B.A. IN POLITICAL SCIENCE

Program Overview

The major in political science requires 30 credit hours in POL courses. 21 of those credits must be completed in residence.

Curriculum Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Departmental Core Courses		
POL 201	Introduction to American National Government	3
POL 202	Introduction to Comparative Politics	3
POL 203	Introduction to International Relations	3
or INS 101	Global Perspectives	
Select a minimum of six credit hours of 500-level seminar courses offered by the University of Miami		6
Select a minimum of one course above the 200-level in three of the following five principal sub-fields of political science [1]		9
American Politics:		
POL 309	American Political Thought (W)	
POL 311	Conspiracy Theories and the Public (W)	
POL 313	The Constitution (W)	
POL 314	Legislative Processes	
POL 315	American Presidency	
POL 317	Race and Ethnic Politics in the U.S. (W)	
POL 324	Crime and Punishment: Implicit Bias in the Justice System	
POL 325	Hot Topics in the Criminal Justice System	
POL 326	Native American Politics	
POL 332	Mass Media and Politics (W)	
POL 334	Campaigns	
POL 335	Democracy in Action: Local Government Simulation	
POL 342	State Government and Politics	
POL 343	Government in Metropolitan Areas	
POL 344	Gender and Politics (W)	
POL 349	U.S. Defense Policy (W)	
POL 351	Public Opinion	
POL 352	Political Parties	
POL 353	Interest Groups and Lobbying	
POL 356	American Political Economy	
POL 369	Latinx Politics	
POL 390	Special Topics in American Politics	
POL 399	Transfer Credit In American Politics	
POL 401	The Election	
POL 502	Politics of Civil Rights	
POL 504	Biology and Politics	
POL 515	Media Content Analysis	
POL 528	Advanced Seminar on Electoral Behavior	
POL 529	U.S. Election Administration Challenges	
POL 530	Intelligence and National Security Decision Making	
POL 536	U.S. Health Care Crisis: Politics and Policies	
POL 538	Education Politics and Policy	
POL 547	Congressional Representation	
POL 548	Civic Participation and Democracy (W)	
POL 550	Advanced Seminar on American Politics	
POL 553	The Environmental Movement: Groups, Beliefs and Values	

POL 566	Activism
POL 569	LGBTI Politics (W)
POL 573	Disasters and Humanitarian Assistance
POL 574	Urban Politics (W)
POL 583	Civil Security Preparedness and Management
POL 599	Special Topics in American Politics
Comparative Politics	
POL 344	Gender and Politics (W)
POL 362	Social Movements (W)
POL 364	Populism (W)
POL 366	Drugs and Politics
POL 378	African Politics
POL 379	South East Asian Politics
POL 381	West European Politics (W)
POL 382	Government and Politics of the Federal Republic of Germany
POL 384	Russian Politics
POL 385	Politics and Society in Latin America (W)
POL 386	Democratic Consolidation and Erosion
POL 387	Politics of the Middle East
POL 388	Politics of Israel (W)
POL 389	Special Topics in Comparative Politics
POL 398	Transfer Credit in Comparative Politics
POL 505	Contemporary Challenges to Democracy
POL 507	Turkish Politics
POL 525	Comparative Public Policy and Administration
POL 527	Comparative Political Institutions
POL 532	Art and Politics in Paris
POL 566	Activism (W)
POL 568	Indigenous Politics from a Global Perspective
POL 569	LGBTI Politics (W)
POL 573	Disasters and Humanitarian Assistance
POL 575	The Politics of Civil- Military Relations (W)
POL 581	Comparative Political Economy of Post-Industrial Democracies (W)
POL 582	International Development Policy
POL 583	Civil Security Preparedness and Management
POL 584	Contemporary Latin American Politics (W)
POL 588	Politics in China (W)
POL 598	Special Topics in Comparative Politics
International Relations	
POL 316	Politics of Globalism
POL 323	Global Warming, Politics and the European Union
POL 327	War, Diplomacy, and Influence
POL 337	International Law and Organizations
POL 340	Civil Wars
POL 341	Nationalism, Ethnicity, and Political Conflict
POL 345	The United States and Asia
POL 346	U.S.-Latin American Relations
POL 347	American Foreign Policy
POL 348	United States Relations with the Middle East (W)
POL 349	U.S. Defense Policy (W)
POL 350	International Cooperation
POL 355	Theories and Debates in International Relations

POL 359	International Organizations
POL 363	Psychology and International Relations (W)
POL 367	The Historical Roots of American Imperialism
POL 370	Global Energy Politics
POL 391	Special Topics in International Relations
POL 392	International Terrorism (W)
POL 397	Transfer Credits in International Relations
POL 511	Security in the Arabian Peninsula
POL 530	Intelligence and National Security Decision Making
POL 531	Global Environmental Politics
POL 544	Chinese Foreign Policy (W)
POL 559	International Organizations
POL 565	The World Before European Domination
POL 568	Indigenous Politics from a Global Perspective
POL 575	The Politics of Civil- Military Relations
POL 576	On Violence: The Politics of Extremes
POL 577	Security in South Asia: The Conflicts of Afghanistan, Pakistan, and India
POL 578	Energy and Security in Eurasia
POL 582	International Development Policy
POL 585	Post-Communist Russian Foreign Policy
POL 586	Conflict in the Middle East and Africa
POL 587	Illicit Trade in the Global Economy
POL 591	International Security (W)
POL 592	International Political Economy
POL 593	International Relations of the Middle East
POL 594	European Security
POL 597	Special Topics in International Relations
Public Administration, Policy, and Law	
POL 318	Economics for Politics and Public Administration
POL 319	Politics of the Administrative Process
POL 320	Politics of Growth Management
POL 321	Introduction to Public Policy (W)
POL 322	Environmental Politics and Policy
POL 324	Crime and Punishment: Implicit Bias in the Justice System
POL 325	Hot Topics in the Criminal Justice System
POL 335	Democracy in Action: Local Government Simulation
POL 337	International Law and Organizations
POL 372	Introduction to Criminal Justice
POL 373	Constitutional Law I
POL 374	Constitutional Law II
POL 393	Special Topics in Public Administration, Policy, and Law
POL 396	Transfer Credit in Public Administration, Policy, and Law
POL 482	High School Partnership Internship
POL 501	Budget and Financial Management and Administration
POL 503	Organizational Dynamics and Management
POL 508	Equity and Diversity in Public Administration
POL 509	Issues in Judicial Pol.
POL 522	Introduction to Graduate Public Administration (W)
POL 523	Problems in Public and Non-Profit Management
POL 524	Non-Profit Organizations: Law, Policy, and Management
POL 525	Comparative Public Policy and Administration (W)

POL 526	Administrative Law	
POL 533	Courts and Controversy	
POL 534	Applied Policy Analysis	
POL 536	U.S. Health Care Crisis: Politics and Policies	
POL 537	The Law and Politics of Sports	
POL 538	Education Politics and Policy	
POL 540	Human Resource Management in Public Service	
POL 541	Philosophy of Law	
POL 545	Environmental Policy Making	
POL 546	Public Policy Process and Implementation	
POL 549	Energy Policy: Technology, Politics, and Society	
POL 551	Productivity in the Public and Non-Profit Sectors	
POL 555	Total Quality Public Service Management: Achieving High Performance Government	
POL 556	Politics and Ethics	
POL 557	Ethical and Managerial Issues in Government, Business, and Non-Profit Organizations	
POL 558	AI in Government: Policy, Design, and Oversight	
POL 560	Public Program Evaluation	
POL 562	Municipal Modernization in the 21st Century	
POL 567	Collaborative Governance	
POL 572	Government and Business	
POL 573	Disasters and Humanitarian Assistance	
POL 583	Civil Security Preparedness and Management	
POL 596	Special Topics in Public Administration, Policy, and Law	
Political Theory and Methods		
POL 301	The Science and Practice of Political Research	
POL 302	Political Fiction and Film	
POL 305	Introduction to Political Theory	
POL 306	Positive Political Theory	
POL 307	Political Ideologies	
POL 309	American Political Thought	
POL 311	Conspiracy Theories and the Public	
POL 312	Politics, Society and Popular Culture	
POL 394	Special Topics in Political Theory and Methods	
POL 395	Transfer Credit in Political Theory and Methods	
POL 506	From Plato Through Rawls	
POL 510	Statistics for Politics and Public Administration	
POL 512	Advanced Political Analysis	
POL 513	Models of Politics	
POL 514	Popular Culture and Politics	
POL 515	Media Content Analysis	
POL 516	Experiments in Political Science	
POL 517	Introductory Statistical Methods in Political Science	
POL 518	Advanced Statistical Methods in Political Science	
POL 519	Introduction to Game Theory for Political Science	
POL 541	Philosophy of Law	
POL 595	Special Topics in Political Theory and Methods	
POL Electives: Allowed electives include all courses listed under the five principle subfields in addition to the following courses: [2]		**6**
POL 250	Scope and Methods of Political Science	
POL 410	Civic Synergy Workshop	
POL 480	Internship I	

POL 489	Directed Research	
POL 490	Directed Reading	
POL 563 & POL 564	Senior Thesis and Senior Thesis II	
General Education Requirements		
Written Communication Skills:		
WRS 105	First-Year Writing I	3
WRS 106	First-Year Writing II	3
or ENG 106	Writing About Literature and Culture	
Quantitative Skills:		
MTH 108 or higher [3]		3
Areas of Knowledge:		
Arts and Humanities Cognate		9
People & Society Cognate (9 credits) (fulfilled through the major)		
STEM Cognate [4]		9
Additional Requirements		
Advanced Writing and Communication Skills Requirement:		12
Students must complete 4 writing-designated ("W") courses including one within the major. These courses can be double counted toward other requirements or be taken as electives.		
Language Course at the 200-level or higher		3
Minor Requirement		15
Electives		33
Total Credit Hours		**120**

1 Please note that some courses cover more than one sub-field. Students may not, however, use a single class to fulfill multiple sub-field requirements.

2 These courses may be counted toward a specific subfield with the permission of the Political Science Department's Director of Undergraduate Studies.

3 The Quantitative Skills Proficiency Requirement helps students learn to use quantitative skills and tools to solve problems, including the interpretation, manipulation, and application of quantitative data. Students fulfill this requirement by completing either a Department of Mathematics course numbered MTH 108 (https://bulletin.miami.edu/search/?P=MTH%20108) Precalculus Mathematics II or higher, MTH 113 (https://bulletin.miami.edu/search/?P=MTH%20113) Finite Mathematics (recommended for non-STEM majors), or a statistics course approved by the student's college/school and the University Curriculum Committee in consultation with appropriate academic units.

4 Please note that for the Natural Science Area of Knowledge Requirement degree candidates must earn at least 3 credit hours in the Natural Sciences. Departments offering these courses include Anthropology (only APY 203), Biology, Chemistry, Ecosystem Science and Policy (only ECS 111, ECS 112, ECS 202), Geography (only GEG 120), Geological Sciences, Marine Sciences (except MSC 313, MSC 314), Physical Sciences, and Physics. These credit hours may double count with any other requirement.

* All majors must complete a quiz for graduating seniors (to be used for assessment purposes) during their last semester of coursework.

** A student may only share (i.e., "double count") maximally 6 credits between majors and minors offered by the Department of Political Science.

*** To count toward the major, each course must be completed with a grade of C- or above, with an overall GPA of 2.0 or above.

Suggested Plan of Study

First Year		
Fall		**Credit Hours**
POL 201	Introduction to American National Government	3
POL 202	Introduction to Comparative Politics	3
MTH 113	Finite Mathematics	3
WRS 105	First-Year Writing I	3
Arts and Humanities Cognate		3
	Credit Hours	**15**
Spring		
POL 203	Introduction to International Relations	3
WRS 106	First-Year Writing II	3
Arts and Humanities Cognate		3

Elective		3
STEM Cognate		3
	Credit Hours	**15**
Second Year		
Fall		
American Politics Course		3
Language Course		3
Arts and Humanities Cognate		3
STEM Cognate		3
Elective		3
	Credit Hours	**15**
Spring		
Comparative Politics Course		3
Language Course		3
STEM Cognate		3
Elective		3
Elective		3
	Credit Hours	**15**
Third Year		
Fall		
500 Level POL Seminar Course [1]		3
International Relations Course		3
Language Course		3
Minor Course		3
Elective		3
	Credit Hours	**15**
Spring		
500 Level POL Seminar Course [1]		3
POL Elective (300 Level or Higher)		3
Minor Course		3
Minor Course		3
Elective		3
	Credit Hours	**15**
Fourth Year		
Fall		
POL Elective (300 Level or Higher)		3
Minor Course		3
Elective		3
Elective		3
Elective		3
	Credit Hours	**15**
Spring		
Elective		3
Elective		3
Elective		3
Elective		3
Elective		3
	Credit Hours	**15**
	Total Credit Hours	**120**

[1] "Seminars" include any 500-level course offered by the Department of Political Science or co-listed with Political Science. Please note that some courses cover more than one subfield. Students may not, however, use a single class to fulfill multiple subfield requirements.

[2] Political science electives include any of the courses listed under the principle subfields as well as the following courses:
POL250: Scope and Methods in Political Science
POL410: Civic Synergy
POL480: Internship I
POL 482: High School Partnership
POL489: Directed Research
POL490: Directed Readings
POL563 and POL564: Senior Thesis
The above courses may be used to fulfill a subfield with the permission of the Political Science Director of Undergraduate Studies.

[3] Additional majors may only "double count" 6 credits between the Political Science major and another major.

* All majors must complete a quiz for graduating seniors (to be used for assessment purposes) during their last semester of coursework.

Additional Major Requirements

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Departmental Core Courses		
POL 201	Introduction to American National Government	3
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Select a minimum of one course above the 200-level in three of the following five principal sub-fields of political science [1]		9
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POL 536	U.S. Health Care Crisis: Politics and Policies	

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POL 511	Security in the Arabian Peninsula
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POL 337	International Law and Organizations
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POL 508	Equity and Diversity in Public Administration

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POL 538	Education Politics and Policy
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POL 395	Transfer Credit in Political Theory and Methods
POL 506	From Plato Through Rawls
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POL 512	Advanced Political Analysis
POL 513	Models of Politics
POL 514	Popular Culture and Politics
POL 515	Media Content Analysis
POL 516	Experiments in Political Science
POL 517	Introductory Statistical Methods in Political Science
POL 518	Advanced Statistical Methods in Political Science
POL 519	Introduction to Game Theory for Political Science
POL 541	Philosophy of Law

POL 595	Special Topics in Political Theory and Methods	
POL Electives: Allowed electives include all courses listed under the five principle subfields in addition to the following courses:[2]		6
POL 250	Scope and Methods of Political Science	
POL 410	Civic Synergy Workshop	
POL 480	Internship I	
POL 489	Directed Research	
POL 490	Directed Reading	
POL 564 & 564	Senior Thesis II and Senior Thesis II	
Total Credit Hours		**30**

1 Please note that some courses cover more than one sub-field. Students may not, however, use a single class to fulfill multiple sub-field requirements.

2 These courses may be counted toward a specific subfield with the permission of the Political Science Department's Director of Undergraduate Studies.

Mission

The Department of Political Science (POL) is a community of scholars and students seeking a deeper understanding of politics, and fosters a commitment to lifelong learning, intellectual growth, and civic responsibility. POL is dedicated to helping students develop analytical abilities, communication skills, and the awareness of political processes in a complex global society. We provide students with rigorous training in the field of political science, and exposure to new knowledge through empirical social science research.

Goals

Political science majors gain an understanding of American political and legal life, the workings of other countries' political and economic systems, the relations among countries in the international arena, and key concepts in both political philosophy and social science methodology.

Student Learning Outcomes

- Students will develop knowledge of key political science concepts.
- Students will develop the ability to analyze evidence and draw reasoned conclusions.
- Students will develop the ability to communicate clearly in written form.