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.
Prerequisite: Department approval

POSC 540 Internship in Political Science 3 to 15 cr
Qualified students may be placed as interns in state, local and national government agencies, law offices, museums, schools or businesses.
Prerequisite: Junior/senior status, department approval