

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE NEWSLETTER

FALL 2021: BACK ON CAMPUS

The halls are once again buzzing with students. Classroom seats are full. We are back! We can't tell you how happy we are to see you all



face-to-face, even if it is also mask-to-mask. Our faculty, most of whom had never before offered an online class, got a crash course in new technologies and accommodating students online while simultaneously teaching in person.

In general, this went quite well, but when we asked students if they learned more in-person or online there was close to consensus that in-person works best. And that's why we are so happy to see you. We can see your expressions; you can make comments in real time without futzing with an electronic "hand;" and we have regained our sense of community.

FALL 2022: CHANGES TO POLITICAL SCIENCE 401

Our senior capstone, Political Science 401, will look different starting in Fall 2022. Take note, majors!

The first big change is that the course will only be offered in the fall semester, beginning Fall 2022. Through the years, we have found that students find the course most useful in the fall, with its emphases on both summarizing the major and preparing students for either careers or graduate education.

Second, the course will have a flexible schedule that will allow students to complete the requirements and also engage in projects that are of their own choosing. The first 5-6 weeks of the course will consist of a review of the major's subfields, in preparation for the Major Field Test. During those initial weeks, students will also begin to prepare their final

portfolios, including personal statements and polished resumes. This is similar to how 401 works now.

The major change to the course is that students will be able to choose the form of their final project: we want students to produce something that has meaning for them. Maybe that is a research paper. But maybe it's a podcast, or an exploration of what was learned during an internship or study abroad. Maybe it's a poster or a campaign. Maybe it's work with a non-profit organization. The possibilities are endless. Students will be given roughly the last half of the semester to work on these projects without distraction, with guidance from the faculty member teaching 401.

Dr. Scribner will offer the first iteration of the "new 401" in Fall 2022. Future seniors, start thinking about possible projects!

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MEET JASON NEUMEYER



The Political Science department is proud to have **Jason Neumeyer** as an instructor in the department not only because he does an excellent job teaching and connecting with students, but because he graduated from UWO with a major in political science. He is one of our own!

Jason attended graduate school at University of Wisconsin Milwaukee (UWM), where he earned a Master of Arts in political science. His research focused on the misalignment between citizens' symbolic ideologies and their operational ideologies. He continues to be a part of a research team at UWM that is examining how citizens respond to new information in areas such as immigration policy and climate change policy. His findings show that new information about a policy area can change individuals' factual knowledge, but not their beliefs and opinions. Changing beliefs and opinions is much more difficult than simply presenting individuals with new factual information. His experimental politics group published its findings about individuals' attitudes toward immigration policy in the journal *American Politics Research*.

Jason teaches classes on the Fox Cities Campus with point-to-point (virtual) at the Fond du Lac campus and has also taught at the Oshkosh campus. He teaches introductory courses in American politics, comparative politics, and international relations. Jason said he especially likes teaching on the Fox Cities campus because this is where he started his own academic career as an undergraduate. He says that having been in the same classes on the same campus as his current students helps him connect with students.

Jason is also working with students at the Fox Cities campus to develop a political science student association (interested students can contact him at neumeyerj@uwosh.edu). His ideas about connection are evident in the advice he gives students: "Get connected with as many people as possible—students, faculty, groundskeepers, and custodians. Be active in the community because relationships pay dividends down the road." He credits getting his job teaching at UWO with staying connected with his professors even after he graduated.

The Political Science department faculty all have fond memories of Jason while he was a student in their classes. Now, they are proud that one of their own students has become one of their colleagues.



SLAGTER AND SCRIBNER'S LATEST COLLABORATION



It is a stroke of luck to find an excellent coauthor in the office right next door. But that has long been the good fortune of Drs. Slagter and Scribner, who have again collaborated on research they plan to submit to a human rights journal in the coming weeks. Their research was presented at the 2021 Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association (APSA) in Seattle, Washington on October 3.

Their new research was inspired by student questions. When students read caselaw related to human rights abuses, they often wonder what happened to the real victims and/or their families after the court's judgment was issued. Did the family receive compensation? Did the state stop its pattern of abuse? Slagter and Scribner examine the reparations process in the Inter-American Court of Human Rights (IACtHR), focusing on judgments in which the Court asks the state to change its laws in order to ensure that further abuses do not occur. Such judgments are called "guarantees of non-repetition," and the IACtHR employs them frequently. Through a detailed examination of four connected cases decided by the IACtHR related to Mexico's Code of Military Justice, Slagter and Scribner illustrate the significance of the legislature in the reparations process -- an actor that has not received much scholarly attention in the reparations and compliance literature. Legislatures are complicated, shifting, and often slow-moving institutions, but they are the key to successful guarantees of non-repetition.

After post-conference revisions, Slagter and Scribner plan to submit the article by semester's end to a human rights journal for consideration.

POLITICAL SCIENCE DEPARTMENT IS HIRING

The department has been authorized to hire a tenure-track faculty member. The successful candidate will start in Fall 2022 and teach introductory courses on the Access campuses and public policy courses on the Oshkosh campus. What does this mean for you? More public policy courses, internship opportunities, and someone to help with any questions you may have on the Fox Cities campus!

This hire is the first position that will be shared across UW Oshkosh campuses, and we need your help to make sure we hire a great candidate. Please check emails from the department throughout the late fall/early spring

as we bring candidates in for research talks and teaching demonstrations. We'll also need volunteers to meet candidates and share their experiences at UW Oshkosh.



POLITICAL SCIENCE GROUP ADVISING

The Political Science Department will offer a group advising session for students as an alternative to meeting with your regular faculty adviser this semester. Students who find it difficult to meet with their regular adviser or want to try a different approach to advising are welcome to join the group advising session to hear about course offerings, check on their progress in the major, remove a hold, or chat with our UARC adviser about general education requirements.

Microsoft TeamChat
October 27th, 1:50 – 2:50pm

All are welcome!

Contact Dr. James Krueger (kruegerj@uwosh.edu) for more information.



SPRING 2022 LIST OF COURSES

Registration for Spring 2022 begins Monday, October 25, 2021! Contact Angelee Hammond at hammond@uwosh.edu or (920) 424-3456 with questions on registering for Political Science courses:

These courses are offered every semester: **Introduction to Comparative Politics (101); American Government and Politics (105); International Politics (115); Political Methodology (245); and Introduction to Law (253)**

Spring 2022

Politics of Food Q3 (214)
U.S. Foreign Policy (317)
U.S. Presidency (324)
Gender, Law and Policy (342)
Politics of Development (386)

European Union Politics (301)
American Public Policy (321)
Russian Politics (336)
Modern Political Thought (355)

Constitutional Law and Judicial Policy-Making (305) – *offered during interim*