



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, 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 fields** in Political Science. The fields 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 in a field**, chosen from American Politics, Comparative Politics, International Relations, or Political Theory. 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 4000- level or higher.
3.
 - a. At least **24 of the 33 hours of course work must be numbered at the 4000 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 4000 level or higher.
4. **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.
5. **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.
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.
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.** 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.**