



Politics & Public Policy



Program Highlights

- Stage a mock Presidential election and strategize a plan to secure your candidate's success or even campaign for votes as you run for President.
- Partake in a Senate simulation where you will champion your ideas and passions into legislation to become law, moving it from Committee to the Senate floor.
- Learn about the role that political parties, public opinion, and special interest groups can have on shaping behavior and policies at the federal, state, and local levels.
- Visit policy makers and think tanks to learn more about careers in the field

Campus Locations

Georgetown University

- July 13 - July 25, 2020
- July 27 - August 8, 2020

Academic Course Overview

In the first class, students will break into campaign teams as they become immersed in a presidential election. Students will divide into the following groups: candidates, campaign managers, senior policy advisors, speech writers, media outlets, and swing states. Over the course of the week, they will strategize a plan to secure votes for their candidate before they ultimately elect a new president.

During the second week, students will take on the role of US lawmakers as they draft legislation and push for it to become law. Along the way, students will have to overcome lobbyists, PAC influence, and a House vote, as well as convince the newly elected President to sign the bill.

By using an experiential learning approach, students will quickly engage in these topics, and the instructor introduces the underlying theory and concepts as students tackle these issues while pushing their political agenda.

Guest Speakers & Excursions

Last year students visited the US Supreme Court. Students visited the Supreme Court and took advantage of a variety of educational programs, including Courtroom Lectures, a Visitor Film, and court-related Exhibitions. Highlights include the John Marshall statue, portraits and busts of former Justices, and two self-supporting marble staircases.

An interesting and dynamic speaker from any area of politics share their career path. The purpose of the speaker is to make students aware of career options in the field. Speakers speak for 30 minutes and should be engaging to the students. Speakers may or may not be directly related to the topic of the day.

Instructor

Courses are taught by accomplished and passionate faculty recruited from many area colleges, universities and professional forums. Each faculty member is selected for their subject area expertise and proven ability to both challenge and captivate students.

Curriculum Advisor - Grant Gordon, Ph.D

While instructors vary each year, the Curriculum Advisors ensure continuity in our curriculum. This course was designed by Grant Gordon. Grant holds a PhD in political science from Columbia University, having specialized in the political economy of conflict, humanitarian intervention, and foreign policy. He developed and directed the global inter-agency mine action monitoring and evaluation mechanism for the UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations for use in over 30 countries, and researched the impact of new technologies on humanitarianism for the United Nations.

Sample Schedule from Past Year

This is only to provide a general idea of the class structure. The exact sequence of lessons will change based on availability of guest speakers and on companies that can host our students.

Day 1. Monday

- Class expectations
- What are politics?
- What is public policy?
- Discuss political parties
- Case Study: Analyze a piece of policy and how it came to be

Day 2. Tuesday

- Campaigns
- What goes into a campaign?
- Consider recent campaigns and discuss how the strategy could be improved
- How do public opinions and special interest groups shape political behavior?

Day 3. Wednesday

- Elections
- What elections are there besides the presidential election and why are they important?
- Presidential Campaign Simulation

Day 4. Thursday

- Presidential Campaign Simulation
- Strategize a plan to secure votes for your candidate
- Vote to elect a new President

Day 5. Friday

- Site Visit: US Supreme Court
- Visit a policy makers office or a think tank that develops policy.

Day 6. Monday

- Discuss American popular culture
- How does popular culture impact politics and policies?

Day 7. Tuesday

- Guest speaker
- A speaker from any area of politics shares their career path
- Explore the many opportunities within the field of politics and public policy

Day 8. Wednesday

- US Senate Simulation
- Divide into several committees and draft legislation
- Work to promote the legislation by overcoming lobbyists and PAC influence

Day 9. Thursday

- US Senate Simulation
- Move the legislation through the House
- Will the newly elected president sign the bill into law?

Tuition

- **Residential Students:** \$4,998
 - Includes: all meals, lodging, excursions, academic program, weekend excursions
 - Excludes: optional airport pickup and drop off service (available for an additional fee)

- **Commuter Students:** \$2,798
 - Includes: academic program, excursions, programming from 9am to 5pm, Monday-Friday
 - Excludes: lodging, breakfast, dinner, weekend excursions

- **Extended Commuter Students:** \$3,398
 - Includes: lunch, dinner, excursions, academic program, programming from 9am to 8pm, weekend excursions
 - Excludes: lodging, breakfast