American Politics Minor

Requirements for Political Science Minors

A general minor in political science can be arranged, as well as specialized minors in eight different subfields of the discipline. Interested students should see a faculty adviser to plan a coherent program of study as a minor field.

Students must achieve a cumulative 2.0 GPA in the political science courses chosen to qualify for the minor. Students may count no more than 3 hours in political science taken on a satisfactory/unsatisfactory basis toward the minor. Students taking an internship POL SCI 3940 may count no more than three hours of the internship toward the minor.

American Politics

Designed for those students interested in careers in communications, education, business, social work, political consulting, and other fields requiring knowledge of American urban, state, and national politics and institutions. Education majors planning to teach in the social studies field, communications majors planning on a career in journalism, or business majors thinking about working in corporate relations may especially wish to consider a double major in political science with a focus in this area. In addition to the core curriculum and common requirements for all majors, students are advised to take:

Select at least five of the following: 15

- POL SCI 2280 Judicial Politics
- POL SCI 2300 State Politics
- POL SCI 2320 African Americans and the Political System
- POL SCI 2350 Introduction to Urban Politics
- POL SCI 2380 The Politics of Gender in the United States
- POL SCI 2420 Introduction to Public Policy
- POL SCI 2650 American Political Thought
- POL SCI 2820 United States Foreign Policy
- POL SCI 2900 Studies in Political Science (when appropriate)
- POL SCI 3300
- POL SCI 3330 Public Opinion and Political Participation
- POL SCI 3331
- POL SCI 3340 Politics And The Media
- POL SCI 3350 Political Parties and Elections
- POL SCI 3390 Studies in American Politics
- POL SCI 3480 Environmental Policy
- POL SCI 3900 Special Readings (when appropriate)
- POL SCI 3940 Public Affairs Internship (when appropriate)

Total Hours 15

In addition, students may wish to choose other political science courses listed below under the public policy and administration program of study. Depending on their specific career interest, students may wish to round out their program with course work in other social science departments such as criminal justice, communications, economics, or social work.

Public Policy and Administration

Learning Outcomes

- Demonstrate knowledge of the institutions, political culture, and processes of American politics.
- Analyze the actions of political actors and their motives.
- Assess political issues, formulate evidence-based recommendations, and communicate them with clarity and coherence.