



DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

THE MAJOR PROGRAM

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. (Information on the BA curriculum is available from Arts and Sciences in Denney Hall.)

Political Science major effective for students entering the university June 1, 2012 or after

[Students who entered the university before June 2012 should consult with the transition policies from quarters to semesters and with a political science adviser]

Prior to declaring a major in Political Science, a student must have at least one course from Political Science 1100, 1200, 1300, 2150, 2300, and 2400.

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 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 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.

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 combined total of six credit hours in the major can be included from the following categories: independent study; internships; and undergraduate research courses.
7. 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.

HONORS IN POLITICAL SCIENCE

Honors students in political science face a choice of paths. 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:
Effective for students entering the university June 2012 or after
[Students who entered the university before June 2012 should consult with the transition policies from quarters to semesters and with a political science adviser]

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.
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.