



POLITICAL SCIENCE DEPARTMENT
HANDBOOK FOR STUDENTS
(2024-2025)



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UNDERGRADUATE ACADEMIC PROGRAM

Why Choose Political Science as a Major?

More than 75 years ago, Dr. Harold Lasswell, a prominent Political Science professor, wrote a fascinating book entitled *Politics: Who Gets What, When, How?* His book inspired other political scientists to ask another profoundly important question, namely: *Why?* Over the years, these questions have remained critically important. If you're interested in exploring them in depth, then Political Science is the major for you.

Studying politics involves examining the making of both conflict and consensus; learning what the stakes are; explaining why some groups gain access to the debate while others are left out; and how society as a whole is affected by political actions and inactions. Studying politics enables you to understand how consensus is reached on difficult questions; what can upset that consensus; and how new public debates get generated. Investigating politics involves addressing vexing questions that confront people in countries all over the world these days. For example:

- Why are some governments stable and others unstable?
- How do formal government institutions and informal political resources affect the ability of leaders to govern effectively?
- What factors cause wars or contribute to a peaceful resolution of conflicts?
- How do public policies affect citizens' lives and how can citizens affect those policies?
- In what ways do differences in the socio-economic characteristics of people, such as their race, religion, gender, ethnic background, income or education level, affect their political attitudes and behavior?
- What political factors facilitate or impede the realization of social justice and equality?
 - And most important, who gets to decide who will decide these and other matters when conflicts over them arise?

The goal of the Political Science major is to equip you with analytical concepts, theories, relevant information, and tools for investigation that will enable you to develop your own answers to these questions and to other important questions that are likely to arise in the future.

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MAJOR

(Also see the worksheet at the end of this Handbook.)

The requirements for the major are designed to give you a broad introduction to the study of politics as well as the opportunity to gain depth in a subfield of particular interest to you. You get to choose one of three **subfields** as your specialization within the Political Science major:

American Politics and Public Policy
Comparative Politics
International Relations

Students must take a minimum of **thirteen (13) courses** for the major. Although the number of required courses is fixed, there is considerable leeway to choose the specific courses you take. **Eleven (11) of the courses** are in the Political Science Department; **two (2) courses** are from other disciplines. The non-Political Science courses are intended to complement the study of politics with other perspectives and to acquaint you with significant relationships that exist between politics and other societal sectors, such as the economy.

The **thirteen courses** required for the Political Science major are divided into two categories:

1. Subfield Specialization Requirements
2. General Requirements

SUBFIELD SPECIALIZATION REQUIREMENTS

You will take five courses in your chosen subfield and one History course related to it.

1. The subfield introductory course: PSCI 050 Intro to American Government, PSCI 070 Intro to Comparative Politics, or PSCI 069 Intro to International Relations.

*Students are **strongly** encouraged to take this course in their first or second year.*

2 - 3 - 4. Three additional Political Science courses in your chosen subfield.

*One of these **must** be at the 200 level.*

5. One junior/senior Capstone Seminar in your chosen subfield. *Note: The Subfield Introductory Course (or Permission of Instructor) is a **prerequisite** for the subfield Capstone Seminar.*

6. One History course that is related to your subfield.

Note: You should select the related History course to take in consultation with your Political Science faculty advisor.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

You will take seven courses to fulfill the general requirements for our major:

7. One introductory course outside the subfield you choose for your specialization: PSCI 050 Intro to American Government, PSCI 070 Intro to Comparative Politics, or PSCI 069 Intro to International Relations. *Students are **strongly** encouraged to take this course in their first or second year.*

8. One course on political science research methods and skills: PSCI 107 Research Methods in Politics (PSCI 107 **also** fulfills the University's "FA" requirement). *Students are **strongly** encouraged to take this course in their second year. It will help you acquire research skills you can use in your other Political Science courses.*

9. One course in normative political theory: e.g., PSCI 155, PSCI 178, PSCI 203, PSCI 206, PSCI 207, PSCI 260, PSCI 265, WGS 200, or WGS 240.

10. Economics 010: Economics and the World Economy

Students are strongly encouraged to take this course in their first or second year.

11 – 12 – 13. Three Political Science courses *outside* your subfield specialization. *One of these three **must** be a 200-level course. One **must** be in the 3rd subfield—**either** the Introduction to that subfield or any other course in it.* For example, if your subfield specialization is International Relations and you've also taken the Introduction to Comparative Politics course, you will need to take either the Introduction to American Government course or some other course in the American Politics and Public Policy subfield. One of these three courses may be an additional normative political theory course beyond the one that is required for all Political Science majors.

In summary, **a total of thirteen courses** must be taken to fulfill the requirements for the Political Science major:

eleven in Political Science
one in Economics
one in History

A minimum of three of the Political Science courses you take (including the Capstone Seminar) must be at the 200 level.

Note: It may be possible to fulfill a requirement for your Political Science major with a for-credit internship, an independent reading or research project (supervised by a faculty member), or a course (or courses) you take as part of a study abroad program. If you plan to do an internship or participate in a Study Abroad program, you should make sure to discuss your plans with your Political Science faculty advisor *before* you apply in order to find out which, if any, requirement(s) it may fulfill for your major. You may count PSCI 294

(Peer Learning Assistantship) toward your 32-credit graduation requirement, but not toward the major.

GENERAL COURSES:

- 107 Research Methods
- 155 Roots of Political Thought
- 178 Gender and Political Theory
- 203 Political Theorists and Their Theories
- 206 Recent Political Theory
- 207 International Relations Theory
- 260 Democratic Theory
- 265 Black Political Thought
- 293 Special Topics in Political Theory
- WGS 200 Topics in Feminist Theory
- WGS 240 Black Feminist Theory

SUBFIELD SPECIALIZATIONS

I. AMERICAN POLITICS AND PUBLIC POLICY

The American Politics and Public Policy subfield is wide-ranging. It includes the study of basic political and governmental institutions, such as the presidency and political parties; major political processes, such as the legislative process and decision making by the courts; and important patterns of political behavior, such as citizen participation, interest group lobbying, campaigning and voting.

If you choose American Politics and Public Policy as your subfield, you will become familiar with each of these broad areas. You will also learn about the interrelationships among them in order to understand not just *how* the American political system operates, but *why* it emphasizes particular values and allocates certain resources to different groups and individuals. The central questions you will address as you explore the various facets of American politics are: *Who benefits and who is disadvantaged?*

The federal structure of American government and the diversity of the population also make it essential for you to recognize significant variations in government institutions, political processes, and political behavior within the United States. Such variations are considered in courses on, for example, urban and suburban politics; lawyers, judges, and politics; African American politics; and women and politics.

The policies that result from (or are stymied by) the complex interplay of forces in the American political system are also of increasing concern to many students of American politics as well as to many members of the American public. Hence, courses that focus on specific policy areas, such as the environment and the economy, are also exciting areas to explore in the American Politics subfield.

The Political Science Department offers the following courses in American Politics and Public Policy (*see the Clark Catalogue for full descriptions*):

- 050 Introduction to American Government
- 091 First-year Intensive: Politics of Food
- 108 American Political Development
- 121 State Government and Politics
- 154 Introduction to Public Policy in the United States
- 157 The Politics of U.S. Environmental Issues
- 161 Women, Politics and Public Policy
- 170 American Political Thought and Behavior
- 185 Political Discourse on Today's College Campus (half-credit course, pass/NC)
- 204 The American Presidency
- 205 U.S. Campaigns & Elections
- 209 Minority Political Behavior
- 210 Sexuality and Politics
- 213 Policy Analysis
- 217 Latino Politics in the U.S.
- 235 Money and U.S. Politics
- 241 Special Topics in American Politics

- 252 U.S. Political Parties and Interest Groups
- 253 U.S. Judicial Politics
- 255 Politics of the U.S. Congress
- 272 U.S. Constitutional Law: Civil Liberties and Rights
- 273 U.S. Constitutional Law: Governmental Powers
- 274 The Supreme Court in American Society
- 280 Capstone Seminar: The Politics of Food and Drink
- 288 Capstone Seminar: Immigration, Identity, and Diversity
Politics in the U.S.
- 296 Capstone Seminar: Advanced Topics in American Politics
- 297 Senior Honors Thesis
- 298 Internship
- 299 Independent Study (Directed Readings or Research)

II. COMPARATIVE POLITICS

Comparative Politics has two intertwined meanings at Clark: 1) in-depth study of politics in two or more countries outside the United States; for example, Canada, Mexico, the former Soviet Union, Vietnam, Great Britain, France, Jordan, Israel, Brazil or South Africa, and 2) systematic comparisons of important aspects of politics, such as social movements or policy-making processes, in two or more countries. Comparative Politics subfield specialists are given the opportunity to delve into politics as experienced by elites and by ordinary people in other countries. The Political Science Department offers two kinds of Comparative Politics courses: 1) courses that focus on the politics of particular countries or groups of countries, for example: Asian Politics, Chinese Politics, Middle East Politics, Russian Politics, Latin American Politics, Politics of Western Europe, and 2) courses that focus on particular puzzles, which are best explored on a trans-national basis, for example: Revolution and Political Violence, Mass Murder and Genocide under Communism, Women and Militarization, Comparative Gender Politics, Transitions to Democracy, Comparative Environmental Politics, and Globalization and Democracy.

Both of these types of courses are Comparative Politics courses. While the U.S. is deliberately kept off center stage in these courses, most of

them raise specific questions about American politics—its policies, experiences, assumptions—as they are seen from the vantage point of people in other countries.

We see Comparative Politics as an approach that opens up new questions and suggests fresh answers to old questions. It alerts us to the varieties—and also the often-surprising similarities—in how public power is gained, justified, and wielded in different countries.

Puzzles you may find yourself tackling as a Comparative Politics specialist include: Why and how do revolutions happen? How can a dictatorship become a democracy, and vice versa? Why are some countries more successful than others in developing and implementing effective environmental policy? How do societal understandings of sex, masculinity, femininity, and power shape our lives? What is the relationship between a country's social and economic conditions and its political system?

The Political Science Department offers the following courses in Comparative Politics (*see the Clark Catalog for full descriptions*):

- 045 First-year Intensive: Power
- 070 Introduction to Comparative Politics
- 094 First-year Intensive: Dictators and Revolutionaries in Latin America
- 098 First-year Intensive: Comic Books and Politics
- 102 First-year Intensive Political Science Fiction
- 103 Africa and the World
- 104 The Politics of Ethnicity and Identity
- 117 Revolutions and Political Violence
- 136 Sub-Saharan Africa: Issues and Problems
- 173 Latin American Politics
- 174 Middle East Politics
- 177 Transitions to Democracy
- 214 Mass Murder and Genocide under Communism
- 216 Comparative Environmental Politics
- 229 Arab-Israeli Conflict
- 232 Chinese Politics

- 233 The Arab Spring and Its Aftermath
- 242 Special Topics in Comparative Politics
- 256 Russian Politics
- 281 Capstone Seminar: Civil Wars in Comparative Perspective
- 286 Capstone Seminar: Advanced Topics in Comparative Politics
- 287 Capstone Seminar: Refugees, Migrants, and the Politics of Displacement
- 290 Capstone Seminar: U.S.-Latin-American Relations
- 295 Capstone Seminar: Globalization and Democracy
- 297 Senior Honors Thesis
- 298 Internship
- 299 Independent Study (Directed Readings or Research)
- WGS 110 Introduction to Women's and Gender Studies

III. INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

International Relations (IR) is the study of nation-states and their interactions with other states. More than just the study of state-to-state relations, IR examines the role that non-state actors, such as intergovernmental organizations, nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), multinational corporations (MNCs), and individuals, play in global politics. Human rights, social movements, development, women's rights, the environment, terrorism, weapons of mass destruction, religion, gender, and economics are among the many topics encompassed in the study of international relations. To explain these complex phenomena students engage in rigorous investigations of competing theoretical and analytical traditions. By exploring diverse intellectual approaches to ongoing problems of world order and stability it becomes possible to make sense of the day-to-day politics comprising global affairs.

The survey course, PSCI 069, Introduction to International Relations, provides you with an overview of the field and the diversity of the discipline (security, economic, and social/cultural issues). In it you learn that the precise domain studied depends on the dynamics of the particular issues involved, such as boundary disputes between states, the economic integration of Europe, poverty, climate change, and

militarization. You will also find that there are interactions that cross the state-to-state, regional and global domains.

The Political Science Department offers the following International Relations courses (*see the Clark Catalogue for full descriptions*):

- 010 Difficult Dialogues: Israel, Palestine and the U.S.
- 069 Introduction to International Relations
- 092 First-year Intensive: Women and War
- 093 First-year Intensive: International Human Rights
- 095 First-year Intensive: Transnationalism
- 096 First-year Intensive: Just and Unjust Wars
- 097 First-year Intensive: The International Relations of Sports
- 106 Nationalism, Ethnic Conflict, and International Security
- 120 International Negotiation and Mediation
- 144 Religion and International Relations
- 146 The U.N. and International Politics
- 147 World Order and Globalization
- 169 Comparative Foreign Policy
- 180 International Organizations
- 182 International Security
- 193 International Relations of Asia
- 207 International Relations Theory
- 211 International Cooperation
- 226 International Political Economy
- 229 Arab-Israeli Conflict
- 238 U.S. Foreign Policy
- 240 Human Rights and International Politics
- 243 Politics of the European Union
- 248 Special Topics in International Relations
- 250 U.S. National Security
- 263 UN and Peacekeeping
- 266 International Law
- 268 Peace & War
- 270 Gender, War, and Peace
- 283 Capstone Seminar: Humanitarian Action
- 284 Capstone Seminar: Popular Culture and International Relations
- 285 Capstone Seminar: Intervention in Global Politics

- 289 Capstone Seminar: Advanced Topics in International Relations
- 292 Capstone Seminar: Terrorism and Political Violence
- 297 Senior Honors Thesis
- 298 Internship
- 299 Independent Study (Directed Readings or Research)

GRADING FOR THE MAJOR

1. The **lowest acceptable grade** for all Political Science major courses (including the two taken outside Political Science) is a C-. **Exception:** *You may count one course in which you have received a D or D+.*

2. Pass/No Record (P/NR)

All Political Science major courses should be taken for a grade, with the exception of PSCI 079 and PSCI 080. You may also take a for-credit Internship (PSCI 298) on a CR/NC basis, since this is the policy of the University. **Note:** If you want to take an Internship for a letter grade, you can submit a petition to the Dean of the College for approval.

SCHOOL OF PROFESSIONAL STUDIES COURSES

Generally, only **one** School of Professional Studies course may be used to fulfill one of your 13 Political Science major course requirements. However, with the approval of your faculty advisor, you *may* take more than one School of Professional Studies course to satisfy requirements for the major.

HOW TO DECLARE YOUR MAJOR

Once you have chosen Political Science as your major, you should:

1. Obtain a Major Declaration Form from the Student Records Office or from the Political Science Department Office. The form is available online at:

<https://www.clarku.edu/offices/registrar/student-forms/>

2. Decide which subfield you want to make your specialization: i.e., American Politics and Public Policy, Comparative Politics, or International Relations.

3. Ask a Political Science Department faculty member who teaches courses in that subfield to be your faculty advisor. Your advisor will sign your Major Declaration form and will help you choose courses each semester that are of interest to you and fulfill requirements for the major. In the spring of your junior year, your advisor will sign your Senior Clearance Form, which certifies for the Student Records Office that you have completed, or are in the process of completing, all the requirements for the Political Science major.

INTERDISCIPLINARY CONCENTRATIONS

Clark offers a number of interdisciplinary concentrations that can be taken in addition to your major. (See the Clark catalogue for descriptions of all the concentrations that are offered.) Some concentrations complement the Political Science major especially well, for example, Law and Society, Women's and Gender Studies, Urban Development and Social Change, Latin American and Latino Studies, Comparative Race, and Ethnic Studies, and Ethics and Public Policy.

Certain concentration requirements may also fulfill Political Science major requirements. Generally, only two courses taken for a concentration can also count for the Political Science major. Check with your faculty advisor about the rules for double-counting courses.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR INTERNSHIPS, SEMESTER IN WASHINGTON, D.C., AND STUDY ABROAD

Students can earn academic credit for internships they do off-campus as part of their educational program. An internship for credit must be supervised by a carefully selected agency sponsor in conjunction with an appropriate Clark faculty member. Examples of past internship placements in Worcester include: the Mayor's Office, City Councilors' Offices, the American Civil Liberties Union, the Main South Community Development Corporation, the Central Massachusetts Housing Alliance, the Office of the Public Defender, and various law firms. Examples of internship placements Clark students have had in other locations include the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, the U.S. Department of State, the Office of U.S. Congressman Jim McGovern, and CNN and ABC News in Washington, D.C. If you would like to pursue an internship, you should discuss options with your faculty advisor or with a staff member in the Office of Career Services.

Clark also offers students the opportunity to spend a semester in Washington, D.C., either in a program at American University or at the Washington Center for Internships and Academic Seminars. Information about these programs can be obtained from Professor Boatright or from Clark's Study Abroad/Study Away Office.

Clark students can study abroad in a wide range of countries, including Australia, Chile, China, France, Israel, Japan, Namibia, Netherlands, Spain, and the UK. Information about all the programs available can be obtained at Clark's Study Abroad/Study Away Office. If you plan to participate in a Study Abroad program, be sure to confer with your faculty advisor to find out whether you will be able to fulfill requirements for the Political Science major (or minor) with courses that are part of the program you're most interested in pursuing.

HONORS IN POLITICAL SCIENCE

Juniors with a strong academic record (a 3.5 GPA in their Political Science major courses) may apply to the Honors Thesis Program, which expands research and writing skills through an in-depth systematic analysis of a topic of particular interest to the student. You can achieve honors by successfully completing the Honors Thesis Program, which involves researching, writing, and defending a senior thesis. Writing a senior honors thesis gives you the opportunity to engage in original research and to work closely with a professor on an individual basis. Honors theses have been written on a wide range of topics. You can see the titles of past honors theses at:

<https://www.clarku.edu/departments/political-science/research/undergraduate-research/>

If you are interested in doing a senior honors thesis, you should obtain a copy of the Political Science Department's *Guidelines for the Honors Program*, which is available in the Department Office and online at:

<https://www.clarku.edu/departments/political-science/research/undergraduate-research/>.

You should then contact your advisor, no later than the Fall semester of your junior year, to discuss with them whether you have the academic background and skills necessary to complete the program. If you decide to pursue honors in Political Science, you should complete the following steps during your last three semesters at Clark:

1. Find a thesis advisor. During the spring semester of your junior year, you should ask a Political Science faculty member to serve as your thesis advisor and discuss potential research topics with them. Choose your thesis advisor carefully because you will be working closely with this faculty member for two to three semesters.

2. Select a topic. Many senior honors thesis topics grow out of course or seminar papers written during a student's junior year. Others grow out of topics covered in course work that a student would like to pursue further. In any case, you should consider a broad range of topics before selecting one. Your thesis advisor will give you some guidance in

narrowing your interests and in identifying suitable methodologies and sources.

3. Submit an application to the Political Science Department Honors Committee by April 1st of your junior year. This application should consist of:

- a transcript,
- a 5 – 7 page proposal,
- an email from a Political Science Department faculty member to the honors committee stating that they are willing to serve as your thesis advisor.

In writing the proposal, you should refer to the Political Science Department’s Honors Program Guidelines and seek help from your thesis advisor and the Writing Center. The Guidelines contain specific requirements for the content of the proposal. The recommendation (which the thesis advisor should email directly to the Honors Committee) should assess the student’s demonstrated abilities and potential for undertaking successful thesis research as well as the merits of the research proposal. The Honors Committee will let students know within approximately two weeks whether their applications have been approved or denied. In some cases, the Committee may suggest that an applicant revise the proposal and re-submit it for further consideration.

4. Register for Political Science 297. If you are accepted into the Honors Thesis Program, you will register for Senior Honors Thesis (PSCI 297) during the Fall and Spring semesters of your senior year. This counts for one (1.00) credit each semester for a total of two (2.00) credits. You will receive a grade of IP (“in progress”) for the Fall semester and will receive letter grades for both semesters in May of your senior year. During the Fall semester, most of the research should be completed, with periodic reviews of data sources and bibliographic materials by your thesis advisor. During this semester, you are also required to participate in the Honors Thesis Colloquium, which consists of all students writing honors theses that year. The purpose of the colloquium, which is run by the chair of the Honors Committee, is to provide you with the intellectual support and feedback of your fellow students. Each student must present a draft of the first chapter for

written and oral comment by colloquium members. By **December 1**, a revised draft chapter and a detailed outline of the entire thesis must be submitted to your advisor. During the Spring semester, you should present chapters or sections of your thesis to your advisor (and your other thesis committee members) according to a schedule worked out between you and your advisor. By **mid-March**, a first draft of your entire thesis must be completed and submitted to your advisor. You are expected to act upon the recommendations of your advisor regarding revisions or additional research for your thesis.

5. Oral defense of the thesis. A final draft of the thesis must be completed by **April 1**. Once the thesis has been reviewed and approved by your advisor, it is submitted to the Thesis Committee. This committee is composed of three members: the thesis advisor, one other member of the Political Science Department, and a third member either from the Political Science Department or from a department that is particularly relevant to your thesis topic. The committee may grant honors, high honors or highest honors, or may decide not to award honors. Students who are accepted into the Honors Program but whose work does not ultimately meet the criteria for an Honors designation will still be eligible for credit either for a semester of Independent/Directed Study (PSCI 299) or for a senior thesis without honors, depending upon the level of progress. There are also special junctures at which the student may elect to withdraw from the program during the senior year.

6. Resources available. The Political Science Department makes resources from our Harrington Fund for Public Affairs available to students whose thesis proposals are approved by the Thesis Committee. Up to \$500.00 of support may be provided for your research and thesis preparation expenses. To apply, you must submit a brief cover letter requesting support.

RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS FOR STUDENTS

HARRINGTON PUBLIC AFFAIRS FELLOWSHIPS

The Harrington Public Affairs Fellowships are designed to encourage and support undergraduates to pursue original research on politics and public policy as well as community service projects. The fellowships were made possible by a generous gift to our department from Francis A. Harrington in 1963. In addition to supporting these fellowships, the Harrington Fund enables us to offer special lectures, seminars, field trips, and other programs on public affairs each year.

Approximately five Harrington Fellowships ranging from \$500-\$2500 are awarded to Political Science majors each year. There are two rounds of applications: Fall and Spring. A student who is granted a Harrington Fellowship in the Fall application round can use the Fellowship over the Winter Break and/or during the following Spring semester. A student who is granted a Harrington Fellowship in the Spring application round can use the Fellowship during the following Summer and/or in the Fall semester. The Harrington Fellows share highlights of their projects with the wider Clark community by participating in Fall Fest or Academic Spree Day.

Applications for fellowships to support Spring Semester projects are due by noon on November 15. Applications for Fellowships to support Summer or Fall Semester projects are due by noon on April 15. Application forms are available in the Political Science Department office, Jefferson Academic Center, Room 302, and can also be downloaded from the department's website <https://www.clarku.edu/departments/political-science/research/undergraduate-research/>

Applications should be submitted to the Political Science Department Managerial Secretary, Judith Barton at jbarton@clarku.edu and to your faculty sponsor at their Clark email address.

(Please note that graduating seniors are not eligible for this Award.)

THE JEREMY R. HASTINGS '01 AWARD IN POLITICAL SCIENCE

The Jeremy R. Hastings '01 Award in Political Science provides funding to support students carrying out an independent research project or doing an unpaid internship. The internship or research project could take place over the course of one semester or over the summer. Awards range from \$500 to \$5000.

Applications for Awards to support Summer or Fall Semester internships or projects are due by noon on April 15. Application forms are available in the Political Science Department Office, Jefferson Academic Center Room 302, and can also be downloaded from the department's website:

<https://www.clarku.edu/departments/political-science/research/undergraduate-research/>

Applications should be submitted to the Political Science Department Managerial Secretary, Judith Barton at jbarton@clarku.edu and to your faculty sponsor at their Clark email address.

THE JUNE PATRON '65 ENDOWED INTERNSHIP AWARD

The June Patron '65 Endowed Internship Award (\$500) is given annually by the Political Science Department to a student who has secured an unpaid summer internship in Washington, DC with an office in any branch of the US national government (executive, legislative, or judicial) or with an organization that interacts with the government, such as a lobbying group or "Think Tank." Interested students should submit the following:

- 1-2 page statement describing the internship, your reason for pursuing it, and how it connects to your Clark education
- a proposed budget (include travel, housing, and other relevant expenses)
- your resume
- a copy of your unofficial transcript.

Applications are due by May 15. Internships must be secured before the May 15 deadline. Applications for internships that are pending will not be accepted.

Applications should be submitted to the Political Science Department Managerial Secretary, Judith Barton at jbarton@clarku.edu and to your faculty sponsor at their Clark email address. *(Please note that graduating seniors are not eligible for this Award.)*

THE ZENOVIA SOCHOR MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

This annual award was established by alumni, friends, and colleagues of Zenovia Sochor to honor her memory. Professor Sochor taught in our department for almost two decades before her untimely death in 1998. The scholarship provides funds to help a Political Science major or minor who is studying abroad on a Clark Program pay for some of the expenses involved in studying abroad.

To be considered for this award, students must:

- have an overall GPA of 3.4 or higher
- be a declared Political Science major or minor
- study abroad during the spring semester of second or third year, preferably in an Eastern European country; other programs such as London Internship, Namibia, etc. are also acceptable.

Interested students must submit a 1-2 page typed essay that describes:

- your reasons and goals for studying abroad
- when and where you have been accepted to study abroad

Include your name, box number, email address, and local phone number on the cover page and attach an unofficial transcript.

Information about the application and selection criteria for this scholarship can be obtained from the Political Science Department Office or the Study Abroad Office.

After studying abroad, the recipient must prepare a 2-3 page report based on his or her experiences.

The deadline to apply is **5:00 p.m., October 31st**.

Applications should be submitted to the Political Science Department Managerial Secretary, Judith Barton at jbarton@clarku.edu and to your faculty sponsor at their Clark email address.

THE JOHN C. BLYDENBURGH SCHOLARSHIP

This fund was established in honor of former Clark Professor John Blydenburgh. One or more awards will be made from this fund each year to support students conducting work that uses survey research methods, or research that investigates questions concerning public opinion, elections, or political behavior.

OTHER HONORS, AWARDS, AND PRIZES FOR STUDENTS

PI SIGMA ALPHA NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

Outstanding seniors majoring in Political Science may be invited to join Pi Sigma Alpha, the national political science honor society. Eligibility is based on a combination of overall grade point average and the grades earned in courses in the Political Science major. There is no application process. Eligible students will receive an invitation to join the Clark chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha from the Chair of the Political Science Department soon after the start of the Fall Semester.

THE IRVING AND EDITH WILNER PRIZE

This prize is awarded annually to the student who has written the best research paper for a course in the American Politics subfield during the academic year.

THE MORRIS H. COHEN PRIZE

This award was established to honor Professor Morris H. Cohen, who joined the Clark faculty in the 1940s and became one of the founders of our department. The Cohen Prize is awarded annually to the outstanding Political Science major entering his/her senior year whose subfield specialization is American Politics.

THE SALLIE R. HOLTHAUSEN PRIZE FOR EXCELLENCE IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

This prize is awarded each year to the top graduating senior Political Science major whose subfield specialization is International Relations.

THE CHAIR'S PRIZE FOR EXCELLENCE IN COMPARATIVE POLITICS

This prize is given annually to an outstanding Political Science student for excellence in the subfield of Comparative Politics.

POLITICAL SCIENCE GRADUATE SCHOOL ADVICE

Students interested in attending graduate school in political science or related fields should seek advice from their faculty advisor as early on as possible. If you're thinking about going to graduate school, you should also contact the schools you're interested in attending to find out which undergraduate courses they recommend or require as prerequisites for their program. Some graduate programs, for example, require undergraduate courses in statistics and/or other quantitative methods.

POLITICAL SCIENCE DEPARTMENT FACULTY



OHENEBA A. BOATENG, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Political Science

B.A., Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, 2008; M.A., Jacobs University Bremen, 2013; M.A., McMaster University, 2014; Ph.D., Free University of Berlin, 2018

Professor Boateng teaches courses on international organizations, international relations, African politics, globalization, and humanitarianism. His research focuses on how cooperation and competition between international organizations affect their ability to solve problems, with a focus on the role of such organizations in humanitarian action. He is currently completing a book *Africa's Homegrown Humanitarianism: Regional Responses versus Global Governance* which investigates competition and cooperation between the African Union and the United Nations in humanitarian action. Boateng is also coediting the *Introduction to African Regional Organizations* to be published by *Oxford University Press*. He has published on several topics in academic journals, including, the *South African Journal of International, Development in Practices*, and *Critical Public Health*. In the policy world, he previously researched for the Global Public Policy Institute in Berlin, Germany where he remains a Non-Resident Fellow, and has also advised German parliamentarians and think tanks like the Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington, D.C.



ROBERT G. BOATRIGHT, Ph.D., Professor of Political Science
*B.A., Carleton College, 1992; M.A., University of Chicago, 1994;
Ph.D., University of Chicago, 1999.*

Professor Boatright courses on campaigns and elections, political parties, and American political behavior. In addition to his work at Clark, he is also the Director of Research for the National Institute for Civil Discourse (NICD), a nonpartisan organization affiliated with the University of Arizona that seeks to improve the quality of political discourse in U.S. politics. His research focuses on the effects of campaign and election laws on the behavior of politicians and interest groups, with a particular emphasis on primary elections and campaign finance. He is the author of several books, including *Reform and Retrenchment: A Century of Efforts to Fix Primary Elections* (Oxford University Press, 2024); *The Deregulatory Moment? A Comparative Perspective on Changing Campaign Finance Laws* (University of Michigan Press, 2016); *Getting Primaried: The Causes and Consequences of Congressional Primary Challenges* (University of Michigan Press, 2013); and *Interest Groups and Campaign Finance Reform in the United States and Canada* (University of Michigan Press, 2011). He has served on several task forces studying political reform, campaign finance, and primary elections, including the Bipartisan Policy Center's Task Force on Campaign Finance, the Campaign Finance Institute's advisory board, and, most recently, the Task Force on Institutional Reforms to Combat Political Extremism.



MICHAEL J. BUTLER, Ph.D., Associate Professor and Chair of Political Science

B.A., University of Connecticut, 1994; M.P.M., Public Policy, University of Maryland, 1996; Ph.D., Political Science, University of Connecticut, 2004

Professor Butler teaches courses on subjects including peace and war, international security, negotiation and mediation, international relations theory, global terrorism, and European politics. Butler's research is primarily focused on security studies, conflict management and resolution, and foreign policy analysis. He is the author or editor of six books including *Reconstructing the Responsibility to Protect: From Humanitarian Intervention to Human Security* (2024), *Global Politics* (2024), *Securitization Revisited: Contemporary Applications and Insights* (2019), and *Selling a 'Just' War: Framing, Legitimacy, and U.S. Military Intervention* (2012). Butler's published research has also appeared in academic journals including *International Studies Quarterly*, *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, *Journal of Global Security Studies*, *Global Policy*, *International Studies Review*, *International Studies Perspectives*, *International Negotiation*, *the Canadian Journal of Political Science*, *International Journal of Conflict Management*, *Global Responsibility to Protect*, and *Global Change, Peace, and Security*. Butler currently enjoys several international research appointments, including as a member of the Government of Sweden's Folke Bernadotte Academy International Research Working Group on Dialogue, Peace Mediation, and Peace Processes, a Senior Fellow at the University of Toronto's Canadian Centre for the Responsibility to Protect, and an affiliate with the Netherlands Institute for Advanced Study. He has served as an elected member of the Governing Council of the International Studies Association-Northeast since 2006, and as co-editor of the International Studies Intensives book series (Routledge) since 2016.



CYRIL GHOSH, Ph.D., Lloyd B. Politsch '33 Chair in Law and Associate Professor of Political Science

B.A., Jadavpur University, India, 1998; M.A., Jadavpur University, India, 2000; Ph.D., Maxwell School of Citizenship & Public Affairs, Syracuse University, 2008; M.P.A., Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Services, New York University, 2017.

Professor Ghosh teaches courses on constitutional law, American politics, and gender & sexuality. He researches topics related to queer theory, public law and sexuality, citizenship and immigration, and the American dream as ideology. Ghosh is the author of *The Politics of the American Dream: Democratic Inclusion in Contemporary American Political Culture* (Palgrave-Macmillan, 2013), *De-Moralizing Gay Rights: Some Queer Remarks on LGBT+ Rights Politics in the US* (Palgrave-Pivot, 2018), and (with Elizabeth F. Cohen) *Key Concepts in Political Theory: Citizenship* (Polity, 2019).



DANIELLE HANLEY, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Political Science
B.A., Cornell University, 2006; M.A., University of Pennsylvania, 2015; Ph.D., University of Pennsylvania, 2018

Professor Hanley teaches courses on political theory, feminist politics and political thought, and women's and gender studies. Her research focuses on the role of emotions in political life, with a particular focus on the way grief and rage can work to generate forms of solidarity in moments of crisis. She is currently working on her first book project, *Salvaging Solidarity: Grief and Rage at the End of the World*, which develops the relationship between grief, rage, and solidarity from Greek tragedy to contemporary protest movements. Her work has appeared or is forthcoming in *Contemporary Political Theory*, *Theory&Event*, and *Philosophia*. At Clark, she is affiliated with the program in Women's and Gender Studies.



PAUL W. POSNER, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Political Science
B.A., The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, 1984; MA., The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, 1992; Ph.D., The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; 1999.

Professor Posner teaches courses on Latin American politics, U.S. – Latin American relations, comparative environmental politics, and democratic theory. His current research focuses on labor politics, the politics of social welfare resource distribution, the left, social democracy and populism in Latin America, with specific focus on Chile, Ecuador Uruguay and Venezuela. He has published in the *Journal of Interamerican Studies and World Affairs*, *Democratization*, *Latin American Politics and Society*, *Political Power and Social Theory*, the *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research*, *New Political Economy*, *Bulletin of Latin American Research*, *Latin American Research Review* and *Critical Sociology*. His book, *State, Market and Democracy in Chile: The Constraint of Popular Participation*, assesses the impact neoliberal reform on the ability of Chile's urban poor to organize and represent their interests in the political arena. His co-authored book, *Labor Politics in Latin America: Democracy and Worker Organization in the Neoliberal Era*, addresses contemporary labor politics in Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Mexico and Venezuela.



SUZANNE E. SCOGGINS, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Political Science

B.A. University of Georgia, 2002; M.I.P.A. University of Hong Kong, 2003; Ph.D. University of California, Berkeley, 2016.

Professor Scoggins teaches courses on Chinese politics, research methods, comparative politics, Asian politics, and social movements. She researches policing and state legitimacy in reform era China, and her first book, *Policing China: Street-Level Cops in the Shadow of Protest* (2021, Cornell University Press and Columbia Weatherhead Series) examines the paradox of China's self-projection of a strong security state while having a weak police bureaucracy. Professor Scoggins' academic articles have appeared in *Comparative Politics*, the *China Quarterly*, and the *Journal of Chinese Political Science*, among others. Her research and commentary on policing and Chinese politics have also appeared in outlets such as *The Economist*, *South China Morning Post*, *The New York Times*, and *East Asia Forum*.



HEATHER SILBER MOHAMED, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Political Science

B.A., Tufts University, 1998; M.Sc., The London School of Economics and Political Science, London, U.K., 2002; M.A., Brown University, 2008; Ph.D., Brown University, 2012.

Professor Silber Mohamed teaches courses on immigration politics, Latino politics in the U.S., gender and politics, research methods, American politics, and the politics of food and drink. Her research interests center around Latino politics, immigration policy, immigrant socialization and participation, and identity politics in the U.S, with a particular focus on the intersection of race/ethnicity, class, and gender. She is the author of *The New Americans? Immigration, Protest, and the Politics of Latino Identity* (University Press of Kansas, 2017), which analyzes how protest and the immigration debate influence Latinos' sense of belonging in the U.S. Her book was named the best book of 2017 by the American Political Science Association's Latino Caucus, and in 2019, she received the Early Career Award from the Midwest Political Science Association's Latina/o Caucus. At Clark, she is affiliated with the Latin American and Latinx Studies concentration and the program in Women's and Gender Studies. Prior to completing her Ph.D., Professor Silber Mohamed spent six years working as a legislative aide in the U.S. Congress.



VALERIE SPERLING, Ph.D., Professor of Political Science
B.A., Yale University, 1987; M.A. Georgetown University, Russian Area Studies Program, 1991; Ph.D., University of California, Berkeley, 1997.

Professor Sperling teaches a variety of courses in comparative politics, including Russian politics; revolution and political violence; mass murder and genocide under communism; transitions to democracy; and globalization and democracy. Her research interests lie mainly at the intersection of Russian politics and gender studies. She is the author of *Organizing Women in Contemporary Russia* (Cambridge University Press, 2000), *Altered States: The Globalization of Accountability* (Cambridge University Press, 2009), and *Sex, Politics, and Putin: Political Legitimacy in Russia* (Oxford University Press, 2015), which won the Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES) Davis Center Book Prize for the “outstanding monograph on Russia, Eurasia, or Eastern Europe in anthropology, political science, sociology or geography,” as well as the Association for Women in Slavic Studies (AWSS) Heldt Prize for the “Best book in Slavic/Eastern European/Eurasian Women's Studies.” She is also co-author of *Courting Gender Justice: Russia, Turkey, and the European Court of Human Rights* (Oxford University Press, 2019). Her most recent book, co-authored with Professor Robert Boatright, is *Trumping Politics as Usual: Masculinity, Misogyny, and the 2016 Elections* (Oxford University Press, 2020).



ORA B. SZEKELY, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Political Science.
*B.A. Cornell University, 1999; M.A. University of Chicago, 2004;
Ph.D. McGill University, 2011.*

Professor Szekely teaches courses on comparative politics with a focus on the Middle East. She also teaches classes on the comparative politics of ethnicity and identity, capstone seminars on refugees and civil war, an FYI on comic books and politics, as well as introduction to comparative politics. Her research focuses on the foreign and domestic policies of nonstate armed groups in the Middle East, and the gender dynamics of armed conflict. It is based on fieldwork conducted across the region. Her work has been published in *the Journal of Global Security Studies*, *the Journal of Peace Research*, *Foreign Policy Analysis*, *Studies in Conflict and Terrorism* and other journals. Her most recent book, *Syria Divided* (2023), focuses on the civil war in Syria. She is also the author of *The Politics of Militant Group Survival in the Middle East: Resources, Relationships, and Resistance* (2016), a co-author of *Insurgent Women* (2019) and co-editor of *Stories From the Field: A Guide to Navigating Field Research in Political Science* (2020).



KRISTEN P. WILLIAMS, Ph.D., Professor of Political Science

B.A., University of California, Los Angeles, 1986; M.A., California State University, Long Beach, 1990; M.A. University of California, Los Angeles, 1992; Ph.D., University of California, Los Angeles, 1998.

Professor Williams teaches courses on international relations (IR), including introduction to international relations; US national security; world order and globalization; gender and conflict; religion and international relations; and popular culture and IR. Her primary research addresses the connection between international relations theory, nationalism and ethnic conflict, and gender. Her book publications include *Despite Nationalist Conflicts: Theory and Practice of Maintaining World Peace*, and two co-authored books with Neal G. Jesse, *Identity and Institutions: Conflict Reduction in Divided Societies*, and *Ethnic Conflict*. With Joyce P. Kaufman, she co-authored *Women, the State and War: A Comparative Perspective on Citizenship and Nationalism; Women and War: Gender Identity and Activism in Times of Conflict*; and *Women at War, Women Building Peace: Challenging Gender Norms*. She has co-edited two books: *Beyond Great Powers and Hegemons: Why Secondary States Support, Follow or Challenge* (with Neal G. Jesse and Steven Lobell), and *Gender Equality and Post-Conflict Transformation: Lessons Learned, Implications for the Future* (with Joyce P. Kaufman). Her current research projects focus on intersectionality and international relations, the foreign policies of small states, and gender and US foreign policy.

Emeriti:

SHARON KREFETZ, Ph.D.

Research Professor:

CYNTHIA H. ENLOE, Ph.D.

POLITICAL SCIENCE MAJOR WORKSHEET

Subfield _____

SUBFIELD REQUIREMENTS

One subfield introductory course (PSCI 050 – Introduction to American Government; PSCI 069 – Introduction to International Relations; or PSCI 070 – Introduction to Comparative Politics):

Course	Semester	Dept. Waiver
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1. _____*	_____	_____
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Three additional Political Science department courses in your chosen subfield: (One of these MUST be at the 200 level):

2. _____	_____	_____
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3. _____	_____	_____
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4. _____	_____	_____
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At least one junior/senior Capstone Seminar in your chosen subfield:

5. _____**	_____	_____
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Note: The corresponding subfield introductory course (PSCI 050, PSCI 069 and PSCI 070) and PSCI 107 are *prerequisites* for subfield junior/senior Capstone Seminars. In certain cases, exceptions may be made with permission from the instructor.

One History course related to your subfield

6. _____

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

One introductory course *outside* your subfield specialization (PSCI 050 – Introduction to American Government, PSCI 069 – Introduction to International Relations, or PSCI 070 – Introduction to Comparative Politics):

7. _____ * _____

PSCI 107 Research Methods in Politics:

8. PSCI 107 ** _____

One course in normative political theory (e.g., PSCI 155, PSCI 203, PSCI 206, PSCI 207, PSCI 260, or PSCI 265):

9. _____

Economics 010 (or Economics 100):

10. _____ * _____

Three Political Science Department courses from *outside* your subfield:

(One of these **MUST** be at the 200 level and one **MUST** be in the 3rd subfield—either the Introduction to that subfield or any other course in that subfield. Note that capstone seminars count as 200-level courses.)

11. _____

12. _____

13. _____

* Students are *strongly* encouraged to take these courses in their first or second year.
** Research Methods should be taken in the sophomore year. It is a prerequisite for the subfield junior/senior Capstone Seminars.

UNIVERSITY REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATION (32 CREDITS TOTAL)

Program of Liberal Studies courses:

Critical Thinking: _____FA _____VE Perspectives:
_____AP _____GP _____HP _____LP
_____SP _____VP

The six Perspective courses must come from six different Departments.

_____D&I*

* Courses fulfilling requirements in the Program of Liberal Studies or in any major, concentration, or minor requirements may simultaneously fulfill the D&I requirement.

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MINOR

The Political Science minor requires a minimum of six courses within the department. One must be an introductory course (PSCI 050, 069, or 070); one must be either in political theory (PSCI 155, 203, 206, 207, 260 or 265) or research methods (PSCI 107); and four others can be in any combination of subfield areas. Two of these courses must be at the 200 level. Note that capstone seminars count as 200-level courses. An internship supervised by a Political Science faculty member and approved political science courses taken as part of a Study Abroad program may count toward the minor.

POLITICAL SCIENCE MINOR WORKSHEET

Introductory Course (PSCI 050, PSCI 069 or PSCI 070)

Course	Semester	Dept. Waiver
1. _____	_____	_____

Political Theory (PSCI 155, PSCI 203, PSCI 206, PSCI 207, PSCI 260 or PSCI 265) **OR** Research Methods (PSCI 107)

2. _____	_____	_____
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Four Additional Courses (including two at the 200 level)

3. _____	_____	_____
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4. _____	_____	_____
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5. _____	_____	_____
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6. _____	_____	_____
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NOTES