

POLITICAL SCIENCE PLS

**Department of Political Science
College of Social Science**

- 100 Introduction to American National Government**
Fall, Spring, Summer. 3(3-0)
The policymaking process in national government, with emphasis on political participation, the presidency, Congress, Supreme Court, bureaucracy, and civil rights and civil liberties.
- 140 Government and Politics of the World**
Fall, Spring, Summer. 3(3-0)
Comparative analysis of political systems in first, second, and third-world countries. Alternative methods for comparative cross-cultural analyses of political systems.
- 160 Introduction to International Relations**
Fall, Spring, Summer. 3(3-0) Not open to students with credit in MC 220 or MC 221.
Dynamics of conflict and cooperation. Processes of foreign policy decision making. Major international economic issues. Basic future trends. Primary analytical approaches for studying world politics.
- 170 Introduction to Political Philosophy**
Fall, Spring, Summer. 3(3-0)
Basic questions of political philosophy as considered from ancient to modern times. Primary focus on the origins, defense, and radical critiques of modern liberal democracy.
- 200 Introduction to Political Science**
Fall, Spring, Summer. 4(4-0)
The science of politics. Theory construction, model building, empirical testing, and inductive inference. Examples from American, international and comparative politics.
- 201 Introduction to Methods of Political Analysis**
Fall, Spring, Summer. 4(4-0) P:M: PLS 200 or MC 201
Philosophy of social science. Principles of research design, measurement, hypothesis testing, measures of association, cross tabulations, and regression analysis.
- 301 American State Government**
Spring. 3(3-0)
Structure and processes of American state government. Interstate differences. Constitutions, elections, political parties, interest groups, and intergovernmental relations. Policy focus on education, welfare, and criminal justice.
- 302 Urban Politics**
Fall. 3(3-0)
Structure and processes of American urban politics. Relationship of cities to U.S. federal system. Interstate variations. Policy focus on public education, crime, social welfare, and economic development.
- 304 Minority Politics**
Fall. 3(3-0)
Minority groups and the political process in the United States. Civil rights movements, political organizations, legal decisions, political participation, and legislative politics.
- 310 Public Bureaucracy in the Policy Process**
Fall, Spring. 3(3-0)
Role of public bureaucracy in the U.S. Theories of administrative behavior and the impact of hierarchy on policymaking. Relations with the president, Congress, interest groups, and the public. Administrative functions, responsiveness, and ethics.
- 313 Public Policy Analysis**
Fall, Spring, Summer. 3(3-0) Not open to students with credit in MC 444.
Political and economic concepts for evaluating the consequences of government decision making. Issues of problem identification, policy adoption, and implementation affecting program evaluation.
- 320 The American Judicial Process**
Fall, Spring. 3(3-0) R: Not open to freshmen or sophomores.
Analysis of the structure and functions of judicial systems. Organization, administration, and politics of judicial bureaucracies. Roles of judges, juries, counsel, litigants, and interest groups in the adjudication process.
- 321 American Constitutional Law**
Fall, Spring. 3(3-0) R: Not open to freshmen or sophomores.
U.S. Supreme Court policy making and its effect on issues of current importance, including First Amendment freedoms, due process, race relations, sex discrimination, and privacy.
- 322 Comparative Legal Systems**
Spring, Summer. 3(3-0)
Cross-national study of common law and civil law systems. Judicial review and selection of judges. Models of judicial decision-making. High court-low court relations. Role of courts in society.
- 324 American Legislative Process**
Spring. 3(3-0)
The design of Congress. Rules, structures, and procedures affecting policy making. Impact of regular elections on legislative behavior.
- 325 American Executive Process**
Fall. 3(3-0) P:M: PLS 100
Role of the president in the U.S. political system. Constitutional questions, presidential selection, presidential power, interbranch relations, and presidential policy making.
- 331 Political Parties and Interest Groups**
Spring of even years. 3(3-0)
Origins, structure, and activities of political parties. Role of parties and interest groups in elections and in government. Internal politics of parties and of private associations.
- 333 Political Socialization and Public Opinion**
Fall, Spring. 3(3-0)
Role of public opinion in political systems and its impact on the political process. Group differences, political socialization, development and change of political attitudes and behavior patterns. Methods of studying public opinion.
- 334 Campaigns and Elections**
Fall, Spring. 3(3-0)
The nominating process. Recruitment of candidates and the formation of electoral coalitions. Analysis of election results. Trends in electoral support for officeholders and parties.
- 342 Comparative Political Economy**
Spring. 3(3-0) P:M: EC 201 or EC 202
Democratic politics and the linkages among political, social, and economic conceptions of equality in developed and developing countries.
- 344 Politics in the Third World**
Fall, Spring. 3(3-0)
Politics of modernization, democratic and authoritarian regimes, and class and ethnicity in developing countries.
- 351 African Politics**
Fall. 3(3-0)
Political institutions and governmental processes in Sub-Saharan Africa.
- 352 Latin American Politics**
Spring. 3(3-0)
The political process in Latin America from a comparative perspective. Development, democratization and the role of democratic institutions in the political life.
- 353 Politics of Japan**
Spring. 3(3-0)
Political institutions and political processes in Japan. Principal schools of thought on Japanese politics. Parties and elections, bureaucratic power, judicial politics, and industrial policy.
- 354 Politics of Asia**
Fall of even years, Spring of even years. 3(3-0)
Political institutions, political actors, and policy-making processes in selected Asian countries.
- 356 West European Politics**
Fall, Summer. 3(3-0)
Governmental institutions and processes, political socialization, and political culture in Western Europe, including Great Britain.
- 357 Politics of English Speaking Democracies**
Summer. 3(3-0)
Political institutions, political actors, and political culture in Britain, Australia, or Canada.
- 358 Politics of the U.S.S.R. and Its Successor States**
Spring. 3(3-0)
Political history, communist ideology, state institutions, and political processes in the Soviet Union and its successor states.
- 362 Foreign Policy**
Spring of odd years. 3(3-0) P:M: (PLS 160 or concurrently) or (MC 220 or concurrently) or (MC 221 or concurrently) RB: PLS 160 or MC 220 or MC 221
Theories of foreign policy making. Factors shaping foreign policy in various countries. Current and recurrent problems in foreign policy making.
- 363 International Political Conflict**
Fall of even years. 3(3-0) P:M: (PLS 160 or concurrently) or (MC 221 or concurrently)
Conflict, war, and conflict resolution in the international system.
- 364 International Organization and Cooperation**
Spring. 3(3-0) Not open to students with credit in MC 322.
History and evolution. League of Nations, United Nations. Growth and role of regional, specialized, and non-governmental organizations. Impact of new states. Politics, functions, and problems.
- 371 Classical Political Philosophy**
Fall, Spring. 3(3-0)
Examination of major themes in classical political philosophy as represented by such Greek and Roman philosophers as Plato, Aristotle, or Cicero.

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- 372 Modern Political Philosophy**
Fall, Spring. 3(3-0)
Major themes of modern political philosophy as represented by such thinkers as Machiavelli, Hobbes, Rousseau, Marx, and Nietzsche.
- 377 American Political Thought**
Fall of even years. 3(3-0)
Major themes of American political thought. Topics may include the founding of the U.S., naturalism, race relations, or progressivism.
- 381 Collective Decision Making in Politics**
Fall. 3(3-0) P:M: PLS 200
Formal models of collective decision making in politics. Empirical and experimental tests of formal models. Topics may include game theory, social choice theory, spatial models, principal-agent models, or dynamic models.
- 392 Special Topics in Political Science**
Fall, Spring. 1 to 4 credits. A student may earn a maximum of 8 credits in all enrollments for this course. RB: Completion of Tier I writing requirement. R: Open only to juniors or seniors in the Department of Political Science or Interdisciplinary Studies in Social Science major or approval of department.
Issues and problems in contemporary political science.
- 420 American Politics and Public Administration (W)**
Fall, Spring. 4(4-0) P:M: ((PLS 301 or PLS 302 or PLS 305 or PLS 310 or PLS 313 or PLS 320) and completion of Tier I writing requirement) or (PLS 321 or PLS 322 or PLS 324 or PLS 325 or PLS 331 or PLS 333 or PLS 334) RB: Enrollment in the political science cognate. R: Open only to juniors or seniors in the Department of Political Science or Interdisciplinary Studies in Social Science major or approval of department.
Capstone course in one subfield of either American politics or public administration. Potential topics include legislative behavior, policy analysis, bureaucratic politics, electoral politics, and the determinants of voting behavior.
- 421 Moot Court and Legal Research in Federal Law (W)**
Spring. 4(4-0) P:M: ((PLS 320) and completion of Tier I writing requirement) and (PLS 321 or MC 373) R: Open only to juniors or seniors in the Department of Political Science. Open to juniors or seniors in the Interdisciplinary Studies in Social Science major with political science as the disciplinary cognate or approval of department.
U.S. Supreme Court decisions in federal law. Legal research techniques, and participation in moot court exercise. Possible topics include civil rights and civil liberties.
- 440 Comparative Politics (W)**
Spring. 4(4-0) P:M: (PLS 322 or PLS 342 or PLS 344 or PLS 351 or PLS 352 or PLS 353 or PLS 354 or PLS 356 or PLS 357 or PLS 358) and completion of Tier I writing requirement RB: Enrollment in the political science cognate. R: Open only to juniors or seniors in the Department of Political Science or Interdisciplinary Studies in Social Science major or approval of department.
Capstone course in one subfield of comparative politics. Potential topics include political development, urbanization, role of public opinion, human rights, and women in development.
- 441 Islam and World Politics**
Spring of even years. 4(4-0) Interdepartmental with James Madison College. Administered by James Madison College. P:M: Completion of Tier I writing requirement. SA: MC 420
Manifestations of political Islam within key Muslim countries such as Turkey, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Iran, and Pakistan. Use of political Islam by states and groups as an instrument to advance their international goals.
- 460 International Relations (W)**
Fall, Spring. 4(4-0) P:M: (PLS 361 or PLS 362 or PLS 363 or PLS 364) and completion of Tier I writing requirement R: Open only to juniors or seniors in the Department of Political Science or Interdisciplinary Studies in Social Science major with political science as the disciplinary cognate or approval of department.
Capstone course in one subfield of international relations. Potential topics include international conflict, foreign policy, dispute resolutions, and international political economy.
- 461 Refugees, Displaced Persons, Exiles (W)**
Spring. 4(4-0) P:M: ((PLS 322 or PLS 342 or PLS 344 or PLS 351 or PLS 352 or PLS 353 or PLS 354) and completion of Tier I writing requirement) or (PLS 356 or PLS 357 or PLS 358 or PLS 361 or PLS 362 or PLS 363 or PLS 364)
Political refugees caused by nationalism, social change, persecution, war, and tyranny. Definition, analysis, history, causes, and consequences. Political, legal, sociological, psychological, economic, and historical problems. International aid.
- 470 Political Thought (W)**
Fall of odd years, Spring of even years. 4(4-0) P:M: (PLS 371 or PLS 372 or PLS 377) and completion of Tier I writing requirement R: Open only to juniors or seniors in the Department of Political Science or Interdisciplinary Studies in Social Science major with political science as the disciplinary cognate or approval of department.
Capstone course in one area of political thought. Potential topics include liberty, justice, equality, Aristotle, Plato, Locke, Hobbes, and Mill.
- 481H Honors Seminar in Research Design**
Fall. 4(4-0) R: Approval of department.
Research design seminar for honor's students in the political science program.
- 490H Honors Internship**
Fall, Spring, Summer. 3 to 6 credits. A student may earn a maximum of 6 credits in all enrollments for this course. R: Approval of department.
Supervised participation in research or teaching.
- 491H Senior Honors Thesis**
Fall, Spring, Summer. 3 to 6 credits. A student may earn a maximum of 6 credits in all enrollments for this course. P:M: PLS 481H
Original research and writing under direction of a faculty member.
- 494 Field Experience in Political Science**
Fall, Spring, Summer. 3 to 6 credits. A student may earn a maximum of 6 credits in all enrollments for this course. R: Approval of department.
Supervised field work in several areas of study. It may involve internships with non-profit organizations or public agencies, or participation in survey research, political campaigns, or petition drives.
- 495 Independent Study**
Fall, Spring, Summer. 1 to 6 credits. A student may earn a maximum of 6 credits in all enrollments for this course. R: Approval of department.
Individual research and reading supervised by a faculty member.
- 800 Proseminar: Political Theory and Research Methods**
Fall. 3(3-0)
Issues in the accumulation of knowledge about political phenomena. Approaches to the verification of hypotheses. Alternative theoretical conceptions in study of politics.
- 801 Quantitative Techniques in Public Policy and Political Science I**
Fall. 3(3-0) R: Open only to graduate students in the Department of Political Science or approval of department.
Foundations of research methodology. Applications of data in public policy and political science. Individual research projects.
- 802 Quantitative Techniques in Public Policy and Political Science II**
Spring. 3(3-0) RB: PLS 801 R: Open only to graduate students in the Department of Political Science or approval of department.
Linear and nonlinear models applied to public policy and political science data. Individualized research projects.
- 803 Political Thought**
Fall. 3(3-0) RB: Admission to graduate program in political science.
Major political philosophers. Major themes of political philosophy. Consideration of the relationship between political philosophy and other fields of study in political science.
- 808 Issues in Urban Policy and Services**
Spring of even years. 3(3-0) Interdepartmental with Social Work. Administered by Political Science. RB: PLS 811
Issues in urban public policy. Major theoretical approaches. Urban regimes, local autonomy, public and private authority, economic constraints, social welfare, service delivery, neighborhood and community development, urban educational systems. Race, gender, and ethnicity.
- 809 Proseminar in Formal Theory**
Spring. 3(3-0) R: Approval of department. SA: PLS 880
Formal models in understanding politics. Topics may include game theory, spatial modeling, social choice theory, public choice theory, and dynamic modeling. Theoretical issues and research applications.
- 811 Proseminar in Policy Analysis**
Spring. 3(3-0) P:M: PLS 810 R: Open only to graduate students in the Department of Political Science or approval of department.
Economic and political techniques for analyzing public policies. Utility and limitations of these techniques and their use and abuse in public policy analysis.
- 812 Theories of Administrative Organization**
Fall. 3(3-0)
Decisionmaking, hierarchy, control, participation, and the political context of public organization.

- 820 Proseminar in American Politics**
Fall. 3(3-0) A student may earn a maximum of 6 credits in all enrollments for this course.
The major subfields of American politics. Political behavior within institutions and mass political behavior.
- 821 State Government and Politics**
Spring of odd years. 3(3-0)
Research literature on state government. Interstate differences. Parties, elections, governors, state legislatures, bureaucracy, interest groups, and policy outcomes.
- 822 Urban Government and Politics**
Spring of even years. 3(3-0)
Research literature on urban government. Structure, process, and policy issues. Intergovernmental relations and fiscal interdependencies.
- 824 Congress**
Spring of even years. 3(3-0) A student may earn a maximum of 6 credits in all enrollments for this course. RB: (PLS 801 and PLS 802 and PLS 820) and or approval of department.
The legislative process in Congress, and the electoral connection to voters. Topics may include committees, parties and leadership, candidate recruitment and elections, and interactions between Congress and other national institutions.
- 826 International Development and Sustainability**
Fall. 3(3-0) Interdepartmental with Anthropology and Forestry and Resource Development and Social Science. Administered by Resource Development.
Environmental, economic, political, legal, management, and cultural components of sustainable development.
- 828 Public Opinion and Political Behavior**
Fall of odd years. 3(3-0) RB: (PLS 801 and PLS 802) or approval of department.
The acquisition and change of political attitudes. The relationship between political attitudes and political behavior. Methods and problems of measuring political attitudes.
- 850 Proseminar in Comparative Politics**
Spring. 3(3-0) A student may earn a maximum of 6 credits in all enrollments for this course.
Research literature in a subfield of comparative politics. Methods, approaches, and purposes.
- 852 Comparative Public Administration**
Fall of odd years. 3(3-0)
Administrative systems in industrialized countries. Historical origins, personnel recruitment, bureaucracy-parliament interactions, planning and market regulation, public spending, and public outcomes.
- 853 Political Economy of Development Policy**
Spring of odd years. 3(3-0)
Introduction to the political economy of Third World development. Decision making and economic policy.
- 854 Comparative Political Institutions**
Spring. 3(3-0) A student may earn a maximum of 6 credits in all enrollments for this course.
Political institutions from a comparative perspective. Topics may include electoral systems, political parties, presidential vs. parliamentary systems, representation, federalism, and constitutional engineering.
- 857 Parties and Elections**
Spring of even years. 3(3-0) A student may earn a maximum of 6 credits in all enrollments for this course.
Origin, organization, and behavior of political parties in advanced industrial societies. Structure and transformation of party systems. Role of issues and elections in party systems. Parties in developing societies.
- 860 Proseminar in International Relations**
Fall of even years. 3(3-0) A student may earn a maximum of 6 credits in all enrollments for this course.
Theoretical perspectives and analytical approaches to a subfield of international relations.
- 870 Proseminar in Political Thought**
Spring of even years. 3(3-0) A student may earn a maximum of 6 credits in all enrollments for this course.
Survey of major issues or themes in political philosophy.
- 871 Classical Political Philosophy**
Fall. 3(3-0)
Study of one or more major figures or thinkers in ancient or medieval political philosophy.
- 872 Modern Political Philosophy**
Spring. 3(3-0) A student may earn a maximum of 6 credits in all enrollments for this course.
Study of one or more major figures or thinkers in modern political philosophy.
- 884 Proseminar on Political Institutions and Public Choice**
Fall. 3(3-0) A student may earn a maximum of 6 credits in all enrollments for this course.
Theories of political institutions, with particular emphasis on the U.S. Possible topics include models of rational action in electoral, legislative, and bureaucratic institutions and problems of majority rule, collective action, and social welfare.
- 900 Research Seminar in Political Methodology**
Spring. 3(3-0) A student may earn a maximum of 9 credits in all enrollments for this course. RB: PLS 802
Advanced topics in political methodology. Individual research projects.
- 910 Research Seminar in Public Policy and Public Administration**
Spring. 3(3-0) A student may earn a maximum of 9 credits in all enrollments for this course. RB: PLS 810 or PLS 811
Specialized topics in public administration or public policy.
- 920 Research Seminar in American Politics**
Spring. 3(3-0) A student may earn a maximum of 9 credits in all enrollments for this course.
Intensive study of one subfield of American politics. Critical evaluation of the literature.
- 950 Research Seminar in Comparative Politics**
Fall of odd years. 3(3-0) A student may earn a maximum of 9 credits in all enrollments for this course. RB: PLS 850
Intensive study of one subfield of comparative politics. Critical evaluation of the literature.
- 960 Research Seminar in International Politics**
Spring. 3(3-0) A student may earn a maximum of 9 credits in all enrollments for this course. RB: PLS 860
Intensive study of one subfield of international politics. Critical evaluation of the literature.
- 970 Research Seminar in Political Thought**
Spring of odd years. 3(3-0) A student may earn a maximum of 9 credits in all enrollments for this course. RB: PLS 870
Intensive study of one subfield of political philosophy.
- 980 Research Seminar in Formal Theory**
Fall of odd years. 3(3-0) A student may earn a maximum of 9 credits in all enrollments for this course. RB: PLS 880
Intensive study of one formal modeling technique used in political science research.
- 993 Readings in Political Science**
Fall, Spring, Summer. 1 to 6 credits. A student may earn a maximum of 6 credits in all enrollments for this course. R: Approval of department.
Supervised reading in a subfield of political science, public administration, or public policy.
- 999 Doctoral Dissertation Research**
Fall, Spring, Summer. 1 to 12 credits. A student may earn a maximum of 99 credits in all enrollments for this course. R: Open only to doctoral students in the Political Science major or Political Science-Urban Studies major.
Doctoral dissertation research.