

Current Events

SATURDAY SCHOLARS THE LATEST IN CUTTING-EDGE IDEAS THE U.S.–CROSSROADS 2009

FEE: \$24

Join **John Mearsheimer, Ph.D.**, professor of political science and co-director of the Program in International Security Policy at the University of Chicago, for his comments about the state of the U.S. during this time of tumultuous change. Mearsheimer is the author of *The Tragedy of World Politics*, which attempts to explain, defend, and validate the political theory of “offensive realism,” under which each state must ensure its own survival by maximizing its share of world power.

PSE C10-01, OC/SK, Sat., 11/7, 1-2:30 pm

CRN 60901

New!

STRAUSS ON OBAMA

SERIES FEE: \$60

Join **Julie Strauss, Ph.D.**, to examine the Obama Administration’s progress nine months after its move into the White House. Everyone knew the job would be daunting when President Obama was inaugurated in January; people had lost confidence in the world’s financial systems, and Israel’s army had just pulled out of Gaza. By the end of the month, Obama’s hope-filled agenda looked bleakly into the future. Register for the series of all three lectures or individual sessions.

PSE C05-61, OC/SK, 3 Fri., 10/2-10/16, 1-2:15 pm

CRN 60839

New!

THE BALANCE OF POWER

FEE: \$30

When it comes to “executive power,” has Barack Obama’s administration charted a new and different course from its predecessor? Has the President delivered on his campaign pledges of bipartisanship, cooperation, and a new era of transparency and accountability? Or are we left with “business as usual” as the White House and Congress compete for dominance?

PSE C05-62, OC/SK, 1 Fri., 10/2, 1-2:15 pm

CRN 60840

New!

THE WORLD STAGE

FEE: \$30

Examine whether and how the Obama Administration has changed course from the Bush regime on Iraq, Iran, Afghanistan, the Middle East, and China. Is Hillary Clinton’s star power and emphasis on diplomacy successful in advancing President Obama’s agenda?

PSE C05-63, OC/SK, 1 Fri., 10/9, 1-2:15 pm

CRN 60841

New!

THE DOMESTIC AGENDA

FEE: \$30

Is the Obama Administration able to work with Congress to pass its ambitious domestic programs, including the economic stimulus plan, health care overhaul, and energy reform? We’ll examine the key players, their strategies, and chances for success.

PSE C05-64, OC/SK, 1 Fri., 10/16, 1-2:15 pm

CRN 60842

New!

AFGHANISTAN’S MILITARY HISTORY

FEE: \$30

Afghanistan is an ancient, mountainous country whose early history includes invasion by Persians, Greeks and Macedonians (Alexander the Great), Mongols (Genghis Khan), and Turkic-Mongols (Tamerlane). In modern times, Britain has invaded three times (1839, 1878, and 1919), and the Soviet Union tried in 1979. All were unsuccessful in imposing their rule. Since 1992, the U.S. and NATO have been trying to eradicate the Taliban and Al-Qaeda. Join **Jim O’Neill** to consider their odds for success where so many others have failed.

PSE C08-61, OC/SK, 1 Wed., 10/14, 11 am-12:30 pm

CRN 60843