

Department of Political Studies and Public Administration (PSPA)

Chairperson:	Hamati-Ataya, Inanna
Professors:	^P El Khazen, Farid E.; ^P Khashan, Hilal A.; ^P Moussalli, Ahmad S., Waterbury, John
Visiting Professor:	Hanf, Theodor
Associate Professor:	Meho, Lokman I.
Assistant Professors:	Frangie, Samer; Haase, Thomas W.; Hamati-Ataya, Inanna; Hazbun, Waleed; Khodr, Hiba; Makdisi, Karim S.; Pison Hindawi, Coralie; Reiche, Danyel
Lecturers:	Antoun, Randa D.; ^P Gebara, Khalil; ^P Geukjian, Ohannes; ^P Jurdi, Nidal; ^P Krayem, Hassan H.; ^P Kreidie, Lina; ^P Masri, Shafic H.; ^P Mirza, Zeinab; ^P Nakib, Khalil A.; ^P Nasser, Khaled; ^P Nizameddin, Talal
Instructors:	^P Bluhm, Michael; ^P Bitar-Ghanem, George N.; ^P Geha, Carmen; ^P Goksel, Timor M.; ^P Haddad, Tania; ^P Hankir, Samer; ^P Hanna, Elias; ^P Kheir, Wael N.; ^P Saade, Bechir; ^P Zaazaa, Nadim

MA in Political Studies

MA in Public Administration

The Department of Political Studies and Public Administration (PSPA) offers two major graduate programs: one leading to the degree of Master of Arts in Political Studies, and one leading to the degree of Master of Arts in Public Administration.

Graduate students in PSPA are required to complete 24 credit hours of courses (of which no more than 6 credit hours can be taken outside of the major), plus a six-credit thesis.

Students majoring in Political Studies are required to take two core courses, which must include PSPA 300 and either PSPA 301, PSPA 310, or PSPA 320. Students are encouraged to complete all core courses by the end of their third semester in the program, and to take the remaining major courses from one of the following sub-disciplines of specialization: Political Theory: PSPA 301, PSPA 302, PSPA 303, PSPA 304, PSPA 305, PSPA 306, PSPA 307 and PSPA 309; International Politics: PSPA 310, PSPA 311, PSPA 312, PSPA 313, PSPA 314, PSPA 315, PSPA 316, PSPA 317, PSPA 318, PSPA 319, PSPA 341, PSPA 343, PSPA 345 and PSPA 346; and Comparative Politics: PSPA 320, PSPA 321, PSPA 322, PSPA 323, PSPA 324, PSPA 325 and PSPA 329. The remaining two elective courses can be taken within the major or from other Humanities and Social Science courses after consultation with the student's advisor.

Students majoring in Public Administration are required to take the following core courses: PSPA 300, PSPA 350, PSPA 351, and PSPA 352. Students are encouraged to complete all core courses by the end of their third semester in the program. Three additional graduate courses are required from one of the following sub-disciplines of specialization: Public Administration: PSPA 363, PSPA 370, PSPA 371, PSPA 372, PSPA 373, and PSPA 374; and Public Policy: PSPA 360, PSPA 361, PSPA 362, and PSPA 363. The remaining elective can be taken within the major or from other Humanities and Social Science courses after consultation with the student's advisor.

An introductory course in statistics (or its equivalent) is a prerequisite for PSPA 300.

PSPA 300 Methodology and Research Design 3.0; 3 cr.

An introduction to the philosophy of science and how it influences the choice of research design. The emphasis is on developing skills that are useful for any method (survey, research, comparative historical analysis, game theory). The objective is to provide students with the practical tools they need to successfully complete original research. *Core course. Annually. Prerequisite: An introductory course in Statistics or its equivalent.*

PSPA 301 Political Theory 3.0; 3 cr.

A course that provides a critical examination and analysis of the theoretical bases and perennial issues of political theory and ideologies. *Core course. Annually.*

PSPA 302X The Modern Project 3.0; 3 cr.

The aim of this course is to explore the various intellectual, academic and political debates around the notion of modernity. Topics covered in this seminar include: modernity, modernization and the modern project, reason and rationalization, religion and secularization, knowledge, post-colonialism and post-modernism, and other related topics. *Alternate years.*

PSPA 303 Islamic Political Thought 3.0; 3 cr.

An in-depth course on modern Islamic political thought. This course focuses on the historical and intellectual developments that have fueled both revolutionary and conservative trends in Islamic political movements and states. Discussions cover issues such as the relationships between religion and politics, political philosophy and ideology, and political action and revolution. *Offered occasionally.*

PSPA 304 Theories of Political Economy 3.0; 3 cr.

A course that surveys various theories and theorists such as Marxism, Polyani, rational choice, and the new institutionalism. It introduces students to the study of how the political system and the economy interact. *Annually.*

PSPA 305X Political Theory in the Arab World 3.0; 3 cr.

The aim of this course is to explore various intellectual and political debates in the modern Arab world. The course will provide an overview of the development of modern Arab political thought and will present some of the main intellectual and academic debates in this domain. Topics covered in this seminar include: modernity and tradition, orientalism and the West, nationalism, Marxism, liberalism, and other related topics. *Alternate years.*

PSPA 306 Research Methods and Techniques 3.0; 3 cr.

A course that deals with various methods of data collection and analysis. Specific research methods include both quantitative and qualitative techniques such as experimental, survey, field observation, content analysis, historical/comparative, and evaluation. *Offered occasionally.*

PSPA 307 Knowledge and Power 3.0; 3 cr.

The course explores different aspects of the relationship between knowledge and power. It draws on different philosophical and sociological traditions in political theory to shed light on core cognitive, social, and ethical aspects and dilemmas that concern social scientists both as knowledge-producers who reflect on power as a conceptual and empirical reality, and as social agents who are themselves inscribed in structures and relations of power. *Alternate years.*

PSPA 309 **Special Topics in Political Theory** **3.0; 3 cr.**
May be repeated for credit. Offered occasionally.

PSPA 310X **International Politics** **3.0; 3 cr.**
This seminar provides a survey of the discipline of international politics and contemporary research in the field. In addition to covering central theoretical perspectives in international relations theory, the course will introduce students to contemporary debates in international politics and policy with an emphasis on topics and themes relating to the Middle East. Students will develop critical thinking and analytical writing skills through close reading of key texts and writing exercises. *Core course. Annually.*

PSPA 311 **International Politics and the Middle East** **3.0; 3 cr.**
This seminar deals with issues and themes relevant to contemporary Middle East politics within the context of international relations. It explores how the politics of the Middle East, US policy in the Middle East, and the Middle East as a regional system have been understood and represented through the lens of international relations theory and scholarship. Topics include: the evolution of the Middle East state system, Arab Nationalism and the Cold War, the Arab-Israeli conflict and US policy towards Israel and the Palestinians, the geopolitics of oil and the Gulf, the Iraq War and its regional consequences, Iran's role in the Arab world, the question of empire and the future of US grand strategy, and Lebanon's position in regional politics. *Annually.*

PSPA 312 **Public International Law** **3.0; 3 cr.**
A course that aims to provide an understanding of the principles underlying public international law that facilitates relations among states, resolves disputes, protects human rights, allocates resources, and restricts conduct during war time. Emphasis is placed on subfields of international law most closely connected to international politics such as the legal consequences of very serious violations of international law, the role played by the United Nations or the legal regulation of the use of force. Reflecting upon the kind of role international law plays in the conduct of international relations, this course includes many recent case studies and tackles some of the major debates in the field. *Annually.*

PSPA 313X **International Security** **3.0; 3 cr.**
Security motives play an essential role in international politics, particularly in the conduct of international relations. This course deals with major issues in international security that may include arms control, disarmament, as well as new types of threats, such as terrorism, or environmental degradation. It covers traditional and less traditional perspectives on the field. *Offered occasionally.*

PSPA 314 **The UN and International Politics** **3.0; 3 cr.**
This seminar examines the role of the United Nations (UN) within the context of international politics, security, and development. It focuses on the UN role in the Global South, particularly the Arab region. The course explores theoretical perspectives on the role of the UN in world politics and traces the evolution of UN institutions, and in particular UN peacekeeping, from the Cold War to post-Cold War period including the war on terror. It then considers a series of case studies in depth. The course will include, when possible, guest presentations from UN officials and a field trip to better appreciate the conditions within which UN operations work. *Offered occasionally.*

PSPA 315X **Arab-Israeli Conflict** **3.0; 3 cr.**
This seminar examines whether a solution between Palestinians and Jewish Israelis is possible in the historic land of Palestine, and if so how. The course takes a historical approach to trace the root causes of the conflict and understand the main narratives that drive the Palestinian and Jewish national movements, as well as to understand the larger context and structure within which these narratives take place. It also tracks the long history of peace initiatives put forward by the great powers – starting with the UN partition plan and ending with the post Cold War, US-sponsored peace process – and how the shifting international rules and norms that underlie these initiatives have both shaped and reflected the realities on the ground in terms of both power and resistance.

- PSPA 316 International Environmental Policy 3.0; 3 cr.**
ENSC 650
A course that seeks to provide a broad overview of the key concepts, actors, and issues related to global environmental policy. This course outlines the evolution of environmental policy in facing global environmental challenges and how such policies have become inherently intertwined with government policy, business practice, and international trade. *Annually.*
- PSPA 317X International Political Economy 3.0; 3cr.**
This course provides a critical examination of the politics of international economic relations, global economic development, and transnational economic activity with a special emphasis on the position and experiences of the Middle East states in the global political economy. The course offers a survey of theoretical approaches to international political economy and addresses themes critical to the experience of the Middle East such as state-led industrialization, trade and regionalism, finance, oil, labor migration, MNCs, transnational movements, globalization, neo liberalism, and the politics of development and global governance. *Offered occasionally.*
- PSPA 318X Theories of International Relations 3.0; 3cr.**
The seminar offers a critical study of readings drawn from the major theoretical traditions (realism, liberalism, constructivism) in international relations theory as well as critical approaches and trends. *Annually. Prerequisite: Departmental approval.*
- PSPA 319 Special Topics in International Politics 3.0; 3 cr.**
May be repeated for credit. Offered occasionally. Prerequisite: Departmental approval.
- PSPA 320 Theories of Comparative Politics 3.0; 3 cr.**
A survey of various paradigms in comparative politics, focusing on behaviorist, institutional, development, and radical approaches. Themes such as structure of power, state-society relations, political development, political culture, and political economy are emphasized. *Core course. Annually.*
- PSPA 321 Contemporary Politics in Middle Eastern States 3.0; 3 cr.**
A course that analyzes contemporary politics in selected Middle Eastern states. This course emphasizes the problems of political participation, effective governance, and socio-economic development. *Alternate years.*
- PSPA 322 Contemporary Politics in Non-Middle Eastern States 3.0; 3 cr.**
A course that examines political institutions, processes, and problems facing governments in selected countries outside the Middle East. This course focuses on topics such as authority systems, relations between the public and private sector, and politics of collective identity. *Offered occasionally.*
- PSPA 323 Communalism in the Middle East 3.0; 3 cr.**
A course that deals with the emergence of ethnic and religious issues in the Middle East, with emphasis on post World War I developments. This course addresses the situation of minority groups, the nature of their demands, and their prospects of achieving them. In addition, this course assesses the impact of localism on the nation-state in the region. *Annually.*
- PSPA 324 Government and Politics in Lebanon 3.0; 3 cr.**
A course that examines the evolution of the political system and the different approaches to the study of government institutions in Lebanon. This course focuses on patterns of change involving state and society from the founding of the state in the early 1920s to the present. *Alternate years.*

- PSPA 325X Political Trends in the Middle East 3.0; 3 cr.**
This course examines the genesis and evolution of major political trends that have been impacting the Middle East and North Africa since the latter part of the nineteenth century, especially colonialism, nationalism and nation-building, transnational political conflict, religious extremism, the politics of oil and security issues. *Offered occasionally.*
- PSPA 329 Special Topics in Comparative Politics 3.0; 3 cr.**
May be repeated for credit. Offered occasionally. *Prerequisite: Departmental approval.*
- PSPA 330 Graduate Tutorial in Political Science 3.0; 3 cr.**
A graduate seminar in which selected topics are arranged on an individual basis where existing courses do not offer the required subject matter. May be repeated for credit. *Annually.*
- PSPA 341/ ENSC 657 Environmental Regulation and Legislation 3.0; 3 cr.**
An introduction to contemporary legislative approaches to environmental protection, the rationales for their embodiment in policies, and their effectiveness in achieving prescribed goals and alleviating environmental degradation. This course also examines the emergence of environmental initiatives in developing countries with a focus on the latest developments in Lebanon. *Alternate years. Prerequisite: Departmental approval.*
- PSPA 343/ ENSC 658 Environmental Conflict Resolution 3.0; 3 cr.**
An introduction to contemporary approaches to global environmental negotiation and conflict resolution, including the efforts of international organizations at risk communication, mediation, and facilitation. This course focuses on procedures to manage negotiations of environmental conflicts and disputes between governments, corporations, ecologists, the media, and the general population. Information is also provided on environmental dispute cases successfully resolved. *Alternate years. Departmental approval.*
- PSPA 345 Special Topics in Environmental Policy and Politics 3.0; 3 cr.**
May be repeated for credit. Offered occasionally. Prerequisite: Departmental approval.
- PSPA 346 Special Topics in Natural Resource Policy and Politics 3.0; 3 cr.**
May be repeated for credit. Offered occasionally. Prerequisite: Departmental approval.
- PSPA 350 Foundations of Organization Theory 3.0; 3 cr.**
This seminar is an advanced study and analysis of the development of organization theory, from its foundations and origins up to the present. It takes an interdisciplinary approach that reviews the key critical readings and debates, with their different levels of abstraction and analysis, as well as their lasting contributions. It also discusses the contemporary research activities and findings in the field of organization theory. *Core course. Annually.*
- PSPA 351X Foundations of Public Administration 3.0; 3 cr.**
This seminar is an advanced study and analysis of the field of public administration, from its foundations and origins up to the present. It covers topics such as: historical public administration, the traditional model of public administration, new public management, and collaborative public administration. The course will also review contemporary research activities and findings related to public administration. *Core course. Annually.*

PSPA 352X Foundations of Public Policy 3.0; 3 cr.

This seminar covers topics related to the substance, methods and frameworks of public policy in a variety of disciplines including: welfare economics, political science, political economy, and organization theory. Emphasizing the role of theory in empirical policy research, the course illuminates the various policies and policy challenges in the following substantive areas: economics; education; the environment; national security; and immigration. *Core course. Annually.*

PSPA 360X Public Policy Research and Analysis 3.0; 3 cr.

This seminar provides an introduction to policy analysis typologies, policy tools, and the factors that shape the utilization of policy analysis. It is designed to give students the theoretical and practical exposure to the process of the analysis of public policy as well as to its relevant qualitative, survey, and mixed method approaches and techniques. *Annually.*

PSPA 361X Public and Non-Profit Program Evaluation 3.0; 3 cr.

This seminar introduces students to the theoretical and practical foundations underlying the use of program evaluation in the public and non-profit sectors. Based in large part of the logic-model process of program evaluation, it reviews the quantitative and qualitative techniques used by managers to analyze program processes, outputs, and outcomes. It also considers issues such as client management, data collection, data presentation, and research ethics. *Annually. Prerequisite: Departmental approval.*

PSPA 362X Public Policy and Administration 3.0; 3 cr.

This seminar covers topics and frameworks related to the substance and approaches of public policy as they relate to public administration. Students will engage in a serious analysis of the economic, social, and cultural assumptions that underpin government and its relationship to the polity. The course is also designed to give students an organized opportunity to investigate their own interests within a specific key policy area. *Annually. Prerequisite: Departmental approval.*

PSPA 363 Public Financial Management 3.0; 3 cr.

This seminar examines the theory, practice, concepts and problems related to the administrative and political management of public financial resources and public sector budgeting. It reviews how economic, political, social and institutional factors, and resources are transformed into budgetary policy. It analyzes the organizational, structural, managerial, and legal aspects of the public budget, as well as the most important problems in the phases of the public budget cycle. *Annually. Prerequisite: Departmental approval.*

PSPA 370 Human Resource Management and Development 3.0; 3 cr.

This seminar explores theories and models of human resource management, including the policies and processes that relate to governmental personnel. It acquaints students with the authority, responsibility, functions, and problems of the human resource management in areas such as staffing, human resource development, performance appraisal, teamwork, and compensation. The seminar examines personal and professional issues related to modern Human Resource Management (HRM) from recruitment to termination. The emphasis is on developing familiarity with the real world applications required of employers and managers. *Annually.*

PSPA 371X Public Management 3.0; 3 cr.

This seminar investigates the conceptual and practical boundaries of public management reform initiatives with a comparative perspective. Moving beyond the foundations of traditional public administration, topics covered include performance and personnel management, privatization, e-government, and accountability. The limits of public management will also be considered. *Annually. Prerequisite: Departmental approval.*

- PSPA 372X Leadership and Management of Public Organizations 3.0; 3 cr.**
This seminar examines the distinction between leadership and management, from theoretical and applied perspectives. It also analyzes the major theories of leadership and assesses their impact on group and individual behavior in light of personality differences and cross-cultural management. *Alternate years. Prerequisite: Departmental approval.*
- PSPA 373 The Ethics of Public Administration 3.0; 3 cr.**
This seminar covers contemporary perspectives on ethics and ethical behavior in government. It focuses on the interactions between government and society and analyzes the political, legal, economic, and social environments of societal organizations. Some of the contemporary issues addressed are: transparency, accountability and responsiveness, corruptive practices in public administration, administrative discretion, and social justice. *Alternate years. Prerequisite: Departmental approval.*
- PSPA 374 Non-Profit Management 3.0; 3 cr.**
A course that examines the development and characteristics of non-profit management systems, managerial challenges, and the application of theories and mechanisms relevant to non-profit management. This course covers topics such as organizational structure, financial management, board-executive relations, and public-private cooperations. *Alternate years. Prerequisite: Departmental approval.*
- PSPA 380X Special Topics in Public Administration 3.0; 3 cr.**
May be repeated for credit. Offered occasionally. Prerequisite: Departmental approval.
- PSPA 381X Special Topics in Public Policy 3.0; 3 cr.**
May be repeated for credit. Offered occasionally.
- PSPA 382 Graduate Tutorial in Public Administration 3.0; 3 cr.**
A graduate seminar in which selected topics are arranged on an individual basis where existing courses do not offer the required subject matter. *May be repeated for credit. Annually. Prerequisite: Departmental approval.*
- PSPA 383 Graduate Tutorial in Public Policy 3.0; 3 cr.**
A seminar in which selected topics are arranged on an individual basis where existing courses do not offer the required subject matter. *May be repeated for credit. Annually. Prerequisite: Departmental approval.*
- PSPA 395A/395B Comprehensive Exam 0 cr.**
Prerequisite: Consent of adviser.
- PSPA 399 MA Thesis 6 cr.**