ETHICS, POLITICS, & ECONOMICS (EP&E)
* EP&E 257a / LAST 251a / PLSC 399a, Political Power and Inequality in Latin America  Ana De La O
Overview and analysis of politics in Latin America. The emergence of democracy and the forces that led to the unprecedented increase in
inequality in the twentieth century. Topics include institutional design, historical legacies, corruption, clientelism, and violence.

* EP&E 286a / ECON 475a, Discrimination in Law, Theory, and Practice  Gerald Jaynes
How law and economic theory define and conceptualize economic discrimination; whether economic models adequately describe
behaviors of discriminators as documented in court cases and government hearings; the extent to which economic theory and
econometric techniques aid our understanding of actual marketplace discrimination. Prerequisites: introductory microeconomics and at
least one additional course in Economics, African American Studies, Ethnicity, Race, and Migration, or Women's, Gender, and Sexuality
Studies.

Many today believe that the model of representative government that we have inherited from its 18th century founders is broken. It is
seen as too oligarchic, disconnected, and unresponsive to the demands of 21st century citizens and, as such, no longer fitting the ideal of
democracy that it was supposed to render possible in large, industrial societies. In this course we explore possible reforms and alternatives
to the existing political and social system from both empirical and normative perspectives. We try to think both beyond representation by
looking at new ways in which citizens can directly affect policy-making by either working with or by-passing entirely elected officials, and
beyond government itself, by questioning the assumed divide between the political and the economic spheres and interrogating the
internal structure and governance of the workplace.

EP&E 295a / PLSC 344a, Game Theory and Political Science  Staff
Introduction to game theory – a method by which strategic interactions among individuals and groups in society are mathematically
modeled – and its applications to political science. Concepts employed by game theorists, such as Nash equilibrium, subgame perfect
equilibrium, and perfect Bayesian equilibrium. Problems of cooperation, time-consistency, signaling, and reputation formation. Political
applications include candidate competition, policy making, political bargaining, and international conflict. No prerequisites other than
high school algebra. Political Science majors who take this course may not count ECON 159 toward the major.

* EP&E 297b / ECON 471b, Topics in Cooperative Game Theory  Pradeep Dubey
The theory and applications of cooperative games. Topics include matching, bargaining, cost allocation, market games, voting games, and
games on networks. Prerequisite: intermediate microeconomics.

* EP&E 299a / GLBL 399a / PLSC 322a, Philosophy of Science for the Study of Politics  Ian Shapiro
An examination of the philosophy of science from the perspective of the study of politics. Particular attention to the ways in which
assumptions about science influence models of political behavior, the methods adopted to study that behavior, and the relations between
science and democracy. Readings include works by both classic and contemporary authors.

* EP&E 306a / PLSC 228a, First Amendment and Ethics of Law  Karen Goodrow
This course addresses the First Amendment and freedom of speech, focusing on the ethical implications of restrictions on free speech,
as well as the exercise of free speech. Course topics and discussions include the “fighting words” doctrine, hate speech, true threats,
content regulated speech, freedom of speech and the internet, and the so-called “right to be forgotten.” By the end of the course, students
recognize the role free speech plays in society, including its negative and positive impacts on various segments of society. Students also
have an understanding of the competing interests arising from the First Amendment’s right to free speech, and can analyze how these
competing interests are weighed and measured in the United States as compared with other countries.

* EP&E 312a / PLSC 297a, Moral Choices in Politics  Boris Kapustin
A study of how and why people make costly moral choices in politics. Figures studied include Thomas More, Abraham Lincoln, Nelson
Mandela, Václav Havel, and Aung San Suu Kyi.

* EP&E 313a / ECON 209a, Economic Analysis of Law  Robin Landis
This course is intended to provide an introduction to the economic analysis of law. We examine the economic rationale(s) underlying
various legal doctrines of both common law and statutory law, as well as the economic consequences of different legal doctrines. Previous
coursework in economics, while helpful, is not a prerequisite for the course.

* EP&E 317a / AFST 324a / HIST 368ja / PLSC 324a, Nelson and Winnie Mandela  Jonny Steinberg
A study of Nelson and Winnie Mandela’s marriage and public careers and the political and philosophical questions the marriage raises.
Students examine the Mandelas’ conflicting ideas on race and on the colonial experience and compare them to those of Mohandas Gandhi
and Franz Fanon. Students also read recent philosophical work on forgiveness and on violence in order critically to assess the politics of
reconciliation that so divided the Mandelas. The course examines the politics of global celebrity and the portrayal of men and women in
public media.

* EP&E 328b / PLSC 304b, Business Ethics and Law  Robin Landis
This seminar is intended to provide frameworks for the analysis of ethical issues that may arise in the context of business decisions,
including such aspects as the role of ethics, competing values and interests, and tools for making principled decisions. The course also
covers, as appropriate, some aspects of law as they relate to business ethics. Previous courses in philosophy and ethics may be helpful.

* EP&E 328a / PLSC 347a / S&DS 172a, YData: Data Science for Political Campaigns  Joshua Kalla
Political campaigns have become increasingly data driven. Data science is used to inform where campaigns compete, which messages
they use, how they deliver them, and among which voters. In this course, we explore how data science is being used to design winning
campaigns. Students gain an understanding of what data is available to campaigns, how campaigns use this data to identify supporters, and the use of experiments in campaigns. This course provides students with an introduction to political campaigns, an introduction to data science tools necessary for studying politics, and opportunities to practice the data science skills presented in S&DS 123, YData.

* EP&E 350a / AFST 385a / HIST 391a / HLTH 385a / PLSC 420a, Pandemics in Africa: From the Spanish Influenza to Covid-19
   Jonny Steinberg
   The overarching aim of the course is to understand the unfolding Covid-19 pandemic in Africa in the context of a century of pandemics, their political and administrative management, the responses of ordinary people, and the lasting changes they wrought. The first eight meetings examine some of the best social science-literature on 20th-century African pandemics before Covid-19. From the Spanish Influenza to cholera to AIDS, to the misdiagnosis of yaws as syphilis, and tuberculosis as hereditary, the social-science literature can be assembled to ask a host of vital questions in political theory: on the limits of coercion, on the connection between political power and scientific expertise, between pandemic disease and political legitimacy, and pervasively, across all modern African epidemics, between infection and the politics of race. The remaining four meetings look at Covid-19. We chronicle the evolving responses of policymakers, scholars, religious leaders, opposition figures, and, to the extent that we can, ordinary people. The idea is to assemble sufficient information to facilitate a real-time study of thinking and deciding in times of radical uncertainty and to examine, too, the consequences of decisions on the course of events. There are of course so many moving parts: health systems, international political economy, finance, policing, and more. We also bring guests into the classroom, among them frontline actors in the current pandemic as well as veterans of previous pandemics well placed to share provisional comparative thinking. This last dimension is especially emphasized: the current period, studied in the light of a century of epidemic disease, affording us the opportunity to see path dependencies and novelties, the old and the new.

* EP&E 355b / PLSC 305b, Critique of Political Violence
   Boris Kapustin
   Methods of conceptualizing political violence that are prevalent in contemporary political philosophical discourse. Use of theoretical-analytical tools to examine the modes violence assumes and the functions it performs in modern political life as well as the meanings and possibilities of nonviolence in politics.

* EP&E 356a, Constitutional Law and Business Ethics
   Gregory Collins
   This course has three specific aims: 1) Examine influential Supreme Court cases that have had a significant impact on the practice of American business activities; 2) Identify the critical ethical questions that these legal controversies raise about such activities; and 3) Connect these legal and ethical insights to a broader theoretical understanding of the proper role of government in regulating private economic activity. Prerequisites: Familiarity with major theories in the business ethics discipline (virtue ethics, deontological ethics, utilitarianism, natural rights theory) and the U.S. Constitution.

* EP&E 364b / ECON 302b / PHIL 304b, Choice Theory and its Critics
   Daniel Greco and Larry Samuelson
   The aim of the course is to build up a sufficiently strong foundation in the philosophy of science to allow students to critically assess the challenge posed to the rational choice framework in social science by evidence of human irrationality. Readings are drawn from philosophy, economics (including behavioral economics), and psychology. Prerequisites: Four courses in a combination of economics, philosophy, and psychology.

* EP&E 372a / HUMS 263a / PLSC 320a, Thucydides
   Daniel Schillinger
   In this seminar, we undertake a careful examination of Thucydides' so-called History of the Peloponnesian War in its entirety. Central problems include the psychological and structural causes of war, the relation of justice to necessity, the susceptibility of democracy to imperialism and demagoguery, and the experience of war itself. We also engage with the secondary literature on Thucydides.

* EP&E 375a / PLSC 339a, Liberalism
   Mordechai Levy-Eichel
   What is liberalism? And why do arguments about it stand at the epicenter of our political life? Is it a political idea, or is it a philosophy that tries to carve out a space apart from high politics? Is it about rights, or about equality? Is it about freedom and liberty, or laws and regulations? Is it ancient? Is it modern? Can we even define what liberalism means, or does the attempt to do so in some way even miss the point? This class is a historical, philosophical, and political examination of one of the most important and contested ideas in the modern world. We read both critics and advocates of liberalism. We also examine it historically, sociologically, and comparatively, in order to gain a better sense of what it means in practice, and how it differs from the arguments of both its most strong supporters and defenders, and its critics. Special attention is paid to the development of the ethos and examples of liberalism. This course is also a meditation on how to study politics and political theory. What does liberalism mean, and how should we examine it? Where did it come from, and how has it changed over time?

* EP&E 390a / EVST 212a / PLSC 212a, Democracy and Sustainability
   Michael Fotos
   Democracy, liberty, and the sustainable use of natural resources. Concepts include institutional analysis, democratic consent, property rights, market failure, and common pool resources. Topics of policy substance are related to human use of the environment and to U.S. and global political institutions.

* EP&E 421b / PLSC 320b, Ethics, Law, and Current Issues
   Karen Goodrow
   Examination of how freedom of speech and bias influence the criminal justice system, focusing on wrongful convictions and administration of the death penalty. Understanding the role of potential bias at various levels and the competing interests of protecting speech, due process, and the innocent. Topics include limitations on speech, practical effects of speech, the efficacy of the death penalty,
actual innocence, gender/race/economic bias and its effects on the justice system, as well as best practices for improving our sense of justice.

* EP&E 471a, Directed Reading and Research  Bonnie Weir
For individual reading and research unrelated to the senior essay. Students must obtain the signature of the faculty member supervising their independent work on an Independent Study Form (available from the Ethics, Politics, and Economics registrar’s office). This form must be submitted to the director of undergraduate studies at the time the student’s class schedule is submitted.

Introduction to the emerging field of moral cognition. Focus on questions about the philosophical significance of psychological findings. Topics include the role of emotion in moral judgment; the significance of character traits in virtue ethics and personality psychology; the reliability of intuitions and the psychological processes that underlie them.  HU

* EP&E 491a, The Senior Essay  Bonnie Weir
A one-term senior essay. The essay should fall within the student’s area of concentration. If no appropriate seminar is offered in which the essay might be written, the student, in consultation with the director of undergraduate studies, should choose an appropriate member of the faculty to supervise the senior essay. Students must obtain the signature of the faculty member supervising their independent work on an Independent Study Form (available from the Ethics, Politics, and Economics registrar’s office). This form must be submitted to the director of undergraduate studies at the time the student’s class schedule is submitted.

A two-term senior essay. The essay should fall within the student’s area of concentration. The student, in consultation with the director of undergraduate studies, should choose an appropriate member of the faculty to supervise the senior essay. Students must obtain the signature of the faculty member supervising their independent work on an Independent Study Form (available from the Ethics, Politics, and Economics registrar’s office). This form must be submitted to the director of undergraduate studies at the time the student’s class schedule is submitted.

EP&E 494a / AFAM 198a / CGSC 277a / EDST 177a / PHIL 177a, Propaganda, Ideology, and Democracy  Staff
Historical, philosophical, psychological, and linguistic introduction to the issues and challenges that propaganda raises for liberal democracy. How propaganda can work to undermine democracy; ways in which schools and the press are implicated; the use of propaganda by social movements to address democracy’s deficiencies; the legitimacy of propaganda in cases of political crisis.  HU