

## **Political Economy**

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### **Program Administrators**

*Richard F. Teichgraeber III*, History (Director)

*Judith K. Schafer*, Ph.D., Tulane, (Associate Director)

### **Faculty Associates**

*Gerald F. Gaus*, Philosophy

*Ronald King*, Political Science

*Eric Mack*, Philosophy

*Douglas R. Nelson*, Economics

*Jonathan M. Riley*, Philosophy

### **MAJOR**

The political economy major aims to promote sustained reflection on the interrelations of political and economic activities and institutions. It provides undergraduate students with the basic skills of economic analysis. But the major is also based firmly on the view that the study of the interrelations of politics and economics has a rich humanistic tradition and that its pursuit can encourage sustained reflection on fundamental values. Political economy is an interdisciplinary major built on a core of eight required courses and five additional courses drawn from economics, political science, history and philosophy.

This major tries to avoid the sometimes excessive specialization that characterizes more traditional undergraduate majors. While providing students basic skills of economic analysis, the political economy major at Tulane is distinctively based on the view that technical economic analysis should not be divorced from a broader concern for understanding the moral and historical foundations of economic institutions and political structures.

The requirements of the political economy major include the following core of eight courses:

#### **Economics**

101 Introductory Microeconomics

102 Introductory Macroeconomics

301 Intermediate Microeconomics

## **Political Economy**

301 Introduction to Political Economy

302 Political Economy: An Historical Overview

303 Individual, Society, and State

304 Comparative and International Political Economy

600 Majors Seminar

The total number of required credits in the core is 24. The major also requires five electives chosen from an interdepartmental list of courses grouped according to the following four alternative concentrations. The required Political Economy 301-304 sequence has been designed to introduce students to the prominent and common concerns of the three tracks. Studies along one of these concentrations provides a focus within the major. Each major's selection of a concentration is made in consultation with a faculty advisor.

### **POLITICAL ECONOMY CONCENTRATIONS**

*Law, Economics, and Policy Track*

*Two of the following eight:*

#### **Economics**

ECON 332 Urban Economics

ECON 333 Environment and Natural Resources

ECON 334 Government in the Economy

ECON 335 Law and Economics

ECON 397/398 Special Studies in Economics

ECON 452 Economics of Public Expenditures

ECON 453 Economics of Taxation

*Three of the following sixteen:*

#### **History**

HISU 360 History of Early American Law

#### **Philosophy**

PHIL 356 Political Philosophy

PHIL 364 Philosophy of Law

PHIL 651 Theories of Economic Justice

PHIL 654 Global Justice

**Political Economy**

PECN 404 Democracy, Capitalism, and Free Speech

PECN 414 Theories of Distributive Justice

PECN 419 Philosophy of Social Justice

**Political Science**

POLA 324 Public Policy

POLA 423 Environmental Politics and Policy

POLA 424 Budgets and Deficits

POLA 425 Power and Poverty in America

POLA 427 Constitutional Law

POLA 480 Science, Technology, and Public Policy

POLA 629 Judicial Process

**Sociology**

SOCI 680 Society and Economy

*Moral and Historical Perspectives Track*

*Two of the following three:*

**Economics**

ECON 335 Law and Economics

ECON 397/398 Special Studies in Economics

*Three of the following fourteen:*

**History**

HISE 323 The Chernobyl Catastrophe

HISU 360 History of Early American Law

HISU 648 Industrial America

**Philosophy**

PHIL 356 Political Philosophy

PHIL 364 Philosophy of Law

PHIL 604 Philosophy of Law

PHIL 651 Theories of Economic Justice

PHIL 654 Global Justice

**Political Economy**

PECN 404 Democracy, Capitalism, and Free Speech

**Political Science**

POLT 382 Contemporary Political Ideas

POLA 418 American Political Culture

POLA 427 Constitutional Law

POLT 486 American Political Thought

**Sociology**

SOCI 611 Sociology of Work

*International Perspectives Track*

*Two of the following four:*

**Economics**

ECON 334 Government in the Economy

ECON 372 Contemporary Japanese Economy

ECON 374 Asia-Pacific Rim Economic Development

ECON 433 International Trading Relations

*Three of the following thirteen:*

**Economics**

ECON 333 Environment and Natural Resources

ECON 359 Economic Development of Latin America

ECON 365 Agricultural and Rural Development in Latin America

**Philosophy**

PHIL 651 Theories of Economic Justice

PHIL 654 Global Justice

**Political Economy**

PECN 419 Philosophy of Social Science

**Political Science**

POLC 341 Politics and Nationalism

POLI 351 Power, Morality, and International Relations

POLI 354 International Political Economy

POLC 444 Autocracy

POLI 462 Global Environmental Politics

POLI 654 Research in International Political Economy

**Sociology**

SOCI 690 Sociology of Development in Latin America

### *Additional Political Economy Courses*

#### **Political Economy**

PECN 456, 457 Internship Studies

PECN 497, 498 Special Topics

#### **INTERNSHIPS AND HONORS PROGRAM**

In the summer between junior and senior years, a political economy major may elect to participate in a summer internship. The Murphy Institute offers a limited number of grants in an open competition for political economy majors only.

With consent of the director, a student may pursue a degree with honors in political economy. A senior honors thesis is required.

Finally, it should be noted that undergraduate majors in political economy are invited to participate in various activities sponsored by the Murphy Institute of Political Economy. The Murphy Institute hosts prominent scholars and public figures in a series of annual lectures. Student majors are invited to all of these occasions, as well as to more informal meetings with our visitors.

The Murphy Institute of Political Economy sponsors semester and summer abroad programs in London and Cambridge.

Further information on the political economy major may be obtained from the Murphy Institute of Political Economy.

#### **PECN 456, 457 Internship Studies (1-3, 1-3)**

Staff. Prerequisites: approval of instructor and Program Director. An experiential learning process coupled with pertinent academic course work. Open only to juniors and seniors in good standing. Registration is completed in the academic department sponsoring the internship on TUTOR. Only one internship may be completed per semester. (Note: A maximum of six credits may be earned in one or two courses.)

#### **PECN H491, H492 Independent Studies (3, 3)**

Staff. Prerequisite: departmental approval. Qualified students are allowed to arrange for independent study with approval of instructor and their faculty advisor.

#### **PECN H499-H500 Honors Thesis (3, 4)**

Staff. For senior honors candidates. Intensive reading, research and writing in a selected field of political economy. Students should discuss their honors thesis with a prospective director during the second semester of their junior year.

#### **PECN H601 Honors Seminar (3)**

Staff. A seminar for junior and senior honors students in political economy. Specific themes will be announced each semester.

## **CORE COURSES**

### **PECN 301 Introduction to Political Economy (3)**

Mr. Gaus. This course introduces undergraduate majors to some of the chief intellectual concerns associated with the term political economy including international political economy, economics and philosophy, and law and economics.

### **PECN 302 Political Economy: An Historical Overview (3)**

Mr. Teichgraeber. This course introduces students to the question of how different modern Western societies and thinkers have defined the relationships between political and economic activities. Beginning with the experience of Europe in the 15th century, it examines what the unprecedented wealth of modern Western societies has meant for the understanding and practice of politics. It also explains what caused the economic abundance of Western nations to come into being in the first place, and how that abundance has been sustained over time.

### **PECN 303 The Individual, Society, and State (3)**

Mr. Mack. This course presents an integrated study of the main alternatives in political ideology (liberalism, socialism, fascism, Marxism) advocated in the modern world and the exemplifications of these ideologies in practice in the modern world (post-war West Germany, 20th-century Britain, Mussolini's Italy, the former Soviet Union)

### **PECN 304 Comparative and International Political Economy (3)**

Mr. Nelson. Virtually all contemporary economies are characterized by extensive relations between the economic and political systems. Furthermore, these relations seem to involve often complex relations between the global, national, and sub-national political economies. This fact is currently referred to as "globalization". However, it is clear that globalization, whatever it is, has different effect on national (and sub-national) political economies. In this course, we will: 1) attempt to develop an understanding of globalization; 2) develop a comparative analysis of the links between globalization and national outcomes; and 3) examine the international institutions that attempt to manage globalization. Because time is finite, and there are other courses, we will focus primarily on advanced democracies.

## **OTHER POLITICAL ECONOMY COURSES**

### **PECN 401 Constitutionalism: Ancient Athens to Present (3)**

Mr. Riley. This course discusses the historical development of constitutionalism, with a view to understanding what is common to the various forms of constitutional government which have appeared in different societies from classical Athens to modern America.

**PECN 402 American Political Thought (3)**

Mr. Riley. Prerequisite: PECN 401. This course discusses the historical development of the Constitution and associated political ideas, from the founding period up to the present. Thinkers discussed include Madison, Calhoun, Croly, Dewey, and Rawls, among others. Same as POLT 486.

**PECN 404 Democracy, Capitalism, and Free Speech (3)**

Mr. Riley. This course discusses freedom of expression in the context of advanced capitalist democracies such as the U.S. Topics include justifications for free speech, its proper scope, tensions between democratic self-government and capitalist mass media, and Supreme Court decisions relating to freedom of expression.

**PECN 419 Philosophy of the Social Sciences (3)**

Mr. Gaus. An introduction to philosophical issues raised in the study of the social sciences. Questions to be considered include: how is social scientific explanation similar to that in the physical sciences? Is social science concerned with explanation or understanding? What is the place of rational actor models on the social sciences? Can there be a value-free social science? Same as PHIL 319.

**PECN 497, 498 Special Topics in Political Economy (3, 3)****PECN 600 Majors Seminar (3)**

Staff. The political economy majors' seminar focuses on a large theme or question that no single discipline in the program uniquely claims for its own and no one approach exhausts. Example of such issues: the rise of the nation state, capitalism and democracy, the foundations of economic behavior, the organization and meaning of work, and industrialization, economic growth, and social change. In designing a majors seminar, faculty define the issues that most engage them as teachers and scholars and that sustain a coherent cross-disciplinary course offering.

**PECN 675 Utilitarianism: From Bentham to Harsanyi (3)**

Mr. Riley. This course introduces students to the utilitarian tradition and to the modern debate over whether some version of utilitarianism is likely to serve as the most adequate moral and political philosophy. Same as PHIL 675.