



Department of Political Science

Major Requirements for Students Entering OSU Between Autumn Quarter 2000 And Summer 2008

THE MAJOR PROGRAM

A political science major must meet the basic course and credit hour requirements set down by the USAS for the Bachelor of Arts degree. (Information on the BA curriculum is available from USAS in Denney Hall and is also contained in Book 5 of the University Bulletin Series.)

A major in political science consists of at least 45 credit hours selected in close consultation with a faculty adviser. Requirements for the major are as follows:

1. An undergraduate major is a coherent program of courses amounting to a minimum of 45 hours of courses at the 200 level or above. A student may take up to a maximum of 80 hours of political science courses to fulfill the degree requirements including total hours needed for graduation.
2. At least 30 hours of the major program must be at the 400 level or above. These 30 hours cannot include PS 593 or courses in other departments that are part of the major program. At least 15 of the 30 hours must be courses taken at the Ohio State University, and these 15 hours do not include courses taken at other institutions that receive OSU course numbers.
3. Major programs must include at least one course from a minimum of three different fields in political science. The fields are American Politics, Comparative Politics, International Relations, and Political Theory and Methods.
4. A grade of "C-" or better is necessary in order for a course to count in one's major. A student must earn an overall GPA of 2.0 or higher in courses included in the major.
5. Up to 10 hours of PS 589 (internship credit) can be included in the major program.

6. Up to 10 of the 45 hours may be courses with subject matter related to political science in other departments. There is no official list of acceptable courses; the faculty adviser is to determine the relevancy of non-political science courses in advance of scheduling them as a part of your major.

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: Forty-five (45) or more credit-hours in 200-level honors courses, and other political science courses 300 and above. Honors major programs must include 1) at least thirty (30) hours of graded credit in political science courses at the 500 level or higher, 2) at least one course in each of three different Fields (American Politics, Comparative Politics, International Relations, and Political Theory and Methods), and 3) at least twenty (20) credit-hours in upper division political science honors courses, seminars, and/or Honors Research (Pol. Sci. H783). Honors major programs may include up to ten (10) credit-hours of courses in other departments, with approval of an honors adviser. GPA: 3.4 overall, and 3.5 in political science.