**SUBTITLE**
Directed Research Seminar in Theories and Methods of Political Science, Part II (Spring Semester)

**OVERVIEW**
This is the second part of a year-long seminar in theories and methods of political science, specifically designed for students in the Global Leadership Fellows Program. In Part II of the seminar, students will learn the elements of a well-designed research project and become familiar with research methods that are appropriate to different types of research questions. It will be conducted mostly as a research and writing workshop. Students will develop feasible proposals for the research that they will undertake when they write a senior thesis in their final year.

**OBJECTIVES**
* Students will develop practical skills in conducting political science research, including how to formulate research questions and how to develop and empirically test hypotheses.
* Students will improve skills in academic writing and will have opportunities to receive feedback on work in progress from the instructor and their peers.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Theme</th>
<th>Textbook</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Introduction to the Course</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Explanations &amp; Randomness</td>
<td>Shiveley, Ch 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mlodinow, Ch 1-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Analyzing Politics Scientificly</td>
<td>KKV, Ch 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Shepsle, Pgs 3-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Research Questions</td>
<td>Baglione, Ch 1-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Reviewing the Literature, Avoiding Plagiarism</td>
<td>Baglione, Ch 3-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Theorizing About Politics</td>
<td>Shepsle, Pgs 13-35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Geddes, Ch 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Baglione, Ch 5-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Shively, Ch 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Causality, Experiments</td>
<td>Baglione, Ch 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Shively, Ch 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Observational Research, Case Selection</td>
<td>Baglione, Ch 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Geddes, Ch 3-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Shively, Ch 7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Concepts and Measurement
Shively, Ch 3-4

### Data Analysis
Shively, Ch 5

### Data Analysis
Shively, Ch 8-9

### Data Analysis
Shively, Ch 10

### Writing
Baglione, Ch 9

### Student Presentations

### Student Presentations

### TEXTBOOKS


### EVALUATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>30%</td>
<td>Various weekly assignments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50%</td>
<td>Final research proposal &amp; presentation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20%</td>
<td>Participation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### NOTE
This syllabus is tentative; the schedule and textbooks (but not the evaluation criteria) will likely change depending on students’ previous coursework, methodological skills, and research interests. An updated version will be distributed during the second week of class.
Directed Research Seminar in Theories and Methods of Political Science, Part I (Fall Semester)

Overview
This is the first part of a year-long seminar in theories and methods of political science, specifically designed for students in the Global Leadership Fellows Program. Part I is a reading seminar, which introduces students to some of the major concepts and theories in contemporary political science. The themes of the seminar have been selected not only for their academic importance, but also for their relevance to understanding American politics, and Japanese politics. The reading assignments combine classic/representative literature with more recent research, and include several useful empirical applications in the US and Japan contexts. Thus, this part of the seminar aims to provide solid foundation and intellectual inspiration for students who are interested in pursuing their own original research in political science. It will be followed by Part II (in the Spring semester), which will focus more on research methods and guide students in developing feasible research proposals for the senior thesis.

Objectives
* Students will learn important concepts and theories in the discipline of political science.
* Students will develop skills in critical reading and academic writing.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Theme</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Introduction to the Course</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 2    | Democracy  
Schumpeter. 1942. *Capitalism, Socialism, and Democracy*, chs 21-22  
| 3    | Electoral Competition  
Downs. 1957. *An Economic Theory of Democracy*, Ch 1-3 & 8  
| 4    | Political Participation  
5. **Elections & Representation**


6. **Political Parties**


7. **Political Institutions**

Federalist Papers #10, #51

Japan’s Constitution


8. **Policy-Making**


9. **Collective Action**


10. **Economic Policy**


11. **Welfare Policy**


12. **Social Capital**

Putnam. *Making Democray Work*, Ch 1 & 4


13. **Culture**


TEXTBOOKS  There is no textbook. Reading assignments consist of scholarly articles and book chapters.

EVALUATION

50%  Weekly response papers: each week students must submit a short (appx. 500 words) critical response to the readings. A good response paper will include a one-paragraph summary of the main contributions, a one-paragraph critique of the limitations of the readings, and two questions raised by the readings that you would like to discuss in the seminar.

30%  Final Exam: This will be a “take-home” exam, distributed in week 14 and due at the start of class in week 15.

20%  Participation: the educational value of the seminar largely depends on the quality of class participation and student engagement. It is essential that students complete the readings prior to the session in which the readings are assigned, attend all sessions, and speak up in class!

NOTE  This syllabus is tentative. The final version will be distributed in class.