



Bachelor of Arts in Political Science

Major Requirements

Effective for students entering the university June 1, 2012 or after [students who entered the university before June 2012 should talk with a political science advisor and consult the transition policies from quarters to semesters]

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 Arts degree. More information on the BA curriculum is available from Arts and Sciences in Denney Hall.

Prior to declaring a major in Political Science, 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. An undergraduate major 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.
 - a. 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.
 - b. **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 another 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.
3. **Major programs must include at least 1 course from each of four traditional subfields** in Political Science. The subfields are American Politics, Comparative Politics, International Relations, and Political Theory. PS 4781 (Data Analysis in Political Science I) may be counted toward any one of the fields in satisfying this requirement.
4. **Major programs must include a 4-course focus,** which can be in one of the seven specializations (see p. 3) or one of the four traditional subfields. An individualized focus may be created in consultation with an advisor 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 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.
7. **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.** There is no official list of acceptable courses; students should request prior approval from an advisor in the department before scheduling such courses as part of their major programs.

Questions? Talk with an advisor in the Department of Political Science. You can make an appointment by calling Arts and Sciences Advising Services at (614) 292-6961.

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.

Effective for students entering the university June 1, 2012 or after [students who entered the university before June 2012 should talk with a political science advisor and consult the transition policies from quarters to semesters].

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 courses at the 3000- level or higher.
3.
 - a. 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.
 - b. **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.
4. **Major programs must include at least one course from each of four traditional subfields** in Political Science. The fields are American Politics, Comparative Politics, International Relations, and Political Theory.
5. **Major programs must include a 4-course focus,** which can be in one of the seven specializations (see p. 3) or one of the four traditional subfields. An individualized focus may be created in consultation with an adviser or faculty member.
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. 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.
8. **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.** 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.
9. 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.**

Specializations

1. Democracy and Law

What is democracy? What makes democracy possible? How can the performance of democratic institutions be improved? This course of study focuses on the workings of democratic institutions: how they are designed, how they influence political outcomes, and how they perform in different social and historical contexts. Students will learn how institutions shape individual behavior, how political, economic, and social institutions work together, and how political values and ideals are given concrete legal form.

2367	Contemporary Issues in American Politics	4190	Political Decision-Making and Public Policy
3115	Introduction to the Policy Process	4192	Policy Analysis
3420	Political Theories of Democracy	4210	Politics of European Integration
3450	Ethics and Public Policy	4212	From Dictatorship to Democracy in Spain, Portugal, Italy and Greece
4110	The American Presidency	4214	Northern European Politics
4115	Bureaucracy and Public Policy	4216	East European Politics
4120	U.S. Congress	4218	Russian Politics
4125	American State Politics	4219	European Political Development
4126	Ohio Politics	4232	Contemporary Politics of South Asia
4127	City Politics	4236	SE Asian Politics
4130	Law and Politics	4240	Latin American Politics
4132H	Supreme Court Decision Making	4241	Special Topics in Latin American Politics
4135	American Constitutional Law	4242	Incomplete Democracies
4136	Civil Liberties	4270	Canadian Political System
4137	Politics of Legal Decision Making	4280	State and Economy
4138	Women and the Law	4285	Comparative Politics of the Welfare State
4139	Gun Politics		
4150	American Political Parties		
4152	Campaign Politics		

2. Political Identities and Allegiances

How does who you are – your gender, race, ethnicity, religion, and nationality – matter in politics? This course of study examines how individual and group identities are created and how they shape political decisions ranging from how to vote to whether to join a revolution. By studying a variety of political and legal issues, students will develop critical thinking, writing and speaking skills, and will learn how to gather and synthesize information, develop hypotheses, and draw inferences about the causes and consequences of political behavior.

- 2150 Voters and Elections
- 2367 Contemporary Issues in American Politics
- 2400 Introduction to Political Theory
- 3170 Political Psychology
- 3549 Survey Research in Political Science
- 3910 Identity Politics
- 4138 Women and the Law
- 4140 Black Politics
- 4150 American Political Parties
- 4160 Public Opinion
- 4164 Political Participation and Voting Behavior
- 4165 Mass Media and American Politics
- 4175 Women, Government, and Public Policy
- 4282 The Politics of Income Inequality
- 4465 Feminist Political Theory
- 4597 .02 Political Problems of the Contemporary World
- 4597 .03 Gender and Democracy in the Contemporary World
- 4940 The Politics of Immigration

3. Political Economy and Development

How do political institutions promote or hinder economic development in a globalizing world? This course of study is designed to build the skills necessary to understand the political dimensions of economic policy. Students will learn how to analyze the complex relationships between state and economy both domestically and internationally, and to assess competing theories about the causes and consequences of globalization. They will also gain a theoretical and historical understanding of the development of domestic and international political and economic institutions.

- 3220 Politics of the Developing World
- 3460 Global Justice
- 4232 Contemporary Politics of South Asia
- 4236 Southeast Asian Politics
- 4240 Latin American Politics
- 4241 Special Topics in Latin American Politics
- 4242 Incomplete Democracies
- 4250 African Politics
- 4280 State and Economy
- 4282 The Politics of Income Inequality
- 4285 Comparative Politics of the Welfare State
- 4327 Politics in the Middle East
- 4330 Global Governance
- 4331 United Nations System
- 4332 Globalization
- 4335 International Environmental Politics
- 4380 Political Analysis of International Economic Relations
- 4381 Comparative International Political Economy
- 4597 .02 Political Problems of the Contemporary World
- 4940 The Politics of Immigration

4. Cooperation, Conflict and Violence

Political order is precarious: nationalism, ideological extremism, ethnic divisions, resource scarcity and national security concerns all have the potential to fuel conflict and even war. This course of study addresses the origins of violent conflict and the sources of cooperation and stability at both the domestic and international levels. Students will acquire the critical and analytical tools that are needed to promote peaceful conflict resolution, stable and inclusive political institutions, and more effective global governance and diplomacy.

- 2300 American Foreign Policy
- 3460 Global Justice
- 4249 Domestic Politics of International Conflict
- 4300 Theories of International Relations
- 4305 International Theory
- 4310 Security Policy
- 4315 International Security and the Causes of War
- 4318 The Politics of International Terrorism
- 4320 Strategies for War and Peace
- 4327 Politics in the Middle East
- 4330 Global Governance
- 4331 United Nations System
- 4332 Globalization
- 4335 International Environmental Politics
- 4380 Political Analysis of International Economic Relations
- 4381 Comparative International Political Economy
- 4455 Human Rights

5. Inequality and Justice

How does the experience of inequality and injustice motivate and frustrate political action? This course of study focuses on the values that structure political life and the ways in which those values are shaped by and embodied in political institutions. Students will learn how political ideals such as democracy, freedom, justice, and human rights have been defined in different ideological traditions and different historical contexts, and how these ideals inform individuals' understandings of what their interests are.

- 2400 Introduction to Political Theory
- 3220 Politics of the Developing World
- 3420 Political Theories of Democracy
- 3430 Political Theories of Freedom
- 3440 Political Theories of Justice
- 3450 Ethics and Public Policy
- 3460 Global Justice
- 4130 Law and Politics
- 4132H Supreme Court Decision Making
- 4135 American Constitutional Law
- 4136 Civil Liberties
- 4137 Politics of Legal Decision Making
- 4138 Women and the Law
- 4139 Gun Politics
- 4140 Black Politics
- 4280 State and Economy
- 4282 The Politics of Income Inequality
- 4285 Comparative Politics of the Welfare State
- 4380 Political Analysis of International Economic Relations
- 4381 Comparative International Political Economy
- 4455 Human Rights
- 4465 Feminist Political Theory
- 4597 .03 Gender and Democracy in the Contemporary World
- 4940 The Politics of Immigration
- 5411 Ancient and Medieval Political Thought
- 5412 Early Modern Political Thought
- 5413 Modern Political Thought
- 5414 Topics in Contemporary Political Thought

6. Political Leadership and Reform

How can political actors and ordinary citizens make a difference in the world? This course of study is designed to build the skills that are necessary to organize and lead successful campaigns for political change. Through comparative, historical, policy, and case-study analyses, students will learn how to organize political campaigns and movements, how to build coalitions with like-minded allies, and how to translate ideals into effective policies.

- 2400 Introduction to Political Theory
- 3115 Introduction to the Policy Process
- 3420 Political Theories of Democracy
- 3430 Political Theories of Freedom
- 3440 Political Theories of Justice
- 3450 Ethics and Public Policy
- 3460 Global Justice
- 3912 Political Leadership
- 4130 Law and Politics
- 4135 American Constitutional Law
- 4136 Civil Liberties
- 4138 Women and the Law
- 4150 American Political Parties
- 4152 Campaign Politics
- 4160 Public Opinion
- 4164 Political Participation and Voting Behavior
- 4165 Mass Media and American Politics
- 4190 Political Decision-Making and Public Policy
- 4192 Policy Analysis
- 4335 International Environmental Politics
- 4455 Human Rights
- 4465 Feminist Political Theory

7. Political Analysis

What tools do we need to understand political life? All social-scientific inquiry appeals to concepts, values and empirical claims about the world that are contestable in principle, and often contested in fact. This course of study is designed to build the analytical, conceptual, and methodological skills that are necessary to critically evaluate such claims and to apply them intelligently to the study of political life.

- 3549 Survey Research in Political Science
- 3780 Data Literacy & Visualization
- 3905 Political Manipulation
- 4553 Game Theory for Political Scientists
- 4780 Political Science Research Colloquium
- 4781 Data Analysis in Political Science I
- 4782 Data Analysis in Political Science II
- 5411 Ancient and Medieval Political Thought
- 5412 Early Modern Political Thought
- 5413 Modern Political Thought
- 5414 Topics in Contemporary Political Thought

8. American Politics

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

- 2150 Voters and Elections
- 2367 Contemporary Issues in American Politics
- 2367H Honors Contemporary Issues in American Politics
- 3115 Introduction to the Policy Process
- 3170 Political Psychology
- 3905 Political Manipulation
- 4110 The American Presidency
- 4115 Bureaucracy and Public Policy
- 4120 The United States Congress
- 4123 Political Crises and Reform
- 4125 American State Politics
- 4126 Ohio Politics
- 4127 Governing Urban America
- 4130 Law and Politics
- 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
- 4150 American Political Parties
- 4152 Campaign Politics
- 4160 Public Opinion
- 4164 Political Participation and Voting Behavior
- 4165 Mass Media and American Politics
- 4175 Women, Government and Public Policy
- 4920 Politics in Film and Television
- 4920H Honors Politics in Film and Television

9. Comparative Politics

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

- 3220 Politics of the Developing World
- 3596 Nationalism and Ethnicity
- 3596H Honors Nationalism and Ethnicity
- 4210 Politics of European Integration
- 4212 From Dictatorship to Democracy in Spain, Portugal, Italy and Greece
- 4214 Northern European Politics
- 4216 East European Politics
- 4218 Russian Politics
- 4219 European Political Development
- 4236 Southeast Asian Politics
- 4240 Latin American Politics
- 4241 Special Topics in Latin American Politics
- 4242 Incomplete Democracies
- 4249 Domestic Politics and International Conflict
- 4250 African Politics
- 4250H Honors African Politics
- 4270 The Canadian Political System
- 4280 State and Economy
- 4282 Politics of Income Inequality
- 4285 The Comparative Politics of the Welfare State
- 4597 .02 Political Problems of the Contemporary World
- 4597 .02H Honors Political Problems of the Contemporary World
- 4940 The Politics of Immigration

10. International Relations

The subfield of International Relations studies relationships between states.

- 2300 American Foreign Policy
- 2300H Honors American Foreign Policy
- 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
- 4327 Politics of the Middle East
- 4330 Global Governance
- 4331 The United Nations System
- 4332 Globalization
- 4335 International Environmental Politics
- 4380 Political Analysis of International Economic Relations
- 4380H Honors Political Analysis of International Economic Relations
- 4381 Comparative International Political Economy
- 4597 .01 International Conflict and Cooperation
- 4597 .01H Honors International Conflict and Cooperation

11. 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
- 3420 Political Theories of Democracy
- 3430 Political Theories of Freedom
- 3440 Political Theories of Justice
- 3450 Ethics and Public Policy
- 3460 Global Justice
- 4455 Human Rights
- 4460 American Political Ideas
- 4465 Feminist Political Theory
- 5411 Ancient and Medieval Political Thought
- 5412 Early Modern Political Thought
- 5413 Modern Political Thought
- 5414 Topics in Contemporary Political Thought

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