



Political Science (Bachelor of Science)

Major Requirements

Effective for students entering the university Autumn 2022 or after. Students who entered the university before Autumn 2022 should talk with a Political Science advisor.

A Political Science major must meet the basic course and credit hour requirements set down by the College of Arts and Sciences for the Bachelor of Science degree. More information on the BS curriculum is available at [New GE Requirements | College of Arts and Sciences](#)

Prior to declaring this major, a student must have credit for one of the following courses: **Political Science 1100, 1165, 1200, 1300, 2150, 2300, or 2400.**

Requirements for the undergraduate major in Political Science:

1. A Bachelor of Science in Political Science consists of a coherent program of courses amounting to a **minimum of 33 hours of course work numbered at the 2000 level or higher.**
2. At least **24 of the 33 hours of course work must be numbered at the 3000 level or higher.** These 24 hours do not include course work taken in other departments that are approved as part of the Political Science major program.
3. **A minimum of 21 credit hours must be earned at The Ohio State University.** This limits to 12 hours the course work that can be earned through study at a domestic or foreign institution or through Ohio State-sponsored off-campus programs, and ensures that more than half of a student's major is taken from Ohio State instructors. At least 15 of the 21 Ohio State credit hours must be numbered at the 3000 level or higher.
4. 9 credits must be taken in the required core classes in political methodology: **Political Science 3780, 4781, and 4782.**
5. 3 additional credits must be taken in a specialized class in political methodology: **Political Science 3549, 4192, or 4553.** A graduate or ITV methods course may also be used to satisfy this requirement with instructor consent.
6. Major programs must include at least **1 course from 3 of the 4 fields in Political Science:** American Politics, Comparative Politics, International Relations, and Political Theory.
7. **Majors must fulfill the Embedded Literacies requirement by completing one course in each of three categories: Data Analysis, Advanced Writing, and Technology. See page 5.**
8. **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.
9. A maximum combined total of **6 credit hours in the major can be included from the following categories:** independent study; internships; and relevant research, problems and topics courses. Internship experiences must be distinct to count for more than 1 course.
10. **As many as 6 credit hours of the 33 required for the major program may be courses with subject matter related to Political Science in other departments.** See below for a current list of acceptable courses; students should request prior approval from an advisor in the department before scheduling these courses as part of their major programs.

Honors in Political Science

As part of an Honors Contract leading to the B.A. with Honors in the Arts and Sciences, students may major or minor in political science. Departmental expectations for these students are as follows.

Honors Major Program:

1. An undergraduate Honors major in Political Science is a coherent program of courses amounting to a **minimum of 33 hours of course work in 2000-level honors courses and other Political Science courses numbered 3000 and above.**
2. At least **twelve hours of credit** must be in Political Science Honors or Honors Embedded courses at the 3000- level or higher, 4999H*, 5000-level theory courses*, or 7000-level graduate seminars*
3. At least **24 of the 33 hours of course work must be numbered at the 3000 level or higher.** These 24 hours do not include course work taken in other departments that are approved as part of the Political Science major program.
4. **A minimum of 21 credit hours must be taken at The Ohio State University;** this limits to twelve hours course work transferred from other universities; taken in other cities or countries through study at a foreign or domestic institution; or other Ohio-State sponsored, off-campus programs; and it ensures that more than half of a student's major is taken from Ohio State instructors. At least fifteen of these 21 credit hours must be numbered at the 3000 level or higher.
5. **Major programs must include at least 1 course from 3 of the 4 traditional subfields** in Political Science. The fields are American Politics, Comparative Politics, International Relations, and Political Theory.
6. 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.
7. **Majors must fulfill the Embedded Literacies requirement by completing one course in each of three categories: Data Analysis, Advanced Writing, and Technology. See page 5.**
8. A maximum combined total of **six credit hours in the major can be included from the following categories:** independent study; internships; and undergraduate research courses.
9. **As many as six credit hours of the 33 required for the major program may be courses with subject matter related to Political Science in other departments.** See page 7 for a current list of acceptable courses; students should request prior approval from an advisor in the department before scheduling these 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 or above.**

*Consult with an Honors advisor prior to enrolling

Questions? Charles Smith.3280@osu.edu is the Honors advisor in the Department of Political Science. You can make an appointment by calling Arts and Sciences Advising Services at (614) 292-6961.

American Politics

The subfield of American Politics studies political behavior and institutions in the United States.

2110 American Government Culture and Behavior
2120 Follow the Science: The Politics of Health
2145 Native American Politics
2150 Voters and Elections
2367 Contemporary Issues in American Politics
3115 Introduction to the Policy Process
3147 Intersectionality and Identity Politics
3160 Political Polarization & the Culture War
3170 Political Psychology
3905 Political Manipulation
3910 Identity Politics
3950 Careers in Political Science
4110 The American Presidency
4115 Bureaucracy and Public Policy
4120 The United States Congress
4123 Political Crises and Reform
4125 American State Politics
4127 Governing Urban America
4130 Law and Politics
4131 American Supreme Court
4132H Supreme Court Decision Making
4135 American Constitutional Law
4136 Civil Liberties
4137 The Politics of Legal Decision Making
4138 Women and the Law
4139 Gun Politics
4140 Black Politics
4143 Race, Ethnicity, and American Politics
4150 American Political Parties
4152 Campaign Politics
4160 Public Opinion
4164 Political Participation and Voting Behavior
4165 Media and American Politics
4170 Gender and Politics
4175 Women, Government and Public Policy
4920 Politics in Film and Television

Comparative Politics

The subfield of Comparative Politics studies political behavior and institutions beyond the United States.

3220 Politics of the Developing World

- 3225 Post-Conflict Reconstruction
- 3240 Political Violence
- 3245 Radicalization, Deradicalization, Countering Violent Extremism
- 3275 Politics of Sports
- 3280 Politics of Markets
- 3290 Comparative Public Policy
- 3596 Nationalism and Ethnicity
- 4200 Politics of Modern Democracies
- 4212 From Dictatorship to Democracy in Spain, Portugal, Italy and Greece
- 4218 Russian Politics
- 4236 Southeast Asian Politics
- 4240 Latin American Politics
- 4242 Incomplete Democracies
- 4245H Democratic Erosion
- 4249 Domestic Politics and International Conflict
- 4250 African Politics
- 4250H Honors African Politics
- 4282 Politics of Income Inequality
- 4285 The Comparative Politics of the Welfare State
- 4597 .03 Gender and Democracy in the Contemporary World
- 4940 The Politics of Immigration

International Relations

The subfield of International Relations studies relationships between states.

- 2300 American Foreign Policy
- 3310 Defense Policy and National Security
- 3380 Political Analysis of International Economic Relations
- 3910 Identity Politics
- 4300 Theories of International Relations
- 4305 International Theory
- 4310 Security Policy
- 4315 International Security and Causes of War
- 4318 The Politics of International Terrorism
- 4320 Strategies for War and Peace
- 4322 Psychology of War and Peace
- 4327 Politics of the Middle East
- 4330 Global Governance
- 4331 The United Nations System
- 4332 Politics of Globalization
- 4335 International Environmental Politics
- 4381 Comparative International Political Economy
- 4385 Quantitative Studies of International Conflict

Political Theory

The subfield of Political Theory studies the concepts and values that inform political life.

2400 Introduction to Political Theory
 2400H Honors Introduction to Political Theory
 3001 Economy, Polity, and Community
 3002 Tradition, Progress, Utopia
 3420 Political Theories of Democracy
 3430 Political Theories of Freedom
 3440 Political Theories of Justice
 3450 Ethics and Public Policy
 3460 Global Justice
 3500 Political Games
 4455 Human Rights
 4460 American Political Ideas
 4465 Feminist Political Theory
 4553 Game Theory for Political Scientists
 5000 Quantum Mind and Social Science
 5411 Justice, Sin, and Virtue: Ancient & Medieval Political Thought
 5412 Life, Liberty, and Property: Early Modern Political Thought
 5413 Democracy, Equality, & Revolution: 19th Century Political Thought
 5414 Liberalism, Totalitarianism, and Empire: 20th Century Political Thought

Embedded Literacies

Political Science Majors are required to complete ONE course in EACH of the following categories: Data Analysis, Advanced Writing, and Technology.

Data Analysis requirement for BS is fulfilled by completing POLITSC 3780

Advanced Writing requirement for Political Science BA degree:

Complete **one** of the following courses:

- POLITSC 2120 – Follow the Science: The Politics of Health
- POLITSC 3170 - Political Psychology
- POLITSC 3115 - Introduction to the Policy Process
- POLITSC 3220 - Politics of the Developing World
- POLITSC 3280 - Politics of Markets
- POLITSC 3310H - Honors Defense Policy and National Security
- POLITSC 3905 - Political Manipulation
- POLITSC 4120 - US Congress
- POLITSC 4132H – Honors Supreme Court Decision Making
- POLITSC 4139 – Gun Politics
- POLITSC 4139E – Honors Embedded Gun Politics
- POLITSC 4152 - Campaign Politics
- POLITSC 4160 - Public Opinion
- POLITSC 4285 - Comparative Politics of the Welfare State
- POLITSC 4245H – Honors Democratic Erosion
- POLITSC 4331 - The United Nations System
- POLITSC 4335 - International Environmental Politics
- POLITSC 5411 – Justice, Sin, and Virtue: Ancient & Medieval Political Thought

- POLITSC 5412 - Life, Liberty, and Property: Early Modern Political Thought
- POLITSC 5413 - Democracy, Equality & Revolution: 19th Century Political Thought
- POLITSC 5414 - Liberalism, Totalitarianism, and Empire: 20th Century Political Thought
- INTSTDS 3850 - Introduction to Globalization

Technology requirement for Political Science BA degree:

Complete **one** of the following courses:

- POLITSC 2121 – Follow the Science: The Politics of Health
- POLITSC 3450 - Ethics and Public Policy
- POLITSC 3549 – Survey Research in Political Science
- POLITSC 4127 – Governing Urban America
- POLITSC 4127H – Honors Governing Urban America
- POLITSC 4152 - Campaign Politics
- POLITSC 4335 - International Environmental Politics
- POLITSC 5414 - Liberalism, Totalitarianism, and Empire: 20th Century Political Thought

The following courses fulfill this requirement but are not included in the Political Science major

- COMM 3440 - Mass Communication and Society
- COMM 3450 - Media and Citizenship
- COMM 3554 - Social Implications of Communication Technology
- COMM 3558 - Social Media

Courses from other Departments that may be included in the Political Science major program:

African American and African Studies

- 3083 Civil Rights and Black Power Movement (cross-listed as HISTORY 3083)
- 4250 African Politics
- 4504 Black Politics
- 4610 African Americans and the Law

Communication

- 3404 Media Law and Ethics
- 4814 Political Communication
- 4820 Public Opinion and Communication

Comparative Studies

- 4871 Religion and American Politics

Economics

- 4300 Government Finance in the American Economy
- 4508 Comparative Economic Systems
- 4600 International Economic Relations
- 5410 Econometrics I
- 5420 Econometrics II
- 5650 International Commodity Flows: Theory and Policy

Geography

- 3601 Global Politics and the Modern Geopolitical Imagination

History

- 3001 American Political History to 1877
- 3002 American Political History Since 1877
- 3003 American Presidential Elections
- 3005 U.S. Constitution and American Society to 1877
- 3006 U.S. Constitution and American Society since 1877
- 3014 Gilded Age to Progressive Era, 1877 - 1920
- 3016 Contemporary U.S. since 1963
- 3017 The Sixties
- 3041 American Labor History

- 3083 Civil Rights and Black Power Movement (cross-listed as AFAMAST 3083)
- International Studies
 - 3850 Introduction to Globalization
 - 4535 International Economic Development
 - 4560 Cooperation and Conflict in the Global Economy
 - 4700 Terror and Terrorism
 - 4701 Development and Control of Weapons of Mass Destruction
 - 4803 Intervening for Peace
- Philosophy
 - 5400 Advanced Political and Social Philosophy
 - 5410 Advanced Philosophy of Law
- Public Affairs
 - 3000 Public Policy Analysis
 - 4020 Contemporary Issues in Governance: Washington DC
 - 4021 Research Paper in Public Affairs: Washington DC
- Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies
 - 4465 Feminist Political Theory
 - 4513 Women, Government, and Public Policy
 - 4597 Gender and Democracy in the Contemporary World