

Political Science 7000: Professionalization Seminar

Fall 2020

Tuesday 1:00 to 2:00

Introduction

The purpose of this course is to provide a broad overview to the political science profession and issues relating to professional success in the discipline. We will explore two major topics. First, we will focus considerable attention on the criteria for evaluation used in political science. What are the leading political science departments? Who are the leading scholars? What are the most important journals and scholarly presses? How do we know it when we see it? Second, we will discuss some of the practical issues relating to how one can succeed in the political science profession. How does one write a dissertation or thesis? How does one go about presenting a paper at a professional conference? How does one submit a paper to a scholarly journal? How does one publish a book? How does one go about obtaining employment as a political scientist?

Course Schedule:

Week 1: Introduction

What is Political Science?

Week 2: Surviving the first year

Week 3: Political scientists and their departments

Week 4: Political science research

Political Science Graduate School

Week 5: Course work and comprehensive exams

Week 6: The Dissertation

Week 7: The Dissertation

Week 8: Publishing as a graduate student

Week 9: Teaching as a graduate student

Political Science after Graduate School

Week 10: The job market

Week 11: The job market

Week 12: Life as an assistant professor

Week 13: Thoughts heading into the second semester