



**POL 620 PROSEMINAR IN PUBLIC POLICY AND PROCESSES**

**M 2:30-5:20**

**Weldon**

This course is a survey of the main conceptual approaches to the study of public policy. This study includes the examination of government response or non-response to a particular issue or set of issues, such as reproductive freedom, environmental degradation, racism, poverty, globalization, national defense, and the like. We will examine the main approaches to understanding patterns of government response and non-response, asking how and why these patterns vary over time, space, and across issue areas. We will also ask how policy scholars can best improve policy: how can we make the processes of governing more democratic, inclusive, and fair? How can we, as a political community, best respond to the most pressing issues that confront us?

In addition to developing competence in these general theoretical questions of public policy, students will develop expertise on a particular policy issue by writing a term paper on the policy issue of their choice.

**POL 630 PROSEMINAR IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**

**W 2:30-5:20**

**Clark**

This core seminar is a thematic survey of the scholarly literature in the field of international relations. It is designed to provide a broad overview of theoretical approaches and an introduction to the range of international relations research.

**POL 631**

**RESEARCH SEMINAR  
IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS  
Terrorism**

**Hoffman**

*Admission by consent of instructor.* What factors motivate individuals and groups to employ terror in pursuit of their goals? What is terrorism designed to accomplish and what, if anything, can be done to prevent future attacks? This course examines these and other questions relating to the causes and prevention of terrorism around the world. Students will complete a research paper that could form the basis of a publishable paper or a dissertation prospectus on the subject of international or domestic terrorism.

**POL 641**

**RESEARCH SEMINAR: COMPARATIVE POLITICS  
Developing Conceptual & Methodological Skills**

**Woods**

*Prerequisite: POL 640 or consent of instructor.* This research seminar is organized as a research workshop. Each student is expected to develop, and bring to fruition, a research project. The final product will be evaluated as if it is a scholarly article being submitted to a major academic journal. In the first half of the seminar, we will examine literature on appropriate conceptual methods in constructing a research paper. Then, we will focus on specific methodological instruments--quantitative and qualitative. Finally, each student will present his/her research and receive feedback from others in the seminar.

**POL 651**

**RESEARCH SEMINAR: POLITICAL Theory  
Feminist Theory & Methodology  
Cross-listed w/ WOST 680**

**Boling**

The unifying theme of this course is embodied experience, knowledge, and thinking. We will read broadly from texts dealing with women's and men's bodies, modes of disciplining the body (diet, exercise, cosmetic surgery, images of beauty), differences along axes of gender, class, race and sexual orientation, issues related to motherhood, standpoint theory, work, demands for gender equality, social constructions of gender, gender as performance, and third world feminism. There is also significant attention to research design, feminist methods and methodologies, and pedagogy; if there is a "slant" to all this, it is through the social sciences and political theory, reflecting my background as a political scientist, but I endeavor to be mindful of the variety of backgrounds from which students come to this course and inclusive in theoretical and methodological approaches.