



**TCNJ**  
THE COLLEGE OF  
NEW JERSEY



DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE • THE COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY  
**ADVISING NEWSLETTER**  
*for* **SPRING 2020**



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## RESOURCES

[Click here](#) for upcoming Politics Forum events and to access the Political Science website.

[Click here](#) for Advising Resources for Students in the School of Humanities & Social Sciences.

[Click here](#) for the Undergraduate Bulletins for the School of Humanities & Social Sciences.

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SOCIAL SCIENCES BUILDING ROOM 219  
200 PENNINGTON RD.  
EWING, NJ 08628

# PREPARING FOR SPRING 2020 REGISTRATION

## HOLDS ON YOUR ACCOUNT

Please check and clear all holds on PAWS well in advance of your registration window. Holds will keep you from registering for SPRING 2020 courses! There are several different types of holds and some might require time to clear. Your advisor can lift only advising holds, and they can only lift an advising hold after you have attended an in-person (not be email or phone) advising meeting. Please check for holds prior to your registration slot.

## TRANSFER CREDITS

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

## OVERLOAD REQUESTS

The standard semester academic load at TCNJ is 4 units per semester. If you wish to take **more than 4.5 units**, you may do so under the following conditions:

- ⇒ only once during your academic career
- ⇒ have a minimum of a 3.3 GPA
- ⇒ have been at TCNJ for at least a full academic semester
- ⇒ have obtained permission from Dr. Bowen, Chair of the Department of Political Science.
- ⇒ [Click here to download the request form](#). After your form is signed, you may submit the request through the online submission system on the same webpage as the form.

You must get signatures from your department chair prior to uploading forms into the system. Associate Dean Lisa Grimm will sign AFTER you have submitted your paperwork.

Remember that the Add/Drop deadline comes quickly in the semester (for Spring 2020, this deadline is Tuesday, February 4<sup>th</sup>). After the deadline has passed, you can withdraw from a course but your transcript will show a grade of "W" or a "WF" if you withdraw later in the semester. Even though you have withdrawn from a class, the unit still counts in your load for the semester.

For more information on registration deadlines, see the [2019-2020 Academic Calendar](#). Information on all TCNJ policies can be found in the Policy Manual on the [Policies at TCNJ](#) website.

## BEFORE YOU MEET WITH YOUR ADVISOR

If you would like registration advice, please schedule a meeting with your assigned advisor. Prior to the meeting:

- ⇒ run your PAWS Academic Requirements report
- ⇒ write a draft schedule for the Spring 2020 semester
- ⇒ put courses in your shopping cart
- ⇒ outline a plan for all of your remaining semesters at TCNJ
- ⇒ double check the requirements in the [Undergraduate Bulletin](#)



# PREPARING FOR SPRING 2020 REGISTRATION

Consider asking questions about issues beyond the semester, such as study abroad 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, a second major, minors, or internships. The most rewarding experiences require some advance planning! 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.](#)

When you place courses in your PAWS shopping cart, hit the “validate” button to make sure you have met all prerequisites. **Plan alternatives** for major courses, liberal learning courses, and electives so you can register quickly. This is particularly true if you are a first or second year student and competing over the last seats in such courses. If you are thinking about adding a concentration, double major, or a minor, please run a “What If” report in PAWS. The report will show your academic requirements as if you formally added the concentration/major/minor. It is a very useful tool!

## INTERNSHIPS

Students gain academic credit for their internships by finding an appropriate position, enrolling in POL 399, and working with the Faculty Coordinator (Professor Miriam Lowi, 609-771-2746, [mlowi@tcnj.edu](mailto:mlowi@tcnj.edu), SSB 221) to research and write a substantial paper on their issue area or job. Students enrolling in the course should have junior or senior status and a cumulative G.P.A. of at least 2.5. Students should normally be enrolled in the political science major or minor, the public policy analysis and management minor, or the law, philosophy, and politics minor, although on occasion the instructor of the internship may allow other students to enroll.

Candidates should find a suitable position that will offer a meaningful opportunity and provide roughly 180 hours of work for the semester (per 1 unit course). The Department mostly approves internships worth a full unit (four credit-hours) yet it may make other arrangements under special circumstances. Unless the student qualifies for an academic overload, the full unit of POL 399 must be part of the 4.5 unit maximum enrollment load for the semester.

The following procedures maximize student enrichment from an internship taken for academic credit, and should be followed strictly.

- ⇒ The Internship Enrollment Form and the Internship Proposal Form (available outside the Political Science office and [online](#)) should be completed by the student and supervisor of the internship site before the student meets with the POL 399 Faculty Coordinator.
- ⇒ Student meets with Faculty Coordinator to discuss their proposal and obtains signatures on both forms before the Add/Drop deadline of the semester.
- ⇒ Student meets with the Chair of the Dept. of Political Science, Professor Daniel Bowen ([bowend@tcnj.edu](mailto:bowend@tcnj.edu)), to obtain signature on forms.
- ⇒ Student uploads documents on the [School of Humanities and Social Sciences Internship Application System](#) for approval by Dean Wong.



# REQUIREMENTS FOR THE POLITICAL SCIENCE MAJOR

15 total course units are required for the Political Science major, including 12 course units in the Political Science core. Transfer students are required to take half of the 12 course units in the Political Science core at TCNJ. Once they are enrolled at TCNJ, majors may not take core POL courses at a two-year institution. Students who have taken the AP exams for American Government and Politics or for Comparative Politics will receive credit towards the major by earning a 4 or 5. Students should be careful not to repeat AP courses or courses taken elsewhere here at TCNJ because you cannot be credited twice.

## FOR STUDENTS WHO JOINED THE PROGRAM IN OR PRIOR TO THE SPRING SEMESTER 2019

The major's Core Requirements include:

- ⇒ Correlate Courses - 3 courses total:
  - STA 115
  - ECO 101 (Microeconomics)
  - ECO 102 (Macroeconomics)
- ⇒ Foundation Course - 1 course total:
  - POL 110 (American Government) or
  - POL 130 (Intro to International Relations)
- ⇒ Quantitative Methods & Research Design
  - POL 200 (Political Analysis)
- ⇒ Junior Tutorial: POL 390
- ⇒ Senior Seminar: POL 498
- ⇒ Field Distribution Breadth - 1 course in **each** of the following:
  - POL American Politics
  - Comparative Politics
  - International Relations
  - Political Theory
- ⇒ POL Electives - 4 courses total
- ⇒ Level Requirement
  - 8 courses (of 12 POL courses) must be at 300-400 level

## FOR STUDENTS WHO JOINED THE PROGRAM AFTER JUNE 2019

The major's Core Requirements include:

- ⇒ Correlate Courses - 3 courses total:
  - STA 115
  - ECO 101 (Microeconomics)
  - ECO 102 (Macroeconomics)
- ⇒ Political Science Breadth Distribution
  - POL 110 (American Government)
  - POL 130 (International Relations)
  - POL 150 (Comparative Politics)
- ⇒ Research Core Sequence
  - POL 200 (typically taken Sophomore yr.)
  - POL 390 (typically taken Junior yr., POL 200 is a pre-req)
  - POL 498 (typically taken Senior yr., POL 390 is a pre-req)
- ⇒ Electives - 5 POL courses
- ⇒ Upper Division Requirement
  - 5 of 12 POL courses must be at 300-400 level
- ⇒ Pre-Reqs
  - 300 or 400 level classes generally require completion of the subfield survey course (POL 110, 130, or 150)

*The following courses may be counted toward one of these field requirements if deemed appropriate by designation of the Dr. Bowen, Department Chair: POL 370, POL 390, POL 391, POL 498.*

*Students may take STA 215 instead of STA 115. The following courses are pre-approved substitutes for the designated POL course: PHL for POL 275; ECO 231 or SOC 302 for POL 200. These other courses may have pre-requisites controlled by their home department.*



# SPRING 2020 COURSES

The course list for Spring 2020 is shown below. While the list of courses is mostly self-explanatory, a couple items are noteworthy.

First, pay attention to the subfield of the course as you create your schedule. Remember, all political science majors must take a course in each subfield during their college career.

Second, classes marked with an asterisk have a topic. Clicking on the title will take you to the description of the topic. All other links will take you to the general course description.

Course	Title	Faculty	Day	Time	Room	Subfield
POL 110 01	<a href="#">American Government</a>	Arndt	T-F	14:00 - 15:20	SSB 225	American
POL 110 02	<a href="#">American Government</a>	Healey	M	17:30 - 20:20	SSB 225	American
POL 130 01	<a href="#">International Relations</a>	Arndt	T-F	15:30 - 16:50	SSB 225	International
POL 150 01	<a href="#">Comparative Politics</a>	Chartock	M-TH	09:30 - 10:50	SSB 225	Comparative
POL 150 02	<a href="#">Comparative Politics</a>	Chartock	M-TH	11:00 - 12:20	SSB 225	Comparative
POL 200 01	<a href="#">Political Analysis</a>	Park	M-TH	12:30 - 13:50	SSB 225	
POL 200 02	<a href="#">Political Analysis</a>	Park	M-TH	14:00 - 15:20	SSB 225	
POL 215 01	<a href="#">Gender and Politics</a>	Ackerman	T-F	09:30 - 10:50	SSB 225	American
POL 275 01	<a href="#">Western Political Philosophy</a>	Jovanoski	M-TH	09:30 - 10:50	EDUC 207	Theory
POL 300 01	<a href="#">Politics And Public Management</a>	Keevey	M	15:30 - 18:20	SSB 223	American
POL 311 01	<a href="#">The Presidency And Congress</a>	Garlick	M-TH	14:00 - 15:20	SSB 223	American
POL 315 01	<a href="#">Parties, Interest Groups &amp; Media</a>	Brindle	T	17:30 - 20:20	SSB 223	American
POL 321 01	<a href="#">Civil Rights And Liberties</a>	Dumas	T-F	14:00 - 15:20	SSB 223	American
POL 328 01	<a href="#">State &amp; Local Government In NJ</a>	Healey	T	17:30 - 20:20	SSB 225	American
POL 335 01	<a href="#">International Organization</a>	Harrison	M-TH	11:00 - 12:20	FOR 208	International
POL 370 01	<a href="#">Bears, Beets, and Babushki: The Politics of Russia and the Post-Soviet States*</a>	Holom	T-F	11:00 - 12:20	SSB 225	Comparative
POL 380 01	<a href="#">International Political Economy</a>	Potter	T-F	08:00 - 09:20	SSB 223	International
POL 390 01	<a href="#">Political Parties &amp; Party Systems*</a>	Toloudis	M-TH	11:00 - 12:20	SSB 241	
POL 390 02	<a href="#">American State Politics*</a>	Bowen	T-F	15:30 - 16:50	SSB 241	
POL 395 01	<a href="#">Group Research In Political Science*</a>	Dumas	F	09:30 - 12:20	SSB 241	American
POL 395 02	<a href="#">Group Research In Political Science*</a>	Garlick	M-TH	09:30 - 10:50	SSB 241	American
POL 498 01	<a href="#">Social Movements And The Politics of Protest*</a>	Chartock	M-TH	14:00 - 15:20	SSB 241	
POL 498 02	<a href="#">Inequality*</a>	Lowi	T	09:30 - 12:20	SSB 241	



# SPECIAL TOPICS & SEMINARS

For Spring 2020, the department is offering one special topics class, two group research classes, two junior tutorials, and two senior seminars. Course descriptions are below:

## **POL 370-01: Bears, Beets, and Babushki: The Politics of Russia and the Post-Soviet States** *Dr. Brittany Holom*

Russia is “a riddle, wrapped in a mystery, inside an enigma”...With these poignant words, Winston Churchill challenged the world to better understand Russia and its neighbors. In this class, we will work to do just that. Students will examine the riddle itself – the political development of Russia and the surrounding post-Soviet region, from the Soviet era to the present day.

We will begin with an overview of the Soviet Union, the political and economic institutions of communism, and the eventual dissolution of the empire under Gorbachev’s leadership. Next, we will examine the development of political institutions, national identities, civil society, and formal and informal economic systems in the post-Soviet space. We will devote considerable time to understanding domestic politics within the Russian state, as well as the impact of its nuclear power, Vladimir Putin’s leadership, and the recent developments in cybersecurity and Russia’s foreign policy. Additionally, we will examine the other fourteen Soviet successor states, with a particular focus on Ukraine, looking at their varying paths of political, economic, and social development.

Throughout the course, we will be exploring topics of nationalism and multinational states, federalism, electoral revolutions, authoritarianism and democracy, challenges of economic transformations, welfare politics, and foreign policy in a digitally connected world. By the end of the course, students should have a better understanding of Russia and the post-Soviet region, recent political events, and what we can expect in the coming years.

## **POL 390-01: Political Parties and Party Systems** *Dr. Nicholas Toloudis*

This tutorial deals with the relationship between political parties and representative democracy in the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> 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.

## **POL 390-02: American State Politics** *Dr. Daniel Bowen*

The American states have great constitutional authority in our federal system to shape public policy and remain the primary providers of public services in the United States. Since policies are often first experimented on in the states before being enacted at the federal level, as evidenced by the major changes in welfare, education, and health care policies in the last 20 years, the states are often referred to as “laboratories of democracy.” The states are regularly on the front lines of public policy battles, whether it be the term limit movement that swept the western states in the 1990s, anti-abortion legislation, or the expansion of gay marriage rights prior to Obergefell. The diversity in state populations, institutions, and cultures allow the states to pursue different policy agendas long before the federal government can act on an issue.

This tutorial will focus on how differences in the political, economic, and social context of the states influence political outputs like public policy, turnout, campaigns and elections, representation, and governance. As a junior tutorial, students will undertake a large independent research project on some aspect of American state politics, and we will devote a significant portion of class time to the art and science of conducting political research.



# SPECIAL TOPICS & SEMINARS

## **POL 395-01: Group Research in Political Science** *Dr. Tao Dumas*

*(Enrollment requires permission of instructor)*

Despite narrative accounts of Americans as overly litigious, ordinary people rarely access the courts. But when they do, they tend to participate in civil disputes over physical or monetary injuries. However, a lack of available data prevents in-depth study of these critically important courts. The purpose of this seminar is for students to learn about the civil justice system and political science research methods by understanding the types of cases that civil trial courts handle and civil procedure, reading academic writings about the civil justice system, and creating and analyzing data to do new and cutting-edge trial court research.

## **POL 395-02: Group Research on Data Science in State Politics** *Dr. Alexander Garlick*

*(Enrollment requires permission of instructor)*

American state governments make consequential decisions that affect the daily lives of citizens, from education to transportation. However, the public knows precious little about this stage of the governmental system. Meanwhile, state governments post all sorts of information about their activities online, but it is not well structured for public consumption, applied social science research or data journalism. There is an opportunity for data science techniques to be used to create actionable information from a collection of state legislative websites and watchdog groups website. Students will collect, clean, and analyze these data. Interested students will have the opportunity for co-authorship on a political science journal article with Professor Garlick.

## **POL 498-01: Social Movements & the Politics of Protest** *Dr. Sarah 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.

## **POL 498-02: Inequality** *Dr. Miriam Lowi*

The study of inequality is, in essence, the study of the distribution of resources – power, wealth, status, recognition – within society, across societies, in the international system. Scholars of inequality focus on race, class, or gender, but also, more recently, culture, religion, ethnicity. There is an enormous literature in the social sciences and humanities on each of these foci. From the variety of ways in which the topic can be approached, each student will structure their capstone research project to address an inequality-related question of particular interest to them in a region and/or community of their choice.



# COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

## **POL 110: American Government**

Examines the strengths and weaknesses, problems and promise of representative democracy in the United States. Surveys the relationships of citizens to Congress, the president and the courts through political parties, elections, interest groups, and the media. Considers the constitutional framework of government and the rights of the individual against governmental intrusion.

## **POL 130: International Relations**

An examination of contemporary patterns of international interaction and their historic roots with attention to competing theoretical perspectives. Topics studied include foreign policy, international law and organization, and international political economy.

## **POL 150: Comparative Politics**

Introduces students to some of the most important concepts, themes and approaches in the comparative study of politics. Comparative Politics is the study of the domestic or internal politics of particular countries. By comparing the processes, institutions and other political phenomena of one country in relation to others, those engaged in the study of comparative politics isolate the primary causes and consequences of these political phenomena and are thus able to create and test theories of politics around the world.

## **POL 200: Political Analysis**

The course familiarizes students with the basic statistical, conceptual, and technical skills needed for research in political science. Topics include research design, hypothesis testing, statistical methodology common in the social sciences, and practical experience examining and analyzing quantitative data. This course provides students hands-on training with Stata, a commonly used statistical software package. Should normally be completed by the end of the sophomore year prior to taking POL 390.

## **POL 215: Gender & Politics**

The role of gender in politics is examined in a lecture/discussion format. Topics include research on gender, differences and similarities in political socialization and electoral behavior, gender-related issues in public policy, the role of gender in the decision making of public officials, and the relationship between theories of gender and the actual practice of politics.

## **POL 275: Western Political Philosophy**

Selected political questions that have intrigued Western society from time immemorial and theoretical solutions presented by some of the great political philosophers from classical Greece to the modern era.

## **POL 300: Politics & Public Management**

An examination of the field of public administration focusing on the external and internal factors that shape the performance of public agencies, the interaction of public agencies and their leaders with the presidency, Congress and the courts, and the administrative skills public administrators need to manage a public organization.

## **POL 311: The Presidency & Congress**

Problems of the modern American presidency and of the U.S. Congress, with an emphasis upon interrelationships and consequences for the national policy-making process.





# COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

## **POL 315: Parties, Interest Groups & Media**

An examination of the role of political parties, interest groups, and the media as intermediaries between citizens and formal governmental institutions. The course will focus on the role of parties, interest groups, and the media in leadership recruitment, issue formulation, and public policy making.

## **POL 321: Civil Rights & Liberties**

An analysis of how the U.S. Supreme Court interprets the Constitution, focusing on the rights of the individual, including freedom of expression, freedom of religion, the right of privacy, due process of law, and equal protection of the laws.

## **POL 328: State & Local Government in NJ**

This course provides an analysis of the institutions, the political processes, and the resultant policies of state and local government in New Jersey. Particular attention is given to the structure of state, county, and local government, related political organizations, the nature of politics in New Jersey, and the impact of the state's cultural, economic, political, and social characteristics on political decision-making and public policy at the state and local level.

## **POL 335: International Organization**

International legal principles concerning international legal personality, jurisdiction over persons and places, diplomatic and consular relations, treaties, war, and relations at sea and in space.

## **POL 380: International Political Economy**

A study of the politics of international economic relations. Economic theories of international trade and finance are presented in the context of their political origins and implications. Includes review of primary analytical perspectives, historical developments, and major contemporary institutions and processes bearing on the politics of international economics.

