



Political Science

SPRING 2016

Morton Hall 250

256-824-6192

MESSAGE FROM THE DEPARTMENT CHAIR



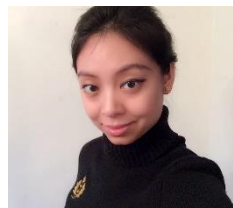
Dr. John Pottenger

This academic year is an exciting time for the Department of Political Science. Returning students are missing familiar instructors while encountering new instructors in the department's faculty lineup.



A popular teacher in the department, **Dr. Kathy Hawk** will not be teaching this year, as she has been mobilized by the military. A member of the Naval Reserve, Dr. Hawk has been sent to Guantánamo Bay, Cuba, for an intelligence assignment. We look forward to her return in Fall 2016!

Another popular teacher in the department, **Dr. Jeff Summerlin-Long** has resigned to be nearer family in North Carolina. His new academic position is that of lecturer at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill. We appreciate the superb teaching of Dr. Summerlin-Long and his contributions to the department's academic offerings. We wish him well!



We are excited about a new faculty member who has joined the department: **Dr. Shuang Zhao**. A newly-minted Ph.D. from Indiana University-Bloomington, Dr. Zhao will be teaching classes in international relations, environmental policy, and statistics. Due to her special research interests, she will also hold a joint appointment with the Atmospheric Sciences

department. You will read more about Dr. Zhao's background in this newsletter. Welcome, Dr. Zhao!

Finally, we have invited a number of part-time instructors to meet the demand for classes in a variety of areas: **Ryan Cleckner, J.D.** (constitutional law), **Dr. Melissa Currie** (geography), **Dr. Marina Kingsbury** (public administration), **Julie Loggins** (American government and international relations), and **Emily Peck, M.P.A.** (American government). Thank you for joining us!

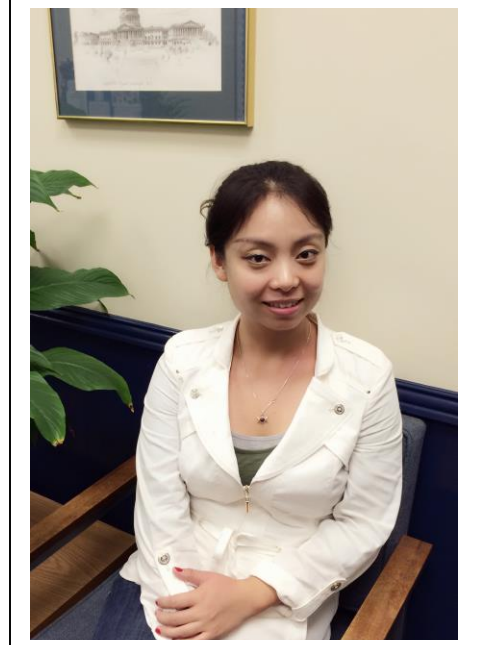
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POLITICAL SCIENCE SPOTLIGHTS

Dr. Shuang Zhao received her joint Ph.D. degree in Public Policy from the School of Public and Environmental Affairs and the Department of Political Science at Indiana University-Bloomington. Her research interests include environmental policy, international relations, and public policy. She researches how firms respond to environmental regulations through private environmental management and green supply chain management, using a variety of research methods, including econometrics, spatial statistics, and environmental science modeling.

Dr. Zhao's research is policy driven pertaining to how academic research could inform real world policies. She publishes in policy-oriented journals such as *Policy Studies Journal* and *Review of Policy Research*. She is passionate about working with students to design their own research projects and solve real world problems. She teaches courses in international relations/statistics, environmental policy, and research methods. In addition, Dr. Zhao is going to teach an Honors section of PSC 260, Introduction to International Relations, with a focus on international environmental policy for the Honors College in Spring 2016. She has also been selected as an affiliated faculty to the Ostrom Workshop at Indiana University-Bloomington.



Dr. Shuang Zhao

NEW PRE-LAW CERTIFICATE PROGRAM!

The UAH Pre-Law Certificate Program is designed to provide students guidance in taking classes that will not only assist them in getting into law school but also prepare them for success once they get there. The Pre-Law Certificate Program can be completed with **any degree and any combination of major and minor**. Many of the program's classes will also satisfy Charger Foundations, so students may be able to complete the program with few, if any, classes beyond those already required for a UAH degree.



Students who wish to complete the UAH Pre-Law Certificate Program should seek academic counseling from Dr. Andy Cling, the Pre-Law Advisor, MOR 325, clinga@uah.edu.

Core Courses (9 hours):

- PHL 102 Introduction to Ethics
- PHL 201 Introduction to Logic
- And one of the following two courses:
- PSC/PHL 330 Classical Political Philosophy OR
- PSC/PHL 332 Modern Political Philosophy

Elective Courses (at least 6 hours):

- CM 316 Legal Argument
- EH 320 Practicum in Writing
- FL 101L Introduction to Latin
- PHL 320 Symbolic Logic
- PSC 452 American Constitutional Law
- PSC 454 Civil Liberties
- PY 434 Psychology and Law
- SOC 303 Statistics for the Social Sciences
- SOC 307 Sociology of Law

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.

For more information, please contact Dr. Anne Marie Choup, Annemarie.choup@uah.edu



POLITICAL SCIENCE CLUB

The Political Science department is always happy to sponsor a political science student club when there are enough interested students. There must be five interested students to serve as officers as well as participating members. Club activities depend upon student interest, and may include Model United Nations simulations, voter registration drives, speakers, study sessions, and/or informal chats about politics.

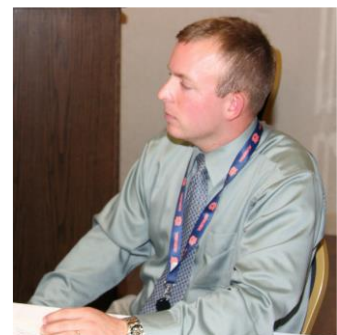
Please contact Dr. Andree Reeves at reevesa@uah.edu or further information.

PSC ALUMNI NEWS

Nathan List graduated *summa cum laude* from UAH in December 2010 with a B.A. in Political Science and a minor in Global Studies, and was inducted into the Pi Sigma Honor society in Political Science. He completed a Master's Degree in Business Administration (MBA) from UAH in December 2014.

Nathan is an employee of the University of Alabama in Huntsville (UAH) Systems Management and Production Center, working as a contractor for the U.S. Army by supporting ongoing foreign military sales programs and armaments cooperation activities at Redstone Arsenal. Nathan's experiences studying Political Science have contributed significantly to his career success to date by increasing his understanding of the U.S. Federal

Government and of foreign governments, enhancing his critical thinking and empirical research skills, and honing his written and oral communication skills, all of which have enabled him to engage effectively in cross-cultural communication and international business with representatives of foreign governments, foreign militaries, and foreign companies.



Nathan List, MPA

JUMP (Joint Undergraduate Master's Program)

Interested in getting a jump on graduate school?

*Then, consider the JUMP program, and
jump in!*

Through the Joint Undergraduate Master's Program, undergraduate students may take up to twelve hours of approved courses at the graduate level while completing their B.A. degrees.

These courses "double-count" toward both the B.A. and M.A. degrees at UAH, allowing students to earn their M.A. in Public Affairs degree more rapidly and save money in the process.



Students have to apply and be accepted into the program before they may take coursework that will count toward both degrees. Students should meet the following criteria:

- Have sophomore or junior standing
- Have a GPA of 3.25 or better
- Have completed at least nine hours of PSC coursework at UAH, with at least six hours at the 300 level or above

Students admitted to the PSC JUMP program continue to pay undergraduate tuition for the graduate courses they take as part of the program, do not have to take the Graduate Record Examination (GRE), and do not have to pay a graduate school application fee.

Interested in the JUMP program?

Please contact

**Dr. John Pottenger pottenj@uah.edu for more
information.**

SPRING 2016 UNDERGRADUATE COURSES

- ▶ Course content, instructor, date, and time are subject to change ◀
- ▶ All courses are three-hour courses unless otherwise indicated ◀

PSC 101-01: American Government (MWF 9:10-10:05; MOR 122) STAFF

PSC 101-02: American Government (TR 9:35-10:55; MOR 122) Ms. Peck

An introduction to American government and politics. This course not only examines the foundation of our government, but also voting behavior, elections, and key players in the process of developing policy. This is a required course for Political Science majors and minors and meets Charger Foundations for majors and non-majors.

PSC 102-01: Comparative Politics (MW 12:45-2:05; MOR 324) Dr. Choup

PSC 102-02: Comparative Politics (TR 11:10-12:30; MOR 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. This is a required course for Political Science majors and meets Charger Foundations for majors and non-majors.

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

The United States is home to more than 90,000 governments-including more than 1200 in Alabama-which we support with our taxes. These state and local entities form the locus of most of our interactions with government. What are they all for? What do they do? Why do we have so many? Why are they so different? This course examines state and local politics, with special attention to the politics of state governments, including the roles of legislatures, governors, courts, and political parties, as well as to local governmental forms, power structures, and policy outputs. This is a required course for Political Science majors and meets Charger Foundations or Area V requirements for majors and non-majors.

GY 105-01: World Regional Geography (MW 3:55-5:15; SST 205) Dr. Currie

In this course, we will discuss the physical and human characteristics of each major world region, placing particular emphasis on cultural and societal structures. We will study key global issues such as international conflict and cooperation, environmental degradation, population growth, and globalization. This course makes use of thematic maps centered on topics like language, religion, and ethnicity to explore the interactions between people and their environment. This course meets Charger Foundations requirements.

PSC 260-01: Intro to International Relations (MWF 10:20-11:15; MOR 122) STAFF

Designed to introduce the student to ways in which countries interact and how they seek to achieve their interests in the world. This 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. This is a required course for Political Science majors and minors and meets Charger Foundations for majors and non-majors.

SPRING 2016 UNDERGRADUATE COURSES

PSC 260H-02: Introduction to International Relations (TR 12:45–2:05; MOR 122) Dr. Zhao

This course introduces students to basic international relations theories, international policies and the process of globalization. We then use the theories and techniques developed in international relations field to analyze a variety of environmental issues and a set of international agreements to address these issues. Through this course, students will develop skills to examine international environmental agreements and analyze international policies. Honor students, then others depending on class size and other restrictions. This is a required course for Political Science majors and meets Charger Foundations for majors and non-majors.

PSC 304-01: Presidency (MW 2:20–3:40; MOR 326) Dr. Reeves

This course is intended as a scholarly, balanced, and sometimes irreverent survey of the presidency—the electoral process, the development of the office, the individuals who have filled the office, the political demands of presidential leadership, and the managerial challenges of presidential administration. It is meant to further your understanding of the American executive—the president and the administrative bureaucracy.

PSC 332-01: Modern Political Philosophy (MW 3:55-5:15; MOR 238) 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: PSC 101, PHL 101, or PHL 102. (Same as PHL 332)

PSC 399-01: Current Affairs (W 11:30-12:25; MOR 240) Dr. Choup

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 438-01: Contemporary Political Thought (MW 12:45-2:05; MOR 238) Dr. Pottenger

Systematic study of recent and current thinking on issues and problems of politics, social theory, and ethics, on perspectives of democratic theory, feminist theory, neoliberalism and Marxism. Serves as a Women's and Gender Studies course. Prerequisite: 6 hours of PSC and/or PHL, except PHL 201. (Same as PHL 438)

PSC 440-01: – Regional Studies: European Union (R 5:30–8:20; MOR 240) Dr. Johnson

In this course, we will explore the political structures that constitute the European Union. We will also explore the complexities of cultures and identities in Europe. We will critically approach various recent appraisals of Europe and the European Union project, especially those concerning the recent sovereign debt crisis and the influx of refugees into Europe. (Same as GS 499.)

PSC 480-01: Environmental Policy (ESS) (TR 3:55–5:15; MOR 205) Dr. Zhao

In this class, we will survey a selection of key environmental issues in the United States and globally. Students will be introduced to environmental economic and public policy frameworks that they could use to understand and analyze environmental issues surveyed in class. Students will also learn institutions that are involved in addressing environmental issues and explore the role of public and private sectors in environmental policy making process. (Same as ESS 407.)

SPRING 2016 UNDERGRADUATE COURSES

PSC 480-02 Stats for PSC Majors (W 5:30-8:20; MOR 238) Dr. Zhao

This course is designed to introduce students to a variety of statistical techniques for social science studies. Through this course, students will learn concepts and logic thinking in statistics. This course will help students develop data organization, analysis and presentation skills that could be used in future research as well as a variety of workplaces. Students will also be introduced to popular statistical software such as SPSS and STATA.

PSC 484-01: Senior Seminar (TR 9:35-10:55; MOR 343) Dr. Choup

Students in this seminar will review and analyze various approaches of political science subfields through assigned readings, discussions, writing exercises, and presentations. Students will be able to further explore their specific interests in the discipline with readings selected in consultation with the instructor. Students will also engage in professional development exercises. Course is required for Political Science majors and minors.

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

Student internships are available for undergraduate students for up to six 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 2.5 is required, with a minimum of 2.8 in political science courses. Students who are interested in an internship for Fall 2015 should contact Dr. Reeves ASAP for an application and to discuss options.

SPRING 2016 GRADUATE COURSES

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- ▶ All courses are three-hour courses unless otherwise indicated ◀

PSC 540-01: Regional Studies: European Union (R 5:30–8:20; MOR 240) Dr. Johnson

In this course, we will explore the political structures that constitute the European Union. We will also explore the complexities of cultures and identities in Europe. We will critically approach various recent appraisals of Europe and the European Union project, especially those concerning the recent sovereign debt crisis and the influx of refugees into Europe.

PSC 580-01: Environmental Policy (ESS) (TR 3:55–5:15; MH 205) Dr. Zhao

In this class, we will survey a selection of key environmental issues in the United States and globally. Students will be introduced to environmental economic and public policy frameworks that they could use to understand and analyze environmental issues surveyed in class. Students will also learn institutions that are involved in addressing environmental issues and explore the role of public and private sectors in environmental policy making process. (Same as ESS 507.)

PSC 580-02: Stats for PSC Majors (W 5:30-8:20; MH 238) Dr. Zhao

This course is designed to introduce students to a variety of statistical techniques for social science studies. Through this course, students will learn concepts and logic thinking in statistics. This course will help students develop data organization, analysis and presentation skills that could be used in future research as well as a variety of workplaces. Students will also be introduced to popular statistical software such as SPSS and STATA.

SPRING 2016 GRADUATE COURSES

PSC 601-01: Public Policy Process (M 5:30-8:20; MOR 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.

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

Student internships are available for graduate students for up to six 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 2016 should contact Dr. Reeves ASAP for an application and to discuss options.

SPRING 2016 GRADUATION DEADLINES

Planning to graduate this fall? Deadlines are fast approaching, so apply now. All applications must be submitted to Charger Central.

Undergraduate Student Deadlines and Fees

On time	October 1, 2015	\$50
Up to 10 days late	October 14, 2015	\$25
More than 10 days late	October 15, 2015	\$50

Graduate Student Deadlines and Fees

On time	February 1, 2016	\$50
Up to 10 days late	February 11, 2016	\$25
More than 10 days late	February 12, 2016	\$50

For more information, call Charger Central at 256.824.7777

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