AS.192 (INTERNATIONAL STUDIES)

AS.192.150. States, Regimes & Contentious Politics. 3 Credits.
This course introduces students to the study of politics and political life in the world, with a particular focus on the Middle East, Latin America, and Africa. Throughout the course, we will analyze the sources of order and disorder in modern states, addressing a series of questions, such as: why did nation-states form? What makes a state a nation? Why are some states democracies while others are not? How do people organize to fight oppression? Why do conflicts sometimes turn violent? What are the causes of ethnic war? Drawing on a mix of classic works and contemporary scholarship, we will discuss the answers that scholars have formulated to address these and other questions, paying special attention to research design and the quality of argumentation.
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences

Are you planning to do a research project for your independent study class, or preparing for a grant application, or working on a big research project for a research intensive class or graduation thesis, or just wishing to improve your research skills? If so, this course is for you! Through weekly two hour sessions over ten weeks, you will receive systematic training on major research tools, resources and techniques useful for any research project in international studies, political science, and other social science subjects. By the end of the course, you will be able to come up with a viable research topic, and complete a research statement that includes an abstract, problem statement and literature review based on in-depth research utilizing tools and techniques covered in the course. The skills you learn through the course will prepare you for any future research projects and advanced studies.

AS.192.225. Economic Growth and Development in East Asia. 3 Credits.
The course offers an overview of the complexities of East Asia’s development experience from a variety of perspectives, and it is divided into three parts to allow students to develop expertise in one or more countries and/or policy arenas, while also cultivating a broad grasp of the region and the distinct challenges of “East Asia fast-paced, sustained economic growth.” Part I considers the origins of Asian economic development, analyses the common economic variables behind the region’s success, looks at the East Asian financial crisis and its lessons and assesses whether or not East Asian countries have learned them. Part II will focus on the development experiences of individual countries, with an emphasis on the ASEAN economies, NIIs, Japan and China. Part III considers topics of special interest to Asia, including trends toward greater regional economic cooperation, both in the real and financial/monetary sectors, and issues related to poverty, migration, and inclusiveness.
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences

AS.192.260. International Political Economy of Emerging Markets. 3 Credits.
This course examines the relationship between politics and international economics in emerging market and developing countries. Throughout the course, we apply different theories of international relations to understand foreign economic policymaking in emerging markets. Emphasis is also placed on critically evaluating these theories and developing critical-thinking skills. The course begins with an overview of theories of international political economy. The second section of the course focuses on developing countries’ embrace of economic globalization between the 1980s debt crisis and 2008 global financial crisis. We examine different political explanations for why emerging market and developing countries removed barriers to foreign trade and foreign investment in this period. The final section of the course explores how globalization has impacted emerging market economies. We consider how governments in these countries have dealt with the new challenges that have emerged in this era of economic globalization.
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences

AS.192.270. International Migration, Diasporas and Development. 3 Credits.
International migration has emerged as one of the most politically salient and contentious issues in the politics of advanced democracies. However, while the economic, political, and social impact of large immigrant inflows has prompted much debate and analysis in developed countries, the effects of emigration and diasporas on the source country are poorly understood. This seminar examines the economic and political challenges and opportunities of international migration and diasporas on countries of origin and policy options to address them. The seminar will examine a range of issues. Is the phenomenon of greater import in the current (and future) context than it has historically been and if so, why? How do selection characteristics of international migrants and reasons for leaving affect the country of origin? Why do diasporas differ in the forms of engagement with the country of origin? What explains the massive increases in financial remittances sent by immigrants to their countries of origin and what are their effects? The seminar will also examine non-pecuniary or “social” remittances, which reshape individual preferences and social norms and thereby influence economic, political, and social change. What are the human capital effects of international migration, ranging from the “brain-drain” of limited human capital to “brain-gain” effects arising from diasporic networks? How does the “long-distance” nationalism of diasporas that support more polarizing political parties and groups engaged in conflict affect international security? Finally, we will examine policies in both receiving and sending countries and how they affect outcomes in their countries as well as of migrants themselves. Are international agreements on migration feasible or will rising nationalism ensure that unilateral policies and bilateral arrangements prevail?
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive

AS.192.280. China Under Revolution and Reform. 3 Credits.
China is an emerging world power with a long history, a rich culture, and complex political structures and processes. As a modern state, the People’s Republic of China (PRC) continues to amaze and confound observers both inside and outside its borders. More than three decades after opening its doors to the outside world, China remains as important as it is misunderstood. This course is designed to provide you with a road map to help understand the fascinating world of Chinese politics and the contemporary Chinese state. The course presumes no prior knowledge of China.
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences
AS.192.290. Informational World Orders. 3 Credits.
We are on the cusp of a new era of contention in global politics. For decades, politicians and experts assumed that global information networks like the Internet had an inherently liberal bias, and would weaken autocratic regimes like China and Russia. Now, we are discovering that authoritarian countries can use technology too. The result is increased clashes over information technology between democratic countries and non-democratic countries, and among democratic countries too. All of them find themselves sharing the same global networks, and fighting over how these networks ought to work. In this course, we’ll debate the conflict between different informational world orders promoted by the US, Europe and China. We will examine when information technology helps strengthen democracy, and when it benefits autocracies instead. We’ll explore how information markets work, and work through the logic of political fights over artificial intelligence and surveillance.
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences

AS.192.305. Global Energy and Environment: A Political Economy Approach. 3 Credits.
Global environmental deterioration is a major threat to human wellbeing. How do governments cooperate to address international environmental problems? Why is the global environmental regime structured as it is? Can international agreements and organizations solve global environmental problems? These are the primary questions addressed in this seminar. Among other topics, we cover research on global climate cooperation, the relationship between trade liberalization and the environment, North South negotiations on environmental agreements, environmental activism, and the problem of energy poverty in non-OECD countries. The seminar also provides students with an opportunity to conduct original research. In addition to weekly readings and discussion, the students write a final paper for the class based on empirical research on global environmental governance. Students also participate in a simulation of global climate negotiations under the 2015 Paris Agreement on Climate Change.
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences

AS.192.315. Politics of India. 3 Credits.
India is the world’s largest democracy and its second most populous country. This course introduces core issues in the study of modern Indian politics. The class is organized around the following topics: we trace India’s journey to Independence; the consolidation of democracy in the early decades; the relationship between the state and the economy; the state’s institutional architecture; how political parties and electoral campaigns operate; the threats posed by corruption, criminality and dynastic politics; the role of caste and religion in shaping politics; the political and economic consequences of economic liberalization; elections; and the recent rise of right-wing hindutva in the country. The focus is on building knowledge and understanding of the Indian case. But we will also consider to what extent India’s experience is reflective of more general theories of politics, and how they might change because of what India can teach us. Class sessions will be interactive, with plenty of opportunity for group discussion. The reading list is diverse and draws from political science, sociology, history, and anthropology.
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive

AS.192.340. Refugees, Human Rights, and Sovereignty: Focus on Italy. 3 Credits.
Summer course in International Studies offered on the JHU Summer Abroad Program in Bologna.
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences

AS.192.350. Capital and Climate: Italy in the Mirror of World History. 3 Credits.
Summer course offered on the JHU Summer Abroad Program in Bologna, Italy
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences

AS.192.360. Modern Warfare. 3 Credits.
This course examines modern warfare from the Second World War to the present. It takes a broad historical perspective. Strategic decision-making, technological change, experiences of the soldier, different concepts of warfare, and the effect of war on societies and the effect of societies upon war will be examined. Students will be introduced to critical texts and key primary source documents. The course will start with the Second World War. It will then go on to the nuclear revolution, the Korean War, and the early Cold War. From there, the subject matter will turn to examine people’s war, focusing on Mao and the Chinese Civil War and then Vietnam. Next, the Arab-Israeli conflicts will be discussed before moving on to the strategic environment of the post-Cold War world and the long war against “terrorism” in Afghanistan, Iraq, Syria, and elsewhere. Finally, the course will look at recent technological change, clashes, and new players. Throughout, special attention will be paid to non-Western views and experience of war. The five main questions of the class will be: • How has the nature of warfare changed between 1939 and today? What is the nature of war today? What kind of war is possible today?• How has technology changed warfare? What are the experiences of people, both soldiers and civilians, in war?• How has warfare affected societies and culture? How have societies and culture affected war?• How has warfare affected domestic and international political change?
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences

AS.192.403. Qualitative Research. 3 Credits.
This class is designed to introduce students to qualitative methodology. Practically, students will gain first hand experience with qualitative research methods via research design, ethics review, in-depth interviewing, participant observation, and archival/primary source research. They will learn to deploy analytical techniques such as discourse analysis and process tracing. Students will also be asked to consider the merits of qualitative approaches more generally, and discuss the relative advantages of qualitative, experimental, and quantitative approaches. Questions that we will discuss include: What place should qualitative research have in a research design? Can qualitative research test hypotheses, or only generate them? Can qualitative research explain social phenomena, or only interpret them? What are the disadvantages and advantages of qualitative approaches compared to quantitative approaches? For what kinds of research questions are ethnographic techniques best suited? Is replicability possible for ethnographic field research? What criteria of evidence and analytical rigor apply on this terrain?
AS.192.404. Democracy, Autocracy and Economic Development: Korea, Indonesia, and Myanmar. 3 Credits.
East Asia’s “miracle growth” has not gone hand in hand with a decisive move toward democracy. The course explores the reasons why democratization proceeds slowly in East Asia, and seems to be essentially decoupled from the region’s fast-paced economic growth. The course is divided into three parts. Part I introduces the specifics of East Asia’s economic development strategies as well as key concepts of democracy, authoritarianism and military rule and the tensions between these theories and the East Asian experience. Part II will focus on the economic and political development experiences of Korea, Indonesia and Myanmar in light of what discussed in Part I. Finally, Part III presents lessons emerging from the comparison of Korea’s, Indonesia’s and Myanmar’s economic and political developmental trajectories.
Area: Humanities

AS.192.410. Kissinger Seminar on American Grand Strategy. 3 Credits.
Enrollment is at the discretion of the instructors and space in the course is limited. To apply, email a one-page resume, one-page personal statement on why you want to take the class including how it contributes to your professional interests, and a writing sample of less than ten pages to KissingerCenter@jhu.edu. This course is an initiative of the Henry A. Kissinger Center for Global Affairs at Johns Hopkins SAIS, meant to link SAIS with the undergraduate International Studies major at Homewood. It will expose exceptional undergraduate students to the study of grand strategy and the history of U.S. foreign policy. The bulk of the course will explore critical moments, themes, and people in the history of American grand strategy, from Washington’s Farewell Address to the statecraft of Donald Trump. The seminar will be rooted in applied history—the study of the past as a way of better understanding the challenges and opportunities of the present and future. It will also be interdisciplinary, drawing on international relations theory and contemporary policy studies. The seminar will equip students to evaluate and contribute to intense debates about the future of American grand strategy. In addition to regular classroom meetings, the course will feature events at the SAIS campus in Washington, DC, including meetings with current and former policymakers. Transportation between Homewood campus and SAIS will be provided. These sessions will be followed by a dinner hosted by the Kissinger Center.
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences

AS.192.415. The Battle of Ideas for the World Economy. 3 Credits.
This seminar is intended as a capstone intellectual experience for seniors and advanced juniors majoring in international studies. The course presets some background in economics, comparative politics, and international relations. This course will hone your analytical and writing skills by exposing you to theoretically advanced forms of political economy argument in a “proposition-opposition” format. The seminar is organized around a series of thematic pairings, covering such political economy themes like free trade vs. protectionism, free market capitalism vs. socialism, democratic erosion vs. autocratic strength, hegemonic stability vs. US abdication of power, or whether the current populist wave has mainly economic or mostly cultural roots. Each segment will deal with a specific topic area. Our discussions will involve in-depth interrogations of the arguments of these ‘pro-con’ authors.
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive

AS.192.420. Global Health Policy. 3 Credits.
The world’s countries—low, middle and high-income alike—face numerous health challenges, many shaped by processes connected to globalization. We are presently amidst one of the greatest global health challenges of the past century—the COVID-19 pandemic. But there are others that persist, including combating the HIV/AIDS pandemic, addressing non-communicable diseases, expanding health coverage and ensuring effective global governance for health. This course will examine these and other issues with an emphasis on facilitating your understanding and critical analysis of central issues in global health policy, and examining the role you can play to address health conditions—particularly those that affect disadvantaged populations.
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive

AS.192.425. The Politics and International Relations of Iran. 3 Credits.
This course provides a basis for understanding the political, economic and security dimensions of Iran’s politics and the country’s role in World politics. It will discuss the Islamic Republic of Iran’s complicated political system and its international politics. A significant and geostrategically situated country, Iran is where Islamic ideology first attained power in form a major social revolution. The unfolding of that revolution has shaped the Middle East, and has posed one of the most important challenges to American foreign policy. As a revolutionary Islamic State Iran experienced a unique path to development and state-building. This course will introduce the students to the main ideological currents and political trends in Iranian politics. It will discuss the structure of its theocracy, and the working of its politics and economy. The course will also examine Iran’s foreign policy posture, with focus on U.S.-Iran relations, quest for nuclear power, and Iran’s regional policy.
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences

AS.192.501. Internship- International Studies. 1 Credit.
Prerequisite(s): You must request Independent Academic Work using the Independent Academic Work form found in Student Self-Service: Registration &gt; Online Forms.

AS.192.591. Research- International Studies. 1 Credit.
Prerequisite(s): You must request Independent Academic Work using the Independent Academic Work form found in Student Self-Service: Registration &gt; Online Forms.

AS.192.598. Independent Study. 3 Credits.
Approval Required.
Prerequisite(s): You must request Independent Academic Work using the Independent Academic Work form found in Student Self-Service: Registration &gt; Online Forms.

AS.192.599. Independent Study. 3 Credits.
Approval Required.
Prerequisite(s): You must request Independent Academic Work using the Independent Academic Work form found in Student Self-Service: Registration &gt; Online Forms.