We welcomed two new political science faculty members this fall. Our new colleague, Assistant Professor Thea Riofrancos, has begun her tenure at Providence College teaching a course in Latin American Politics and two sections of Democratic Theory. Next semester she will be leading our student delegation to Model OAS in Washington, D.C. and will offer two sections of Comparative Politics. On p. 4, you also can read about her latest professional activities. We are quite fortunate to have Visiting Assistant Professor Emily Lynch with us for this year (see complete profile on the next page). Next semester she will be teaching The American Congress, Political Attitudes and Public Opinion as well as American Politics and Government. If you have not done so already, stop by their offices and meet our two new political science colleagues.

We also will be welcoming Professor Mary Bellhouse back from sabbatical next semester. It will be good to have her back on Howley third floor starting in January. From what she has told me, the sabbatical break has allowed her to make substantial progress on her research, but she is looking forward to teaching her two courses next semester. On p. 13 you can read about her popular course on the 1960’s which she will be offering once again. Also, in an exciting development for the political science department, her course PSC 342 Modern Political Theory has been approved for meeting the college’s core philosophy requirement. Now political science majors can meet this requirement with a course in the major. Professor Bellhouse deserves our thanks for the many hours she devoted to convincing the Core Curriculum Committee that PSC 342 met the criteria for the philosophy core.

We have a couple of new features in this issue of Politicus. First, we have included instructor descriptions of upper level courses being offered next semester. Second, we have a new feature on recent noteworthy political science faculty achievements. Although you usually encounter your professors as instructors in your classes, all the department’s faculty members pursue research agendas in their specialties. Read this section and learn what article and books your professors have published and the papers they present at professional conferences. Note also that our department includes members who edit prominent journals in the political science discipline.

Thanks again to Mrs. Emerald Ortiz and her student editorial staff: Tom Andrikopoulos, Jeff Bausch, Averi Lee, and Joe Clancy, for putting together this Fall 2015 edition. - William Hudson, Chair
Q&A with New Professor, Dr. Emily Lynch

1. What is your educational and/or family background?

Education:
- The Ohio State University, Ph.D. in Political Science (December 2013)
- University of Rhode Island, M.A. in Political Science (May 2008)
- University of Rhode Island, B.A. in Political Science, B.A. in Economics (May 2006) *Summa Cum Laude*

Family:
- Husband - Brian
- Sons - Anderson (2 1/2) and Brody (13 months)

2. What events led you to want to teach political science?

I have always been interested in studying political behavior (elections, attitudes, etc.), and I enjoyed serving in various teaching roles as an undergraduate (teaching assistant, classroom facilitator). I decided that becoming a political science professor would be an ideal position so I could continue my love of research and teaching.

3. What do you want students to take away most from your classes?

Teaching is very important to me, and the two main pillars of my teaching philosophy are to help students build a foundation of political knowledge and to assist students in developing their critical thinking skills so they may become engaged citizens.

4. Did you have any professors that really inspired you? If so, how?

I had a lot of professors that really inspired me, but a couple professors stand out: Economics Professor Art Mead and Political Science Professor Brian Krueger, both at University of Rhode Island. When I think back to my years as an undergraduate student, I remember the professors who had the most profound impact on my intellectual growth were the teachers who challenged me to develop my critical thinking skills by learning about political and economic theories and then considering their implications. These professors also made it clear to their students that they were genuinely concerned about teaching.

5. What drew you to PC, and how are you enjoying your experience here?

I was very interested in serving as a professor at Providence College, a liberal arts institution that has received national recognition for academic success and an institution that shares my Catholic values. I am enjoying my time at PC since I have found that the students are very engaged and motivated to excel.
Professor Tony Affigne has been appointed book review editor for the *Journal of Race, Ethnicity, and Politics*, the official journal of the Race, Ethnicity, and Politics section of the American Political Science Association.

Professor Ruth Ben-Artzi will be appearing, as well, at the ISA Northeast Regional Meeting presenting her paper “Democracy and Religions Nationalism in State formation: Pakistan and Israel.” Her co-author on this is paper who also will be presenting is political science major Ali Malik ’16.

Professor Julia Jordan-Zachery has been appointed co-editor of the *National Political Science Review*, the only political science journal in the country which focuses on black politics.

Professor Adam Myers presented two papers at the 2015 American Political Science Association Annual Meeting: “Electoral Incongruence in the American South, 1994 – 2010” and “Federalism and Party Conflict in the New Deal Era.”

Professor Gizem Zencirci’s article, “From Property to Civil Society: The Historical Transformation of Vakifs in Modern Turkey (1923 – 2013)” in the August 2015 issue of the *International Journal of Middle East Studies*. She also is presenting a paper, “Producing Knowledge, Democratizing the Middle East: Turkey, Indonesia, and the Model Muslim Democracy Discourse” at the International Studies Association (ISA) 2015 Northeast Regional Meeting.
Professor Doug Blum presented a paper based on his forthcoming book: *The Social Process of Globalization: Return Migration and Cultural Change in Kazakhstan* at the 2015 Central Eurasian Studies Society Annual Conference, held in Washington, DC.

Professor Mary Bellhouse presented a paper: “The Visual Turn and the Study of Politics,” at The Methods Café, at the 2015 American Political Science Association Annual Meeting.

Professor Thea Riofrancos published “Beyond the Petrostate: Ecuador’s Left Dilemma” in the Summer 2015 issue of *Dissent*. She also is presenting a paper at the ISA Northeast Regional Meeting: “Missing, Misleading, and False: ‘Information’ Discourse and Large Scale Mining in Ecuador.”
The droves of Middle Eastern migrants rushing into Eastern Europe present arguably the greatest crisis the European Union has faced since its inception in 1993. Most of the refugees are not of the variety that legally allows them safety and relief, yet they are searching desperately for exactly that. Over 2 million Syrians being hosted in Turkey and Lebanon have fled unimaginable local conflict, while another 600,000 look to enter nearby Hungary for help. Thousands of conflict and poverty refugees enter Germany every day with no signs of slowing down. The European Union recently underwent massive internal controversy regarding the imminent default of Greece and its effect on the stability of the Euro. This new crisis, however, presents a variety of moral and political issues that is causing palpable friction amongst the member states.

The 1951 U.N. Convention relating to the Status of Refugees defines a refugee as a person with a genuine fear of being persecuted for membership in a particular social group or class; however these refugees do not necessarily fit the bill. This particular issue has caused strife within the EU, with Germany and Chancellor Angela Merkel leading the way to coerce the opposing EU members to harbor these refugees of violence and poverty. Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban strongly opposes sheltering the thousands of migrants that have flooded Europe. Many are ultimately headed for Germany or Sweden, and yet Orban is in favor of shipping the migrants en masse back to their home nations. Merkel is fighting not only for the rights of these refugees but for the basis of the EU itself as many agree that this issue will act as a critical intersection for EU policy. The future of the European integration experiment will hinge upon their collective action on a highly divisive issue.

EU countries met recently to discuss the implementation of a quota system that would distribute migrants across most of their member states. This plan met great opposition and failed, with many leaders citing an inability of the EU to actually force them to harbor any refugees. A major hurdle that resisting countries face is the 20 year old Schengen Agreement, which removed almost all border checks between EU states. This agreement represents what may be the defining piece of legislation that assimilates the nations and is crucial to maintaining an effective EU. The Schengen Agreement and a unilateral move to the Euro represent a powerful policy based on solidarity and inclusiveness. With the former in grave danger of being reworked, the framework and identity of the EU is being threatened.

Germany’s liberal stance on the refugee crisis represents the universal civil rights platform that the collection of nation states intended to be. Germany continues to provide relief supplies for many of the incoming refugees, while at the same time Hungary deports thousands by train with their destinations largely unclear. The divide on refugee discourse amongst the EU members is a generation defining issue that needs to be addressed with great haste. The EU must act using the principles on which their collection of states were founded upon: unity and solidarity.
Promising to limit American military involvement in foreign countries was an important factor in Mr. Barack Obama being elected president. President Obama took this approach to the initial phases of the Syrian civil war. Under pressure, he called for the resignation of President Assad and placed sanctions on Syria in an effort to weaken the Syrian government. Once it was discovered the President Assad was using chemical warfare against the rebels in Syria, President Obama finally felt that it was necessary for the U.S. to get involved militarily. He first believed that it was necessary to issue drone strikes against the Syrian government, but began striking Syria in order to battle ISIS.

President Obama, who was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 2009, has consistently used drone warfare in his attempts to battle terrorism abroad. He has justified this method by stating that these strikes have ultimately led to less terrorism and a safer America. However, the use of drone strikes have not been significantly successful in destroying ISIS, though the use of these strikes has caused numerous civilian deaths, including women and children. President Obama’s airstrikes have even been used to kill American citizens both intentionally and unintentionally. He has recently realized that his strikes are not effectively crushing ISIS and has now decided that sending troops to Syria is what is needed to properly battle against the terrorist group.

Syria is in a state of chaos. The country’s population is facing oppression from their government, airstrikes from Russia, America, France and other countries, and harassment from ISIS. What started out as a simple protest by civilians has turned into an international crisis with millions of Syrian people fleeing from their beloved country to other places in search of safety. I firmly believe that the U.S. government should carefully consider getting militarily involved with other countries. However, I believe that once a democratic decision has been made to do this, the use of drone strikes should always be the last option. Drones kill indiscriminately, and President Obama has shown countless times that using this method will almost always result in the deaths of innocent human beings. The use of drone strikes in the Middle East has not been effective in destroying ISIS, and it is unfortunate that we now have to deploy more troops to the Middle East. I hope as many other Americans hope, that ISIS will be defeated soon.
It’s that time of year again. Endless commercials from people awkwardly smiling, trying to get their fix to satisfy their vote addiction. It seems this year the American people lucked out and have the privilege of meeting so many qualified and unique individuals, so here’s a cheat sheet of the candidates. After all, the number of candidates is just shy of the number of Chafee supporters.

**Jeb Bush**  
*Profession: Former Governor*  
*Nickname: “Not a George”*  
*Pros:* He has worked to protect the environment, like the Everglades  
*Cons:* Without Saddam, the Bush family will have to set their hearts on a new quagmire — looking at you, Assad….  

**Marco Rubio**  
*Profession: Senator*  
*Nickname: “El Agua”*  
*Why he could be President:* He speaks Spanish  
*Why he couldn’t be the Republican Nominee:* He speaks Spanish.  

**Chris Christie**  
*Profession: Governor*  
*Nickname: “Not funny Kevin James”*  
*Pros:* He will stand for what he believes in  
*Cons:* He usually can’t stand, especially after 3-hour traffic jams.  

**Rick Santorum**  
*Profession: Ex-Senator/ Stay at home Dad*  
*Nickname: “Mr. Rogers’ Sweaters”*  
*Pros:* “Lincoln lost too guys”  
*Cons:* Go Google search “Santorum”.  

**Ben Carson**  
*Profession: Neurosurgeon*  
*Nickname: “The communicator”*  
*Pros:* Offers ‘special’ solutions to problems like mass shootings.  
*Cons:* He was unable to operate on himself.  

**Ted Cruz**  
*Profession: Story Teller/ Senator*  
*Nickname: “America’s number 1 teabagger”*  
*Reasons why he could become president:* Donald Trump hasn’t asked for his birth certificate  
*Cons:* The number of days he has shut down the government is more than the bills he has passed.  

**Lindsey Graham**  
*Profession: Hypochondriac/ Senator*  
*Nickname: Scarlett O’Hara*  
*Pros:* Trump gave us his number so we can prank call him.  
*Cons:* His domestic policy is strikingly similar to his foreign policy: bomb everything John McCain says.  

**Carly Fiorina**  
*Profession: Ex-CEO/ John McCain advisor*  
*Nickname: “This election’s Sarah Palin”*  
*Pros:* She “understands what unemployed Americans need”  
*Cons:* She fired them.  

**Donald Trump**  
*Profession: Real Estate Mogul/ WWE star/ Kardashian inspiration*  
*Nickname: “Hairspray” (Self-appointed nickname: God)*  
*Pros:* He will build the new Trump House, with “a-lot of money”  
*Cons:* His immigration policy only allows for three Eastern European women to be his wife.  

**Hillary Clinton**  
*Profession: First lady/Senator/Secretary of State, and we get it, Grandma*  
*Nickname: “Darth Vader/ Not Monica”*  
*Pros:* She has a longstanding history of advocating for working families and women  
*Cons:* Attach the suffix “gate” to any word or say Benghazi then be ready to listen to Uncle Earl explain why she is the Devil.  

**Bernie Sanders**  
*Profession: Senator/ Bob Dylan wannabe*  
*Nickname: “Woody Allen without the jokes”*  
*Pros:* He has held his political convictions since the first Congress and he is a strong proponent for social and economic progress, for example, minimum wage and drug laws.  
*Cons:* No one wants to smoke with their grandfather.
Pundits, both left and right, have framed the 2016 presidential primaries as the year of the outsider candidate, and for good reason. On the Republican side, real estate mogul and reality TV star Donald Trump has led most national and state polls for months. Neurosurgeon Benjamin Carson has surged to within a few points of Trump and has even surpassed him in several polls. Ex-Hewlett Packard CEO Carly Fiorina has gotten bumps in her polling numbers following strong debate performances. Meanwhile, establishment candidates, most notably former Florida Governor Jeb Bush, have actually lost ground. Governor Bush barely cracks the top five in the latest RealClearPolitics average. Unlike 2012, where various candidates (Newt Gingrich and Herman Cain come to mind) surged past Mitt Romney for a time, there is no establishment favorite consistently polling at or near the top of the race. On the left, the self-described socialist Senator Bernie Sanders of Vermont has edged out former Senator and Secretary of State Hillary Clinton in the first-in-the-nation primary state of New Hampshire (Iowa is a caucus). Sanders frequently draws large crowds of college students at his events, and has energized those on the left seeking an alternative to Hillary Clinton.

But will this “insurgency” of the “outsider” really translate into electoral victories? Some candidates seem to have better odds than others. Sanders has certainly given Clinton a race in New Hampshire, but the Democratic Party establishment has remained firmly behind Mrs. Clinton and she outpolls Mr. Sanders by wide double-digit margins in every national poll. For now at least, Clinton appears to remain in cruise control heading to be the Democratic Party nominee. On the Republican side, Carly Fiorina’s proficient debate performances initially elevated her from the "kiddy-table" debates to the "adult" stage, but haven’t vaulted her into the top tier of Republican candidates. She remains in the middle of the pack in both national and state polls.

Ben Carson and Donald Trump, on the other hand, are the two "outsider" candidates currently in position make a serious run for the Republican nomination. Carson's ascendancy has put him in a position of challenging Trump's frontrunner status both nationally and in the states, but time will tell whether or not his rise will last. Trump has shown staying power over the past few months, but has not seriously widened his lead. With no "establishment candidate" in sight, the two outsiders appear headed for a close battle in early states like Iowa. Until the Republican establishment coalesces around a particular candidate, Trump and/or Carson will most likely remain the frontrunner(s), at least according to the available polling. If Jeb Bush can make a comeback, or Marco Rubio can accelerate his modest gains in recent weeks, undecided voters, of which there are many at this stage of the race, may eventually tilt the race back in the establishment’s direction. For now, political junkies are free to speculate until the first returns of the Iowa caucus come in on the first of February.
New Pi Sigma Alpha Invitees

Providence College’s Epsilon Chi Chapter of the Pi Sigma Alpha National Honor Society would like to extend their congratulations to the Fall 2015 candidates for induction. Invitations to join Pi Sigma Alpha were sent via friar box and email to the following students:

2016 Majors:
Alexandra Davis
Kristine Bucci
Chelsea Higgins
Kevin Olsen
Julia Caldwell
Bryan Rupprecht
Muhammad Malik
Donald Anderson
Katherine Kokias
Michael Mann

2017 Majors:
Douglas Buonanno
Danielle Lorizio
Riley Maloney
Michelle Piccolino
Paul Plumitallo

2016 Minors:

Korbin Bullard
Tyler Stein

Invitees should be sure to stop by Howley 318 by Friday, November 13th to drop off their dues ($65).

These superior students have demonstrated academic excellence through their studies in the major/minor of political science. To be inducted into this prestigious society, a junior must have completed a minimum of six political science courses while maintaining at least a 3.5 GPA, seniors must maintain a 3.4 GPA with six political science courses completed. Membership in Pi Sigma Alpha is greatly valued within the academic and professional community, and it also provides numerous opportunities for future internships and scholarships. While there are countless personal benefits of Pi Sigma Alpha membership, the inductees also become a part of an active organization dedicated to increasing awareness and interest in political science within the entire PC community.

Pi Sigma Alpha will host its annual Christmas party in December and its annual Best Paper Contest in the spring. Our chapter is really looking forward to our upcoming events, as we appreciate the opportunity to share our passion in political science with the rest of our colleagues and faculty here at Providence College.
Political Science majors are required to take at least one course from each of the traditional fields of the discipline: political theory, American politics, comparative politics, and international relations. Students have a choice among multiple courses to meet these requirements. Listed below are the courses offered Spring semester 2015 that meet the various field requirements. Taking any of the courses listed under the particular field will satisfy the requirement.

**Political Theory**
PSC 342 Modern Political Theory

**Comparative Politics**
PSC 305 Comparative Politics
PSC 321 Chinese Politics
PSC 324 Government and Politics of Russia and the Former Soviet Union
PSC 416 Race and Politics in the Americas (Note: this course meets both comparative and American requirement but can only be applied to one.)

**International Relations**
PSC 207 International Relations

**American Politics**
PSC 201 American Government and Politics
PSC 305 The American Congress
PSC 306 American Presidency
PSC 312 Civil Liberties
PSC 318 American Public Policy
PSC 319 Political Attitudes and Public Opinion
PSC 416 Race and Politics in the Americas (Note: this course meets both comparative and American requirement but can only be applied to one.)
**Spring 2016 Course Descriptions**

**PSC 215 — Human Rights Dr. Gizem Zencirci — M,W,F 12:30-1:30pm**

Human rights are a universally recognized aspiration at the center of a global political struggle. Human Rights are also the subject matter of a growing academic discipline. Introduces the legal, political, moral and historical foundations, theoretical underpinnings, and key debates in the field, and familiarizes students with the skills necessary.

**PSC 305 — The American Congress Dr. Emily Lynch — M,W,F 11:30am-12:20pm**

In this course we will examine the dynamics of the United States Congress. In particular, we will consider the representative-constituency relationship, the internal procedures of Congress, and the congressional role in the policy process. Because the current state of Congress is marked by high levels of polarization, we will also consider the following overarching questions throughout this course: To what extent are congressional members and the mass public polarized? What are the consequences of political polarization in a democracy? Are there any reforms that might change polarization in Congress? (Fulfills American Politics requirement. PSC 201 prerequisite)

**PSC 306 — The American Presidency Dr. Joseph Cammarano — M,W,F 2:30-3:20pm**

This course will use the 2016 presidential election as a frame for examining the evolution of the presidency from a relatively weak executive, to its current form, where there is a tendency for everyone—including presidents themselves—to overstate the role and importance of presidential power. Much of the course will focus on the presidential electoral system and how it has contributed to the modern presidency that relies upon informal and fleeting power instead of constitutional authority. Once a full examination of the election system is completed, the course will then examine the extent to which president can and do exercise power. Students will have projects related to the 2016 presidential nominations as well as a research paper. (Fulfills American Politics requirement. PSC 201 prerequisite)

**PSC 312 — Civil Liberties Dr. Richard Battistoni—M, R 10:00-11:15am**

In this course, we will study U.S. Constitutional development in the areas of civil liberties and civil rights. In particular, the course will focus on the evolution of constitutional interpretation of the First and Fourteenth Amendments, examining how the Supreme Court and other actors have understood the rights and liberties of individuals in the American political system. Students will come away with an understanding of how judges interpret constitutional provisions over time in response to concrete cases and controversies, as well as the role of the judiciary in the historical struggle for freedom and equality in the United States. Each student will have the opportunity to research a Supreme Court case of her or his choosing, to present and lead discussion in class, and out of which to develop a deeper written analysis of the questions involved and the implications of the Court's decision for American politics. (No prerequisite. Fulfills American Politics requirement)

**PSC 318 – American Public Policy Dr. William Hudson — M,W,F 11:30am-12:20pm**

This course examines the key issue at the center of nearly all public policy debates in America: What should be the place of government in American life? Policy discussion in the United States usually focus on whether government intervention in addressing a societal problem is appropriate or likely to be effective. Next semester we will look at this question through a detailed review of the size and scope of the federal government. This will include analysis of the federal budget and recent controversies over federal deficits and debt. We also will look closely at certain major public policies that impact broadly the lives of Americans such as Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid, the Affordable Care Act, and Food Stamps. Since next year is a presidential election year, policy issues being debated in the campaign will receive special attention. This may include discussion of immigration, gun control, paid family leave, raising the minimum wage, tax cuts, or other issues that on which candidates are campaigning. At the beginning of the semester, students will participate collectively in picking the campaign issues we will study; these will become the basis of student research and debate over the course of the semester. (No prerequisite. Fulfills American Politics requirement)
PSC 319 - Political Attitudes & Public Opinion Dr. Emily Lynch — M,R 10:00-11:15am
Simply put, political behavior is defined as Americans' responses to politics. These responses may take many forms: discussing politics with friends and family, expressing opinions in a Gallup poll, voting for a presidential candidate, or staging a protest. The purpose of this class is to provide you with a broad perspective of public opinion and political participation, which are two important topics in political behavior. We will study these topics by examining how citizens formulate attitudes and opinions and participate in politics, and then we will take time to reflect on how we think Americans should be acting in a democracy. Therefore, you will be developing your understanding about theories of political behavior as well as sharpening your analytical skills by critically assessing these theories. (Fulfills American Politics requirement. PSC 102 and 201 pre-requisite.)

PSC 321 – Chinese Politics Dr. Susan McCarthy — T,R 11:30am-12:45pm
This course examines the politics of the People’s Republic of China. It focuses mainly on politics after 1949, though in it we also explore the Chinese revolution and the manner in which Maoist revolutionary practices shaped the post-1949 party-state. Among the topics we look at are the influence and transformation of traditional political ideals and institutions in the PRC; charismatic leadership and its effects on the Chinese Communist Party; intraelite and grassroots political competition and conflict; Chinese approaches to development; political participation under authoritarian rule; social organizing and protest; the politics of religion and of the environment; and how economic liberalization has affected the authority and governance strategies of the CCP. Students will come away with an understanding of how PRC politics work (or don’t), and how ordinary people in a non-Western, nondemocratic system engage and evade the state in the pursuit of their political interests. (No prerequisite.)

PSC 324 — Politics & Foreign Policy of Russia and the Former USSR Dr. Douglas Blum — T,R 4:00-5:15pm
This course is intended to provide students with a solid grounding in the politics and foreign policies of the former Soviet Union. The primary emphasis will be on Russia, although we will also examine Ukraine, Central Asia and the Caspian Basin. The approach is historical and analytical, and students will be required to read and think rather than simply memorize and regurgitate. We begin with a brief overview of the Bolshevik Revolution of 1917 and the legacies of the Soviet period, as well as why the entire system ultimately collapsed. We then analyze the post-Soviet period, focusing on “Putinism” in various areas of Russian life. We conclude by comparing transitions and geopolitical contests across post-Soviet space, and asking what the foreseeable future portends – as well as how the

PSC 342 – Modern Political Theory Dr. Mary Bellhouse — T,R 1:00-2:15pm
Are there any natural, unchanging standards of justice and morality? Under what conditions are human beings free? Do human beings have ‘rights’ by nature, as is assumed in contemporary human rights claims? Do owners of private property have a right to do whatever they want with their private property, without the consent of others? What is human life like under conditions of anarchy? Why have government at all? What should government do? What kinds of people should rule, and why? Is democracy the best form of government? What happens to human freedom and human life under conditions of capitalism? Does Marx’s critique of capitalism help us to understand our contemporary condition? Is it enough to be merely “tolerant” toward one’s fellow citizens, or is more civic engagement needed? What does modern philosophy have to do with white supremacy and racial domination in the modern world? BIG NEWS: FOR THE FIRST TIME, A POLITICAL SCIENCE COURSE WILL FULFILL THE COLLEGE-WIDE CORE PHILOSOPHY REQUIREMENT!

Beginning this Spring semester, PSC 342, Modern Political Theory, will fulfill the CORE PHILOSOPHY REQUIREMENT! By taking this course, you will meet both the department Political Theory course requirement for majors and the college-wide Core Philosophy requirement! In this course we engage in careful reading and discussion of original texts by four key thinkers: Hobbes, Locke, Rousseau, and Marx. We also read a recent book that examines the ties between modern political theory and the history of white privilege, slavery, and racism. No special background is needed to do well in this course. (No prerequisite. Fulfills Philosophy Core)
PSC 382 — Politics and Culture (A Course on The 1960s in America) Dr. Mary Bellhouse — M 2:30-5:00pm

COURSE OFFERED ON THE 1960S IN AMERICA—Sex, Drugs, Rock ‘n Roll and more!

This spring PSC 382, Politics and Culture, will be devoted to studying the 1960s in America. Here are the main topics in this course: America after WW II and during the 1950s; the free speech movement on the Berkeley campus; the Civil Rights movement; the US economy, including high-paying manufacturing jobs and strong labor unions; the American war in Vietnam; the anti-Vietnam War movement; and the Counterculture. Why were many college students more politically active than today? We consider each president from JFK to Nixon. We look closely at how government decision-making led to the escalation of the American War in Vietnam and to the defeat of the US in that war. We watch movies and read short stories to help us reflect on what the Vietnam War was like for soldiers and civilians. Throughout this course we watch superb documentary films. Our class meetings are long (required film lab) to give us time to watch movies each week, but class meetings are fun because we mix up lecture, discussion, movie watching, and music listening during each class, and we take breaks and enjoy snacks! As many of you know, popular music from the 1950s and 1960s—from doo-wop, R & B, and the Blues to the Motown sound to folk music to 1960s rock and roll and the “British invasion” to Woodstock—can tell us a lot about politics and culture during these years. (No prerequisite.)

PSC 416 — Race and Politics in the Americas Dr. Anthony Affigne — T,R 1:00-2:15pm

Have you wondered why the United States continues to experience racial tensions and political conflict, around questions of race relations and racial equality? This course will help you understand some of the most important issues in American politics today. Race and Politics in the Americas is an advanced course about the complex racial politics of North America, the Caribbean, Central America and South America. After completing this course you will understand much more about the foundations and nature of contemporary racial politics, in the United States and elsewhere in the American hemisphere. In particular, you will learn about the political constraints and opportunities facing the region’s Native American-, African-, Latino, and Asian-descent communities. For political science majors, PSC 416 can be used to satisfy either the American politics or the comparative politics field requirement. For students minoring in Black studies, BLS 416 is an option in the thematic field of “Social and Structural Analysis.” To accommodate diverse personal learning styles, academic schedules, and outside commitments, this course offers three different options for assessment and grading: take-home final; unit essays; final presentation. Attendance is mandatory. (No prerequisite. Fulfills American Politics or Comparative Government

PSC 470 001 — Critical Feminisms Dr. Julia Jordan-Zachery - T,R 2:30-3:45pm

This course is an introduction to critical thinking on the intersection of race and gender and other components of social identity from an interdisciplinary perspective. It addresses and responds to the unique challenges of the inter-relationships and intra-relationships of women of color with feminism and political practices. Over the course of the semester, we will explore the complexity of Arab women, Black women, Chicana/Latina Women, and Asian American/Pacific Islander women by exploring their knowledge production, creative expressions, experiences of oppression and their resistance. We will investigate questions of identity and belonging in relation to topics such as the politics of reproduction, the family and the state, colonialism, sexuality, and citizenship. Over the course of the semester, we will discuss why we study “theory” and explore the relation between critical feminist theories and political praxis. (No prerequisite.)
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**Spring 2016**

**LAW Department Course Offerings**

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