

POLITICAL SCIENCE (POLS)

POLS 135 International Relations of the Gulf **3 Credits**
Grade Mode: Standard Letter, Audit/Non Audit

This course explores the complex geopolitical dynamics of the Persian Gulf region. Students will examine the historical, cultural, and economic factors that shape the relationships between Gulf states, as well as their interactions with global powers. The course will cover topics such as energy politics, regional conflicts, security alliances, and the influence of non-state actors. Through lectures, discussions, and case studies, students will gain a deeper understanding of the challenges and opportunities facing the Gulf region in the contemporary period.

POLS 136 Perspectives in Gulf Studies **3 Credits**
Grade Mode: Standard Letter, Audit/Non Audit

This course that explores the complex historical, political, economic, and social dynamics that have shaped the Gulf region. Through lectures, discussions, and critical analysis of diverse perspectives including those of Gulf nationals, regional scholars, and external observers, students will gain a nuanced understanding of the key issues facing the Gulf states from the pre-oil era to the contemporary period. Topics covered include the impact of oil wealth, sociopolitical reforms, changing identities, and the region's evolving role in international powers. The course will enable students to develop a holistic and contextualized appreciation of this strategically important region.

POLS 137 Policy Analysis, Design and Implementation **3 Credits**
Grade Mode: Standard Letter, Audit/Non Audit

Various approaches, methods and frameworks of policy analysis are introduced, with opportunities to engage both with the literature and with application of techniques to contemporary policy challenges in the country and the region, with a particularly focus on science policy, innovation, and development. Policy analysis is a function of all advanced governments, determining public problems as well as objectives and goals (e.g., the Qatar National Vision). Once objectives have been determined, solutions have to be designed, and ultimately implemented and evaluated. This course emphasizes the connections between analysis, design, and implementation.

POLS 140 Global Grand Challenges **3 Credits**
Grade Mode: Standard Letter, Audit/Non Audit

This course explores the "Global Grand Challenges" confronting humanity, focusing on critical issues such as sustainable development, global health, and climate change. Students will examine the role of major global institutions and the intricacies of international policy-making processes dedicated to addressing these pervasive challenges. The course provides an overview of the complex interdependencies that characterize these issues and the collaborative efforts required to mitigate them. Through engaging lectures and dynamic discussions, students will gain a deep understanding of the multidisciplinary approaches needed to navigate and contribute to solving these global problems.