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# POLITICAL SCIENCE (POS)

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The Political Science major provides students with a broad education in politics and government. Students who graduate from the Political Science program will become familiar with American government, with other forms of government, and with the interactions among governments. Students will gain an appreciation of ancient and modern political thought, as well as American political thought. Political Science students will, while undertaking the program, acquire the speaking, writing, and other skills fundamental to work in various occupations connected with politics. The Political Science major thus aims to prepare students to work in government (local, state, or federal), in the nonprofit sector, and in business. It is also sound preparation for post-graduate study in law and public administration.

Courses in Political Science are applicable towards a teaching license in History/Social Science. (See page 145 in this catalog). Besides teacher licensure, these courses may be used to support other areas of study.

In order to graduate, all Political Science majors must sit for an exit interview and must attain at least a 2.00 grade point average in the major.

## Requirements for a Major in Political Science:

In addition to the general education requirements, the following courses are required:

	Semester Hours
POS 131, The World of Politics .....	3
POS 215, American National Government .....	3
POS 204, State and Local Government .....	3
POS 311, Comparative Government .....	3
POS 343, Ancient Political Thought .....	3
POS 344, Modern Political Thought .....	3
POS 380, International Relations .....	3
Choose one of the following courses: .....	3
POS/BIO/ENS 342, Environmental Policy and Law	
JR 330, Media Law and Ethics	
POS/CRJ 411, Constitutional Law	
Choose one of the following courses: .....	3
POS 445, Internship	
BSA 326, Organizational Behavior, Theory, & Leadership	
MTH 160, Introduction to Statistics	
PSY 412, Industrial/Organizational Psychology	
Choose one of the following courses: .....	3
POS/HIS 455, Political Development	
HIS 406, Twentieth Century Europe, Post-War Divisions and Unions	
HIS 410, Twentieth Century U.S. History	
POS/HIS 414, Diplomatic History of the United States Since 1898	
Political Science electives .....	<u>6</u>
	Total 36

## Sample Four-Year Course Sequence: Political Science

### Freshman Year:

POS 131, The World of Politics **and/or**  
POS 215, American National Government  
POS 204, State and Local Government

### Sophomore Year:

POS 311, Comparative Government  
POS 380, International Relations  
Political science elective

### Junior Year:

POS 343, Ancient Political Thought  
POS 344, Modern Political Thought  
POS/BIO/ENS 342, Environmental Policy and Law **OR**  
JR 330, Media Law and Ethics **OR**  
POS/CRJ 411, Constitutional Law

### Senior Year:

POS 445, Internship **OR**  
MTH 160, Introduction to Statistics **OR**  
BSA 326, Organizational Behavior, Theory, and Leadership **OR**  
PSY 412, Industrial/Organizational Psychology  
HIS/POS 455, Political Development **OR**  
HIS 406, Twentieth Century Europe, Post-War Divisions and Unions **OR**  
HIS 410, Twentieth Century U.S. History **OR**  
HIS/POS 414, Diplomatic History of the United States Since 1898  
Political Science elective

## Minor

A minor in Political Science is available to the student who completes 18 semester hours of course work in Political Science, 9 of which must be at the 300-400 level.

Students must maintain a grade point average of at least 2.00 in the minor.

## Courses of Instruction

- 131 The World of Politics (3)  
An introduction to various forms of regime and the political, economic and geographic information and concepts requisite to understanding them. Emphasis is placed on developing skill in retrieving and utilizing political, economic and geographic information.
- 204 State and Local Government (3)  
A survey of the essential institutions of state and local governments in the United States.
- 215 American National Government (3)  
A survey of the national level of American government with particular emphasis on its founding and the development of its institutions.

- 220 American Government: Issues and Problems (3)  
An examination of contemporary American issues and problems in light of classic texts concerning democracy.
- 311 Comparative Government (3)  
A comparative study of national governments in the modern world, focusing on their distinctive forms in relation to their social, economic and ideological backgrounds.
- 313 Public Administration (3)  
A study of the concepts and practices of public administration in the United States. Primary topics of study include the role of politics in public administration; structure of public organizations; public personnel administration; budgeting and finance; and policy analysis, implementation, and evaluation techniques.
- 325 Perspectives on Leadership (3)  
A consideration of the nature of leadership using various sources including social science, biography, history, philosophy, literature, and film.
- 342 Environmental Policy and Law (3)  
(Same as BIO 342 and ENS 342)  
A survey of environmental laws and regulations in the United States: who makes the laws and why, and who enforces the laws and how. Consideration will be given to the experience of other countries and to alternate paradigms of environmental protection.
- 343 Ancient Political Thought (3)  
An examination of writings of ancient thinkers—Plato, Aristotle, and others. Emphasis is placed on close reading and interpretation of primary texts.
- 344 Modern Political Thought (3)  
An examination of the writings of modern thinkers—Machiavelli, Hobbes, Locke, Rousseau, and others. Emphasis is placed on close reading and interpretation of primary texts.
- 360 Public Policy (3)  
An examination of the formulation and implementation of public policy in the United States. Emphasis will be placed on the analysis and evaluation of policy alternatives. Some consideration will be given to public policy in other nations.
- 380 International Relations (3)  
A study of diplomacy, alliance systems, war, interdependence, and nationalism in the international arena. Special attention will be given to the causes of international conflict.
- 411 Constitutional Law (3)  
An examination of the Constitution and the U.S. Supreme Court. The student learns how to read and analyze constitutional cases in the areas of civil rights and civil liberties, free speech, freedom of the press, freedom of religion, the right of privacy, race and sex discrimination, and the conflict of congressional and presidential powers. Alternate years.
- 414 Diplomatic History of the United States Since 1898 (3)  
(Same as HIS 414)  
A study of the role of the United States in world affairs from the acquisition of empire to the present, with emphasis on the analysis of conflicting interpretations. Alternate years.
- 445 Internship (3)  
An opportunity for students to refine their understanding of politics through work experience. Prerequisites: 2.0 cumulative grade point average and permission of instructor.

455 Political Development (Same as HIS 455)

(3)

A study of the development of democracy in selected countries. Attention is given to the relationships between economic and social modernization and political change. Particular emphasis is placed on the experience of Africa, Asia, and Latin America. Prerequisite: junior or senior standing in history or political science, or permission of the instructor.