

# 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](#)

