

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/#undergraduate>), 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 or POL_SC 2700H	Comparative Political Systems 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

POL_SC 4710	Terrorism: Religious, Ethnic and Ideological Politics
POL_SC 4720	Politics of Development
POL_SC 4730	Women and Politics
POL_SC 4740	Comparative Political Culture
POL_SC 4750	Power and Money
POL_SC 4760	Comparative Political Parties
POL_SC 4770	Comparative Political Behavior
POL_SC 4780	Dictatorship and Democracy
POL_SC 4790	The Age of Democratization?

International affairs (at least one course required)

POL_SC 1400 or POL_SC 1400H	International Relations International Relations - Honors
POL_SC 2293 or POL_SC 2293W	Globalization, Identity and Citizenship 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 or POL_SC 4540W	American Foreign Policies 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 or POL_SC 4850H	Scots and the Making of America 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 or POL_SC 2250H	Missouri Politics 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

or POL_SC 2450H	The Intellectual World of the American Founders - Honors
POL_SC 2455	Constitutional Debates
or POL_SC 2455H	Constitutional Debates - Honors
POL_SC 2860	American Political Thought
POL_SC 4100	Political Parties and Election Campaigns
POL_SC 4110	Political Behavior
POL_SC 4120	Politics and the Media
or POL_SC 4120W	Politics and the Media - Writing Intensive
POL_SC 4130	African-American Politics
POL_SC 4131	Race and Politics
POL_SC 4132	Race, Immigration, and Urban Politics
POL_SC 4140	Congress and Legislative Policy
POL_SC 4141	The History of American Legislatures
POL_SC 4150	The American Presidency
or POL_SC 4150W	The American Presidency - Writing Intensive
POL_SC 4160	Interest Groups
or POL_SC 4160W	Interest Groups - Writing Intensive
POL_SC 4170	Politics of the American South
POL_SC 4180	Politics and Hollywood
or POL_SC 4180W	Politics and Hollywood - Writing Intensive
POL_SC 4190	Elections and Democracy in the United States
POL_SC 4200	The American Constitution
or POL_SC 4200W	The American Constitution - Writing Intensive
POL_SC 4210	Constitutional Rights
or POL_SC 4210W	Constitutional Rights - Writing Intensive
POL_SC 4220	The United States Supreme Court
POL_SC 4230	Constitution and Civil Liberties
POL_SC 4231	Constitutional Litigation
POL_SC 4310	Comparative State Politics
POL_SC 4320	Public Policy
or POL_SC 4320W	Public Policy - Writing Intensive
POL_SC 4330	Policy Analysis
POL_SC 4350	Issues in Public Policy
POL_SC 4370	Law, Policy, and Regulation
POL_SC 4380	Politics of Criminal Justice
POL_SC 4390	United States Health Politics and Policy
POL_SC 4830	Democracy in America (and Elsewhere)

Minimum of 12 credit hours must be from the following list of courses

POL_SC 2200	The Judicial Process
POL_SC 2445	American Constitutional Democracy
POL_SC 2455	Constitutional Debates
POL_SC 4200	The American Constitution
POL_SC 4210	Constitutional Rights
POL_SC 4220	The United States Supreme Court
POL_SC 4230	Constitution and Civil Liberties
POL_SC 4380	Politics of Criminal Justice
POL_SC 4940	Political Science Internship ^{With a requirement that it be at the Prosecutor's office, the public defender, or a law firm}

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			
Fall	CR	Spring	CR
POL_SC 1100 ^{*1}		3 Political Science ¹	3
ENGLSH 1000 [*]		3 MATH 1050, 1100, or STAT 1200 [*]	3
Behavioral Science [*]		3 Behavioral Science [*]	3
Social Science outside of major [*]		3 Foreign Language 1100 [*]	5
Elective		3 Elective	1
			15
Second Year			
Fall	CR	Spring	CR
Political Science ¹		3 POL_SC 2500 or 3000W ¹	3
Foreign Language 1200 [*]		3 Biological/Physical/Math Science [*]	3
Humanities [*]		3 Foreign Language 2100 [*]	3
Social Science outside of major [*]		3 Humanities [*]	3
Elective		3 Elective- Diversity Intensive Course [*]	3
			15
Third Year			
Fall	CR	Spring	CR
Political Science 4000+ (WI if needed) ¹		3 Political Science 4000+ ¹	3
Biological or Physical Science with lab [*]		5 Biological/Physical/Math Science [*]	3
Humanities [*]		3 Humanities [*]	3
Social Science outside of major [*]		3 Elective (WI) [*]	3
Elective 3000+		3 Elective 3000+	3
			17
Fourth Year			
Fall	CR	Spring	CR
Political Science 4000+ ¹		3 Political Science 4000+ ¹	3
Political Science 4000+ ¹		3 Political Science ¹	3
Elective 3000+		3 Elective 3000+	3
Elective 3000+		3 Elective	3
Elective		1 Elective	3
			13
Total Credits: 120			15

¹ Course meets degree program requirements
^{*} Course meets University general education and/or campus graduation requirements