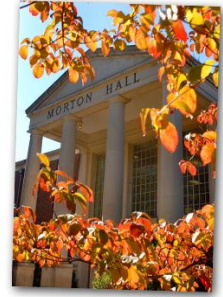


# UAHuntsville Department of Political Science

SPRING 2013

Morton Hall 250 | 256-824-6192



## → CORRECTED COURSE LISTINGS AND OTHER INFO ←

### MESSAGE FROM THE DEPARTMENT CHAIR



Dr. John Pottenger

Greetings! Well, the torch has been passed!

Dr. Kathy Hawk has accepted the challenge to develop an exciting new center on the UAH campus that will incorporate the recently endowed eminent scholar chair in political science. And, of course, she will continue to teach and be available for student advising.

I, in turn, have accepted the torch to illuminate and augment the high bar Dr. Hawk has set for enhancing the diversity and quality of academic instruction in the department.

As students, you should know that the social sciences as well as the humanities have a tremendous impact on society. Political theorist Mark Bevir (UC-Berkeley) states, “when policy actors form policies using formal or folk theories from social science, then social science is partly constitutive of the policies.”\*

Think about it. What you learn in (and apply from) your field of study today may well have a positive impact on the lives of others tomorrow! That’s serious – and exciting!

We look forward to facilitating your serious and exciting journey toward a degree in the social sciences, humanities, or along whatever path your academic career leads you!

Stop by and see us!

-John Pottenger  
Professor and Chair

\*Mark Bevir, *Modern Pluralism* (Cambridge, 2012).

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# FEATURED ACTIVITIES

## FACULTY RESEARCH



Dr. Anne Marie Choup

As part of her research on domestic violence in the Americas, Dr. Anne Marie Choup will attend the Organization of American

States' 36<sup>th</sup> Assembly of Delegates of the Commission of Women in San José, Costa Rica, October 29-30.

The assembly is organized around three themes: violence against women and citizen security; the social return on investment in care, infrastructure, and power; and political participation.

According to the OAS website: "Established in 1928, the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM) was the first inter-governmental agency established to ensure recognition of human rights of women. CIM

is made up of 33 Principal Delegates, one for each member state, and has become the principal forum for debating and formulating policy on women's rights in the Americas and gender equality. CIM Delegates are designated by their respective governments. These representatives meet every two years during the Assembly of Delegates. The Assembly is CIM's highest authority and is) responsible for establishing policies and approving the Commission's "plans and programs of work" ([http:// www.oas.org/en/CIM/about.asp](http://www.oas.org/en/CIM/about.asp)).

As an academic observer, Dr. Choup will gather information on the work of the commission and all of the American states save Cuba.

## PSC ALUMNA

Taralyn J. Caudle currently serves as the Programs Coordinator for the Office of Diversity at the University of Alabama in Huntsville. Ms. Caudle also works as a part-time instructor for the First Year Experience program and previously served as the Service-Learning Coordinator for the campus from 2007 to 2009.

Ms. Caudle is a proud graduate of Spelman College, holding a B.A. in Philosophy. She also earned her Master's degree in Public Affairs from the University of Alabama in Huntsville. In

addition, she is currently completing her certification in technical communication at UAH.

Ms. Caudle has an extensive background in program development in the non-profit sector. Her strong ties to the non-profit community have led to service on the boards of both the Food Bank of North Alabama and VANGUARD, a local organization devoted to improving race relations in the city of Huntsville. She also currently serves as the President of the Huntsville Area Chapter of the National Alumni Association of



Taralyn J. Caudle

Spelman College and is a member of the Huntsville Alumni Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

## **PSC STUDENT AMBASSADORS**

This summer, Dr. John Pottenger conducted the Study of the U.S. Institute (SUSI) on behalf of the U.S. Department of State. The Institute brought 21 college students from the country of Azerbaijan in the Caucasus region. The Azerbaijani students studied American politics associated with civil rights, gender equity, immigration policies, and democratic governance.

Assisting Dr. Pottenger with this project were three political science students – Rachel King, Araseli Ramirez, and Sarah Kamel – who served as “SUSI

ambassadors.” As ambassadors, the political science students shared American culture and college life with the Azerbaijani students, as well as attended SUSI lectures, meetings, and trips, and then worked in groups to lead weekly discussion sessions with the Azerbaijanis about the material presented.

Both groups of students – American and Azerbaijani – learned a great deal from each other and formed solid bonds that will last a lifetime.



Rachel King, Araseli Ramirez, Sarah Kamel

## **SUSI AMBASSADOR**



Sarah Kamel

It is not every day that one can claim to have experienced another side of the world without even leaving home. That is precisely what I did this summer while serving as a Student Ambassador for the 2012 Study of the U.S. Institutes for Azerbaijani Student Leaders on Civic Engagement (SUSI).

The SUSI program only lasted six weeks, yet it allowed me to combine my Political Science studies with practical experience. I helped to represent the diversity of American students as well as explain the policies and culture of the United States to 21 college students from across Azerbaijan. In academic seminars, we discussed issues of race, gender, and religion in the U.S. and compared opinions here to those in

Azerbaijan. Moreover, our talks helped expose me to the international affairs of a region of great geopolitical importance to the United States and one I was less familiar with before.

Not only did they teach me about their country, but they also encouraged me to critically analyze my home country, culture, and politics. They asked me tough questions about subjects such as Islamophobia in America, U.S. gun laws amidst news coverage of a shooting in Colorado, and the accessibility of higher education in a shaken economy. From all of this, I realized that learning to effectively exchange ideas and cultures in and outside of the classroom is the first key step in bringing about positive change in your community, whether it be local or international.

## MODEL UN



Nicholas Neely

Since I began studying Political Science at UAH, I wanted an avenue to apply my classroom knowledge in a context relevant to my career goals as well as a means to contribute to campus life.

I was surprised to learn UAH's Model U.N. was inactive, so I took it upon myself to research online about how to form one. A Model U.N., MUN for short, is a great way to engage in practicing negotiation skills, compromise, and debate skills. By learning about the procedures of the U.N. body and participating countries,

students can take the experience with them when applying to other universities or seeking careers with the government.

The 2013 MUN conference at Emory University will provide MUN delegates from UAH the chance to conduct U.N. simulations, network, and have a lot of fun in Atlanta.

For more information contact Nicolas Neely at

[nan0001@uah.edu](mailto:nan0001@uah.edu)

## ELECTIONS



### UAH College Democrats

The UAH College Democrats are gearing up for the 2012 election and this semester is your chance to get involved!

Whether you want to register voters for the President, support local Democrats, or just meet fellow progressively-minded students, The Chargers Dems are here to get the campus involved.

If you'd like to help, contact Chad Chavez at [cac0017@uah.edu](mailto:cac0017@uah.edu)

Or check out our Facebook group, UAH Charger Democrats for our upcoming events!



### UAHuntsville Republicans

We, the UAHuntsville Republicans, held our first meeting of the semester on Monday, September 10th. We introduced our new interim officers, Caleb Duke as Vice President and Kristen Harris as Secretary, and discussed our goals for the semester.

Being a new club, we want to emphasize recruitment, social events, and partnership with other organizations in order to build ourselves up and empower us to support the Romney-Ryan campaign and other Republican candidates in the upcoming election.

If you have further questions, contact us at [uahrepublicans@gmail.com](mailto:uahrepublicans@gmail.com)

Or find our Facebook group <http://www.facebook.com/#!/groups/uahrepublicans/>



## SPRING 2013 UNDERGRADUATE COURSES

### **PSC 101-01: American Government (TR 9:35-10:55) Emily Peck**

### **PSC 101-02: American Government (TR 12:45-2:05) 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 and Foreign Governments (TR 9:35-10:55) Dr. Choup**

### **PSC 102-02: Comparative Politics and Foreign Governments (TR 11:10-12:30) Dr. Choup**

This course explores ways in which to best compare countries and their political systems. We will apply comparative methods to look at some established democracies and some systems in transition, in both industrialized and developing countries. By the end of the course, each student will have a solid understanding of basic points of comparison for countries, as well as empirical information on the political systems and contemporary issues of our case study countries. This is a required course for political science majors and minors.

### **PSC 103-01: State and Local Government (TR 3:55-5:15) 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.

### **PSC 260-01: Introduction to International Relations (MWF 10:20-11:15) Julie Loggins**

This course is designed to introduce students to the major theories and approaches used to understand international relations. The course focuses on major concepts and theories in international relations such as power, sovereignty, realism, liberalism, etc. During the course of the semester students will examine current international events using the frameworks and terminology that are introduced through course materials. Students will focus on issues of war, the role of international organizations, and globalization to name a few. This course serves to provide a broad foundation for students of international relations. This is why it is a required course for Political Science majors.

### **PSC 304-01: American Presidency (TR 12:45-2:05) Dr. Reeves**

Survey of the American presidency – the role of the president in the U.S. political system, the electoral process, the origins and development of the office, the individuals who have filled the office, the political demands of presidential leadership, and the managerial challenges of presidential administration. Special emphasis on internal functioning of executive branch of government through analysis of structure and techniques of the national administration.

### **PSC 332-01: Modern Political Philosophy (MW 12:45-2:05) Dr. Pottenger**

Critical examination of the philosophical foundation of modern politics that emerged from the 15<sup>th</sup> through the 19<sup>th</sup> 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 340-01: Government and Politics of Industrialized Countries: Asia (TR 11:10-12:30) Dr. Hawk**

Although there has been much talk that the 21<sup>st</sup> Century will be the “Pacific Century,” few Americans know much about the countries of Asia. This course is designed to give students a broad understanding of eight countries in the region. Because the continent is so diverse—ethnically, religiously, historically, and developmentally—and because different countries face different issues, the course will be divided into three sections. In the first section, we will discuss the countries of India, Pakistan, and Afghanistan. In the second, we will discuss China (including Taiwan) and Japan. In the third, we will more briefly cover North Korea, South Korea, and Indonesia.

**PSC 480-01: ST: The Changing Face of Political and Military Conflict (MW 12:45-2:05) Julie Loggins**

This course explores changes that have taken place during the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries with respect to various types of global conflicts. It will include an examination of wars between nations, civil wars, genocidal campaigns, terrorism, and violent protest, and explore traditional as well as non-traditional and even obsolete reasons for diverse means of conflict. Particular attention will be given to advances in traditional military technology as well as civilian technology and how these advances impact decisions by governments, nongovernmental groups, and individuals to engage in different forms of conflicts.

**PSC 480-02: ST: Public Policy and The Law (T 5:30-8:20) Dr. Summerlin-Long**

This course examines the role of the courts (especially the Supreme Court) in the development and application of public policy in the United States. Specifically, the course will examine claims that the courts are political actors motivated by ideological or other personal preferences in making their decisions rather than being mere interpreters of the law. Students will read a variety of materials including leading theoretical works and specific cases in areas such as abortion, health care, immigration, capital punishment, and affirmative action, and will be required to write a substantial research paper on a topic of their choosing.

**PSC 484-01: Senior Seminar (R 2:20-5:15) Dr. Spitz**

An intensive examination of literature with political themes, with emphasis on oral presentations individually and as team members. Course will include books by a number of American and International authors covering various political cultures and time periods.

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

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 2012 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.**

## SPRING 2012 GRADUATE COURSES

### **PSC 551-01 ST: Law, Courts and Public Policy (T 5:30-8:20) Dr. Summerlin-Long**

This course examines the role of the courts (especially the Supreme Court) in the development and application of public policy in the United States. Specifically, the course will examine claims that the courts are political actors motivated by ideological or other personal preferences in making their decisions rather than being mere interpreters of the law. Students will read a variety of materials including leading theoretical works and specific cases in areas such as abortion, health care, immigration, capital punishment, and affirmative action, and will be required to write a substantial research paper on a topic of their choosing.

### **PSC 601-01: The Public Policy Process (W 5:30-8:20) Dr. Reeves**

The study of public policy focuses on what governments do and do not do—as well as on what they should and should not do and how well they do it. As substantive outputs of the political system, public policies reflect the range of social, economic, technological, and intellectual resources in the system. This course is designed to provide an analytical framework for critical thinking about public policy processes in American governments. It will examine the basic structures and processes of policy-making as well as the various approaches to the study of public policies and policymaking. This is a required course in the Public Affairs program.

### **PSC 605-01: Seminar: Program Evaluation (R 5:30-8:20) Dr. Summerlin-Long**

Program evaluation is the systematic use of empirical information to assess the effectiveness of public or non-profit programs and policies. This course will introduce you to the framework of evaluation, the development of plans for formative and summative evaluations, and the data collection tools for implementing evaluation. We will draw on your knowledge of organizational design, management, statistics, and data analysis. Students will develop a course-long evaluation project of their own, using publicly available data or other data available to the student.

### **PSC 615-01: ST: Latin America (W 5:30-8:20) Dr. Choup**

In this class, we will examine policies of the United States towards Latin America in historic context, with an emphasis on current US-Latin American relations. The historic overview will include US perceptions of Latin America and Latin Americans over time, and security priorities during the Cold War. A look at contemporary US-Latin American concerns will include discussions on immigration, the drug trade, and the continuing conflict between human rights, free market, and security agendas. Finally, we will look at the impact of some US policies in Latin America, as well as Latin American responses to US involvement.

### **PSC 630-01: Public Values and Public Policy (M 5:30-8:20) Dr. Pottenger**

Critical examination 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 695-01, 02: Internship in Government (TBA) Dr. Reeves**

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, 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 3.0 is required. Students who are interested in an internship for Spring 2012 should contact Dr. Reeves ASAP for an application and to discuss options.

## **SPRING GRADUATION DEADLINES**

Planning to graduate this spring? 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	October 1, 2012	\$50
Up to 10 days late	October 2, 2012	\$75
More than 10 days late	October 16, 2012	\$100

### **Graduate Student Deadlines and fees**

On time	February 4, 2013	\$75
Up to 10 days late	February 1, 2013	\$50
More than 10 days late	February 18, 2013	\$100

For more information, call Charger Central at 256.824.7777

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

