Cornell West, Shelby Steele, Clarence Thomas, Lani Guinier, Eldridge Cleaver, Barack Obama, and others.

POL 3223. Judicial Politics. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisite: POL 1013. Topics may include political behavior of the major participants in the judicial process; the development of judicial institutions and processes; the political and administrative context of the judicial process; judicial-executive and judicial-legislative relations; and the impact of judicial decisions. (Same as PAL 3223. Credit cannot be earned for both PAL 3223 and POL 3223.) Generally offered: Spring.
POL 3244. Mass Media and Public Opinion. (3-2) 4 Credit Hours.
Prerequisite: POL 1013. Explores the acquisition of political attitudes,
the role of the mass media in society and politics, and the relationship
between political attitudes and values, the mass media, and public policy.
(Formerly POL 3243. Credit cannot be earned for both POL 3244 and
POL 3243.) Generally offered: Fall. Course Fee: MST1 $30.

POL 3253. Participation and American National Elections. (3-0) 3
Credit Hours.
Prerequisite: POL 1013. An introduction to fundamentals of American
electoral politics. Topics will include psychological, sociological and
economic models of participation, the presidential primary process, the
effectiveness of presidential and congressional campaigns on the vote,
psychological/sociological and economic models of the presidential
and congressional vote, the incumbency advantage in congressional
elections, spending in congressional elections, candidate entry, and
comparison of House and Senate elections.

POL 3283. The American Presidency. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisite: POL 1013. The U.S. president’s role in the American
political system. Topics may include the constitutional framework and
historical development of presidential powers, presidential personality,
and legislative, foreign policy, and war-making powers. Generally offered:
Spring.

POL 3293. Political Movements. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisite: POL 1013. This course examines the origins, mobilizing
tactics, and goals of political movements. Movements that may be
investigated are the movements of labor, students, women, blacks,
environmentalists, and others.

POL 3303. Race, Ethnicity and Public Policy. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisite: POL 1013. The objective of this course is to familiarize
students with a range of discourses to understand the complexities of
racial and ethnic inequalities in the United States as well as the history
and current state of racial and ethnic politics. The course examines the
politics and experiences of several groups, such as African Americans,
Hispanics, American Indians, and Asian Americans. It also reviews the
wide range of public policy issues as they affect, and are affected by,
racial and ethnic considerations.

POL 3313. The Supreme Court. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisite: POL 1013. This course examines the U.S. Supreme Court
as a political and legal institution. Topics may include the colonial and
English antecedents to the Supreme Court, its constitutional origins in
the framing and ratification debates, major episodes in its development
from the early republic to the present, its role within the federal judiciary,
its impact on party politics and political culture, and its relationship to
Congress, the executive branch, and the state courts. (Same as PAL
3313. Credit cannot be earned for both PAL 3313 and POL 3313).

POL 3323. Constitutional Law I. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisite: POL 1013. An examination of constitutional questions
arising from the institutional features of American government, including
electoral processes, separation of powers, and federalism. Emphasizes
judicial opinions and other primary sources. May be organized
chronologically or topically. Generally offered: Fall.

POL 3333. Constitutional Law II. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisite: POL 1013. An examination of constitutional questions
arising from the protection of rights and liberties in the American political
system. Topics may include religious liberty, free speech, voting,
property rights, due process, equal protection, and rights of the accused.
Emphasizes judicial opinions and other primary sources. May be
organized chronologically or topically. (Replaces POL 3023 Civil Liberties
in American Law and Practice.).

POL 3353. Leadership and Elites. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisite: POL 1013. An examination of national political executives
in parliamentary and presidential democracies and in authoritarian
states. Topics examined may include the selection process, decision
making, leadership and bureaucracy, executive-legislative relations, and
neocorporatism.

POL 3363. Political Parties and Interest Groups. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisite: POL 1013. An examination of the purpose of political parties
in the political process. Interest groups and their roles in government and
public policy.

POL 3373. The Legislative Process. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisite: POL 1013. An examination of the functions, structures, and
politics of legislatures and their relationships to their constituencies and
other branches of government.

POL 3383. East European Politics. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisite: POL 1013. This course provides an overview of politics
in Eastern Europe broadly understood as the region of East Central
and Southeastern Europe, and the post-Soviet space. It traces the
evolution of nation building since the interwar period and the system
of communist rule, with a focus on key dimensions of the post-
communist transformation of the region. Thematic coverage may include
constitutions, political culture, party politics, and Euro-Atlantic integration.
(Same as GLA 3383. Credit cannot be earned for POL 3383 and GLA
3383.).

POL 3393. Latin American Politics. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisite: POL 1013. This course examines trends and variations in
political development in Latin America during the last century. The main
focus is on the interaction between states and citizens, social relations,
and economic development. This course examines issues affecting Latin
America as a whole, but readings and lectures will also explore individual
countries within the region. (Same as GLA 3393. Credit cannot be earned
for both POL 3393 and GLA 3393.).

POL 3403. European Governments. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisite: POL 1013. The interplay of politics with the changing
social and economic environment in the advanced industrial societies
of Western Europe. Elites, participation, governmental structures, party
systems, interest groups, and public policy will be examined in several
selected polities and the European Union. (Same as GLA 3403. Credit
cannot be earned for both POL 3403 and GLA 3403.).

POL 3413. Urban Development: Politics Planning, and Power. (3-0) 3
Credit Hours.
The study of urbanization as a general process from multi-disciplinary
perspectives - political, economic, geographic, and social. We will
analyze urban change dynamics (both growth and stagnation) and study
urban regimes with an emphasis on the history and current forms of
spatial and social segregation of cities by race, class, ethnicity, culture,
and gender. Case studies may be drawn from Texas urban areas,
including San Antonio and Austin. (Formerly titled "The Politics of Urban
Development.") (Same as GES 3563. Credit cannot be earned for both GES
3563 and POL 3413.).
POL 3423. Geopolitics of Russia and Eurasia. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisite: POL 1013. Multidisciplinary introduction and regional study of the Russian Federation and the Eurasian realm, including the Caucasus, Central Asian nations, Afghanistan, and Mongolia. Both the geography and the politics of this area will be analyzed. Historical and contemporary geopolitical topics include nation-building, regional civilizations, revolution, terrorism, the 19th-century Great Game, the rise of the USSR, and the current transition of the Russian Federation to an uncertain future. (Same as GLA 3423 and GES 3423. Credit cannot be earned for more than one of the following: GLA 3423, GES 3423, GRG 3423, or POL 3423.)

POL 3433. Governments and Politics of Southeast Asia. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisite: POL 1013. A comparative examination of the political systems of selected Southeast Asian countries and their efforts to deal with political, economic, and social change. Countries studied may include Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam. (Same as GLA 3433. Credit cannot be earned for both POL 3433 and GLA 3433.) Generally offered: Spring.

POL 3443. Governments and Politics of East Asia. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisite: POL 1013. A comparative examination of the political systems of selected East Asian countries and their efforts to deal with problems of political, economic, and social change. Countries studied may include the People’s Republic of China, the Republic of China, and South Korea. (Same as GLA 3443. Credit cannot be earned for both POL 3443 and GLA 3443.)

POL 3453. Politics of Mexico. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisite: POL 1013. This course is an introduction to contemporary Mexican politics. It begins with a review of Mexico’s history since independence, and then moves on to study the key challenges in Mexican political development. The course focuses on identifying the key players and institutions involved in Mexican politics, and will evaluate the nature of Mexico’s recent democratic transition/consolidation process. (Same as GLA 3453. Credit cannot be earned for both POL 3453 and GLA 3453.)

POL 3463. Politics of the Third World. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisite: POL 1013. The political system of various Third World nations. An inquiry into the political and economic problems of these countries, such as development, instability, and political change. (Same as GLA 3463. Credit cannot be earned for both POL 3463 and GLA 3463.) Generally offered: Summer.

POL 3473. Latin America in the World. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisites: POL 1013 and one of the following: POL 3393, POL 3453, HIS 2533; or consent of instructor. Advanced survey of major theories and problems in Latin American political and economic development, theories of dependency, corporatism, bureaucratic authoritarianism, and transitions of democracy. Selected problems such as political stability, land reform, economic integration, multinational corporations, inflation, foreign debt, revolution and reform, and the military in politics. (Same as GLA 3473. Credit cannot be earned for both GLA 3473 and POL 3473. Formerly titled “Theories and Problems in Latin American Politics.”)

POL 3483. International Political Economy. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisite: POL 1013. This course is an introduction to the institutions and policies that govern international economic relations. Students will study the development of the international economic system as well as controversies over money, trade, and governance. (Same as GLA 3483. Credit cannot be earned for both POL 3483 and GLA 3483.)

POL 3493. Politics of the Middle East. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisite: POL 1013. An examination of the past, present, and future of Middle East politics, with an emphasis on culture, politics, religion, and conflicts in the area; the international relations of Middle Eastern countries as well as superpowers’ involvement. (Same as GLA 3493. Credit cannot be earned for both POL 3493 and GLA 3493.)

POL 3503. American Foreign Policy since World War II. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisite: POL 1013. Major private interests and public institutions involved in American foreign policy making; public opinion and foreign involvement; specific policies toward international organizations and major world regions. (Same as GLA 3503. Credit cannot be earned for both POL 3503 and GLA 3503.)

POL 3513. International Organizations in World Politics. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisite: GLA 1013 or POL 1013. This course will examine the role and influence of international organizations in major issue areas such as security, development, human rights, and regionalism. Organizations examined include the United Nations system, regional organizations, alliance systems, and common markets (Same as GLA 3513. Credit cannot be earned for both POL 3513 and GLA 3513.) Generally offered: Fall.

POL 3523. Force in International Politics. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisite: POL 1013. This course engages with experiences of violence in international relations. It provides an examination of modern research into the use of coercion in international relations with a focus on economic sanctions, war, and terrorism. Special emphasis will be placed on the causes, trends, and consequences of interstate wars. Topics may include armed conflict, trauma and suffering, laws of war, representation of war in media, peace movements, and the technologies of peace making. (Same as GLA 3523. Credit cannot be earned for both POL 3523 and GLA 3523.)

POL 3553. The Welfare State in Comparative Perspective. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisite: POL 1013. History and development of social policies in modern societies. Policy areas covered may include pensions, health care, income maintenance, housing, education, training, and child care. (Formerly titled “Social Policy in Modern Welfare States.”) Generally offered: Spring.

POL 3563. Current Issues in World Politics. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisite: POL 1013. An examination of the issues that divide the people of the world. The structure of contemporary world problems will be studied and possible strategies for the reduction of international conflict will be assessed. Topics may include nuclear proliferation, world hunger, revolution and intervention, transnational enterprises, competing ideologies of international relations, and global ecology. (Same as GLA 3563. Credit cannot be earned for both POL 3563 and GLA 3563.)

POL 3583. Jurisprudence. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisite: POL 1013. An inquiry into the nature of law and legal obligation with emphasis on relevant works of political philosophy and those of important jurists. Works covered in the course may represent natural law, positivist, realist, theocratic, and critical perspectives on law. (Formerly POL 4153. Same as PAL 3583. Credit cannot be earned for both POL 3583 and POL 4153 or PAL 3583.)
POL 3593. Topics in Latin American Security. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisite: POL 1013 or GLA 1013. This seminar examines key questions for regional security in Latin America. Although drawing on scholarly and historical materials, this course focuses essentially on contemporary regional security and includes general topics, such as regional security, peace and war in Latin America, military-relations, drug trafficking, and public security. The cases are selected in part to provide geographical balance and contemporary relevance, but also to demonstrate the contrasts between traditional and emerging security questions in the region. (Same as GLA 3593. Credit cannot be earned for both GLA 3593 and POL 3593.)

POL 3633. Political Economy. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisite: POL 1013. The political, legal, and ethical context of modern commercial society is explored through the evolution of conceptions of the economy, the individual, and the state. Topics may include the institutional foundations of market societies, ethical and legal impact of business practices, comparisons of national economic policies, the interaction of modern government and economic activity, and the impact of markets on concepts of public and private life. (Same as GLA 3633. Credit cannot be earned for both POL 3633 and GLA 3633.) Generally offered: Fall.

POL 3643. Justice among Nations. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisite: POL 1013. An examination of different theories of justice between states and/or the citizens of different states. Topics may include just war theory; cosmopolitan and anti-cosmopolitan debates; theories of human rights and the challenges to them; multiculturalism; diverse religious or cultural views on justice in world affairs. May be repeated for credit when topics vary.

POL 3743. Politics in Film. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisite: POL 1013. This course examines the role of film in the political process and in the broader political development of the United States and other countries. Students will study how American and international films operate as information, propaganda, and entertainment.

POL 3763. Globalization. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisite: POL 1013. This course examines normative and empirical issues in globalization debates, such as the role of states and nonstate actors, the emergence of global civil society, patterns of international development, the influence of international integration on security, health, violence, and intercultural toleration, and the status of institutions for global justice. (Same as GLA 3763 and INS 3763. Credit cannot be earned for more than one of the following: POL 3763, GLA 3763, or INS 3763.) Generally offered: Summer.

POL 3773. Experiments in Democratic Renewal. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisites: POL 1013 and GLA 1013 or POL 2603 or POL 2633.
This course experiments with the participatory process around the world that try new forms of collective action to solve public problems. The setting of these experiments is the double movement of globalization of production and the decentralization of government which have placed a premium on learning processes in contrast to the bureaucratic welfare state and market-based decision-making. The course examines cases in the United States as well as other countries, such as Brazil, Mexico, Canada, India, and others. The course will examine debates about the foundations for as well as the efficacy of new decision-making procedures. Policy cases may include schooling, environmental protection, policing, housing, drug rehabilitation, sweat shop labor, community finance, women’s development, and public budgeting.

POL 3783. Democracy and World Politics. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisite: POL 1013. This course examines theories of democratic transition and focuses on the problems of democratic change throughout the world. Case studies may include political change after the end of the Cold War in the former Communist states, democratic transitions in Latin America, patterns of change in sub-Saharan Africa, the Middle East, and south Asia. (Same as GLA 3783. Credit cannot be earned for both POL 3783 and GLA 3783.) Formerly titled “Comparative Democratization.”

POL 3813. Politics of Federal Justice Policy Making. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisite: POL 1013. This course examines the intersections of politics and legal institutions of the federal government. Consideration will be given to major historical and political developments mainly associated with policy decisions of the federal executive and the federal judiciary in carrying out constitutional and statutory obligations in civil and criminal enforcement, adjudication, and punishment. Special emphasis will be given to how federal justice policies are formed, implemented, and evaluated by presidents, Congress, and the federal courts in policy areas such as civil rights, privacy and surveillance, interstate and international criminal organizations, investigative practices, prosecutorial effectiveness, and civil and criminal penalties/sanctions. (Same as PAL 3813. Credit cannot be earned for both PAL 3813 and POL 3813.)

POL 3823. Politics of Congressional Elections. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisite: POL 1013. An introduction to the politics of congressional elections. Topics include determinants of national election outcomes, campaigning for Congress, strategic behavior, primary elections, the incumbency advantage, money in congressional elections, Senate versus House comparisons, and representation.

POL 3843. Campaign and Election Law. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisite: POL 1013. This course examines the laws that govern elections in the United States. Topics include the constitutional and legal issues arising from campaign finance regulations, political party organization, election administration, and redistricting as well as the constitutional and statutory protection of voting rights. The course may also consider these issues in comparative perspective. (Same as POL 3843. Credit cannot be earned for both POL 3843 and POL 3843.)

POL 3853. Immigration Law. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisite: POL 1013. Examines the legal framework of immigration and citizenship in the United States. Topics include the history and development of immigration and citizenship policy, the constitutional and international law foundations of immigration regulation, the structure and operation of federal institutions that regulate immigration, the role of state and local governments in enforcing immigration policy, and the legal processes that adjudicate immigration cases. (Same as PAL 3853. Credit cannot be earned for both PAL 3853 and POL 3853.)

POL 4023. Techniques in Global Analysis. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisite: POL 1013. Examines various techniques for collecting, analyzing, and communicating information by government and private sector organizations engaged in global analysis. Stress methodologies for analyzing informational inputs, including strengths and weaknesses of various analytical applications. Studies analytic cultures and methodologies associated with information collection and interpretation, legal and political oversight, accommodation of dissenting views in interpretation and policy debate, and economic, political, and cultural implications of analytical findings. Compares and contrasts analytical methods employed by public and private organizations. May be taught from different perspectives depending upon faculty expertise and interests. (Same as GLA 4123. Credit cannot be earned for both POL 4023 and GLA 4123.) Generally offered: Fall.
POL 4123. Legal and Philosophical Reasoning. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisite: POL 1013. An intensive analysis of selected philosophical
texts focusing on law and justice. Students are challenged to develop
critical reading and thinking skills by studying the texts of philosophers
such as Plato, Aristotle, Dworkin, Hart, and/or others who outline
difficult arguments and unfamiliar ideas. Emphasis is placed on drawing
reasoned conclusions, advocating positions, and expressing oneself in
oral and written forms. (Same as PAL 4123. Formerly LGS 4123. Credit
cannot be earned for both POL 4123 and PAL 4123 or LGS 4123.).

POL 4133. Politics, Law, and Literature. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisite: POL 1013. Examination of fundamental questions of
political theory as treated in works of literature. Topics may include
authority, law and discretion, the individual and the community, church
and state, criminality, and the nature of freedom, especially as these
issues emerge in different political orders. Potential works include Greek
tragedy and comedy, Dante, Shakespeare, Dostoyevsky, Hawthorne,
Melville, Twain, Richard Wright, Ralph Ellison, Flannery O’Connor,
Robert Penn Warren, Walker Percy, Saul Bellow, and others. (Same as
POL 4153. Credit cannot be earned for both POL 4133 and PAL 4153).

POL 4163. Model UN. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisite: POL 1013. The course introduces students to the
United Nations and the world of Model UN. The class will discuss the
organization’s history, structure, operations, and role in the international
system. Applying this knowledge in educational simulation, the class will
engage students in modelling the UN. This will include hosting a Model
UN as well as competing nationally as delegates. As such, the class will
solidify substantial knowledge on the UN as well as provide logistical
project management skills. Credit in GLA 3533 is not a perquisite but
priority will be given to students who have who have taken GLA 3533.
(Same as GLA 4163. Credit cannot be earned for both POL 4163 and
GLA 4163.).

POL 4213. The Intelligence Community in World Affairs. (3-0) 3
Credit Hours.
Prerequisite: POL 1013. Advanced study of key historical developments
of U.S. and other intelligence functions in national and international
security. Examines a broad range of issues and case studies such as
collection and analytical methods, measures of success and failure of
intelligence operations, agency organizational problems, accuracy
and accountability, counterintelligence and covert operations, threats
to homeland security, constitutional and legislative roles, liaison
relationships, and challenges in executive-legislative interactions in the
policy making process. (Same as GLA 4213. Credit cannot be earned for
both POL 4213 and GLA 4213. Formerly GLA 4013 and POL 4013.)
Generally offered: Spring.

POL 4323. Administrative Law and Politics. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisite: POL 1013. A survey of those aspects of public law of
particular relevance to public administration, analyzing such problem
areas as the delegation of authority; formal accountability; open records
and confidentiality; and responsiveness to democratic value in decision
making. (Same as PAL 4323. Credit cannot be earned for both POL 4323
and POL 4323.) Generally offered: Spring.

POL 4853. Study Abroad: Political Science. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisite: Permission of instructor. A lecture course associated with a
study abroad program. Involves international travel and field trips. May be
repeated for credit when the destination country varies.

POL 4911. Independent Study. (0-0) 1 Credit Hour.
Prerequisites: Independent Study Course Form signed by the instructor,
the student’s advisor, the Department Chair, and the Dean of the College
of Liberal and Fine Arts. Independent reading, research, discussion, and/
or writing under the direction of a faculty member. May be repeated for
credit, but not more than 6 semester credit hours of independent study,
regardless of discipline, will apply to a bachelor’s degree.

POL 4912. Independent Study. (0-0) 2 Credit Hours.
Prerequisites: Independent Study Course Form signed by the instructor,
the student’s advisor, the Department Chair, and the Dean of the College
of Liberal and Fine Arts. Independent reading, research, discussion, and/
or writing under the direction of a faculty member. May be repeated for
credit, but not more than 6 semester credit hours of independent study,
regardless of discipline, will apply to a bachelor’s degree.

POL 4913. Independent Study. (0-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisites: Independent Study Course Form signed by the instructor,
the student’s advisor, the Department Chair, and the Dean of the College
of Liberal and Fine Arts. Independent reading, research, discussion, and/
or writing under the direction of a faculty member. May be repeated for
credit, but not more than 6 semester credit hours of independent study,
regardless of discipline, will apply to a bachelor’s degree.

POL 4933. Internship in Political Science. (0-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisites: Consent of internship coordinator and Department Chair.
Supervised experience relevant to political science within selected
community organizations. A maximum of 6 semester credit hours may be
earned through the internship.

POL 4936. Internship in Political Science. (0-0) 6 Credit Hours.
Prerequisites: Consent of internship coordinator and Department Chair.
Supervised experience relevant to political science within selected
community organizations. A maximum of 6 semester credit hours may be
earned through the internship.

POL 4953. Special Studies in Political Science. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisite: POL 1013. An organized course offering the opportunity for
specialized study not normally or not often available as part of the regular
course offerings. Special Studies may be repeated for credit when topics
vary, but not more than 6 semester credit hours, regardless of discipline,
will apply to a bachelor’s degree.

POL 4973. Seminar in Political Science. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisite: POL 1013, POL 2693, POL 2703, and 15 semester credit
hours in POL, or consent of instructor. The opportunity for an intensive
study of a selected topic. Primary emphasis on supervised research on
various aspects of the topic. May be repeated for credit when topics vary.
Enrollment limited to juniors and seniors majoring in political science.
Generally offered: Fall, Spring.

POL 4983. Research Practicum. (0-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisites: Permission in writing (form available) of the instructor,
the student’s advisor, and the Department Chair. The practicum provides
students with the opportunity to focus on a specific research issue having
practical applications in geography, governance, politics, or policy.
Students participate in a hands-on research experience on the issue in a
collective research environment.
POL 4993. Honors Thesis. (0-0) 3 Credit Hours.
Prerequisites: A minimum grade point average of 3.0 at UTSA, a 3.5 grade point average in the major, and recommendation by a member of the Political Science and Geography faculty. Supervised research and preparation of an honors thesis. May be repeated once with advisor's approval. Students who are approved will enroll in the appropriate honors thesis courses during their final two semesters at UTSA. To earn honors, the thesis must be passed by an Honors Committee that will be formed with the recommending faculty and another faculty member. Students interested in enrolling should contact the Department Undergraduate Advisor of Record for additional information.