Davidson in Washington
Summer 2019

What: An eight-week program in Washington, D.C. Students receive a full course credit for a seminar – either “Foreign Policy in an Era of Polarization,” taught by Prof. Ken Menkhaus, or “Populism, Democracy and Inequality,” taught by Prof. Brian Shaw – and a second course credit for a full-time, supervised internship of the student’s choosing.

When: Summer 2019 approx. May 27 - July 19 (exact dates TBD)

Who: Thirty-five to forty-five students. Admission is competitive. Rising sophomores, juniors and seniors, may apply for the program (with preference to upperclassmen). Eligibility is NOT limited to political science majors; students who have yet to declare a major and those majoring in another discipline are encouraged to apply. Participants are required to have a minimum GPA of 2.5.

How: Complete the application (available by October 1). The application deadline is November 9, 2018 by 5pm. Acceptances will be announced by November 20.

Cost: Tuition for the program will be approximately $3600. All living expenses & travel are the responsibility of the student. There is a wide range of housing options, including summer housing in George Washington University dorms (a high-end option at approx. $2400). Both merit-based and need-based financial aid are available to help – in some cases substantially – to defray these costs.

The Seminars: The 2019 seminar descriptions are the following:

US Foreign Policy in an Age of Polarization (Menkhaus)

Until recently, debates over US foreign policy were dominated by a bi-partisan foreign policy establishment that had its differences but which shared a remarkable degree of consensus on core interests, policies, and strategy. Confidence in the foreign policy establishment and its consensus positions has, however, dropped sharply, both in the public and in the eyes of our two most recent Presidents, Obama and Trump. What were once articles of faith – the value of NATO, US commitment to free trade and a liberal economic order, a rules-based international order, and an internationalist US foreign policy that projects American values abroad – are increasingly under attack from multiple camps. This seminar will explore these new debates over US foreign policy in the context of political polarization and populism. We will read, and bring in invited guest speakers, representing the full range of voices in these debates, and explore how they play out in the policy making process, in election campaigns, and in actual polices on selected global issues. Students who have completed POL 362, American Foreign Policy, are eligible to take this seminar, as the two courses will only have minimal overlap.
Populism, Democracy, and Inequality (Shaw)

The seminar will explore, with special attention to recent political developments in the United States, the emergence of populist movements (especially those coalescing around Donald Trump and Bernie Sanders) challenging the dominance of allegedly “out of touch” political, economic and cultural elites. Responding forcefully to persistent economic stagnation, rising inequality, and large-scale immigration, these movements have found both vociferous critics and warm admirers among political commentators and philosophers. Our task in the seminar will be to examine and evaluate these movements, assisted by a wide range of readings and a similarly diverse array of invited speakers. Likely authors (and perhaps invited speakers) include J.D. Vance, Salena Zito, Mollie Hemingway, Conrad Black, Joan Williams, F.H. Buckley, David Goodhart, Yasha Mounk, William Galston, Charles Murray, Anne Applebaum, Henry Olsen, Yuval Levin, Jonah Goldberg, and Yoram Hazony.

The Internship: With the assistance of the Center for Career Development, students must apply and serve as an intern in Washington area offices. Each student is responsible for arranging his or her full-time internship with a government office, political party, research institute, trade or industry association, public interest non-profit organization, or similar organization. At the end of the internship, each student will write an 8-10 page analytical paper about the internship experience and the role of the organization in the political process. Participants receive a pass/fail grade for this component of the program. This course can count as one of the 10 required courses for the Political Science requirements, but it does not satisfy any of the four sub-field requirements.

A list of recent DIW internships can be found here.

Getting Started:

I. Finding An Internship
   - Resources available from Career Services (including a scheduled meeting with CS staff for accepted students in January 2018).
   - Talk with former program participants (selected names available on request)
   - *The Capital Source* (this is a directory of offices and think tanks in DC, publications discontinued in 2008, but the old version is still of some use)
   - Davidson Alumni in DC (resources from Alumni Office)

II. Finding Housing
   - George Washington University, at [http://summerhousing.gwu.edu](http://summerhousing.gwu.edu)
   - Georgetown University, at [https://residentialiving.georgetown.edu/summer](https://residentialiving.georgetown.edu/summer)
   - Other local university housing offices (Catholic, Howard, etc.)
   - Sublets through *Washington Post*, online roommate and apartment finder services
   - Davidson Alumni in DC (resources from Alumni Office)
The 2019 Davidson in Washington Program
Tentative Schedule

November 9        Applications due.

November 20       Accepted applicants notified.

Mid-December      Financial aid and scholarship awards announced

Christmas Break   Applicants begin searching for internships (but may start earlier). Make sure to note application deadlines per individual opportunities.

January 18       Non-refundable program deposit due ($200).

April 12         Balance of tuition due.

April and May    Submit internship details to Prof. Shaw; finalize internship, travel, and housing; collect definitive seminar syllabus.

May 10           Deadline for approval of internships.