

POSC 816-010 Philosophy of Science and Research Design

Carrión

13154

T 0330-0630 PM

This seminar is designed to offer graduate students in political science an opportunity to learn the skills necessary to write a research design and conduct advanced social research. The seminar begins with a discussion of issues related to the philosophy of the social sciences and then moves to the study of conceptual issues associated with research design and the use of qualitative methods. A major objective of the seminar is to write a research design that could be a first draft of the dissertation proposal or to complete the long paper. More specially, the following topics will be addressed: research design and inference in the social sciences using qualitative data; concept formation, case selection, and concept measurement; methodological issues in case studies and small-N analysis; mixed-methods research; as well as mechanisms and models of explanation in the social sciences. There will also be a small section devoted to hermeneutics and interpretative methodologies, as this has become a burgeoning development within the field of political science. This course is strongly recommended for students interested in pursuing qualitative or mixed-method research agendas. Students will be responsible for producing a research design, several analytical briefs, as well as an oral presentation.

POSC 840-010 International Political Economy

Kinderman

11709

M 0600-0900 PM

With the financial crisis, political economy has forcefully and rudely returned to the forefront of public concern. This graduate seminar examines some central dynamics of contemporary capitalism. It provides an overview of analytical tools and debates in International and Comparative Political Economy and Economic Sociology. Despite their different emphases, each of these subfields is concerned with the interactions between politics and economics. The course has two principal foci. On one hand, we will focus on the construction of IPE and CPE and Economic Sociology as fields of inquiry, and contrast sociological and rationalist modes of analysis. On the other hand, we will cover a range of substantive topics including globalization, money, Varieties of Capitalism, corporate responsibility, and the financial crisis. In terms of its geographical focus, the course will cover the set of countries variously called the “OECD democracies” or “advanced capitalist democracies.”

POSC 843-010 Global Governance: Theory & Cases

Lobasz

8351

W 0600-0900 PM

IR scholars seek new ways to explain and understand continuities and dynamics in world politics. In the 1990s, academics and practitioners coined the term “global governance” (GG) to capture a complex of events, processes, and institutional developments: the transnational proliferation of forms of power, the exponential growth in numbers and importance of multiple (non-state) actors, and the expanding range of issues that have engendered (or demand) forms of transnational or global coordination, regulation, and management. Yet because scholars have used the term in such diverse and divergent ways, we tend to speak past one another. This course examines various meanings and applications of GG, with special attention paid to theory; mechanisms (power, law, and institutions); and modes (GG as liberal imperialism, GG as multilevel governance).

POSC 845-010 Human Rights and Global Governance

Meyer

11711

R 0330-0630 PM

This seminar will consider human rights as an area of study from a global governance perspective. We begin with a brief review of normative IR theory as it relates to human rights. Seminar topics will also include: women’s rights, group rights, indigenous rights, cultural relativism, foreign policy and rights, corporate social responsibility, globalization and rights, human rights regimes and documents, human rights NGOs, and just war theory.

Course requirements include two papers and a take-home exam.

POSC 850-010 Colloquium: Global Governance and Society

Weinert

6439

F 0230-0530 PM

This course corresponds with the department’s annual speaker series. The theme of the colloquium varies from year to year, addressing important aspects of global governance. We will be welcoming 5-6 speakers over the course of the semester, in addition to presentations by graduate students. This course is required of all graduate students. MA students and PhD students in their first two years will take the course for one credit, attending the speaker series and preparing response papers for the talks. Third year PhD students will take the course for three credits as a research seminar and will present their work as part of the speaker series.

POSC 867-010

Feminist International Relations

Ellerby

9769

W 0230-0530 PM

Feminist International Relations has pushed the field of IR to move beyond masculinist, state-centric conceptions of 'what matters' by first recognizing and then problematizing the ways in which gender permeates the study and practices of global politics. This new seminar surveys feminist International Relations literature from classic works by Cynthia Enloe, J. Ann Tickner and V. Spike Peterson to contemporary research that may also intersect/engage postcolonial, poststructural and other critical approaches. This class also provides an introduction to the variety of feminist methodologies in the field.

Students will be expected to write a final paper which both engages a feminist IR lens and utilizes feminist methods. Other requirements include weekly memos, leading class discussion, and short methods activities. General themes include: the state and governance, security (broadly defined) and global political economies and globalization. Methodologies will engage a breadth of epistemological and ontological approaches.

NOTE: Graduate students may also seek permission from faculty members to attend their 400-level specialized courses and arrange graduate credit under POSC 866. See the Graduate Handbook for rules, and Barbara for a pink slip.