

Pathways through the Government Major Political Theory

The Political Theory subfield currently divides between courses on the Theory canon, usually organized chronologically, and courses on Feminism and Sexuality, usually organized thematically.

Students interested in a Theory concentration, with a further focus on the canon, should begin with GOV 100 (Introduction to Political Thinking) taught in independent sections in both fall and spring semesters.

With GOV 100 as a base, students advance to the 200- and 300-level courses, which include:

- GOV 261, Ancient and Medieval Political Theory
- GOV 262, Early Modern Political Theory, 1500-1800
- GOV 263, Political Theory of the 19th Century
- GOV 266, Political Theory of the 20th Century
- GOV 264, American Political Thought
- GOV 267, Problems in Democratic Thought
- GOV 366, Seminar in Political Theory: The Political Theory of Michel Foucault

Related courses outside the major, providing historical and cultural context, are:

(As complements to GOV 261)

- HST 202, Ancient Greece
 - HST 203, Alexander the Great and the Hellenistic World
 - HST 224, The Early Medieval World, 300-1050
 - HST 227, Aspects of Medieval European History
 - PHI 124, History of Ancient and Medieval Philosophy
 - PHI 126, History of Medieval Philosophy
 - PHI 324, Seminar in Ancient Philosophy
 - FYS 142, Reacting to the Past, especially sections using games on the Athenian Democracy and on the Roman Republic
- Students might also consider the minors in Ancient Studies and in Medieval Studies.

(As complements to GOV 262)

- ARH 240, Art Historical Studies: Magnificence and the Arts in Medicean Florence, c. 1450-1500
- ARH 272, Art and Revolution in Europe, 1789-1889
- ARH 350, Arts in England, 1485-1714
- FR 340, Topics in 17th/18th Century Literature: Cultural Wars at the Theater
- PHI 125, History of Modern Philosophy
- PHI 330, Seminar in the History of Philosophy: The Philosophy of Hume
- FYS 142, Reacting to the Past, especially sections using games on Henry VIII and the French Revolution (alternately taught as GOV 290)

(As complements to GOV 264 and 267)

AAS 117, History of Afro-American People to 1960
AAS 209, Feminism, Race and Resistance: History of Black Women in America
AAS 278, The 60's, A History of Afro-Americans in the US from 1954-1970
ARH 264, Arts in North America: Colonial Period to the Civil War
ARH 265, Arts in the United States after the Civil War
ECO 363: Inequality
ECO 233, Free Market Economics
ENG 231, American Literature before 1865
ENG 233, American Literature from 1865-1914
HST 266, The Age of the American Civil War
HST, 267, The United States, 1877-1945
HST, 273, Contemporary America
FYS, 142, Reacting to the Past, especially sections using games on Anne Hutchinson, Colonial Pennsylvania, the American Revolution, and the Constitutional Convention
PHI 246, Race Matters
SWG 222, Gender, Law and Society

Also courses in American Studies, as well as GOV 201, American Constitutional Interpretation; and GOV 202, American Constitutional Law: Bill of Rights and the 14th Amendment; GOV 217, Politics of Wealth and Poverty in the U.S., Gov 204 , Urban Politics;

As complements to GOV 263, 266

HST 254, 19th century European thought
PHI 235, Morality Politics and the Law
PHI 246, Race Matters
SOC 250, theories of society
SOC 311, Contemporary Sociological Theory

Also GOV 259, Theories of International Relations; GOV 323, Warring for Heaven and Earth; GOV 343, Corruption in Global Governance; GOV 363, The Politics of International Law

Students with a focus on Feminism and Sexuality should likewise begin with GOV 100, then proceed to one or more of the following 200-level courses, capped off by a 300-level seminar:

GOV 269, Politics of Gender and Sexuality
GOV 267, Problems in Democratic Thought
GOV 364, Feminist Political Theory
GOV 367, Seminar in Political Theory: Queer Theory

Related courses outside the major, providing historical and cultural context, are:

AAS 209, Feminism, Race and Resistance

AAS 212, Culture and Class in the Afro-American Family

AAS 366: Contemporary Topics in Afro-American Studies: “Black Feminist Theories”

CLS 233, Gender and Sexuality in Greco-Roman Culture

ENG, 285, Introduction to Contemporary Literary Theory

SPN 332, Queer Iberia

SWG 200 Introduction to Queer Studies

SWG 222, Gender, Law and Society

SWG 223, Sexual Harassment in History, Law, and Culture

SWG 252 Colloquium: Debates in Feminist Theory

SWG 312, Queer Resistances: Identities, Communities, and Social Movements

SWG 323, Seminar: Sex, Trade, and Trafficking