



POLITICAL SCIENCE MAJOR

Professors: T. Gibson, C. David Roebuck
Associate Professor: K. Wright-Smith
Assistant Professor: J. Holzer

Contact: Dr. John Langton
Phone: 573-592-5348
Email: john.langton@wcmo.edu

Political Science is a scientific and humanistic discipline that attempts to explain and evaluate politics and political systems in terms of fundamental empirical theories and general normative principles. Political science thus seeks not only to understand the struggles for power and influence that determine who gets what, when and how, but also to ascertain the best or most appropriate way for human beings to live together both within societies and the world community. Both the major and minor in political science are designed to give students a solid grounding in the four main sub-fields of the discipline: American government and politics; comparative politics; international relations; and normative political theory. The major program is further structured into three "tracks" to allow students to pursue a more advanced study of politics and government in a manner that is most conducive to their particular interests and professional goals.

All students majoring in political science *must complete* the four introductory courses. They are urged to take POL 112 and 211 before POL 212. *All four introductory courses should be completed by the end of the sophomore year.*

Students contemplating graduate school in political science are strongly encouraged to take at least two semesters of a foreign language, Introduction to Computers, an advanced course in statistics, and a relevant methods course such as MAT 313, PSY 270, PSY 274, or ECN 367, or preferably POL/SOC 300, Social Science Research Methods.

All departmental majors must have an overall 2.0 average or better in all courses presented to satisfy the major requirements, including courses in the Pre-Law and Security Studies minors for the tracks two and three.

You can find the course descriptions for all courses required for this major by clicking on the following links:

- [Business Course Descriptions](#)
- [English Course Descriptions](#)
- [Political Science Course Descriptions](#)
- [Philosophy Course Descriptions](#)
- [Security Studies Course Descriptions](#)
- [Speech Course Descriptions](#)

Major: POLITICAL SCIENCE

Student's Last Name

First Name

Middle Initial

Advisor

Date Major Declared

| Course # | Title of Course | Hours Required | Semester Completed | Grade |
|---|---|----------------|--------------------|-------|
| Required Introductory Courses for all tracks (9 hrs): | | | | |
| POL 112 | Introduction to Political Science | 3 | | |
| POL 211 | American Government and Politics | 3 | | |
| POL 212 | Introduction to International Relations | 3 | | |
| or SEC 201 | Introduction to Security Studies | 3 | | |
| Choose 3 elective POL courses for all tracks from any subfield; may include POL 300 (9 hrs) | | | | |
| POL 3xx/4xx | | 3 | | |
| POL 3xx/4xx | | 3 | | |
| POL 3xx/4xx | | 3 | | |
| <p>In addition to completing 18 hours of introductory and elective courses, all POL majors must complete either the Pre-Law Track, the Security Studies track, or the General Political Science Track.</p> <p>Track One: General Political Science Track (9 hrs)</p> <p>Required: Choose one upper-level course from each of the three subfield:</p> | | | | |
| American Politics | | 3 | | |
| Comparative Politics | | 3 | | |
| International Relations | | 3 | | |
| <p>Choose three other classes from either American Politics, Comparative Politics, or International Relations & Security (9 hrs) (Note: Up to 3 credit hours can be satisfied by an internship)</p> <p><i>American Politics Subfield Courses</i></p> | | | | |
| POL 301 | The American Presidency | 3 | | |
| POL 304 | American Political Theory | 3 | | |
| POL 311 | Political Parties, Voting & Campaign | 3 | | |
| POL 314 | American Constitutional Law & Politics | 3 | | |
| POL 316 | American Jurisprudence | 3 | | |
| POL 328 | National Security Agencies | 3 | | |
| POL 332 | National Security Law I | 3 | | |
| POL 342 | The Supreme Court | 3 | | |
| <i>Comparative Politics Subfield Courses</i> | | | | |
| POL 306 | West European Government & Politics | 3 | | |
| POL 308 | Post-Soviet Politics | 3 | | |
| POL 335 | Politics & Security of Developing Nations | 3 | | |
| POL 351 | Women & Politics | 3 | | |

| | | | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|--------|--|--|
| POL 3XX | Middle Eastern Politics | 3 | | |
| SEC 346 | Chinese Politics and Influence | 3 | | |
| <i>International Relations & Security Subfield Courses</i> | | | | |
| POL 305 | International Law & Organizations | 3 | | |
| POL 326 | Environmental Politics and Policy | 3 | | |
| POL 337 | Human Rights & Security | 3 | | |
| POL 362 | American Foreign Policy | 3 | | |
| SEC 312 | Terrorism | 3 | | |
| <i>Track Two: The Pre-Law Track (21 hrs)</i> | | | | |
| Complete the Pre-Law Minor | | | | |
| <i>Track Three: The Security Studies Track (18 hrs)</i> | | | | |
| Complete the Security Studies Minor | | | | |
| TOTAL HOURS FOR MAJOR (General Track) | | 36 hrs | | |
| TOTAL HOURS FOR MAJOR (Security Studies Track) | | 36 hrs | | |
| TOTAL HOURS FOR MAJOR (Pre-Law Track) | | 39 hrs | | |