

# Political Science Spring 2025 Featured Courses



# Featured Spring Courses

- [POLS 100S International Politics](#)
- [POLS 102S Comparative Politics](#)
- [POLS 300 Public Policy](#)
- [POLS 320 United Nations](#)
- [POLS 335 Environmental Politics](#)
- [POLS 338 East Asia](#)
- [POLS 350T Technology and War](#)
- [POLS 400 Congress](#)
- [POLS 408 Constitutional Law](#)
- [POLS 419 Jurisprudence](#)
- [POLS 434 Political Participation](#)
- [POLS 495 Sex, Drugs and Alcohol](#)



# POLS 100S Intro to International Politics

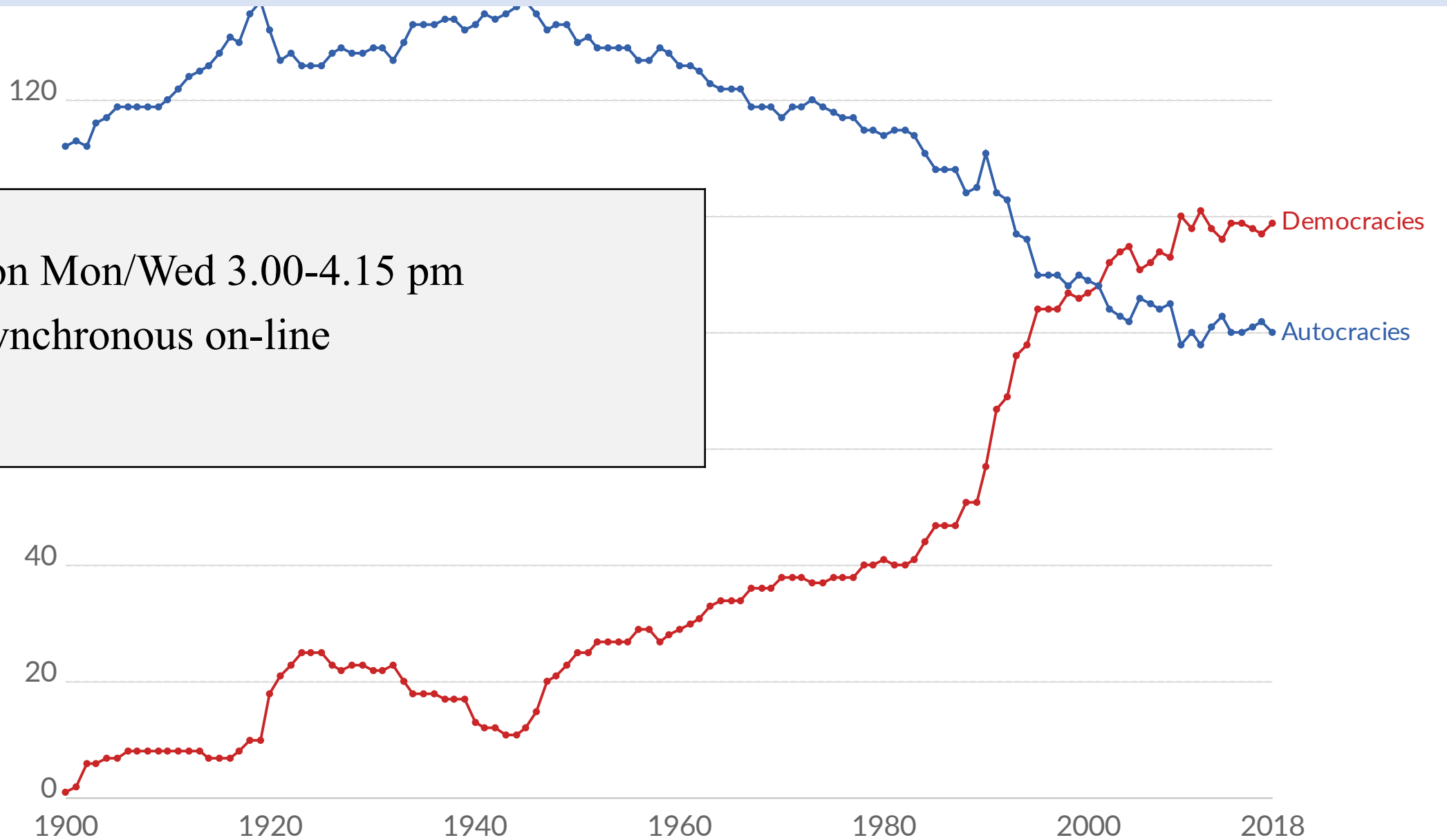
- Spring 2025, make the world less mysterious:
- POLS 100S meets in person, MWF 12.00 pm
- And POLS 100S happens asynchronous on-line.



Setting the stage. Three leaders doing international politics.

*Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese, US President Joe Biden, British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak. At Navy Base San Diego, 13 March 2023.*

# POLS 102S Intro to Comparative Government



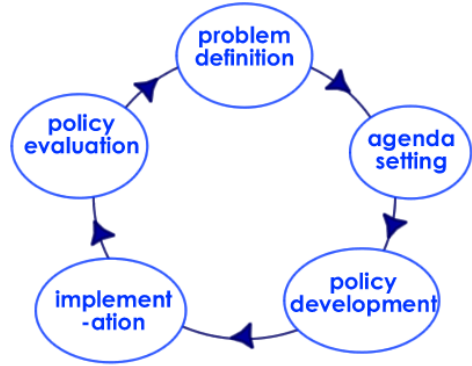
- In person Mon/Wed 3.00-4.15 pm
- And asynchronous on-line

# POLS 300 Introduction to Public Policy

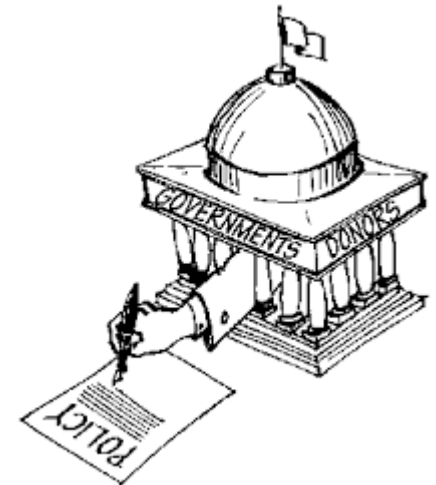
Dr. Benjamin Melusky

[bmelusky@odu.edu](mailto:bmelusky@odu.edu)

On-line, asynchronous



This course examines how and why policy is made in the United States, and how policymakers can make better policies to address problems like COVID19.



# POLS 320

## United Nations

- It is the most celebrated part of the international system. But what is it good for?
- Spring 2025 Tuesdays-Thursdays at 3.10 pm
- In person, with ODU's Aaron Karp



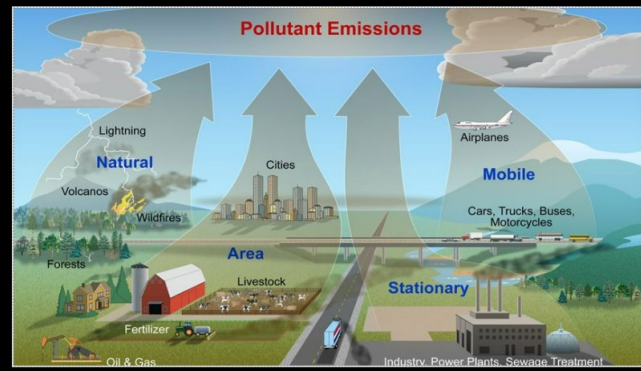
- What does the world's dominant international organization *do best*?
- Why is it *so hard* to solve many of the world's greatest challenges?
- Can the UN be made *more effective* 80 years after its creation?
- Are there *other ways* to solve the world's most pressing challenges?



# CLIMATE CHANGE: CAUSE AND EFFECT



# CAUSE: DEFORESTATION



# CAUSE: AIR POLLUTION



# EFFECT: MELTING POLAR ICE CAPS



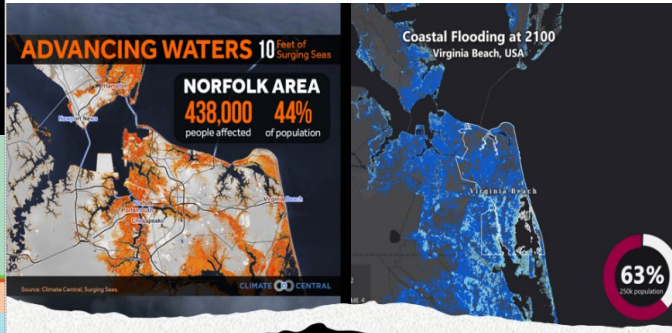
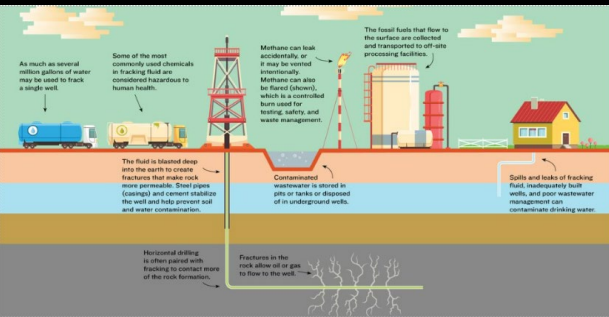
# EFFECT: DESERTIFICATION

# POLS 335 Environmental Politics

Tuesdays at 4.30  
Dr. Athena M. King



# WATER POLLUTION

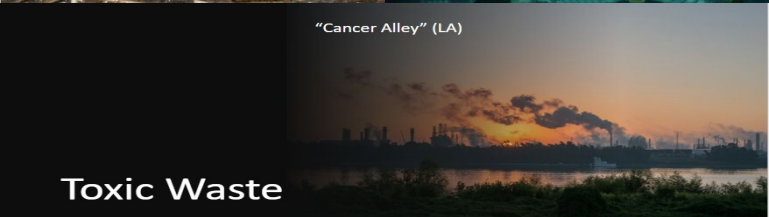


Coastal Flooding at 2100  
Virginia Beach, USA

# EFFECT: SEA LEVEL RISE (NORFOLK AND VIRGINIA BEACH)

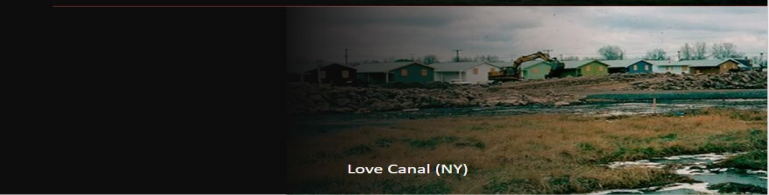


# SUBURBANIZATION (Land Management)



# Toxic Waste

# FRACKING



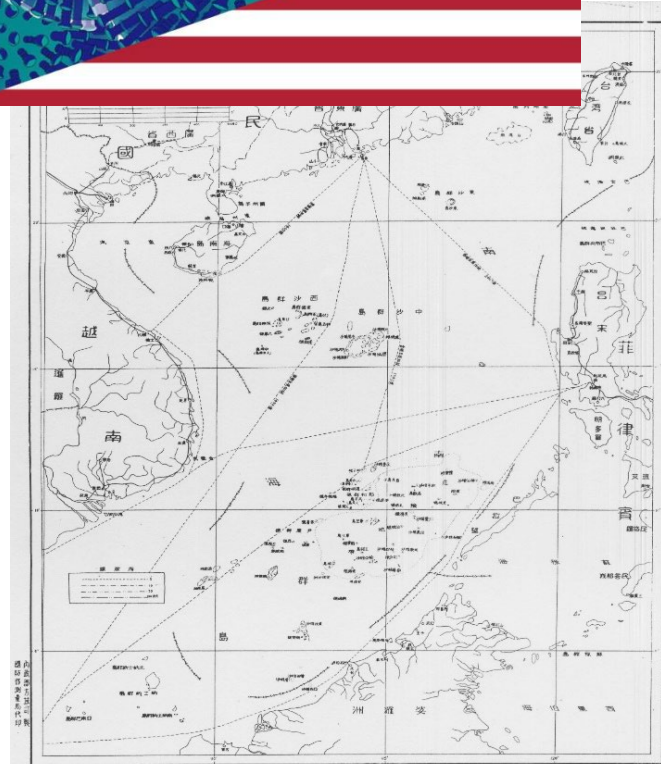
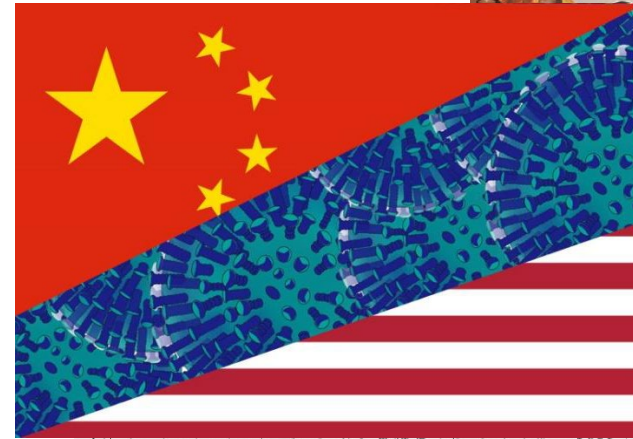
Love Canal (NY)

# POLS 338W Politics of East Asia

On-line, asynchronous

Contact: Dr. Cathy Wu [xwu@odu.edu](mailto:xwu@odu.edu)

- How do we understand “East Asia” as a region, its historical legacies and political culture?
- Who are the major powers in East Asia? How do they interact?
- How do we analyze territorial & maritime disputes in East Asia?
- What are the prospects of regional integration in East Asia?
- How can the regional order and security be managed in East Asia?





# POLS 350T Technology and War

- It's all yours; technology and war from human pre-history to AI decision-making.
- Spring 2025 Thursdays at 4.30 pm
- In person with ODU's Aaron Karp
- Meets the ODU T requirement. Double counts for Political Science majors.

- What do new technologies reveal about the future of war?
- What are the universal laws of technological innovation and adaptation?
- How will war shape new technologies?
- How will the technology of war reshape us?





- Congress is the central constitutional institution in U.S. politics.
- Laws, appropriations, advice and consent, impeachment, representation, oversight of executive branch.

# POLS 400: CONGRESS

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**Jesse Richman Ph.D.**  
Associate Professor of Political  
Science

**SIMULATE  
RESEARCH  
STUDY  
LEARN**

What students say about the simulation and the class:

- Firsthand experience as well as textbook knowledge.
- The class was unique, I have never taken a class like this.
- It actually felt like being in Congress.
- It was a lot of professional writing, which will be a phenomenal skill in my career.
- The simulation, and the assignments that came with it, made people participate!
- Really loved this class. Educational while fun!

# POLS 408 Constitutional Law: Individual Rights



- Wednesday
- 4:30-7:10
- Spring 2025
  
- Dr. Kundmueller  
(mkundmue@odu.edu)

*Want to understand the law?*

# *POLS 419 Jurisprudence: History of Legal Thought*

- Thursday
- 4:30-7:10
- Spring 2025

*Dr. Kundmueller  
(mkundmue@odu.edu)*



# POLS 434 Political Participation

Dr. Joshua Zingher

Tuesday/Thursday 11.00-12.15

- Discussion based course
- Read some of the latest and most interesting new books on topics like political behavior, public opinion, and political psychology.
- Learn about some of the latest developments in American politics and society



# POLS 495 Sex, Drugs and Alcohol: Politics of Sin

Monday/Wednesday 3.00-4.15

Dr. Benjamin Melusky  
[bmelusky@odu.edu](mailto:bmelusky@odu.edu)

**Morality has nothing  
in common with  
politics.**

Bob Dylan

This course will examine the historical and contemporary foundations of Why and How we legislate morality in the United States?



**Politics is an  
extension of  
one's morality**

