

Political Science, B.A.

The B.A. program in Political Science facilitates a lively interest in politics. Students learn how political systems work and how we can try to make them, and their outcomes, work better. Scholarly focus is on contemporary political issues in the U.S. and elsewhere; international relations and foreign policy; and political theory. This is a comprehensive program that reflects the broad discipline of political science.

Exciting and successful futures

The major appeals to students interested in careers in government or business; policy analysis; community advocacy; political activism; public or business administration; journalism; conventional or social entrepreneurship; and law. By developing skills in analysis, critical reading, and oral and written communication, the program provides excellent preparation for graduate study in almost any field of study.

Political Science Outcomes

The student will:

- Demonstrate in-depth knowledge of political systems, policies, and conflicts in various nations, including the United States, and between nations
- Describe major historical contributions to theories of politics.
- Develop and apply critical thinking skills and, in a significant research project, demonstrate communication skills
- Situate political events and political writings within their historical and cultural contexts

Required Courses (30 credits)

The Political Science, B.A. requires a total of 30 credits. 4 core courses, 3 courses from the following categories; Theory, Comparative, International, and an additional 3 elective courses that will be selected from any POLS course offering or other advisor approved course.

Core (12 credits)

POLS 110 - [How Politics Affects Your Life: An Introduction to Politics](#) 3 Credits

POLS 125 - [American Government](#) 3 Credits

POLS 485 - [Internship](#) 3-15 Credits

POLS 499 - [Coordinating Seminar](#) 3 Credits

Comparative Course (must select one)

POLS 200 - [Special Topics in Political Science](#) 3 Credits

(the course must be designated as Comparative to count in this category)

POLS 227 - [Latin America and the Caribbean](#) 3 Credits

POLS 251 - [China, Germany, and Russia since World War II](#) 3 Credits

POLS 345 - [Comparative Government](#) 3 Credits

POLS 357 - [Israel and Palestine](#) 3 Credits

Theory Course (must select one)

POLS 200 - [Special Topics in Political Science](#) 3 Credits

(the course must be designated as Theory to count in this category)

POLS 310 - [Leadership, Activism and Social Justice](#) 3 Credits

POLS 333 - [Political Philosophy](#) 3 Credits

International Course (must select one)

POLS 200 - [Special Topics in Political Science](#) 3 Credits

(the course must be designated as International to count in this category) POLS 249 - [International Politics](#) 3 Credits

POLS 252 - [History of American Foreign Policy Since the Vietnam War](#) 3 Credits

Electives (9 credits)

Three elective courses are selected from any Political Science course or other approved courses in conjunction with a students advisor.