

UAH
THE UNIVERSITY OF
ALABAMA IN HUNTSVILLE

Political Science



SPRING 2015

Morton Hall 250

256-824-6192

MESSAGE FROM THE DEPARTMENT CHAIR



Dr. John Pottenger

Table of Contents

Political Science	
Spotlights.....	2
Pi Sigma Alpha.....	3
Internship.....	3
Political Science Club.....	4
Charger Democrats.....	4
College Republicans.....	4
TEFL.....	5
Political Science Students in Action.....	5
Undergraduate Courses.....	6
Graduate Courses.....	8
Graduation Deadlines.....	9

Greetings!

As the national and local economies slowly improve, we are beginning to see growth in student enrollments at UAH, particularly in the Public Affairs graduate program. This fall, graduate student enrollment increased 43% over last year at this time! We are pleased to welcome these new students to our world!

Speaking of the graduate program, we would like to congratulate Kathy Lange, who is the first undergraduate student in political science to complete the department's Joint Undergraduate Master's Program (JUMP) and be automatically admitted to the Public Affairs graduate program. Several other political science students are also enrolled in the program, and we expect success from them, too.

For those undergraduate students who may be interested, the JUMP program permits qualified undergraduate students to take up to 12-semester hours of graduate classes during their last year of study. The graduate classes apply to both the student's undergraduate degree program and graduate program, thus potentially reducing by one-third the time it takes to complete a graduate degree at UAH. Please see Dr. Kathy Hawk, the department's JUMP coordinator, if you're interested in learning more about the program and what is required to qualify for admission.

Now, back to the economy. This summer the department conducted a survey of Political Science student alumni (both undergraduate and graduate) to see how they were engaged after graduating with their degrees. Look in this newsletter for the "Employment and/or Studies After Graduation" chart to see how they responded! I think you'll find it interesting.

Keep developing your critical thinking, expository, and leadership skills! You will certainly benefit!

-John Pottenger
Professor and Chair

Political Science Spotlights

Huntsville Mayor Tommy Battle appointed University of Alabama in Huntsville alumnus Harrison Diamond as Huntsville's first business relations officer. The position was created following Michelle Jordan's move from economic development director to planning director. Diamond will serve as the mayor's liaison to the local business community and assist Director of Urban Development Shane Davis with economic development projects, including ongoing initiatives to bring more cyber security, clean energy, and biotech and geospatial technology jobs to town.

Diamond, who was director of existing business for the Huntsville/Madison County Chamber of Commerce, joined Battle's administration on June 1. He has a bachelor's degree in communication and information sciences from the University of Alabama, and a master's in public affairs from the University of Alabama in Huntsville. (Huntsville Times 05/14/2014 p. A11)



Harrison Diamond
PA Alumnus 2012



Kathy Lange with Dr. Kathy Hawk

Kathy Lange graduated *magna cum laude* in 2014 with a B.A. in Political Science and a minor in Global Studies. Lange is the first political science student to successfully complete the Joint Undergraduate Master's Program (JUMP) and receive automatic admission into the Public Affairs graduate program. During her tenure at UAH she served as head delegate for two Model United Nations simulations. Additionally, Lange held the positions of treasurer and secretary in the Political Science Club.

Jenna Tischler is a Political Science undergraduate student. During the Fall 2014 semester Tischler is studying abroad in Thailand. So far, she has taught Thai children how to speak English and has herself been taught by a professor on the Thai military's blacklist. Additionally, Tischler was a member of the first place team in an engineering competition sponsored by SAIC at UAH. She is also enrolled in UAH's Political Science JUMP program.



Jenna Tischler in Thailand

Student Activities

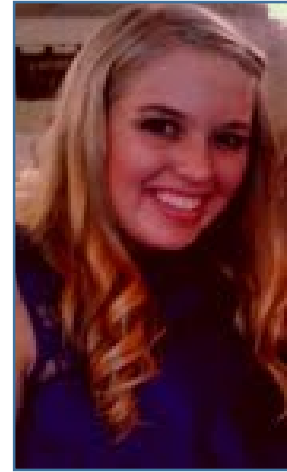
Pi Sigma Alpha

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 fall, Pi Sigma Alpha is looking to become more involved on campus and around the community. Kristin Harris, president, will be hosting study sessions for midterms and finals for American Government students. The club is looking to have monthly meetings of "Pizza and Politics," so we look forward to more participation!



Kristin Harris



Felicia Williams

Internship

UAH graduate student, Felicia Williams, completed her six-week internship with the Madison County Court Appointed Juvenile Advocates Program (CAJA) this past spring under the supervision of Dr. Andrée Reeves. CAJA serves children from birth through school age who are identified by the court as abused and neglected and who have involvement with the Department of Human Resources. The CAJA program serves as an objective third party whose goal is to represent the best interest of the child from initial court assignment through case closure. During the course of her internship, Williams assisted with Yuri's Night fundraiser under Executive Director Doug Brown, assisted with the construction of several grant application packets, and, under the supervision of Interim Executive Director Laura Kovalcik, collected statistical data to be used for future grant applications. Williams is a Spring 2014 graduate of the Public Affairs graduate program and previously received her B.A. in psychology also from UAH.

Political Science Club

The mission of the Political Science Club is to provide a forum for students to actively participate in politics and to further educate students in the field of politics so that they may make educated political decisions. Some of their signature activities include Model United Nations, Debate Nights, and Bake Sales. The current president of the Political Science Club is Jessica King. She is a senior majoring in political science and communication arts. Jessica has high hopes for the club and wishes to make it a known campus-wide club: "I have met some pretty fantastic people from every department and it has always been my hopes that the campus would unite and become a community of one. With that, it would be my goal as president to develop a more informed student body, as a whole, on politics at a state and federal level, through giving them knowledge on particular candidates running, as well as, issues that are affecting them daily." The Political Science Club is currently looking for new members for the upcoming year and is happy to answer any questions you may have. Club members look forward to a strong and prosperous new school year. You may contact them through Email: polisciclub@uah.edu



Jessica King



UAH Charger Democrats

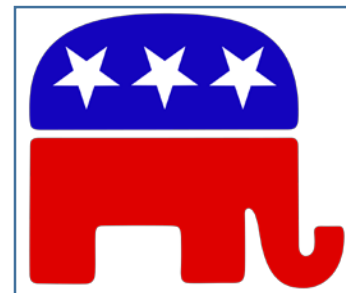
The UAHuntsville Charger Democrats provide an opportunity for progressively-minded students to get active in the political process and promote Democratic ideals throughout the UAH community. If you would like to get involved, please contact the president of the club, Terrance Burroughs, at ttb0005@uah.edu for more information.

UAH College Republicans

The UAH College Republicans is a group on campus that meets with the purpose of discussing conservative ideals. We are open to anyone of differing viewpoints to discuss national, state, and local policy.

We meet monthly and try to have speakers when we can. We communicate with other local groups and frequently collaborate with College Republicans from other schools.

If you want to contact us, our email is uahrepublicans@gmail.com, find us on Facebook, or follow us on Twitter @uahgop.



Political Science Students in Action



UAH Charger Democrats Harsha Srikakolapu, Ghada Almahdi, Carrie Rogers, and Norris Vaughn pause for a picture during their 2014 Valentine's Day party.



UAH Political Science students Aaron Byers, Jenna Tischler, Charlotte Cain, and Noah Houser (Engineering) pose with Tom Percy of SAIC after winning top prize.

Charlotte Cain
UAH political science student was the 1st runner up for the Dr. B. Jeanne Fischer Award Most Outstanding Student Leader of 2014



UAH political science student Jenna Tischler visits an elephant park while studying abroad in Thailand.



UAH Model United Nations students pose with Dr. Kathy Hawk at the close of conference.



This fall, political science student Bridgette Searcy is participating in a TEFL (Teaching English as a Foreign Language) program in St. Petersburg, Russia. She is amazed at the warmth of the Russian people and the beautiful and ornate architecture of the Venice of the North.

Spring 2015 Undergraduate and Graduate Courses

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

PSC 101-01: American Government (MWF 9:10-10:05; MH 122) Ms. Peck

PSC 101-02: American Government (TR 9:35-10:55; 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. Required for political science majors and minors.

PSC 102-01: Comparative Politics and Foreign Governments (MWF 10:20-11:15; MH 324) Ms. Loggins

PSC 102-02: Comparative Politics and Foreign Governments (TR 11:10-12:30; 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. Required for political science majors.

PSC 103-01: State and Local Government (TR 2:20- 3:40; MH 122) Dr. Reeves

Examination of state and local politics in America with attention given to the politics of state governments, including the roles of the legislatures, governors, courts and political parties, and to urban problems, governmental forms, power structures, and policy outputs. Required for political science majors.

PSC 260-01: Introduction to International Relations (TR 12:45-2:05; MH 122) Dr. Hawk

Designed to introduce the student to ways in which countries interact and how they seek to achieve their interests in the world. The course will focus on issues such as the role of military force, national sovereignty, the role of international organizations, and the nature of the globalizing world economy. The course will also give the students a broad understanding of many of the current issues in international relations. Required for political science majors.

PSC 332-01: Modern Political Philosophy (MW 3:55-5:15; MH 328) Dr. Pottenger

Critical examination of the philosophical foundation of modern politics that emerged from the 15th through the 19th centuries. Major themes and theorists include the concepts of individual rights, property, representation, majority rule, limited government, and revolution discussed in selected writings of Luther, Calvin, Hobbes, Locke, Rousseau, J.S. Mill, and Marx. Prerequisite: 9 hours of PSC, PHL, and/or HY. (Same as PHL 332)

PSC 399-01: Current Affairs (W 11:30-12:25; MH 240) 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 440-01: Regional Studies: Sub-Saharan African Politics (M 5:30-8:20) Dr. Choup

Using Sub-Saharan African countries as examples, in this course we will review key themes in politics of developing nations. These include an analysis of what defines the "Third World" democratization, the politicization of ethnic difference, the use of religion in politics, and urban and rural development. It is assumed that students have prior exposure to comparative politics and/or Sub-Saharan Africa.

PSC 452-01: American Constitutional Law (MW 12:45-2:05; MH 306) 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 that 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 464-01: American Foreign Policy (W 5:30-8:20; MH 240) Ms. Loggins

This course will focus on the substance of contemporary U.S. foreign policies. The course will look at U.S. foreign policies toward a variety of current international issues and events. In doing so, we will examine what the United States seeks to do about these issues, how those policies seek to advance U.S. interests, and we will attempt to evaluate how well the United States is able to achieve its goals around the world.

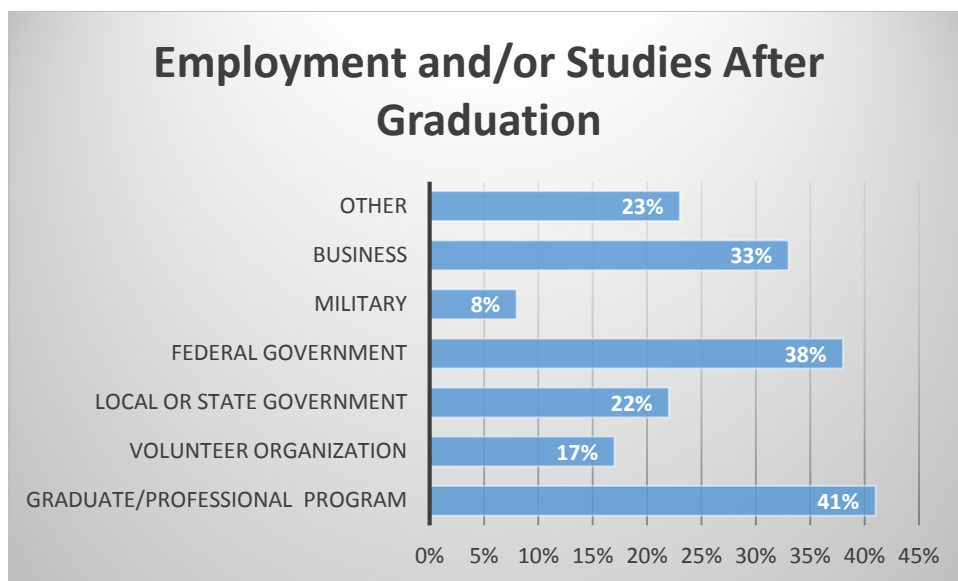
PSC 480-01: Stats for PSC Majors (TR 3:55-5:15; MH 240) Dr. Summerlin-Long

This course is an introduction to statistics for undergraduate political science majors and graduate students in the public policy program. The goal of the course is to provide students with the ability to accurately demonstrate policy problems through finding, interpreting, and presenting numerical data. Statistical topics include basic descriptive statistics, probability, estimation and hypothesis testing, correlation, and regression. Skills developed include empirical/critical thinking, causal reasoning, data management, and data analysis and interpretation.

PSC 484-01: Senior Seminar (TR 9:35-10:55; MH 343) 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. Required for political science majors and minors.

PSC 495-01, 02: Internship in Government (TBA) Dr. Reeves



Spring 2015 Graduate Courses

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

PSC 540-01: Regional Studies: Sub-Saharan African Politics (M 5:30-8:20; MH 240) Dr. Choup

Using Sub-Saharan African countries as examples, in the course we will review key themes in politics of developing nations. These include an analysis of what defines the “Third World,” democratization, the politicization of ethnic difference, the use of religion in politics, and urban and rural development. This class will in addition consider how the United States and other empires/super-powers have influenced the course of politics and development in Sub-Saharan Africa. It is assumed that students have prior exposure to comparative politics and/or Sub-Saharan Africa.

PSC 564-01: American Foreign Policy (W 5:30-8:20; MH 240) Ms. Loggins

This course will focus on the substance of contemporary U.S. foreign policies. The course will look at U.S. foreign policies toward a variety of current international issues and events. In doing so, we will examine what the United States seeks to do about these issues, how those policies seek to advance U.S. interests, and we will attempt to evaluate how well the United States is able to achieve its goals around the world.

PSC 580-01: Stats for PSC Majors (TR 3:55- 5:15; MH 240) Dr. Summerlin-Long

This course is an introduction to statistics for undergraduate political science majors and graduate students in the public policy program. The goal of this course is to provide students with the ability to accurately demonstrate policy programs through finding, interpreting, and presenting numerical data. Statistical topics include basic descriptive statistics, probability, estimation and hypothesis testing, correlation, and regression. Skills developed include empirical/critical thinking, casual reasoning, data management, and data analysis and interpretation.

PSC 601-01: Public Policy Process (R 5:30- 8:20; MH 238) Dr. Reeves

As substantive outputs of political systems, public policies reflect the range of social, economic, technological, and intellectual resources in those systems. This course is designed to provide an analytical framework for critical thinking about public policy in American governments. The study of public policy focuses on what governments do and do not do, how well they do it, and what they should and should not do. We will examine the basic structures and processes of policy-making as well as the various approaches to the study of public policies and how they are formulated. Required for all graduate students.

PSC 630-01: Public Values and Public Policy (R 5:30- 8:20; MH 203) Dr.Pottenger

Critical examinations of the normative aspect of public policy-making. Focuses on the value assumptions of social theoretical paradigms that influence the design of public policy and on the ethical and moral implications of those designs. Major themes include ideological biases of empirical analyses and evaluations in the policy sciences, ethics of social policy formation, and moral problems of economic distribution and redistribution.

PSC 690-01: Capstone (T 5:30-8:20; MH 203) Dr. Reeves

The Capstone course will assist students in developing a research topic on broader issues covered in the Public Affairs program. Required for graduate students in last year.

PSC 695-01, 02: Internship in Government (TBA) Dr. Reeves

SPRING 2015 GRADUATION DEADLINES

Undergraduate Application

On time October 1, 2014- \$50

Up to 10 days late after October 1, 2014- \$75

More than 10 days late October 16, 2014- \$100

Graduate Application

February 1, 2015

For more information, call Charger Central at 256.824.7777

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

Important Dates Spring 2015

January 1	Winter Break- No Classes
January 2	University Re-opens
January 7	Classes Begin
January 10	First Saturday Class
January 19	MLK Jr. Holiday- No Classes
March 23-28	Spring Break- No Classes
March 27	Staff Holiday
April 7	Honors Day- No Classes
April 20	Last MWF Class
April 22	Last MW Class
April 23	Last TR Only Class
April 23	Last R Only Class
April 24	Last F Only Class
April 25	Last S Only Class
April 27	Last M Only Class
April 28	Last T Only Class
April 27-May 1	Final Examinations (includes Saturday May 2)
May 3	Spring Commencement

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