

Global & International Studies Graduate Courses

Fall 2013

GIST 701: Approaches to Global & International Studies (29173)

Professor Mike Wuthrich

Wednesdays 6:10-9:00 p.m.

356 Regnier, Edwards Campus

This course examines approaches to the study of culture, politics, and society as applied in international studies research. Substantive and disciplinary content vary by instructor, but typically include such topics as economic development, ethnicity, religion, democratization, peace and conflict issues, and cultural studies. The study of these topics is accompanied by discussions of the principles of theory development, proper research design, choosing a research topic, construction of literature reviews, and the use of library resources in international studies research. *This course is required for all students in the Global & International Studies MA program.*

GIST 706: Comparative Governments (29160)

Professor Darlene Budd

Tuesdays 7:10-10:00 p.m.

354 Regnier, Edwards Campus

During the nineties, the world witnessed historic changes. Authoritarian regimes collapsed and countries from Eastern Europe to Latin America began to form more democratic forms of government. Elsewhere, old forms of nationalism, racism, and fascism are challenging and sometimes overcoming democratic forces. It is not only authoritarian regimes that have been affected. Some Western democracies have been pressured by social, political, and ideological groups to adopt political reforms. These groups want to change the “rules of the game” in order to make governments more responsive to their interests and concerns.

Some of the questions addressed in the course include: Why do movements for change and reform emerge? When are they successful and when do they fail? Are some types of authoritarian regimes more prone to piecemeal change over time or to sudden revolutionary transformations? Under what conditions do democracies face demands for change and how are the “rules of the game” altered to accommodate these demands?

The following general topics are covered in the course:

- The Comparative Method
- Sovereignty, Authority, and Power
- Political and Economic Change
- Citizens, Society, and the State
- Political Institutions
- Public Policy



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GIST 750/710: Interdisciplinary Research Methods in Global Contexts (29174)

Professors John Kennedy and Mike Wuthrich
Mondays 6:10-9:00 p.m.
25 Regents Center Edwards Campus

This course addresses the challenges for students engaged in research in an interdisciplinary and international context. The course will take issues for research and place them within the structure of a research design process, including formulation of a general question, the appropriation of theory, the grounding of a literature review, and the posing of a testable research question and/ or hypothesis. Students will also be exposed to research methodologies and how these manifest themselves through the logic of the disciplines--such as anthropology, sociology, geography, political science, history, and literature. With a final thesis project design in mind, students will be expected to be able to utilize the research tools of accessing secondary analytical data, archival research, SPSS, and ArcView, as well as methods such as survey construction, implementation, analysis, interviews, content analysis, discourse analysis, case study, and GIS. This course will be the precursor to the GIST 810: Project/ Thesis Writing course in the spring, which will build off of the knowledge, skills, and final project of this course. **Prerequisite:** GIST 701 or consent of instructor.

GIST 750: China Foreign Policy (TBA)

Professor John Kennedy
Mondays 7:10-10:00 p.m.
255 Regnier, Edwards Campus

This course will survey and analyze the foreign relations of the PRC from 1949 to 2013, including the evolving relationships between China and other major global and regional actors such as the United States, Japan, Korea (north and south), India, Taiwan, Vietnam, and Russia as well as countries in Africa and Latin America. In general, the course is divided into four parts: Ideology and Practice, Cold War and post-Cold War Relations (US-China), China's Relations with its neighbors, and China and the Global Community including Africa and Latin America.



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Fall 2013

GIST 750: Politics of Russia & Eastern Europe—Context & Evolution (29171)

Professor Bob Baumann

Thursdays 7:10-10:00 p.m.

156 Regnier, Edwards Campus

The fall of the Berlin Wall and the collapse of the Soviet bloc led to profound changes in the politics of Russia as well as the former constituent republics of the USSR and member states of the Warsaw Pact in Eastern Europe. In the ensuing decades, the marked divergence in national politics and strategies of the various states has created a dramatically altered Eurasian landscape with important attendant implications for the rest of the globe. Nevertheless, shadows of the past remain. The politics of the region have not escaped the gravitational pull of history and geography. Beginning with a focus on Russia, this course will examine the impact of a variety of important forces at work in the region including nationalism and identity politics, the forging of new regional state alignments, national economic strategies, the consequences of NATO expansion, the emergence of influential figures such as Vladimir Putin, the challenge of human rights concerns, the role of international institutions, and the impact of domestic politics on foreign affairs.

