**Advisement Newsletter for Spring 2015.**

Political Science Department, TCNJ

The following information is intended to assist Political Science majors, minors, and other interested students in registering for Spring 2015 Political Science classes. Please read carefully information about preparing for an advising meeting. You can find more information, including a Politics Forum schedule and internships, on the Department’s webpage: http://polisci.pages.tcnj.edu/

*Preparing for an advising session.*

Prior to meeting with your assigned advisor, run your Academic Requirement Report on PAWS and come to your advisor with a written draft schedule for the semester, courses in your shopping cart and a plan for all of your remaining semesters at TCNJ. For guidance on how to prepare better for your advisement session and plan your academic career, see the “Advising” links on the School of Humanities &Social Sciences website: <http://hss.pages.tcnj.edu/advising-resources/>

Consider asking questions about issues beyond the semester, such adding an academic program or plans after graduation. Make a plan of what courses you would like to take in all of your remaining semesters at TCNJ, trying to work in enriching opportunities such as study abroad, the Washington Center, Moot Court, a second major, minors or internships. The most rewarding earning experiences require some planning.

When you place courses in your PAWS shopping cart, be sure to hit the validate button to make sure you have met all prerequisites. You should plan alternatives for major courses, liberal learning courses, and electives, so you can register quickly. You are encouraged to run “What If” reports for concentrations, double majors, and new minors you are thinking about taking.

Requirements for the major and minors are listed in the Undergraduate Bulletin, available at <http://bulletin.pages.tcnj.edu/files/2014/05/Political_Science.pdf> For information about the courses, including descriptions and how they count toward field distribution requirements see: <http://www.tcnj.edu/~bulletin/current/Political_Science_courses.pdf>

Recommended course sequences for first, second, third, and fourth year students may be found below and in the on-line bulletin. POL 200 is a prerequisite for POL 390, which is a prerequisite for the senior seminar. Since better mathematical skills improve student performance in economics courses, ECO 102 and 102 require one of the following as a prerequisite: MAT 95, 96, 125, 127 or 128

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| --- | --- |
| *Class* | *Assigned advisor* |
| Freshmen | Bowen |
| Sophomores | Potter |
| Junior | Toloudis |
| Seniors A-L | Dumas |
| Seniors M-Z | Potter |

*Transfer credit and holds.*

Check and clear all holds on PAWS well in advance of your registration window. There are several different types of holds and some might require time to clear. Your advisor can lift only advising holds and only after you have prepared for and attended in person (not be email or phone) an advising meeting.

Make sure any and all transfer credit is on your PAWS unofficial transcript or transfer credit pages, as this will affect your registration window, course selection, and advice received. Do not miss your first available registration appointment window on PAWS, as you may be closed out of preferred courses.

*Overload requests.*

Overload requests to take more than 4.5 units must be submitted on the HSS school form to the department chair, Dr. Potter, and then in person to the Assistant Dean, Dr. Rosa. This application must include a brief narrative on why you seek overload; overload is a one-time option that requires a 3.3 GPA and a good reason. Allow time for Dr. Rosa to schedule an appointment with you. See: http://hss.pages.tcnj.edu/advising-resources/advising-faq-for-hss-faculty-and-students/

*Special courses.*

The department offers several courses by special arrangement and special registration procedures need be followed. For Independent Study talk first to the faculty member you would like to work with or see the chair. For Internships, please see Dr. Bowen. For Departmental Honors, study abroad or the TCNJ/Washington Center Program see Dr. Potter. Enrollment in POL 399/Internship in Public Affairs looks good on your record and allows you to test career opportunities.

The department will offer four special topics courses:

POL 370-1: Global Environmental Politics, Nordquist (Fields: International Relations or Comparative).

Global Environmental Politics examines the history, theory, and politics of contemporary debates and conflicts over the sustainability of earth’s environments.  The first half of course will examine the history of how the health of the planet became a political issue in the second half of the 20th century, and how scholars and activists theorize a politics of the planet. The second half of the course will investigate specific issues of global environmental politics (climate change, energy and oil, biodiversity, waste, environmental justice) and the policies, institutions, and movements that have developed in response to them.

POL 370-2: Health Care Policy, Healey (Fields: American Politics, can be used for Public Policy).

Health Care is an increasingly large part of our government expenditures and of our Gross Domestic Product. This course will provide a broad analysis of how the US health care system came to be – not by any grand design – through a series of historic circumstances.

POL 370-3: Policy Aspects of Budgeting, Keevey (Fields: American Politics, Public Policy).

Difficult budget choices are being made each day by state and federal decision makers concerning the allocation of budgetary resources. This course will examine the practical & policy aspects of federal and state budget making, including how budgets are developed, where revenue comes from, taxation policy, infrastructure and capital needs, debt and bond issuance and pension issues. In addition, current challenges facing the federal government and state government, including New Jersey, will be discussed.

POL 370-4: Lesbian and Gay Politics, Gusciora (Field: American Politics).

This course is designed as a broad study of Lesbian Gay Bisexual & Transgendered (LGBT) political discourse and the relationship between advocacy and public policy affecting the LGBT community.

The department will offer two tutorials. POL 200 is a perquisite for enrolling in POL 390.

POL 390-1: Tutorial: Politics and Consequences of Electing and Appointing Judges, Dumas (Field:

American Politics).

While all federal judges are appointed for good behavior, states select and retain judges for state courts through partisan (elections where the judges’ partisan identification appears on the ballot), nonpartisan (elections where there is no partisan affiliation on the ballot), and retention elections (in which voters vote yes or no for retaining the judge), as well as appointment.  Literature looking at state appellate courts overwhelming finds that judges’ electoral concerns shape their voting behavior, especially in politically important cases such as death penalty decisions.  This class will explore the debate over the "best" way to select and retain judges and the consequences of different selection methods for those bringing cases before the courts.

POL 390-2: Tutorial: European Union, Toloudis (Field: International Relations or Comparative Politics)

This course explores the historical foundations, consequences, and scope of European political and economic integration.  We will examine the historical trajectory that the European Union has followed over the past 60 years, how national political considerations have shaped the direction and pace of European integration, the variety of policies that the EU implements, and some of the ways that the EU has impacted the polities and economies of its member states.  Students will write research papers on one of these topics.

Students can take POL 498 or INT 498 (if space is available) as a senior seminar. POL 390 is a perquisite.

POL 498: Senior Seminar: Political Parties and Party Systems Toloudis.

This seminar deals with the relationship between political parties and representative democracy in the 20th and 21st centuries.  It examines the relationships between parties and electoral systems and between parties and policy, as well as the causes of party system change.  Students will write major research papers on one of these topics with reference to one or more countries.

INT 498: Senior Seminar: Social Movements and the Politics of Protest, Chartock.

Often, when we think about political and social change, formal and regulated institutions and processes such as elections, political parties, and policy-making, come to mind. So often, however, the most concentrated pressures for political and social change come from ordinary people coming together outside of the formal political sphere. In this International Studies Senior Seminar, we therefore focus on social movements and other forms of collective action aimed at achieving or preventing social and political change (often, though not always, through non-institutionalized forms of political action such as protests and demonstrations). We examine theories that explain how social movements arise and succeed (and why they sometimes do not) and apply these theories to cases from various countries around the world.

*Course Recommendations By Year for Majors*

First Year

FSP First Seminar 1 course unit

POL 110/American Government\* 1 course unit

***or***

POL 230/International Relations

POL Comparative Politics Option 1 course unit

Quantitative Reasoning including STA 115 2 course units

WRI 102/Academic Writing (if not exempted)\*\* 1 course unit

Foreign Language (if not exempted) \*\* 2 course units

\*Students who have taken a course in American politics or government prior to TCNJ should take POL 230 instead.

\*\*It is recommended that students exempted from these courses take other liberal learning courses.

Sophomore Year

POL 200/Political Analysis\* 1 course unit

POL Electives 2 course units

Liberal Learning courses (including foreign language, if needed,

and economics) 2-3 course units

Electives 2-3 course units

*\*POL 200 should be completed by the end of the second year.*

Junior Year

POL 390/Tutorial in Political Science 1 course unit

POL Electives 3 course units

Liberal Learning courses 1-2 course units

Electives 2-4 course units

Senior Year

POL 498/Seminar in Political Science 1 course unit

POL Electives 2 course units

Electives 4-5 course units

**Political Science Department Course for Spring 2015**

POL 110-01 American Government, Monday 5:30pm-8:20pm, SSB 223, Brindle

POL 110-02 American Government, Wednesday, 5:30pm-8:20pm, SSB 223, Gusciora

POL 150-01 Comparative Politics, Mon/Thur 12:30pm-1:50pm, SSB 223, Chartock

POL 200-01 Political Analysis, Mon/Thur 9:30am-10:20am, SSB 223/021, Bowen

POL 275-01 Western Political Philosophy, Tuesday 5:30pm-8:20pm, SSB 223, Brindle

POL 316-01 Public Opinion, Voting, Elections, Mon/Thru 11:00am -12:20, SSB 223, Bowen

POL 321-01 Civil Liberties, Tue/Fri 9:30am-10:50am, SSB 225, Dumas

POL 323-01 Law and Society, Tue/Fri 11:00am-12:20pm, SSB 225, Dumas

POL 358-01 Latin American Politics, Mon/Thur 11:00am – 12:20pm, SSB 225, Chartock

POL 370-01 Topics: Global Environmental Politics, Tue/Fri 9:30-10:50, SSB 223, Nordquist

POL 370-02 Topics: Health Care Policy, Wednesday 5:30pm-8:20pm, SSB 225, Healey

POL 370-03 Topics: Policy Aspects of Budgeting, Thursday 5:30-8:20pm, SSB 223, Keevey

POL 370-04 Topics: Lesbian and Gay Politics, Tuesday 5:30pmk-8:20pm, SSB 225, Gusciora

POL 372-01 History American Political Ideas, Tue/Fri 2:00pm-3:20pm, SSB 223, Nordquist

POL 380-01 International Political Economy, Tue/Fri 11:00am-12:20pm, SSB 223, Potter

POL 390-01 Tutorial: Election of Judges, Tue/Fri 2:00pm-3:20pm, SSB 225, Dumas

POL 390-02 Tutorial: European Union, Mon/Thur 12:30pm-1:50pm, SSB 225, Toloudis

POL 498-01 Seminar: Political Parties & Party Systems Mon 5:30-8:20pm SSB 241, Toloudis