

POLITICS AND SOCIETY (PS)

Visit the [Course Schedule Search website](#) to find out when courses will be offered during the academic year.

Read more about the courses within this subject prefix in the descriptions provided below.

PS 402 - Practical Politics

Credits: 4

With particular attention to the development and evolution of US political institutions over time, this course seeks to help students understand how national politics affects them and their communities and how they can, in turn, use that insight to affect national politics. We will work to develop not just new knowledge, but to foster tools and practices of civic engagement.

Attributes: Historical Perspectives(Disc)

Mutual Exclusion: No credit for students who have taken POLT 402.

Grade Mode: Letter Grading

PS 425 - Exploring Leadership

Credits: 1-4

Exploring Leadership is an introductory course on the foundations of student development and leadership, with an emphasis on applying the formal literature on leadership to help students develop and articulate their own personal philosophy of leadership and enact a leadership action plan for their club/organization/leadership position. no credit for students who have taken.

Equivalent(s): UMST 525

Grade Mode: Letter Grading

PS 426 - Social Justice & Leadership

Credits: 1-4

An exploration of social justice through personal and institutional lenses to analyze power and privilege, discrimination and prejudice, inclusion and equity through the intersections of multiple social identities to develop student leaders who will promote an equitable and inclusive environment and serve as social change agents in the college and community.

Equivalent(s): UMST 526

Grade Mode: Letter Grading

PS 430 - The Mindful Leader

Credits: 2

Research has shown that mindfulness and emotional intelligence positively impact leadership, job performance and satisfaction, and work-life balance. This course will introduce students to mindfulness and emotional intelligence through research, discussion, and personal experience. Students will explore how to lead mindfully and develop their emotional intelligence to better manage personal and professional stress and support a culture of vulnerability, non-judgment, and being in the present moment. This course is open to all undergraduate students. Credit cannot be earned if taken UMST 599: The Mindful Leader.

Grade Mode: Letter Grading

PS 500 - Wicked Problems: Puzzles in Public Policy

Credits: 4

Meaningful change in the US is difficult under the best of circumstances, and it's almost never the best of circumstances. As a result, the richer your understanding of the complex and often irrational US policy-making system, the better the chance that you will be able to understand why certain policies are made (or not made), why they take the form that they do, and how to alter them.

Attributes: Social Science (Discovery); Writing Intensive Course

Mutual Exclusion: No credit for students who have taken POLT 500.

Grade Mode: Letter Grading

PS 506 - Civil Society and Public Policy

Credits: 4

Explores how grassroots advocacy organizations and social movements mobilize human and material resources in order to shape public policy and what tactics and organizational and communication strategies lead to success. Provides students with hand-on learning through service learning project at a local organization. Policy areas may include immigration, environmental conservation, women's issues and more.

Grade Mode: Letter Grading

PS 515 - New Hampshire Politics in Action

Credits: 4

A hands-on course on New Hampshire politics and policymaking, in which students will identify a Bill currently active in the NH General Court and develop and execute a step-by-step plan for helping get it enacted or defeated. Periodic travel to the State Capitol in Concord will be required.

Attributes: Inquiry (Discovery); Writing Intensive Course

Grade Mode: Letter Grading

PS 595 - Research for Political and Policy Action

Credits: 4

This course offers an overview of how the social sciences-political science especially-decide which questions to ask and how to design the research projects that will help them develop answers to those questions. As we explore these methods of inquiry and analysis, students undertake their own multi-methods research project to better understand something that interests or puzzles them while experiencing first hand the challenges inherent in sound research.

Attributes: Inquiry (Discovery); Writing Intensive Course

Mutual Exclusion: No credit for students who have taken POLT 595.

Grade Mode: Letter Grading

PS 599 - Peer Educator Development

Credits: 1-4

Preparing students to be leaders on their campus and in their community. Upon completion, students will be eligible to take the NASPA Certified Peer Educator (CPE) exam to become a nationally-certified peer educator. No credit for students who have taken UMST 599 - Peer Educator Development.

Grade Mode: Letter Grading

PS 701 - Senior Seminar/Internship in Public Service

Credits: 4

Students undertake internships or other approved field projects with organizations such as political campaigns, media organizations, government offices, business or community groups. The seminar component enables students to share and analyze these experiences, employing readings, discussions, collective behavior games, and speakers.

Attributes: Writing Intensive Course

Grade Mode: Letter Grading

PS 731 - Community Leadership - Capstone

Credits: 4

Culminating experience for the Community Leadership Minor, but open to other students with instructor's permission. Working alone or in groups, students will design and execute a project of benefit to a community partner.

Equivalent(s): UMST 531, UMST 701

Grade Mode: Letter Grading