Dornsife
Washington, D.C.
Program
USC’s Dornsife Washington, D.C. program brings politics and policy to life for students. We created this program to provide students with a dynamic, semester-long opportunity to study and work in the nation’s capital. The immersive program is designed to give students the “D.C. experience.”

Courses are drawn from the USC catalogue but are tailored to emphasize direct policy relevance. Instructors are USC faculty, policymakers, and practitioners with extensive “real world” experience, who are experts in their respective fields. In addition, all students complete an internship with one of Washington’s many policy-focused organizations. These include government agencies, non-governmental organizations, advocacy groups, think tanks, consulting firms, and congressional offices. We help place students in internships that offer the best work experience to complement the program of study and advance individual student’s career goals.
Courses Offered:

IR 443: FORMULATION OF U.S. FOREIGN POLICY
Critical discussion of alternative approaches explaining the formulation and implementation of U.S. foreign policy: domestic politics, organizational processes, group dynamics, individual personality and perception.

IR 304: ESPIONAGE AND INTELLIGENCE
The role and evolution of espionage and intelligence as tools of statecraft are examined. Open, covert, clandestine, counterintelligence programs and oversight processes are considered.

IR 330: POLITICS OF THE WORLD ECONOMY
This course explores questions and concepts in international economic relations, specifically as they relate to flows of trade, capital, people, and problems across borders.

POSC 423: PRESIDENTS AND THE PRESIDENCY
This class explores issues such as the sources of presidential power; recent leadership styles; and decision-making within the presidency.

IR 307: CONTEMPORARY INTERNATIONAL POLITICS
This unique offering consists of three 4-week mini-courses each taught by different practitioners. In 2015, they covered the geopolitics of energy; contemporary Middle East politics; and conflict resolution in Africa.

POSC 335: POLITICAL PARTIES, CAMPAIGNS, AND ELECTIONS
Taught by a professional political strategist, this course touches on the organization and function of political parties, elections, strategy and tactics of campaigning, professional candidate management finance, political machines, and voting behavior.

POSC 300: PRINCIPLES, INSTITUTIONS, AND GREAT ISSUES OF AMERICAN DEMOCRACY
Taught as a series of mini-courses, this class explores issues in contemporary American politics and public policy including lobbying and interest groups; underlying principles of American democracy; and media and American politics.
CONTACT US

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