

# OFF-CAMPUS STUDY - SPRING 2023

## COLGATE IN WASHINGTON D.C.



**Director:**  
Noah Dauber,  
Department of Political Science

**Tentative Program Dates:**  
late January to mid May, 2023

**Learn about the 2022-23 Colgate Study Groups and talk with the Faculty Directors at the Study Group Fair at the Hall of Presidents on Wednesday, October 6th, 2021, 4:00-5:00: [www.colgate.edu/academics/off-campus-study/campus-opportunities/virtual-study-group-fair](http://www.colgate.edu/academics/off-campus-study/campus-opportunities/virtual-study-group-fair)**

**For more information about the program:**  
Please contact Prof. Dauber at [ndauber@colgate.edu](mailto:ndauber@colgate.edu)

**Information Sessions will be held on:**  
Wednesday, October 13 at 4pm in 108 Persson Hall and  
Tuesday, October 19 at 12pm in 108 Persson Hall

## Colgate University's

Washington Study Group combines rigorous academic analysis with a total immersion in Washington political life. During the semester, students take seminars on American political history, the nature of the national governmental and public policy systems, and choose an internship in congressional offices, agencies, or think-tanks. They also meet national leaders in politics, journalism, issue advocacy, and business, while visiting the great historical and cultural sites of the city.

*Courses taken on this study group do not satisfy the Core Global Engagements requirement.*



Begun in 1935, the Washington Study Group is the oldest of Colgate's study groups and the first program of its kind in Washington, D.C. Many of its graduates establish life-long connections in Washington and return after graduation to build successful careers in national government and politics.

### **Program Structure and Course Credits:**

The Washington Study Group (WSG) features three 400-level seminars and a 12-week internship. Integrating course work with direct participation in the governing, advocacy, or policy process, the program provides a balance of academic study, immersion in DC life, and practical political/administrative experience. The three graded courses (POSC 410, 412, and 414) count for concentration credit with POSC 414 fulfilling the department's requirement for a senior seminar with which to complete the major. The satisfactory/unsatisfactory internship component (POSC 413) counts toward overall university graduation requirements. The seminars combine lectures, group discussion, and presentations by Washington insiders.



**1. Our Constitutional Order: Continuity and Change (POSC 410, 8 weeks)** This course explores the legal and ideological framework of governance and policy formation in the United States. The course will begin with a study of the Constitution and limited government, survey the reform movements (from Progressivism and Populism to the New Deal) which inform policy debates to this day, and then turn to the recent contexts of policy (from the Civil Rights movement to the Reagan Revolution to the New Democrats). Throughout the course, but especially in the last section, we will hear from local activists, scholars, and policy makers about how these intellectual frameworks have informed their approach to government. Taught by Professor Dauber.

**2. Readings and Research on American Government (POSC 412).** The first half of this course meets as a weekly seminar, and explores themes relevant to the students' experience in Washington: why government organizations function (or fail to function) as they do, presidential leadership of the bureaucracy, administrative law, the formation of political/policy agendas, budget development and execution, executive-congressional relations, the media, and current events. The course focuses in particular on the administrative law of the federal bureaucracy as it relates to the three branches of government (especially on the doctrine of Chevron deference). In the second half of this course, students, with personal supervision of the instructor, will research and write a major paper on a topic that draws upon sources unique to our Washington location. Taught by Patrick Purtill.

**3. Internships in the American Political System (POSC 413, 12 weeks).** Students serve a 12-week internship with executive agencies, congressional offices, the Supreme Court, the state department, the media, or interest groups. They participate directly in the activities of the political process. The Readings and Research course (POSC 412) is designed to enhance and complement this internship experience. Graded satisfactory/unsatisfactory. Placements and supervision by Patrick Purtill.

**4. Seminar: Contemporary Policy Process (POSC 414, 7 weeks).** This course introduces the policy process through focusing on a current policy area. Previous topics have included health care, welfare reform, campaign finance reform, energy policy, the proper scope of the federal government, and the causes and consequences of political gridlock. In the Spring of 2023, we will focus on the expansion of the welfare state and the transformation of the labor market. Throughout the semester, as part of the academic and experiential components of the program, we will have interviews with leaders in the policy process – media figures, interest group and party spokesmen, politicians, academicians, officials, and high-level civil servants. In hearing from economists, lawyers, and party officials from a range of institutions, we will try to make sense of how the parties are trying to define a political economy for America which is consistent with their traditions (explored in POSC 410), but which needs to face the changing economic realities of automation and global trade. Students are expected to take full advantage of these opportunities by being active and informed participants. Taught by Professor Dauber.

#### **Eligibility, Basis for Selection, and Prerequisites:**

The WSG is open to those who will be sophomores, juniors, or seniors in the spring of 2023. Students do not have to be concentrators in political science or international relations to be eligible for the group, although participants in the Washington Study Group should, before the beginning of the program, have studied the basic themes and institutions of American politics, and are expected to have taken at least one of the following courses:

POSC 150: America as a Democracy

POSC 151: Politics and Moral Vision

POSC 210: Congress

POSC 211: The Presidency and Executive Leadership

#### **Living Arrangements:**

Students will live and take classes in central DC, close to a variety of options for shopping, dining, and entertainment. Colgate will make the necessary arrangements and charge students for housing.

#### **Specific Advice for this Study Group:**

Behavior must be consistent with the responsibilities as participants in governmental or adult professional organizations. The program is a full-time activity and precludes other work commitments, such as part-time employment. While on internship assignments, students are asked to maintain the dress code and work required of their placement. Note that some internships are paid while others are not. This is at the discretion of the entity offering the internship and is not under Colgate's control. Note that the Off-Campus Study office will work with the Career Center to offer advice on professional clothing and associated costs.

#### **Extracurricular Activities:**

There will be various activities and excursions to enhance student understanding of Washington's culture and history. Washington is known for its refined architecture and vibrant neighborhoods. It also offers an abundant and rich cultural life, including the Smithsonian Museums, the Folger Shakespeare theatre, the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, as well as three major-league sports teams. The Study Group will explore the city through walking tours and visit or attend various educational, cultural, and athletic events of interest to the group.

#### **Calendar and Deadlines:**

The study group application will open on Wednesday, October 6, 2021, and will close on Wednesday, November 3, 2021.

Applications are to be submitted online at [offcampusstudy.colgate.edu](http://offcampusstudy.colgate.edu). The faculty director will interview applicants after all submissions have been received. The faculty director will announce admissions decisions by early January 2022.