**IMPORTANT DATES:**

**TUESDAYS**

**PISA**
Meet your colleagues. Talk politics. SUB 408, 5:00pm

**11/11**

**LAST DAY TO S/U A CLASS**
It won’t count toward the major, so try not to.

**1/23—5**

**THANKSGIVING BREAK**
Use it to write your papers.

**12/12**

**LAST DAY OF CLASSES**
But not finals.

---

**Go vote!**

Students registered on campus can vote in the SUB. The polls are open until 9:00pm in New York State.

---

**Departmental**

**First Brownstein Scholarship Awardee**

The Department of Political Science and International Relations is pleased to announce the first recipient of the Lewis Brownstein Travel and Research Fund, Peter Enia, (’18).

Peter studies both American politics and international relations. He plans on using the scholarship to study abroad in at Kingston University in London in the Spring 2017 semester where he’s interested in evaluating the effect of the Brexit vote in the United Kingdom.

Congratulations Peter!
Faculty

Jerry Benjamin’s New Book

Professor Gerald Benjamin has a new edited book out: *New York’s Broken Constitution* (SUNY Press, 2016). The text examines the significant gaps between what New York State’s constitution says and how the state is actually governed and offers ideas for reform.

New York State’s constitution is an elaborate and impressive aggregation of processes, powers, mandates, and limits. But many of these are “inoperative,” and New Yorkers who read the document and believe what it says will come away with a massive misunderstanding of the realities of state government. The essays in *New York’s Broken Constitution* seek to clarify the realities by bringing attention to the gaps between what the constitution says and how the state is actually governed, and they provide a disquieting picture of the state of the state’s constitution. Among the topics addressed are state debt and budgeting practices, legislative redistricting, local government, gambling, conservation, and the process of amending the constitution. Written by knowledgeable professionals, the chapters explain the constitutional provisions in question, including the reasons for their constitutional status; how they have been used and interpreted; and the extent of the gaps between the constitutional provisions and practice. Various proposals for reform are also examined.

You can see a full description here: http://www.sunypress.edu/p-6306-new-yorks-broken-constitution.aspx

Jobs

Fund for the Public Interest

The Fund for the Public Interest is looking for motivated SUNY New Paltz students who want to be part of a team that’s leading the fight for change.

The Fund was launched in 1982 to help find ways to engage people on the most pressing problems of our day and turn that support into solutions. Today we are looking for candidates who have the drive and the leadership ability to run campaigns for America’s leading environmental and public interest organizations.
Jobs /Summer Internships

**Center for Reproductive Rights**

Sherlyn Abdullah (’12) wants to let you know that the Center for Reproductive Rights is hiring for a couple of entry-level positions and internships.

Click here for full details: [http://www.reproductiverights.org/employment](http://www.reproductiverights.org/employment)

---

Spring Classes

**Junior Seminar in American Politics**

Hey! Are you interested in American politics? Do you want some preparation for the Senior Seminar? Try taking the **Spring Semester Junior Seminar**.

Professor Kassop will direct the seminar this spring, and the topic is inter-institutional relationships in American government.

Public attention focuses most often on the relationship between Congress and the president, since these are the two branches in the American governmental system where we are most likely to look for national policy-making. But there is an intricate dance that exists in this system - and each of the three branches is engaged in ongoing relationships with the other two. This course will examine the relationships between pairs of branches in American government: 1) the president and Congress; 2) the president and the Supreme Court; and 3) Congress and the Supreme Court. The class will look at the respective constitutional responsibilities and the political interactions within each pairing. Readings will come from scholarly research and primary sources.

This course is open to any student who has taken American Government and Politics or the equivalent and is in their sophomore, junior, or senior year. To reserve a spot, email Jeff Miller at [millerj@newpaltz.edu](mailto:millerj@newpaltz.edu).

---

**Department**

**Registration for Spring 2017**

You should have visited your advisor by now to release your registration for the Spring 2016 semester. If you haven’t yet, make an appointment soon (registration begins next week!). Also check to make sure you don’t have any holds on your account from the library or Registrar.

Page three of this newsletter contains a listing of PSIR faculty members, their office hours, and contact information. Email them for an appointment today!
# Where to find people.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Email</th>
<th>Office</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Benjamin, Gerald</td>
<td><a href="mailto:benjamig@newpaltz.edu">benjamig@newpaltz.edu</a></td>
<td>HAB 704</td>
<td>By appointment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dowley, Kathleen</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dowleyk@newpaltz.edu">dowleyk@newpaltz.edu</a></td>
<td>JFT 920</td>
<td>M 1:30-3:30, F T 1:45-3:15 (JFT)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kassop, Nancy</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kassopn@newpaltz.edu">kassopn@newpaltz.edu</a></td>
<td>JFT 812</td>
<td>By appointment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lefkowitz, Joel</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lefkowij@newpaltz.edu">lefkowij@newpaltz.edu</a></td>
<td>JFT 400</td>
<td>MR 11:00-12:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lipson, Daniel</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lipsond@newpaltz.edu">lipsond@newpaltz.edu</a></td>
<td>JFT 810</td>
<td>W 2:00-3:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mauceri, Phillip</td>
<td><a href="mailto:maucerip@newpaltz.edu">maucerip@newpaltz.edu</a></td>
<td>JFT 320</td>
<td>TWF 3:30-4:30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miller, Jeff</td>
<td><a href="mailto:millerj@newpaltz.edu">millerj@newpaltz.edu</a></td>
<td>JFT 816</td>
<td>TF 10:45-12:45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minkoff, Scott</td>
<td><a href="mailto:minkoffs@newpaltz.edu">minkoffs@newpaltz.edu</a></td>
<td>JFT 1008</td>
<td>MR 2:00-3:00 T 2:00-5:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ozler, Ilgu</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ozleri@newpaltz.edu">ozleri@newpaltz.edu</a></td>
<td>JFT 912</td>
<td>T 1:00-5:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pampinella, Stephen</td>
<td><a href="mailto:pampines@newpaltz.edu">pampines@newpaltz.edu</a></td>
<td>JFT 1000</td>
<td>W 12:30-2:30 T 10:00-12:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schwartz, Jonathan</td>
<td><a href="mailto:schwartj@newpaltz.edu">schwartj@newpaltz.edu</a></td>
<td>JFT 1016</td>
<td>WF 12:30-2:30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>