POLITICS, LAW AND SOCIAL THOUGHT

Contact Information
Politics, Law and Social Thought
http://politics.rice.edu/
116 Humanities Building
713-348-4274

Christian J. Emden
Program Co-Director
emden@rice.edu

Aysha Pollnitz
Program Co-Director
aysha.pollnitz@rice.edu

Politics, Law and Social Thought (PLST) is an interdisciplinary minor open to all undergraduate students at Rice from all backgrounds. Its task is the study of political ideas in their philosophical and historical contexts as well as with regard to their effects on constitutional law and social and political practices.

The central focus of the minor is political theory, taken in a wide sense to mean the theory and philosophy of how polities form, function, and fail. The minor has a strong orientation toward works of political, legal, and social philosophy, understood in their historical context. Politics, Law and Social Thought is a program of study that enables Rice students to engage successfully with the “big” political questions relevant to contemporary society in a global setting: Why democracy? What are the foundations of law? What is political liberty? What is political citizenship? Are states necessary? How do normative political and social orders come into existence? Is there a philosophical justification for human rights?

Minor
• Minor in Politics, Law and Social Thought (ga.rice.edu/programs-study/departments-programs/humanities/politics-law-social-thought/politics-law-social-thought-minor)

Description and Code Legend
Note: Internally, the university uses the following descriptions, codes, and abbreviations for this academic program. The following is a quick reference:

Course Catalog/Schedule
• Course offerings/subject codes: PLST

Program Description and Code
• Classical and European Studies: PLST

Undergraduate Minor Description and Code
• Minor in Politics, Law and Social Thought: PLST

Co-Directors
Christian J. Emden
Aysha Pollnitz

Professors
Dominic Boyer
Peter C. Caldwell
Steven G. Crowell
James D. Faubion
David Leebron
Melissa Marschall
Donald Morrison
George Sher
Lora Wildenthal

Harvey Yunis
Professor in the Practice
Steve W. Lewis

Associate Professors
Gwendolyn Bradford
Luis Duno-Gottberg
Julie Fette

Assistant Professor
Vida Yao

For Rice University degree-granting programs:
To view the list of official course offerings, please see Rice’s Course Catalog (https://courses.rice.edu/admweb/!SWKSCAT.cat?p_action=cata)
To view the most recent semester’s course schedule, please see Rice’s Course Schedule (https://courses.rice.edu/admweb/!SWKSCAT.cat)