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/undergraduategraduate/collegeofartsandscience/ politicalscience/#undergraduatetext), in addition to the degree requirements below.

All majors must take:

- **POL_SC 1100** American Government
- **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 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** The Political System of the European Union
- **POL_SC 4680** Chinese Politics and Foreign Policy
- **POL_SC 4690** 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

International affairs (at least one course required)

- **POL_SC 1400** International Relations
- **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 4440** International Organization
- **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 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 2200** Missouri Politics
- **POL_SC 2200H** Constitutional Debates - Honors
- **POL_SC 2425** Race and the American Story
- **POL_SC 2450** The Judicial Process
- **POL_SC 2450H** The Intellectual World of the American Founders - Honors
- **POL_SC 2455** The Intellectual World of the American Founders
- **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
- **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 4150** The American Presidency
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POL_SC 4150W  The American Presidency - Writing Intensive
POL_SC 4160  Interest Groups
POL_SC 4160W  Interest Groups - Writing Intensive
POL_SC 4170  Politics of the American South
POL_SC 4180  Politics and Hollywood
POL_SC 4180W  Politics and Hollywood - Writing Intensive
POL_SC 4190  Elections and Democracy in the United States
POL_SC 4200  The American Constitution
POL_SC 4200W  The American Constitution - Writing Intensive
POL_SC 4210  Constitutional Rights
POL_SC 4210W  Constitutional Rights - Writing Intensive
POL_SC 4220  The United States Supreme Court
POL_SC 4230  Constitution and Civil Liberties
POL_SC 4320W  Public Policy - Writing Intensive
POL_SC 4310  Comparative State Politics
POL_SC 4320  Public Policy
POL_SC 4370  The Administrative State, Public Policy and Constitutional Democracy
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  

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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Total Credits: 120

* Course meets degree program requirements

^ Course meets University general education and/or campus graduation requirements