Political Science 2018/2019

Faculty

Craig Borowiak, Associate Professor and Chair (Global Governance, Political Economy)
Thomas Donahue, Visiting Assistant Professor (Political Theory)
Anita J. Isaacs, Professor (Comparative Politics)
Steve McGovern, Associate Professor (American Politics)
Barak Mendelsohn, Associate Professor (International Relations)
Zachary Oberfield, Associate Professor (American Politics)
Susanna Wing, Associate Professor (Comparative Politics)

Guidance for first-year students

Political Science courses at Haverford are organized into five subfields: American Politics, Comparative Politics, International Relations, Global Governance, and Political Theory. First-year students with some interest or curiosity about political science are strongly advised to sample one or more political science courses in their first year. Introductions to political science at Haverford are offered through the five “gateway courses” at the 100-level. Each of the five is suitable for exploring what political science is about. Each course serves the dual purpose of surveying a subfield of political science and beginning the journey towards majoring. Upper level courses typically require at least one gateway course as a prerequisite. Two gateway courses are required to enter the Department of Political Science at the end of sophomore year. Any gateway course will serve the purpose of acquainting students with critical issues in politics and government, and with ways of analyzing such issues. Students who enjoy their first-term introduction to political science can go on to a higher level political science course in that subfield or (if prerequisites allow) in another subfield, or they might sample another introductory gateway course in their second semester. (NOTE: Political Science 101 at Bryn Mawr is designed as a one-semester introduction to all of political science. It is not regarded as a gateway course to the Haverford Political Science Major.)
Appropriate courses offered for first-year students

121 American Politics  
Zach Oberfield (Fall 2018)  
Stephen McGovern (Spring 2019)  
The dynamics of the political process as seen in the Congress, the Presidency, and the Judiciary. The role of interest groups, public opinion, and the political culture are also examined.

131 Comparative Government and Politics  
Anita Isaacs (Spring 2019)  
An introduction to basic concepts and themes in comparative politics analyzed through case studies from around the world. Themes include political authority and governance structures; political culture and identity politics; political participation and representation; and political economy.

151 International Politics  
Visiting Professor (Fall 2018)  
An introduction to the major issues and trends in world politics, especially since World War II: realism and idealism, bi-polarity and multi-polarity, emergence of the Third World, role of force and diplomacy, the post-Cold War era, foreign policy-making, the United Nations, and humanitarian intervention.

161 The Politics of Globalization  
Craig Borowiak (Spring 2019)  
An introduction to the major academic and policy debates over globalization and global governance. Key themes will include: sovereignty, free/fair trade; immigration; anti-globalization and violence; democratic governance and international economic institutions; and the global justice movement.

171 Introduction to Political Theory: Power, Freedom and (Dis)obedience  
Paulina Ochoa Espejo (Fall 2018)  
An introduction to central concepts of political life through exploring the questions and problems surrounding democratic freedom, power, authority and citizenship. Reading from ancient, modern, and contemporary sources, literary as well as philosophical, American as well as European will be included.