

# POLITICAL SCIENCE & PUBLIC POLICY

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## **PROGRAMS AVAILABLE**

### **BACHELOR OF ARTS IN POLITICAL SCIENCE AND PUBLIC POLICY POLITICAL SCIENCE MINOR TEACHING LICENSURE**

#### **POLITICAL SCIENCE AND PUBLIC POLICY MAJOR PROGRAM**

The Department of History, Political Science and Public Policy offers a four-year program leading to a Bachelor of Arts in political science and public policy, a unique interdisciplinary major where students combine classroom learning with field experiences and interactions with political and public policy practitioners. Majors will develop knowledge of U.S. and comparative governments, international relations, politics and the policy process, as well as develop liberal arts and vocational skills to prepare for graduate school and careers in public administration, law, business, political and public policy research, and organizational management. Students graduating with a degree in political science and public policy will:

- Demonstrate a comprehensive understanding in each of the following areas of political science: American politics, comparative politics, international relations, public policy, and research methods.
- Demonstrate proficiency in identifying, locating, and evaluating scholarly political science resources and literature and in using them responsibly to formulate effective arguments.
- Demonstrate the capacity to conduct original research using one or more methodologies in political science (i.e., quantitative, qualitative, historical institutional, etc.).

- Demonstrate competence in presenting research and analysis via written and oral communication.
- Demonstrate the application of skills and knowledge from the Political Science and Public Policy program in program-relevant internships.

## **POLITICAL SCIENCE AND PUBLIC POLICY MAJOR**

### **Requirements**

#### **REQUIRED COURSES**

HIST	203	United States History to 1877	3 cr
HIST	204	United States History after 1877	3 cr
POSC	201	US Government & Public Policy	3 cr
POSC	202	Comparative Government & Public Policy	3 cr
POSC	205	International Relations	3 cr
POSC	210	Political Science Research & Methods	3 cr

#### **UPPER LEVEL REQUIREMENTS (7 cr)**

POSC	401-402	Seminar in Problems in Political Science	
OR POSC	403	Seminar in Public Policy	3 cr
POSC	450	Career and ePortfolio Workshop	1 cr
POSC	540	Internship in Political Science & Public Policy	3 cr

#### **Electives (21 credits required-choose from)**

ECON	141	Macroeconomics	3 cr
ENVI	310	Politics & Environmental Policy	3 cr
ENVI	340	Environmental Law	3 cr
MATH	232	Introduction to Statistics	3 cr
PHIL	360	Social & Political Philosophy	3 cr
POSC	300	Politics & News Media in America	3 cr
POSC	304	Constitutional Law	3 cr
POSC	315	Topics in Political Science	3 cr

POSC	316	Topics in Public Policy	3 cr
POSC	331	Africa	3 cr
POSC	340/SOWK 340	Inequality & Social Policy	3 cr
POSC	500	Directed Independent Study	1-3 cr
POSC	510	Teaching Assistantship in Political Science	3 cr
POSC	540	Internship in Political Science (in addition to required 3 credit internship)	3-15 cr

**TOTAL POLITICAL SCIENCE AND PUBLIC POLICY MAJOR REQUIREMENTS** **46 cr**

**POLITICAL SCIENCE MINOR PROGRAM**

The political science minor offers students the opportunity to study a variety of political institutions and processes. The minor enhances the chosen major for those interested in careers in law, government, public service, journalism and business. A history major minoring in political science may not count the courses selected for the minor to also fulfill the requirements of the history major.

**POLITICAL SCIENCE MINOR**

**Requirements**

POSC	201	U.S. Government & Public Policy	3 cr
POSC	202	Comparative Gov't & Public Policy	3 cr
Four electives approved by the Department			12 cr

**TOTAL POLITICAL SCIENCE MINOR REQUIREMENTS** **18 cr**

**TEACHING LICENSURE**

Students majoring in Political Science may opt to pursue initial teacher licensure as an early childhood teacher or elementary teacher. Also, Political

Science majors may pursue initial licensure as a teacher of Political Science for the middle school or secondary levels. Students seeking any of these licensures must complete a Political Science major, education major and a licensure program in education.

## **COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**

### **POSC 201 U.S. Government and Public Policy 3 cr**

Introduces the major institutions of national and state government and the discipline of political science. Through interdisciplinary study, students will develop an understanding of political behavior and the public policy processes in the United States. Course attributes: CSS, ENVI.

**Prerequisite:** None

### **POSC 202 Comparative Government and Public Policy 3 cr**

Provides a comparative introduction to world political cultures and the discipline of political science. Through an interdisciplinary study of various nation-states, students will develop an understanding of political behavior and public policy processes. Course attributes: CSS, ENVI.

**Prerequisite:** None

### **POSC 205 International Relations 3 cr**

Studies relations among nation-states. Analyzes the nature of world political systems by examining concepts of power, political economy, decision-making, nongovernmental actors, international organizations, and political ideology. Course attributes: CRCU.

**Prerequisite:** None

**POSC 210 Political Science Research and Methods 3 cr**

Provides students with an understanding of various theoretical approaches to the study of politics and the public policy processes, as well as developing skills in social science quantitative and qualitative research methods.

**Prerequisite:** None

**POSC 300 Politics and the News Media in America 3 cr**

Examines politics in 20th century America with an eye to the role and responsibility of the news media in, and the relationship of the press to, politics. Analyzes the print and electronic media and current political campaigns, as well as how politics and the news media have been portrayed in film.

**Prerequisite:** Junior/senior status

**POSC 304 Constitutional Law 3 cr**

Analyzes constitutional law with special emphasis on civil liberties and civil rights. Legal issues will be examined in the light of relevant social and political conditions. Course attributes: SOCJ.

**Prerequisite:** Junior/senior status

**POSC 315 Topics in Political Science 3 cr**

Focuses on political science and government in national, regional, and international organizations throughout the world. Topics include: The United Nations; State and Local Government; Politics and Economics of the Pacific Rim; Vietnam.

**Prerequisite:** Junior/senior status

**POSC 316 Topics in Public Policy 3 cr**

Focuses on selected public policies and the policy process in the United States and/or state governments.

**Prerequisite:** POSC 201, POSC 202

**POSC 331 Africa 3 cr**

Examines the nation-building issues facing the countries of Africa. Students will study the African triple heritage (indigenous culture, Islam, and Western colonialism) to gain insights into contemporary political and economic issues. Course attributes: CRCU.

**Prerequisite:** Junior/senior status

**POSC 340 Inequality and Social Policy 3 cr**

Examines social welfare policies and programs from the New Deal to the present analyzing their economic, cultural, historic and political roots. Emphasis on selected issues such as poverty and inequality, healthcare, abuse and neglect, daycare and parental leave. Examines social welfare policies as expressions of American values and political processes and compares American programs to those of other industrialized countries. Special attention paid to the experience of social program recipients. Course attributes: C&FS, SOCJ, WMST.

**Prerequisite:** SOCI 100 or any Self & Society course

**POSC 401 Seminar: Problems in Political Science 3 cr**

Explores in depth a particular problem, concept, issue, topic, or theme in political science. Topics include: The American Presidency; The Public Policy Process; The American Political Tradition.

**Prerequisite:** Junior/senior status and courses in political science or a related discipline at the 300 level

**POSC 402 Seminar: Problems in Political Science 3 cr**

Explores in depth a particular problem, concept, issue, topic, or theme in political science. Topics include: The American Presidency; The Public Policy Process; The American Political Tradition.

**Prerequisite:** Junior/senior status and courses in political science or a related discipline at the 300 level

**POSC 403 Seminar in Public Policy 3 cr**

Explores the public policy process in the United States and/or those of political systems in other nations. Topics include: U.S. Public Policy; Comparative Public Policy; State and Local Government.

**Prerequisite:** Junior/senior status and courses in political science or related discipline at the 300 level

**POSC 450 Career and ePortfolio Workshop 1 cr**

Provides senior students majoring in Political Science and Public Policy with an opportunity and framework to reflect on their past work in the major and the wider liberal arts as well as look forward to opportunities and challenges after graduation. Completion of an ePortfolio will be an essential component. Students will work with the instructor, career service professionals, and alumni to understand career and graduate school possibilities and prepare strategies for success.

**Prerequisite:** PSPP major, senior status

**POSC 500 Independent Study 1 to 3 cr**

Open to juniors and seniors who desire to read widely in a given area or to study a specific topic in depth. Written reports and frequent conferences with the advisor are required.

**Prerequisite:** Department approval

**POSC 510 Teaching Assistant in Political Science 3 cr**

Offers highly qualified majors in history or minors in political science an opportunity to assist an instructor in the conduct of an introductory course. The student may be held responsible for grading papers, conducting classes and review sessions, etc.

