

POLITICAL SCIENCE

The Political Science major offers students an opportunity to gain a systematic understanding of the role of government and political behavior in human societies of the past and present. Such understanding is an important element of a modern college education and contributes significantly to professional and civic judgment. Concentration in political science serves as an appropriate undergraduate preparation for the teaching or practice of politics, the entry into law school, government, business, teaching or the foreign service.

MAJOR IN POLITICAL SCIENCE (37 credits)

REQUIRED: 6 courses (19 credits)

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|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 101 American Politics | 104 Political Theory |
| 102 Comparative Politics | 225 Statistics |
| 103 International Relations | 401 Seminar in Political Science |

Choose 3 credits from:

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|------------------------|------------------------------|
| 112 Introductory Logic | 323 Argumentation and Debate |
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Students must also specialize in two of the following three subfields. One subfield, from which the students will choose three courses (9 credits), will constitute the student's primary subfield. The second subfield, chosen by the student, will constitute the student's secondary subfield. Six credits must be taken from this subfield.

American Politics Subfield

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| 204 Topics in Constitutional Law | 304 Presidency and Congress |
| 403 Constitutional Law – The American Community | 405 Policy Analysis |
| 404 Constitutional Law – The Bill of Rights | |

Comparative and International Politics Subfield

Choose 6 credits (3 if secondary subfield) from:

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| 209 U.S. Foreign Policy | 406 Human Rights |
| 310 Women in Politics and Development | 407 International Law & Organizations |
| 312 International Finance | |

Choose 3 credits from:

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|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 242 Latin American Politics | 343 History of Modern Asia |
| 282 Twentieth Century Europe | 345 Modern Middle East |

Political Theory Subfield

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|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 221 Ancient Philosophy | 342 Contemporary Political Philosophy |
| 341 The Classics of Political Thought | 434 Philosophy of Law |

MINOR IN POLITICAL SCIENCE (18 CREDITS)

REQUIRED: 4 courses (12 credits)

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|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 101 American Politics | 103 International Relations |
| 102 Comparative Politics | 104 Political Theory |

In addition, students must take two courses (6 credits) of Political Science electives; these courses must be taken from two different subfields (see major).

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

101. American Politics

3 credits

A study of the formal and informal institutions of American national government and politics: The Constitution, the Presidency, Congress, the federal court system, political parties, pressure groups, public opinion, recent foreign policy, the federal bureaucracy, voting behavior. Attention is also given to current problems and issues.

102. Comparative Politics

3 credits

A comparison of modern political life in different types of societies. Similarities, differences, and alternative explanations of the patterns of modern politics are evaluated.

103. International Relations

3 credits

An examination of the modern context of international relations: nationalism, imperialism, power politics, the evolution of supranational forms of political organizations, and the politics of international security, global trade, and international law. Major power shifts of the 1990s will guide discussion about the future prospects for international conflict and peace.

104. Political Theory

3 credits

An analysis of a number of concepts and ideas through a consideration of the work of such authors as Ayn Rand, Elie Wiesel, Albert Camus, Upton Sinclair, Ursula Le Guin, Arthur Koestler, and Aldous Huxley.

112. Introductory Logic (PHL 112)

3 credits

This course investigates the forms of valid reasoning in the classical as well as in the modern symbolic systems of logic. The classical logic of the syllogism is covered via the Venn diagram method. Symbolic logic involves the propositional calculus, the logic of predicates and classes, and formal proofs of validity-invalidity. The treatment of induction emphasizes scientific method and the logical concept of probability. The aim of the course is both theoretical and practical; it aims at developing the student's ability to think clearly and rigorously and to understand the rules for such thinking.

204. Topics in Constitutional Law

3 credits

A concentrated analysis of the work of the United States Supreme Court in a specific area of law. In addition to the work of the Court, students in this class are also exposed to a large number of extra-legal analyses of the areas under consideration.

209. U.S. Foreign Policy (HST 209)

3 credits

A survey of the major ideas, factors, and decisions that have and continue to shape U.S. foreign policy. The course includes in-depth analysis of several challenges and decisions facing current foreign policy makers.

221. Ancient Philosophy (PHL 221)

3 credits

A study of the philosophic thought and work of Plato and Aristotle as well as the thought and work of their predecessors. Selected Platonic dialogues and selections from the major works of Plato's best student, Aristotle, will be the focal point of examinations and discussion.

225. Statistics (PSY 225; SOC 225)

4 credits

An introduction to statistical methods covering data description, graphing techniques, measurement scales, standardized scores, correlation, regression, elementary probability, repeated measures and independent-groups t-tests, one way and factorial analysis of variance, chi-square, and general non-parametrics. The approach to these topics is more conceptual than numerical or mathematical. A prior knowledge of junior high school algebra is strongly encouraged.

242. Latin American Politics

3 credits

This course is an introduction to the cultural, social, and economic origins of modern Latin American political systems. Part one of the course will trace the origins of Mexico, the Caribbean, Central America, and South America from Spanish and indigenous origins through colonization and independence. Part two of the course will focus on authoritarian and democratic regimes from 1945 to the present.

282. Twentieth Century Europe (HST 282)

3 credits

A survey of 20th century Europe focusing on political, social, economic, and cultural changes from Britain to Russia (former USSR) with emphasis on the two world wars, the Cold War, and the European Economic Union.

304. The Presidency and Congress

3 credits

An examination of the evolution of the Presidency and Congress from Independence to the present.

310. Women in Politics and Development

3 credits

A survey of women worldwide who are involved in processes of change. A review of the literature and appropriate methodologies serve as the framework. Over 60 case studies are examined. Topics of study include women in the world political economy, resistance politics, formal political structures, human rights, and sustainable development.

312. International Finance (ECN 312, FIN 312)

3 credits

An introduction to international trade and international financial markets. The trade component covers comparative advantage, tariffs, and the benefits and costs of increasingly open global trade. The markets component covers topics on balance of payments, foreign currency markets, hedging with forwards, futures and options, and special considerations for businesses conducting international trade.

323. Argumentation and Debate (COM 323)

3 credits

The study of argumentation techniques used in formal and content debating, preparation of the brief, strategy, use of evidence, affirmative and negative structure on current and national issues. **Prerequisite: Core 4.**

341. The Classics of Political Thought (PHL 341)

3 credits

This course is a survey of seminal works in political philosophy. Students examine and evaluate the political thought of such thinkers as Cicero, Aquinas, Machiavelli, Hobbes, Locke, Rousseau, Mill, Marx and Nietzsche.

342. Contemporary Political Philosophy (PHL 342)

3 credits

This course is a survey of contemporary political thought. Students examine and evaluate selected works from contemporary political philosophers such as John Rawls, Robert Nozick, Thomas Nagel, Michel Foucault, Martha Nussbaum and others.

343. History of Modern East Asia (HST 343) 3 credits

A survey of the historical development of Asia and East Asia in the 18th through 21st centuries with a focus on local patterns of societal, cultural, economic, and political development, with special attention paid to China, Japan, Korea, and Vietnam.

345. Modern Middle East (HST 345) 3 credits

A survey of the major developments in the Middle Eastern countries between Libya in the West and Iran in the East with a major emphasis on late 19th and 20th century trends.

401. Seminar in Political Science 3 credits

Builds on classes the student has taken in the discipline and the College's Core Program by emphasizing reflective assessment and the development of an original research proposal. **Junior or Senior standing.**

403. Constitutional Law –The American Community 3 credits

An examination of Supreme Court decisions concerned with the separation of powers, federalism, the regulation of commerce contracts, taxing and spending, and the state police power.

404. Constitutional Law –The Bill of Rights 3 credits

An examination of Supreme Court decisions concerned with the definition of American rights in the areas of freedom of speech, press, assembly, association, and religion; church-state relations; racial discrimination; political radicalism and subversion; procedures in criminal prosecution.

405. Policy Analysis 3 credits

An introduction to theories of policy making, policy evaluation, policy implementation, agenda setting, etc., through an analysis of government and private activity in such areas as foreign policy, school desegregation policy and housing policy.

406. Human Rights 3 credits

An investigation of human rights practices and violations worldwide with a focus on the theoretical foundations of human rights claims.

407. International Law and Organizations 3 credits

A study of the origins, relevance, and potential of international law and organizations. Areas such as human rights, international criminal law, environmental law, women's rights, and organizations such as the United Nations, International Monetary Fund, World Trade Organization and non-governmental organizations are covered.

415. Topics in Political Science 3 credits

434. Philosophy of Law (PHL 434) 3 credits

An analysis and evaluation of the principle theories on the nature and the purpose of law currently taught in the great law schools of the United States; natural law, legal positivism, and legal realism or sociological jurisprudence. Through critical discussion of these theories and some of the practical and contemporary consequences, students are encouraged to formulate their own philosophy of law. Especially recommended to pre-law students.

455. Independent Study 1-3 credits

This class provides students with an opportunity to develop an original research program with consent of the instructor. While students are encouraged to register for Independent Study, the course cannot be counted toward progress in the major or minor.

490. Internship**3-9 credits**

Students are strongly encouraged to consider the possibility of obtaining practical experience in a political organization/institution of their choice. Organizations with an international or domestic focus might be considered by the student. Faculty support is available for arranging internship credits. Up to nine credits can be earned for the internship. Internship credits can be taken as part of the students' general college electives and cannot be counted toward progress in the major or minor.