



WINTER QUARTER 2022 TOPICS COURSES

*We will post more details here as they become available.*

**INTS 4706 (CRN 4664) - TOPIC: DATA SCIENCE WITH R**

**Instructor: Sachin Desai**

R is a widely used programming language for data analysis. In this course, students will be introduced to the R programming environment (RStudio), followed by an introduction to programming concepts like data types, operators, conditional statements, loops, functions etc. They will learn how to import data and how to prepare this data for analysis. They will also learn how to use various packages available in R (like dplyr, ggplot2 etc.) to conduct data exploration, statistical analysis, visualization and reporting. Finally, they will learn how to read and debug (i.e., fix) R programs written by someone else. No prior programming experience is necessary to enroll in this course.

**INTS 4360 (CRN 4677) - TOPIC: ADVANCED ISSUES, ELECTOR INTEGRITY**

**Instructor: Timothy Sisk**

This advanced graduate practicum seeks to advance understanding of the complexities of relationships among electoral processes and broader conflict dynamics within societies – not just how violence can escalate in elections, but how the electoral process is related to a broader set of conflict interactions. It seeks to address in the locally and internationally sensitive arena of election-related support *responsible engagement* in moments of rapid change and the complications that electoral calendars, *coping with the inherent uncertainties* of the process, and identification of the *technical, context, and practice-oriented knowledge and skills* required of 21<sup>st</sup> century election practitioners. The Josef Korbel School is partnering with leading policy organization International IDEA that works a practicum that brings together graduate-student research on a series of pivotal case studies. The course features advanced learning in democratization processes, electoral systems and administration and methodological approaches to evaluating electoral integrity with a focus on specialized learning on assessment, policy, and practice.

**INTS 4708 (CRN 4677) - TOPIC: ADVANCED MODELING AND REPORTING**

**Instructor: Lapo Salucci**

This two-credit course is aimed at enhancing students' skills in data management, data reporting and graphic visualization of modeling outcomes in Stata.

In this course, students will learn to: a) merge multiple datasets in Stata and control merging outcomes; b) produce professionally formatted tables from Stata output for reporting; c) graphically plot regression coefficients; d) produce and interpret marginal effects of variables in various Stata post-estimation output; e) graph these marginal effects and format these graphs to the desired look for professional reporting; f) use Stata do-files to automate the procedures above.

**INTS 4709 (CRN 4665) - TOPIC: CHINA IN THE WORLD – GLOBAL DRIVERS, AND LOCAL CONFLICTS**

**Instructor: Alvin Camba**

Chinese firms are at the front and center of China's globalization, providing foreign direct investment (FDI) worth \$3.8 trillion (UNCTAD, 2019) in stocks by 2018 and official Chinese financing around \$351 billion between 2000 and 2014 (Bluhm et al., 2018). Chinese capital is on the rise, but what are the drivers and implications of these changes?

This course examines China's globalization with a specific focus on Chinese capital – FDI, development finance, and other forms of capital inflows. Drawing from examples in South Asia, Latin America, and the Pacific, this course raises the following questions: what are the causes of China's increasingly salient role in the world economy and how is it connected to China's political economy and party-state system? Which actors are shaping Chinese projects? What kind of capital is being exported to the developing world? What are the development ramifications of the Belt and Road? How does Chinese capital impact development strategies, ethnic structures, and social cohesion? The course will draw from recent research on the political economy of China, China's globalization, and the Belt and Road Initiative and will invite guest speakers during several sessions. Guest speakers might include US State Department officials, leading academics on the subject, or officials working in Chinese firms.

In addition to considering these substantive questions, students will also gain first-hand experience in submitting policy reports to international organizations, governments, and think tanks. Each student will carry out a project on a topic of their own choosing. In consultation with the instructor and the class, each student will develop a policy proposal drawn largely from secondary sources. The course will introduce issues on the study of China's globalization, ranging from ethnographic, political economy, and quantitative approaches. Students are expected to come up with a research proposal that examines the China's globalization in a specific issue area or Chinese capital's impact on a specific country, locality, region, or sector.

**INTS 4709 (CRN 4666) - TOPIC: SPORTS AND INTERNAL POLITICS**

**Instructor: Timothy Sisk**

This advanced graduate course in international studies explores the complex connections between sports and international politics in the past and present and sport's potential contributions to international peace, both historically and in contemporary times. At the heart of this contribution is the need to examine sport as an international issue, to explore and its relationship to the protection and advancement of human rights (to include gender equality and the rights of those with disabilities), and to critically examine the role of sport in fostering development, community-level social cohesion and inclusive national unity.

Participants in the course will gain a critical knowledge of the origins, background, and issues in global sport, especially the Olympic Games, and a critical awareness of the potential opportunities and obstacles for sport in social development. Learning outcomes are attained through faculty presentations, guided discussions, and student-led research.

The course is designed as a research colloquium in which participants develop and share a research dossier on course topics with a capstone seminar to integrate learning and share findings on historical and contemporary issues at the intersection of sport, power, profit, and peace.

## **INTS 4710 (CRN 3747) - TOPIC: RESEARCH DESIGN / PROSPECTUS**

**Instructor: Martin Rhodes**

The aim of this course is to fill a gap that has appeared in our PhD training with the teaching of the standard methods course (taught by Oliver Kaplan) only every other year. Additionally, we do not have course specifically tailored to the needs of our PhD students in their pre-prospectus and prospectus writing phase. The aim of the course is to acquaint students with the demands and requirements of good research design, a fundamental step towards producing a good prospectus and ultimately a sophisticated level of analysis in their doctoral dissertations. The seminar will take place every other week during the fall and winter quarters of AY 2021-22, a schedule which will be modified for AY 2022-23.

The topics covered in the course, which will take the form of a small group seminar, are as follows:

1. Philosophical world views: social science research is inevitably linked to different world views and researchers' preferences among different research frameworks and approaches, including positivist/post-positivist, constructivist, pragmatic and transformative positions. These may not be mutually exclusive: for example, constructivist perspectives can be combined with a post-positivist methodology.
2. Method of enquiry and analysis 1: how to select a research approach/methodology that is appropriate for your enquiry, i.e. introduction to the purpose and utility of various quantitative, qualitative and mixed-methods approaches. From here you can establish whether you will be engaged in explicit or implicit hypothesis testing, process tracing, narrative accounts, case studies etc. The particular 'world view' you take will influence the methodology you adopt, i.e. quantitative approaches will use post-positivist methods such as hypotheses testing; qualitative approaches will use institutionalist, constructivist, or ethnographic methods, or dense structured narratives; mixed methods will adopt a pragmatist position using diverse types of data (quantitative and qualitative) and different methods, a process sometimes referred to as 'triangulation'.
3. Method of enquiry and analysis 2: a deeper dive into methods, examining the different kinds of research design that will maximize the utility of diverse methodologies.
4. Problem definition and scope of analysis: how to take your area of interest and define your topic, how to provide your topic of interest with a motivating question or puzzle that is conducive to social scientific investigation, and how to ensure that the scope of analysis is feasible and manageable within the bounds of a doctoral dissertation.
5. Literature reviews: the purpose of a literature review, how to select the appropriate range of literature and what a literature survey should be used for. You will use it to present existing understandings of your topic, a critical appraisal of approaches and theories, your search for gaps and lack of knowledge in existing research, and you will use the established literature as a source of specific topics and questions to be addressed in your own research).
6. How to use theory: how to determine the appropriate theoretical frame, part of which will come from the research trajectories adopted by those who have preceded you as researchers in your topic area (literature review), and another part of which will come from your own critique of their work and the innovations at the theoretical/conceptual level you seek to produce yourself. Theory may be a key motivation for your research; 2 theory may provide a conceptual framework for your study; and theory may be used pragmatically to produce hypotheses to be explored.
7. How to map out the empirical study: in most cases (apart from a purely theoretical study) empirics will constitute the core of your dissertation, but they must be mobilized efficiently and effectively behind your principal arguments. How exactly empirics are linked to and back up those arguments will depend in large part on the world view/research methodology you adopt. But regardless of your research approach, your empirical work must be ordered, structured, schematic and circumscribed to prevent overload or an undisciplined (and ineffective) use of your empirical resources. Another hazard is

getting lost in your material. There are numerous ways to avoid these pitfalls and they will be addressed in this session.

8. How to create rigor: no matter how you approach your study, or the world view or methodology you adopt, we are looking for rigor and discipline in your analysis. This is the hardest thing to achieve because it requires the utmost discipline in how you design, construct, investigate, structure and present your dissertation. In other words, how you combine the elements we've discussed in previous sessions and present your study to the world.

### **INTS 4710 (CRN 5650) – TOPIC: FOREIGN POLICY PRACTICUM**

**Instructor: Joseph Livingston**

This is a foreign policy skills-based course designed to foster an ability to effectively engage internal leadership as well as foreign audiences while working in a government context. Students will draft a range of written communication products including policy memos, diplomatic cables, and talking points and practice essential oral communications skills ranging from negotiation, speaking to the media, and delivering briefings to officials. The State Department's communications model will be used as a template for engagement, but the skills will be broadly useful to any individual planning to formulate, implement, and educate on policy in executive and legislative settings.

### **INTS 4711 (CRN 3224) – TOPIC: ROLE OF MEDIAN DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE AND EROSION: A PRACTICUM COURSE**

**Instructor: Rachel Esptein**

This course examines the extent to which declining media freedom contributes to democratic erosion. As a practicum, this course also provides opportunities to explore possible remedies and apply them in a real-world context. Taking post-communist Europe and specifically Hungary as our point of departure, students will work with Transparency International Hungary (TIH), as well as faculty and students at Central European University in Budapest and Vienna, to learn how democratic institutions can serve mutually reinforcing roles to ensure accountability, representation, enfranchisement and checks on excessive power. We will also explore the conditions under which governments and other actors can undermine democratic governance, precisely by chipping away at those same institutions.

Hungary is a particularly important case through which to study an increasingly repressive information environment and its effect on democratic erosion and growing corruption because since 2010 the ruling coalition there has steadily restricted a range of rights, including media freedom. Hungary is also a surprising case of democratic erosion because the country's institutional set-up at the time of transition in 1989 and earlier was especially propitious for democratic consolidation. Moreover, Hungary is a member of the European Union whose members on the whole have strongly committed to democratic processes, while the EU itself has sanctioning mechanisms for violations of democratic principles. Understanding these anti-democratic developments in depth and working with Transparency International, students will consider alternative remedial strategies to improve the quality of the informational environment in Hungary, devising applied projects to assist TIH in their mission to provide transparency and accountability in the Hungarian political system. Reflecting on the broader applicability of such remedial strategies, including in other countries, is also a key objective of the course.

The practicum is supported by a grant from the Carnegie Corporation of New York on responsible engagement between academia and the policy world.

## **INTS 4711 (CRN 5531) – TOPIC: HOW COVID IMPACTED HEALTH POLICIES**

**Instructor: Matthew Cazan**

The COVID-19 pandemic impacts nearly every American, directly or indirectly. Policymakers at the federal, state, and local levels face a multitude of challenges and choices to assess the impact of the disease, slow the spread, and ultimately vaccinate or treat hundreds of millions of Americans. As part of this course, students will take a deep dive into the key healthcare policy challenges the pandemic created at all levels of governments. In the first portion of this course, students will receive a greater understanding of:

- The linkage between local health departments and the CDC
- FDA's drug approval process and how vaccine approval is similar and different than therapies used for treatment of disease
- How extreme changes in economic conditions ripple through America's employer-based insurance system and the role Medicaid plays as a safety net
- How Medicare, as the largest purchaser of healthcare in America, can impact how frontline providers, such as hospitals and nursing homes, care for COVID-19 patients

Beyond understanding the specific policy response to COVID, students will examine the challenges of formulating policy options with incomplete or imperfect information -- a challenge facing policymakers throughout the pandemic.

Finally, upon completion of the COVID-19 analysis, students will be presented with a future, fictitious public health emergency. Over the last several weeks of the course, students must utilize lessons learned from the past and core policy development skills to recommend a set of policy responses to prevent or mitigate this future emergency.

## **INTS 3701 (CRN 5483) – TOPIC: THE BELT AND ROAD INITIATIVE: DRIVERS, FORCES, AND RAMIFICATIONS**

**Instructor: Alvin Camba**

In 2013, President Xi Jinping announced the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), which aims to give the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) greater control over Chinese finances—e.g. foreign direct investments (FDI), development finance, and other inflows—across the world. The BRI is simply a subset of broader set of economic, social, and political processes shaping the world today. Indeed, China is not only shaping the pathways of economic development and the nature of political conflict in the Global South, but also influencing Western regulatory institutions, creating new migrant clusters, and reframing global governance.

This course examines the drivers, forces, and ramifications of the Belt and Road Initiative. Focusing on Southeast Asia and drawing from examples in South Asia, Latin America, and the Pacific, this course raises the following questions: what are the causes of Belt and Road and how is it connected to China's political economy? Which actors are shaping Chinese projects? What are the development ramifications of the Belt and Road? How does Chinese capital impact development strategies, ethnic structures, and social cohesion? The course will draw from recent research on the Belt and Road Initiative and will invite guest speakers during several sessions. Guest speakers might US State Department officials, think tank researchers and leaders of social movements dealing with China's rise.

In addition to considering these substantive questions, students will also gain first-hand experience in

submitting policy reports to international organizations, governments, and think tanks. Each student will carry out a project on a topic of their own choosing. In consultation with the professor, each student will develop a policy proposal drawn largely from secondary sources. This course will introduce the basics on the Chinese political economy, party-state system, politics, and foreign policy.

**INTS 4655 (CRN 5278) – TOPIC: NEGOTIATING ENVIRONMENTAL CONFLICT**

**Instructor: Tamara d’Estree**

Environmental issues engage multiple stakeholders with differing knowledge sets, beliefs, values, and even worldviews. Science alone is ill-equipped to resolve such complex disputes. Environmental conflicts involve negotiating differences, as do the development and implementation of environmental policies. This course explores both these ‘downstream’ and ‘upstream’ arenas. Within the domain of environmental and public policy conflict and policy, it focuses on the range of processes used to address these conflicts and issues, what different processes may have to offer, and the tradeoffs in both process and substance that must be considered. Themes of public involvement, information management & integration, and designing for adaptation will undergird consideration and critique of approaches. Multiple case studies will be explored and compared.