POLITICAL SCIENCE MAJOR (B.A.)

https://cola.unh.edu/political-science/program/ba/political-science-major

Description

The study of government and politics, to which the courses and seminars of the Department of Political Science are devoted, includes the development of knowledge of political behavior by individuals and groups as well as knowledge about governments: their nature and functions, their problems and behavior, and their interactions—at the national and international levels and at the local, state and regional levels.

Much of the learning offered by the Department of Political Science also can be regarded as essential for good citizenship, since political knowledge helps to explain the formal and informal institutions by which we are governed and the forces that lead to policy decisions, and also seeks to clarify the issues and principles that encourage people toward political involvement. It contributes to the store of knowledge necessary for informed citizenship. In addition, such learning is especially valuable to students planning to enter local or national government or other public service, including the Foreign Service, and it will be of great help to those who intend to study law and enter the legal profession. For teaching, particularly at the college level, and for many types of government service, graduate work may be indispensable. An undergraduate major in political science will provide a helpful foundation for any further study of politics and related fields in the social sciences and humanities. Such an emphasis also will be valuable for students seeking careers in journalism, international organizations, and the public affairs and administrative aspects of labor, financial and business organizations.

Requirements

The major program in political science consists of at least 10 courses (40 credits) and not more than 12 courses (48 credits). The minimum grade requirement is C- per course. Any grade lower will not count toward major. The required minimum overall GPA for major coursework is 2.0.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>POLT 401</td>
<td>Politics and Society</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLT 402</td>
<td>American Politics and Government</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLT 403</td>
<td>United States in World Affairs</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Six 500-level courses (select at least one from each of the four subfields listed below) **24**

Subfield: American Politics

- POLT 500 American Public Policy
- POLT 502 State and Local Government
- POLT 504 American Presidency
- POLT 505 American Congress
- POLT 506 Parties, Interest Groups, and Voters
- POLT 507 Politics of Crime and Justice
- POLT 508 Supreme Court and the Constitution
- POLT 509 Managing Bureaucracy in America
- POLT 510 Media and Politics
- POLT 512 Public Opinion in American Politics
- POLT 513 Civil Rights and Liberties
- POLT 580 Selected Topics Am Politics
- POLT 584 Selected Topics in Political Thought

Subfield: Comparative Politics

- POLT 544 Of Dictators and Democrats
- POLT 545 People and Politics in Asia
- POLT 546 Wealth and Politics in Asia
- POLT 548 Drug Wars
- POLT 549 The Politics of Markets
- POLT 550 Comparative Government and Society
- POLT 552 Contemporary European Politics
- POLT #554 Revolution and Protest in Latin America
- POLT 556 Politics in China
- POLT #558 Government and Politics of Canada
- POLT 569 Comparative Politics of the Middle East
- POLT 588 Selected Topics in Comparative Politics

Subfield: International Politics

- POLT 560 World Politics
- POLT #561 Introduction to International Political Economy
- POLT 562 Strategy and National Security Policy
- POLT 565 United States Policy in Latin America
- POLT 568 Introduction to Intelligence
- POLT 569 The Rise of China
- POLT 570 Counterterrorism: Nation states’ responses to terrorist activity
- POLT 592 Selected Topics in International Politics

Elective 1

Elective 2

Discovery Program Capstone

Select one 700-level POLT course

Total Credits **40**

1 Once students declare the major, POLT 401, POLT 402, POLT 403 must be completed within the first calendar year.

2 Note: POLT 407, POLT 444, POLT 444B do not count toward the major.

ECON 402 Principles of Economics (Micro) or ECON 605 Intermediate Microeconomic Analysis and ECON 401 Principles of Economics (Macro) or ECON 611 Intermediate Macroeconomic Analysis may also be used to fulfill the fifth or sixth elective in this sequence. Additional economics courses will be considered by petition. Only one economics course can count toward this requirement. If students substitute an economics course for a POLT 500-level course, the economics course cannot be used to satisfy Discovery Program category requirements.

Candidates for a degree must satisfy all of the University Discovery Program requirements in addition to satisfying the requirements of each individual major program. Bachelor of arts candidates must also satisfy the foreign language proficiency requirement.

Political Science majors may use one major-required course to satisfy one Discovery category requirement.