

B.A. in Political Science

[Overview](#)[Degree Requirements](#)

Description

Political science is the study of political institutions and political behavior at the local, state, national, and international levels. Students of political science will develop critical thinking, writing, and oral communication skills essential to effective citizenship, as well as many careers.

Minimum Total Credit Hours: 120

General Education Requirements

See the 'General Education/Core Curriculum' for the College of Liberal Arts.

Course Requirements

A major in political science for the B.A. degree consists of 33 semester hours chosen from the subfields of American government and politics, comparative government and politics, international relations, and political analysis, including Pol 101, 102, 103, and 251.

Students may choose from the following optional emphasis areas by completing at least four courses from an emphasis area. At the discretion of the department chair or undergraduate academic adviser, Study Abroad (Pol 380), Internships (Pol 389), Senior Seminars (Pol 401, Pol 421, Pol 431), and Special Topics (Pol 398) courses can count toward an emphasis area if the content is appropriate to the emphasis.

Campaigns and Elections

Pol 308. Voting and Political Participation
Pol 309. Public Opinion and Political Psychology
Pol 310. Political Parties and Interest Groups
Pol 311. Political Communication
Pol 391. Applied Politics

International Conflict and Cooperation

Pol 331. International Organization
Pol 332. Ethnic Conflict and International Terror
Pol 334. Politics of World Economy
Pol 339. International Conflict
Pol 363. War in World Politics

Politics of Developing Countries

Pol 321. Politics of Latin America
Pol 324. Politics of China
Pol 329. Transitions to Democracy
Pol 336. Political Economy of International Development
Pol 337. Asia in World Affairs
Pol 342. Politics of Mexico and Central America
Pol 349. Middle East Politics
Pol 387. Political Economy of East Asia

Law and Courts

Pol 300. Judicial Process
Pol 304. American Legislative Process
Pol 305. Judicial Behavior
Pol 306. Constitutional Law I
Pol 307. Constitutional Law II

Other Academic Requirements

At least 18 hours must be in non-Z-graded courses at the 300 level or above. Grades lower than C in political science courses will not be counted toward the political science major or minor.

Specializations

- [Emphasis - Campaigns and Elections](#)
- [Emphasis - Developing Countries](#)
- [Emphasis - Int'l Conflict & Cooperation](#)
- [Emphasis - Law & Courts](#)

