This is a third-year PhD seminar on the state of the discipline of political science and the skills one needs as a professional political science, whether in or outside academia. In this course we will explore the common tasks performed by professors and as well as a few topics relevant to the completion of graduate studies. We will conclude the course with some thoughts of the role of the political scientist beyond academia.

**Learning Objectives**

Students satisfactorily completing this course will have demonstrated advanced substantive knowledge of and analytical competence in:

- a. teaching methodologies
- b. the process of research
- c. the academic job market
- d. engaging audiences beyond the discipline

**Program Outcomes**

This course contributes to the political science doctoral program by providing students with knowledge of:

- a. the tasks performed by political scientists employed in academia
- b. best practices for teaching and conducting research in political science
- c. the role of the political scientist beyond academia
Evaluation

- Syllabus, Lecture, Lecture Notes due Feb 13 15%
- Conference Paper or Panel Proposal due Feb 20 15%
- Draft of Dissertation Prospectus due Mar 20 15%
- Journal Author’s Reply due Apr 10 15%
- Job Market: CV, Cover Letter due Apr 24 15%
- Class Participation throughout 25%

Written assignments will be evaluated for completeness and the extent to which they incorporate material from the assigned readings and class discussion. Class participation will be evaluated by the instructors noting whether or not students engage in active and consistent participation each class meeting.

Grades will be assessed using the following breakdown:

- A 93%-100%
- A- 90-93%
- B+ 87%-90%
- B 83%-97%
- B- 80%-83%

Course Policies

This course will operate as a seminar; as such, students should be ready to engage one another in discussion. Students are expected to attend each class, to be on time, and to have all course materials read prior to the class in which they are discussed. Please turn off all electronic devices during class. Laptop computers are not permitted in class; please turn them off and put them away before class starts. All assignments must be completed for a student to pass the course. Requests for regrading any exam or assignment must be made no later than one week after it has been handed back. No make-ups will be allowed except in very serious circumstances (The professors reserve the right to determine what is “very serious”). Course incompletes will only be allowed for circumstances in which the student is physically unable to complete the course; the student must otherwise be passing the course in order to be granted the incomplete.

Honor Code of Conduct

All doctoral students will be expected to uphold and exceed the Unified Code of Graduate Student Academic Conduct:
Course Outline and Readings

Week 1 – January 23
Topic: Introduction to the class, syllabus review, discussion of the profession
Readings:

Week 2 – January 30
Topic: Teaching – Course Preparation
Readings:
Assignment Distributed: Teaching Materials

Week 3 – February 6
Topic: Teaching – Classroom, Grading, Campus Affairs
Activity: Guest speakers
Readings:
- Lang, pp. 63-213 (available on Canvas)

Week 4 – February 13
Topic: Teaching – Classroom
Activity: Mini-lectures
Readings: (none)
Assignment DUE: Teaching Materials
Assignment Distributed: Conference Proposal

Week 5 – February 20
Topic: Conferences – Proposals, Attending, Presenting, Discussant
Readings:
- Packet of paper/panel proposals from SPSA 2017 (available on Canvas).
Assignment DUE: Conference Proposal
February 27 – NO CLASS – LUNDI GRAS

Week 6 – March 6
Topic: Dissertation Prospectus
Readings:
Assignment Distributed: Draft of Dissertation Prospectus

Week 7 – March 13
Topic: Dissertation Prospectus
Activity: Prospectus workshop
Readings: (none)
Bring Draft of Dissertation Prospectus to class for workshop

Week 8 – March 20
Topic: Grants
Activity: Guest speaker
Readings:
- Beverly Wiggins and Susan Gramling, “Funding and Proposal Writing for Social Science Faculty and Graduate Student Research.” Available at http://www.irss.unc.edu/content/pdf/granthandout.pdf
Assignment DUE: Draft of Dissertation Prospectus
March 27 – NO CLASS – SPRING BREAK

Week 9 – April 3

Topic: Journals – Submissions, Article Reviews
Readings:
- Packet of sample journal submission, readers reports (available on Canvas).

Assignment Distributed: Journal Author’s Reply

Week 10 – April 10

Topic: Job Market
Readings:

Assignment DUE: Journal Author’s Reply
Assignment Distributed: Job Market CV, Cover Letter

April 17 – NO CLASS – EASTER BREAK

Week 11 – April 24

Topic: Beyond Academia
Activity: Guest speaker
Readings:

Assignment DUE: Job Market CV, Cover Letter

Week 12 – May 1

Topic: IRB / Concluding Thoughts
Activity: Guest speaker
Readings: