



Department of Political Science

Major Requirements for Students Entering OSU Autumn Quarter 2008 or After

Prior to declaring a major in Political Science, a student must have at least one course from Political Science 100, 101, 145, 201, 210, 211, and 245.

Revised requirements for the undergraduate major in Political Science:

1. An undergraduate major in Political Science is a coherent program of courses amounting to a minimum of 50 hours of course work numbered at the 200 level or higher.
2. (A) At least 35 of the 50 hours of course work must be numbered at the 400 level or higher. These 35 hours do not include course work taken in other departments that are approved as part of the Political Science major program. (B) A maximum of 20 hours of transfer credit can be used toward a major program in Political Science, insuring that more than half of a student's major earns Ohio State credit. (C) A minimum of 30 credit hours must be taken at The Ohio State University, limiting to twenty hours course work taken in other cities or countries through study at a foreign or domestic institution or other Ohio-State sponsored, off-campus programs, and ensuring that more than half of a student's major is taken from Ohio State instructors. At least twenty of the 30 credit hours must be numbered at the 400 level or higher.
3. Major programs must include at least one course from each of four fields in Political Science. The fields are American Politics, Comparative Politics, International Relations, and Political Theory.
4. Major programs must include a four-course focus in a field, chosen from American Politics, Comparative Politics, International Relations, or Political Theory. An

- individualized focus may be created in consultation with an adviser or faculty member.
5. A grade of “C-” or better is necessary in order for a course to count as part of a major program. A student must earn a Cumulative Point-Hour Ratio of 2.0 or higher in all courses included on the major.
 6. A maximum of ten credit hours in the major can be included from the following categories: independent study; internships; and undergraduate research courses.
 7. As many as ten credit hours of the 50 required for the major program may be courses with subject matter related to Political Science in other departments. There is no official list of acceptable courses; students should request prior approval from an adviser in the department before scheduling such courses as part of their major programs.

Honors Major Program:
Effective for students entering the university Autumn 2008 or after

1. An undergraduate Honors major in Political Science is a coherent program of courses amounting to a minimum of 50 hours of course work in 200-level honors courses and other Political Science courses numbered 300 and above.
2. At least twenty hours of credit must be in Political Science Honors courses at the 500-level or higher.
3. (A) At least 35 of the 50 hours of course work must be numbered at the 400 level or higher. These 35 hours do not include course work taken in other departments that are approved as part of the Political Science major program. (B) A maximum of 20 hours of transfer credit can be used toward a major program in Political Science, insuring that more than half of a student’s major earns Ohio State credit. (C) A minimum of 30 credit hours must be taken at The Ohio State University, limiting to twenty hours course work taken in other cities or countries through study at a foreign or domestic institution or other Ohio-State sponsored, off-campus programs, and ensuring that more than half of a student’s major is taken from Ohio State instructors. At least twenty of the 30 credit hours must be numbered at the 400 level or higher.

4. At least 35 of the 50 hours of course work must be numbered at the 400 level or higher. These 35 hours do not include course work taken in other departments that are approved as part of the Political Science major program. At least 20 credit hours of these 35 must be courses taken at The Ohio State University, and these 20 hours do not include courses taken at other institutions that receive OSU course numbers.
5. Major programs must include at least one course from each of four fields in Political Science. The fields are American Politics, Comparative Politics, International Relations, and Political Theory.
6. Major programs must include a four course focus in a field, chosen from American Politics, Comparative Politics, International Relations, or Political Theory. An individualized focus may be created in consultation with an adviser or faculty member.
7. A grade of “C-“ or better is necessary in order for a course to count as part of a major program. A student must earn a Cumulative Point-Hour Ratio of 2.0 or higher in all courses included on the major.
8. A maximum of ten credit hours in the major can be included from the following categories: independent study; internships; and undergraduate research courses.
9. As many as ten credit hours of the 50 required for the major program may be courses with subject matter related to Political Science in other departments. There is no official list of acceptable courses; students should request prior approval from an adviser in the department before scheduling such courses as part of their major programs.
10. In order to graduate with honors, a student’s cumulative point-hour ratio must be at the minimum set by the Honors Office (currently 3.4); the student’s major point-hour ratio must be a 3.5.