



Political Science

Summer/Fall 2014

Morton Hall 250 | 256-824-6192

MESSAGE FROM THE DEPARTMENT CHAIR



Dr. John Pottenger

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In addition to the political science classes to be offered this summer and fall, in this newsletter you will find several vignettes and other newsworthy items that may be of interest. The Model UN students are actively engaged in building on their recent success at a national conference; likewise, members of the PSC club are augmenting the kinds of activities they pursue each year; the Democrat and Republican student clubs are gearing up for another election season; and Pi Sigma Alpha has another inductee. You will also find a fitting tribute to the passing of Dr. Allan Spitz, professor emeritus of political science.

We also want to thank two of our faculty members who will be leaving us this summer. Drs. Jim Stoutenborough and Kellee Kirkpatrick have been offered teaching positions in the department of political science at Idaho State University. Located in Pocatello, ISU provides Jim and Kellee with a unique and rare opportunity to teach in the same department as they pursue their academic careers together.



Although they have been at UAH barely one year, both Jim and Kellee have contributed significantly to the department, college, and university by teaching a variety of courses in public policy, statistics, women’s rights, communication arts, and more; advising and encouraging our students to excel; bringing fresh ideas to the Public Affairs graduate program; and serving on important campus committees and research projects. Thanks, Jim and Kellee, for your camaraderie and assistance at UAH, and best wishes to you at ISU!

Withdrawing from the Stadium

*Allan Spitz
(1928-2014)*

On January 13, Allan Spitz, professor emeritus in the Department of Political Science, quietly departed from our presence. But, his presence will continue to be felt far into the future.

Dr. Spitz brought a wealth of experience and skills to higher education administration, having served in a variety of positions at four different universities. At UAH, he served as department chair, vice president for academic affairs, and provost. Dr. Spitz was at times profound, at times intense; he could gently give counsel one minute, and the next provide a fierce critique of the current political situation. No matter the issue, his listeners learned much, even as he learned from them.

But, Dr. Spitz was a teacher at heart, informed by his vast experiences and careful scholarship. A Fulbright scholar, he applied his knowledge of China and Japan in his classes in comparative politics, and dissected the intricate dynamics of American politics and theory in his classes in domestic politics. Perhaps most revered by students in recent years was Dr. Spitz's class on literature and politics, where students read classic works of world literature and debated important themes that revealed the interconnectedness of basic theoretical and practical insights of political science.

As the keynote speaker at last year's Honors Day convocation for the College of Liberal Arts, Dr. Spitz addressed students and faculty to remind them of the importance of a liberal education. He warned them to avoid the world's enticement to view learning as simply the acquisition of knowledge to be used primarily to seek monetary gain. If not avoided, the danger is that "[o]ur private life becomes assimilated and conquered by a businesslike turn of mind characteristic of our public order. Those of you who came to learn and have achieved so much will need to guard the

approaches to the refined and vital from the invasion of the mundane and regular. You will need a special alertness and a special armor."

Moreover, Dr. Spitz defended liberal education for its subversive character: "This leads us to the profound danger of liberal education. Thinking seriously endangers those who do it. They may, unexpectedly, learn something truly important, and they will be compelled to live with it. . . . Liberal education



does not make for comfort; it does not promote success in public life; it may not even make one happy. To have read and understood the greatest books about the human condition is to know that

living in the leisure society is a search for happiness that is illusory precisely because it seeks its instruments in fun and comfort. . . . [L]iberal education enables the kind of discrimination acceptable within the democratic order. It enables us to separate vanity from nobility, character from appearance, and good taste from recklessness. In order to achieve this, however, you must withdraw from the stadium."

For many of his students as well as faculty and staff colleagues, Dr. Spitz's wit and charm and his admonition to think seriously and withdraw from the stadium will accompany them as they explore, understand, and evaluate the world and their place in it.

-John Pottenger

Pi Sigma Alpha

Pi Sigma Alpha, the National Political Science Honor Society, is the only honor society for college students of political science and government in the United States. The Nu Delta chapter has been recognizing UAH's most distinguished political science students since 1982.



Criteria for induction include the following:

- Junior or senior class standing
- Ranked in upper third of class
- Completion of at least ten semester hours in political science (including at least one upper-division course)
- An average of B or higher in political science courses

This spring, UAH's Nu Delta chapter would like to congratulate Kristen Harris on her induction into the honor society. The initiation ceremony will be held April 1st at noon in Morton Hall 343. Current members are invited to attend; if you are interested please contact Dr. Anne Marie Choup at least a week in advance.



In addition, the Nu Delta chapter will be having a peer study day for finals. The event is tentatively scheduled for April 23rd, from

11:30 am – 2:00 pm. The event will be for students to come together to study for finals, as well as to give a chance for students to receive help from Pi Sigma Alpha members on studying. All political science classes are invited to attend; more information on the event will be advertised to students in April.

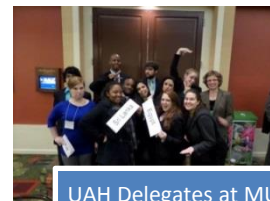
Cassandra Smith
Nu Delta President

“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.”

— Nelson Mandela

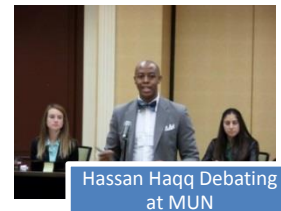
Model United Nations – Fall 2014

If you are interested in attending the Model United Nations (MUN) conference in the fall, then you may want to consider PSC 580:



International Organizations. Part of this course will assist in preparation for the MUN conference, including help with position papers and country research.

Taking this course is not required to attend the conference, but the course will provide additional assistance for those interested. In addition, those taking the course are not required to attend the MUN



conference. For additional information, please contact the political science department.

Congratulations Caleb Duke!

The Department of Political Science is proud to announce that Caleb Duke, a political science and philosophy double major, has been selected by the Harry S. Truman Scholarship Foundation as a finalist for the 2014 Truman Scholarship.

The Harry S. Truman Scholarship Foundation supports graduate education and professional development of exemplary students who show a commitment to public service. One of the most prestigious scholarships in the United States, the Harry S. Truman Foundation selects 55 to 65 scholars each year from hundreds of applicants. The application process includes a rigorous public policy proposal (requiring applicants to research and development top rate briefing skills), obtainment of high recommendations, a top notch academic record, and a strong history in public service and extracurricular activities.

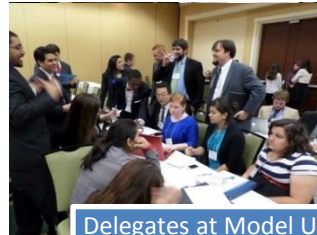


When asked about his experience with the Truman application, Caleb shared the following statement: “I’m glad that the Truman Scholarship committee invited me to have an interview; I know they see a lot of applications. It’s a good feeling to be selected as a finalist and I want to represent the university and the Political Science Department the best way I can. I am extremely thankful to Dr. Hawk, who was always willing to help me and point me in the right direction. Sometimes I would e-mail her five or six times a day and she was always patient. If I am selected as a Truman scholar, I will be extremely thankful for the

opportunity and use the opportunity to the best of my ability.”

Political Science Club

The mission of the Political Science Club is to provide a forum for students to

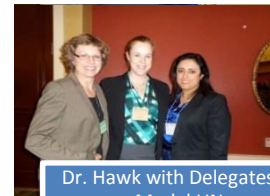


Delegates at Model UN

actively participate in politics and to further educate students in the field of politics so that they may make educated political decisions. Some

of our signature activities include Model United Nations, Debate Nights, and Bake Sales.

Last semester the Political Science Club sent a team of students to the Southern Regional Model United Nations. Students who attended included Kathy Lange, Ghada Almahdi, Anthony Bowling, Stephanie Perry, Charlotte Ashley Cain, Terrence Burroughs, Hassan Haqq, Mimi Brasseur, Brittani Searcy, Cassandra Smith, and Nate Hilburn. A big “Thank You” to Dr. Hawk for attending the conference and to the Political Science Department for aiding in the organization of the trip.



Dr. Hawk with Delegates at Model UN

Additionally, we are currently looking for new members for the upcoming year and are happy to answer any questions you may have. We look forward to a strong and prosperous new school year.

You may contact us through:

Email: polisciclub@uah.edu

Facebook:

[facebook.com/uah.politicalscienceclub](https://www.facebook.com/uah.politicalscienceclub)

or Twitter: @UAHPOLISICLUB.

Charge On,

Charlotte “Ashley” Cain

UAH Charger Democrats

This semester UAH Charger Democrats have hosted a number of exiting events. Charlie Holley, former Democratic Candidate for the U.S. House of Representatives spoke to Charger Democrats, members of the faculty, and students about the current state of American politics and his experiences running for office.

We are also proud to announce a number of opportunities for students to gain experience working on campaigns during the 2014 election. In particular, the Parker Griffith for Governor Campaign has positions open to students, and Charger Democrats hopes to fill them with UAH students. Empower Alabama is a group that focuses on voter registration and get out the vote drives that Charger Democrats plans to work closely with to help student gain experience in the world of politics.



We have also shown the movie *Inequality for All* by former Secretary of Labor Robert Reich to rave reviews. We plan to work closely with other student organizations to bring Dr. Ellin Jimmerson to UAH to show her film *The Second Cooler* and speak about illegal immigration from Mexico and Central America to the United States.

As always Charger Democrats is open to all members of the student body and faculty. We meet the third Tuesday of every month in Charger Union Room 229. For more information about Charger Democrats

or one of our events contact Anthony Bowling at aab0005@uah.edu.

UAH College Republicans

The College Republicans are an active voice on campuses across the state to educate students and are foot soldiers of the Republican Party to help get the strongest candidates elected.



The Executive Board of the College Republicans is looking forward to an exciting and important year.

If anyone is interested in joining the UAHuntsville College Republicans, please email us at uahrepublicans@gmail.com.



SUMMER 2014 UNDERGRADUATE AND GRADUATE COURSES

▶ Course content, instructor, date, and time are subject to change ◀

PSC 101-01 (First Five Weeks): American Government (MTWR 12:30-2:30; MH 328) Dr. Summerlin-Long

An introductory examination of American government and politics. The course describes and evaluates the operations of political processes and actors and the values on which they are based. This is a required course for political science majors and minors.

PSC 480-01/580-01 (First Five Weeks): Women in Politics (MTWR 5:30-7:30; MH 240) Dr. Kirkpatrick

The objective of this course is to familiarize students with a broad range of issues involving gender and politics including the history of women's movements, the political participation of women and men, voting behaviors of women and men, the political divisions that exist amongst women, women's roles in society, and a variety of "women's issues." Because women's involvement in the political arena is informed by their roles and status in society at large, we will also discuss such topics as inequality, power, discrimination, social norms and employment practices.

PSC 102-01 (Second Five Weeks): Comp Politics and Foreign Governments (MTWR 10:15-12:15; MH 126) Ms. Loggins

This course is an introduction to comparative politics and assumes no prior knowledge of political science. In this class, we will explore ways in which we can best compare countries and their political systems. We will use the case study approach to look at democracies in both industrialized and developing settings, countries in transition to democracy, and non-democracies. By the end of the course, each student will have a solid understanding of basic points of comparison for countries and their usefulness, as well as empirical information on the political systems and contemporary issues of our case study countries. Students will also sharpen their critical thinking skills through discussion and analysis of news throughout the semester.

PSC 480-02/580-02 (Second Five Weeks): TBA (MTWR 5:30-7:30) Staff

PSC 495-01, 02/695-01, 02: Internship in Government (TBA) Staff

Student internships are available for undergraduate students for up to 6 hours of academic credit for an internship with local, state, or federal governmental agencies or non-profit organizations. Internships are available in the Huntsville/north Alabama area, Montgomery, and Washington, DC. All students must meet all eligibility requirements and be admitted to the internship program before enrolling for internship credit hours. Minimum eligibility requirements include at least eighteen (18) semester hours in political science courses. A minimum overall GPA of 2.5 or better is required, with 2.8 or better in political science courses. Students who are interested in an internship for Spring 2014 should contact Dr. Reeves ASAP for an application and to discuss options.

CONSTANT | DEMOCRACY | TOCQUEVILLE | REVOLUTION | MILL | TOLERATION | MARX | TRADITION | NITZSCHE
HUME | KANT | JEFFERSON | SMITH | MADISON | BURKE | PAINE | WOLLSTONECRAFT | HEGEL |
COMMONGOOD | REPUBLIC | HISTORY | PROGRESS | CONSTITUTION | UTILITY | PROPERTY | COMMERCE
PLATO | ARISTOTLE | AUGUSTINE | MACHIAVELLI | HOBBS | LOCKE | MONTESQUIEU | VOLTAIRE | ROUSSEAU
JUSTICE | REASON | LAW | FREEDOM | EQUALITY | MODERATION | ORDER | CONTRACT | LIBERTY | FACTION

FALL 2014 UNDERGRADUATE COURSES

▶ Course content, instructor, date, and time are subject to change ◀

PSC 101-01: American Government (MW 2:20-3:40; MH 122) Dr. Summerlin-Long

PSC 101-02: American Government (MW 12:45-2:05; MH 122) Staff

PSC 101-03: American Government (TR 9:35-10:55; MH 122) Staff

PSC 101-04: American Government (TR 12:45-2:05; MH 122) Dr. Summerlin-Long

An introductory examination of American government and politics. The course describes and evaluates the operations of political processes and actors and the values on which they are based. This is a required course for political science majors and minors.

PSC 102-01: Comparative Politics (MWF 9:10-10:05; MH 310) Dr. Choup

PSC 102-02: Comparative Politics (MWF 10:20-11:15; MH 122) Dr. Choup

This course is an introduction to comparative politics and assumes no prior knowledge of political science. In this class, we will explore ways in which we can best compare countries and their political systems. We will use the case study approach to look at democracies in both industrialized and developing settings, countries in transition to democracy, and non-democracies. By the end of the course, each student will have a solid understanding of basic points of comparison for countries and their usefulness, as well as empirical information on the political systems and contemporary issues of our case study countries. Students will also sharpen their critical thinking skills through discussion and analysis of news throughout the semester.

PSC 260-01: Intro to International Relations (TR 11:10-12:30; MH 122) Dr. Hawk

This course is designed to give students a broad introduction to the field of international relations. We will combine the study of the basic theories and concepts of international relations and then apply them to real world situations. Throughout the course, we focus on the issue of international conflict. Why does it occur? Is it possible to prevent it? How have the end of the Cold War and 9/11 changed conflict? In the latter part of the course, we will look at the issue of globalization and whether or not it has changed the nature and prevalence of conflict.

PSC 330-01: Classical Political Philosophy (MW 3:55-5:15; MH 238) Dr. Pottenger

Careful analysis of the roots of political inquiry in selected works of ancient and medieval political philosophers such as Socrates, Plato, Aristotle, Sophocles, Augustine and Aquinas. Major themes include the search for the just social order, the proper relationship between the citizen and the state, and other fundamental concepts of western political institutions. Prerequisite: 9 hours of PSC, PHL, and/or HY.

PSC 399-01: Current Affairs (W 11:30-12:25; MH 304) Dr. Hawk

This course is designed to help students to become more aware of current national and international issues. As a one-credit class that meets one hour a week, we will largely spend our time discussing the background and implications of events transpiring in the United States and around the world. We will be focusing on critical thinking and analysis skills as well as being able to capture the main points made in articles. The course may be repeated up to three times as the content will differ.



PSC 452-01: American Constitutional Law (TR 11:10-12:30; MH 312) Dr. Summerlin-Long

The focus of attention of this course is the fundamental rules that guide the operation of the American polity. Emphasis is placed upon those rules which involve the allocation of powers among the various structures and institutions of government in the United States. The primary sources of the rules to be examined in this course are the Constitution of the United State and major judicial interpretations of major provisions of this document.

PSC 462-01: Decision-Making in Foreign and Security Policy (W 5:30-8:20; MH 324) Dr. Hawk

An examination of the history, culture, and structures shaping the development of U.S. foreign and national security policies. The course will discuss the constitutional roles given to Executive branch and to Congress in the development and management of foreign and security policies, and examine the process and content of foreign and security policies through U.S. history. The course will then shift to an examination of the current structures and actors involved in making foreign and security policy policies, including the State Department, the Defense Department, the Intelligence Community, the Department of Commerce, the National Security Council, and relevant Congressional committees. Prerequisite: PSC 101.

PSC 480-01: TBA (TR 12:45-2:05; MH 124) Staff

PSC 480-02: International Organizations (TR 2:20-3:40; MH 122) Ms. Loggins

This course is designed for students to gain an understanding of how various international organizations operate and evaluate their actions with respect to their stated missions. Students will gain a greater understanding of the United Nations system and the various organs within it as well as other global and regional organizations. The course will take a comparative, case study approach to examining the institutions covered during the semester. Students will be asked to examine and evaluate international organizations from the theoretical and practical perspective and will be asked to insert themselves into the roles of various members of certain organizations and operate within the institutional framework. By simulating membership in international organizations, students will gain a greater understanding of how various institutions operate as well as the various formal and information constraints organization members have both inside the institutions and within the international community in general. Students will be asked to engage in critical thinking and analysis in the classroom as well as with respect to assignments.

PSC 484-01: Senior Seminar (MW 12:45-2:05; MH 203) Dr. Choup

Students in this seminar will review and analyze various approaches and debates in the subfields of political science. Through assigned readings, discussions, and writing exercises, senior seminar students will connect lessons learned from past political science coursework with current discussions in the discipline. Students will also engage in professional development exercises as preparation for their various post-graduate career options.



PSC 495-01, 02: Internship in Government (TBA) Staff

Student internships are available for undergraduate students for up to 6 hours of academic credit for an internship with local, state, or federal governmental agencies or non-profit organizations. Internships are available in the Huntsville/north Alabama area, Montgomery, and Washington, DC. All students must meet all eligibility requirements and be admitted to the internship program before enrolling for internship credit hours. Minimum eligibility requirements include at least eighteen (18) semester hours in political science courses. A minimum overall GPA of 2.5 or better is required, with 2.8 or better in political science courses. Students who are interested in an internship for Spring 2014 should contact Dr. Reeves ASAP for an application and to discuss options.

**IF YOU DON'T HAVE A
PROGRAM OF STUDY
(POS) COMPLETED,
PLEASE
CONTACT CINDY,
THE PSC STAFF
ASSISTANT at
cas0001@uah.edu.**

FALL 2014 GRADUATE COURSES

► Course content, instructor, date, and time are subject to change ◀

PSC 562-01: Decision Making in Foreign and Security Policy (W 5:30-8:20; MH 324) Dr. Hawk

A graduate-level examination of the history, culture, and structures shaping the development of U.S. foreign and national security policies. The course will discuss the constitutional roles given to Executive branch and to Congress in the development and management of foreign and security policies, and examine the process and content of foreign and security policies through U.S. history. The course will then shift to an examination of the current structures and actors involved in making foreign and security policy policies, including the State Department, the Defense Department, the Intelligence Community, the Department of Commerce, the National Security Council, and relevant Congressional committees.

PSC 580-01: TBA (TR 12:45-2:05; MH 124) Staff

PSC 580-02: International Organizations (TR 2:20-3:40; MH 122) Ms. Loggins

This course is designed for students to gain an understanding of how various international organizations operate and evaluate their actions with respect to their stated missions. Students will gain a greater understanding of the United Nations system and the various organs within it as well as other global and regional organizations. The course will take a comparative, case study approach to examining the institutions covered during the semester. Students will be asked to examine and evaluate international organizations from the theoretical and practical perspective and will be asked to insert themselves into the roles of various members of certain organizations and operate within the institutional framework. By simulating membership in international organizations, students will gain a greater understanding of how various institutions operate as well as the various formal and information constraints organization members have both inside the institutions and within the international community in general. Students will be asked to engage in critical thinking and analysis in the classroom as well as with respect to assignments.

PSC 600-01: American Polity (T 5:30-8:20; MH 203) Dr. Pottenger

A comprehensive and intensive review of the philosophical foundations, formal institutions, and political dynamics of the American polity and the relationship of these elements to the making of public policy. This is a required course for students in the Public Affairs program.

PSC 601-01: Public Policy Process (M 5:30-8:20; MH 203) Staff

The primary goal of this class is to teach students to understand and critically analyze the complexities of the policy making process. This seminar covers a variety of topics related to the substance, methods and theories of public policy ranging from policy formulation, to the role of institutions, to policy implementation. An emphasis will be placed on understanding how the policy process works, why policies are, or are not, adopted, and whether adopted policies are likely to be successful. Discussion will address the various political, economic, social and institutional factors that influence policymaking processes and the impacts of policy decisions by national, state, and local levels of governments. The course is designed to give students an introduction to the field, to provide the opportunity to engage the literature in this area, and to facilitate empirical application of major policy theories.

PSC 635-01: Methods (R 5:30-8:20; LIB 210) Staff

Class description TBD.

PSC 695-01, 02: Internship in Government (TBA) Staff

Student internships are available for graduate students for up to 6 hours of academic credit for an internship with local, state, or federal governmental agencies or non-profit organizations. Internships are available in the Huntsville/north Alabama area, Montgomery, and Washington, D.C. All students must meet all eligibility requirements and be admitted to the internship program before enrolling for internship credit hours. Minimum eligibility requirements include at least eighteen (18) semester hours in political science courses. A minimum overall GPA of 3.0 is required. Students who are interested in an internship for Spring 2014 should contact Dr. Reeves ASAP for an application and to discuss options.



FALL 2014 GRADUATION DEADLINES

Planning to graduate this fall? Some deadlines have passed; others are fast approaching, so apply now. All applications must be submitted to Charger Central.

Undergraduate Student Deadlines and Fees

| | | |
|------------------------|---------------|-------|
| On time | June 2, 2014 | \$50 |
| Up to 10 days late | June 3, 2014 | \$75 |
| More than 10 days late | June 17, 2014 | \$100 |

Graduate Student Deadlines and fees

| | | |
|------------------------|--------------------|-------|
| On time | September 2, 2014 | \$75 |
| Up to 10 days late | September 3, 2014 | \$50 |
| More than 10 days late | September 16, 2014 | \$100 |

For more information, call Charger Central at 256.824.7777

Or visit <http://www.uah.edu/registrar/charger-central/welcome>

