

Political Science and International Relations



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.

11/23—5 THANKSGIVING BREAK

Use it to write your papers.

12/12 LAST DAY OF CLASSES

But not finals.



The United States

Special Election Edition

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



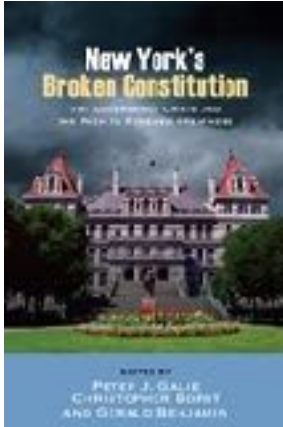
The Department of Political Science and International Relations is pleased to announce the first recipient of the Lewis Brownstein Travel and Research Fund, Peter Enia, ('18).

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>

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.

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!

Department

Where to find people.

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