BA in Political Science with Emphasis in Pre-Law

Degree Program Description

Political science is concerned with government, politics and public policies. In political science students learn how government operates and how to analyze and evaluate public policies and political ideas. This training can help students be more effective as active citizens, as political leaders and as government administrators. The curriculum offers opportunities to link academic study with internships and study abroad. Political Science graduates pursue many careers, some related to politics, but many others pursue other paths in a wide variety of areas such as: law, business and finance, consulting, government, public relations, media, advertising, lobbying, and international relations. The political science emphasis in pre-law is recommended for those who may want to enter law school or to prepare for paralegal careers. It is designed to introduce students to the study of law and judicial process and also provides a general orientation for law school. This program is ideal for those seeking careers in intelligence or law enforcement.

Major Program Requirements

Students must complete the University of Missouri’s general education requirements (http://catalog.missouri.edu/academicdegreerequirements/generaleducationrequirements/), University graduation requirements (http://catalog.missouri.edu/academicdegreerequirements/universityrequirements/) and the Departmental Requirements (http://catalog.missouri.edu/collegeofartsandscience/politicalscience/undergraduatetext/), in addition to the degree requirements below.

All majors must take:

- **POL_SC 1100** American Government
- **POL_SC 2500** The Science of Politics
- **POL_SC 3000W** Introduction to Political Research - Writing Intensive

*Beginning in Spring 2020, students may take either POL_SC 2500 or POL_SC 3000W to meet the departmental research methods requirement*

**Comparative government (at least one course required)**

- **POL_SC 2600** Canadian Politics and Government
- **POL_SC 2700** Comparative Political Systems
- **POL_SC 2700H** Comparative Political Systems - Honors
- **POL_SC 2710** Politics and the Military
- **POL_SC 2720** European Democracies
- **POL_SC 4600** Latin American Politics
- **POL_SC 4610** European Political Systems
- **POL_SC 4630** The Politics of Modern Europe
- **POL_SC 4640** African Politics
- **POL_SC 4660** Canada in North America
- **POL_SC 4670** Policies and Institutions of the European Union
- **POL_SC 4680** Chinese Politics and Foreign Policy
- **POL_SC 4690** Korean Politics: North and South Korea
- **POL_SC 4695** Understanding Korea Through Film
- **POL_SC 4700** America's Wars in Asia/War and Peace in Asia

**International affairs (at least one course required)**

- **POL_SC 1400** International Relations
- **POL_SC 2293** Globalization, Identity and Citizenship
- **POL_SC 2293W** Globalization, Identity and Citizenship - Writing Intensive
- **POL_SC 2410** The Politics of International Law
- **POL_SC 3164** Nation Building through a Barrel of a Gun
- **POL_SC 4410** Politics and War
- **POL_SC 4411** Genocide, Terrorism and Civil War
- **POL_SC 4412** Strategy and Warfare
- **POL_SC 4413** Politics of Cyber-Security
- **POL_SC 4415** Peacekeeping and Intervention
- **POL_SC 4420** Politics of International Economic Relations
- **POL_SC 4430** Global Human Rights
- **POL_SC 4435** Nationalism and Democracy
- **POL_SC 4440** International Organization
- **POL_SC 4500** The European Union in the Global System
- **POL_SC 4540** American Foreign Policies
- **POL_SC 4540W** American Foreign Policies - Writing Intensive
- **POL_SC 4550** Environmental Conflict

**Political theory/methodology (one course highly recommended, but not required)**

- **POL_SC 2800** Liberty, Justice and the Common Good
- **POL_SC 4000** Introductory Statistics for Political Science
- **POL_SC 4010** Computing Methods
- **POL_SC 4800** Classical Political Theory
- **POL_SC 4810** Modern Political Theory
- **POL_SC 4820** Contemporary Political Theory
- **POL_SC 4840** Developing Dynamics of Democracy
- **POL_SC 4850** Scots and the Making of America
- **POL_SC 4850H** Scots and the Making of America - Honors
- **POL_SC 4900** Beltway History and Politics: American Constitutional Democracy in Theory and Practice

**American politics/public policy (at least two courses required)**

- **POL_SC 2100** State Government
- **POL_SC 2250** Missouri Politics
- **POL_SC 2250H** Missouri Politics - Honors
- **POL_SC 2200** The Judicial Process
- **POL_SC 2425** Race and the American Story
- **POL_SC 2450** The Intellectual World of the American Founders
**Semester Plan**

Below is a sample plan of study, semester by semester. A student's actual plan may vary based on course choices where options are available.

### First Year

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<tr>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Fall CR</th>
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| POL_SC 1100 | 3 POL_SC 1100+  
Political Science 1100+  (WI if needed) | 3  
Political Science 1100+  (WI if needed) |
| ENGLISH 1000 | 3 MATH 1050, 1100, or STAT 1200 | 3 |
| Behavioral Science | 3 Behavioral Science | 3  
Behavioral Science |
| Social Science outside of major | 3 Social Science outside of major | 3  
Social Science outside of major |
| Elective | 3 Elective | 3  
Elective |
| **Total** | **15** | **15** |

### Second Year

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Semester</th>
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</table>
| Political Science 1000+ | 3 POL_SC 2500 or 3000W | 3  
Political Science 2500 or 3000W |
| Foreign Language 1200+ | 3 Biological/Physical/Math Science | 3 |
| Humanities | 3 Humanities | 3  
Humanities |
| Social Science outside of major | 3 Social Science outside of major | 3  
Social Science outside of major |
| Elective | 3 Elective | 3  
Elective- Diversity Intensive Course |
| **Total** | **15** | **15** |

### Third Year

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| Political Science 4000+ | 3 Political Science 4000+  
Political Science 4000+ | 3  
Political Science 4000+ |
| Biological or Physical Science with lab | 5 Biological/Physical/Math Science | 3 |
| Humanities | 3 Humanities | 3  
Humanities |
| Social Science outside of major | 3 Social Science outside of major | 3  
Social Science outside of major |
| Elective 3000+ | 3 Elective 3000+ | 3  
Elective 3000+ |
| **Total** | **17** | **15** |

### Fourth Year

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</tbody>
</table>
| Political Science 4000+ | 3 Political Science 4000+  
Political Science 4000+ | 3  
Political Science 4000+ |
| Political Science 4000+ | 3 Political Science 4000+  
Political Science 4000+ | 3  
Political Science 4000+ |
| Elective 3000+ | 3 Elective 3000+ | 3  
Elective 3000+ |
| Elective | 1 Elective | 3 |
| **Total** | **13** | **15** |

**Total Credits: 120**

1. Course meets degree program requirements
2. Course meets University general education and/or campus graduation requirements