

# 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 335. Intl. Politics of Nuclear Weapons  
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](#)

