

Political Science

Department Chair: R. Smith

Department Members: R. Smith

Major: Political Science, Political Economy

Minors: Political Science, International Relations, Political Economy

The political science department provides the means by which, within the liberal arts curriculum, undergraduate students learn to understand the political process (at both domestic and international levels.) The place of political science in a liberal arts setting has been established for the better part of 3,000 years. The department offers two sets of courses: one concerned with international politics, and another concerned with American politics. Like the ancient Greek philosophers, political science is concerned both with understanding and evaluating the processes which allocate societal values. In so doing, our students will be able to appreciate and understand these two levels of the political process. The department offers core coursework within two majors, which each focus on different aspects of the study of politics.

The major in Political Science builds from a core academic and philosophical examination of politics through to practical application. Students majoring in Political Science live the connection between theory and practice as they explore the interplay of politics/law in their choice of an immersive learning experience. Throughout the rest of the curriculum students expand upon this knowledge and experience base to build a formidable resume that includes completion of their own independent research prior to graduation. As a result of this training, students will be able to think analytically about the problems that face humankind internationally and domestically. They will be prepared for such things as law school, graduate school, employment by government at the local, state, and federal levels, as well as careers in teaching.

All **political science majors and minors** must earn a grade of C- or better in all required political science courses. Students majoring in political science must complete the 29 semester hours of political science with a minimum graduation GPA of 2.00 (A=4.00). Students wishing to minor in political science or international relations must complete all required courses with a minimum graduation GPA of 2.00 (A=4.00).

The major in Political Economy is Franklin College's interdisciplinary major. Coursework within the major examines the relationship between politics and economics in modern societies and focuses on problems of both domestic and international policy. Students majoring in Political Economy study the political and economic factors that affect, and are affected by, systems of production, exchange, and distribution. That is, political economy majors analyze how international and domestic political factors interact with micro- and macro-economic factors to determine outcomes in a wide variety of areas including globalization, international trade and finance, regulation, development, taxes, and income distribution. As a result, students will be able to think logically and analytically about the problems that face humankind internationally and domestically. They will be prepared for law school, graduate school and employment by private sectors and government at the local, state, and federal levels, as well as careers in teaching.

All **political economy majors and minors** must earn a grade of C- or better in all required coursework for the major, minor and related field. Students majoring in political economy must complete the all required major/minor courses with a minimum graduation GPA of 2.00 (A=4.00).. Furthermore, regardless of major, all students taking economics courses must complete all prerequisites with a C- or better.

Political Science Major

Core Requirements

POL 110 American National Government
POL 130 Introduction to Comparative Politics
POL 360 Social and Political Thought
POL 469 Methods of Political Inquiry
POL 470 Senior Seminar
POL 499 Senior Competency Practicum
MAT 224 Basic Applied Statistics

One of the following courses

POL 410 American Constitutional Law I: Powers and Duties
POL 420 American Constitutional Law II: Civil Rights and Liberties

Immersive Learning Requirement – one of the following courses

POL 225 State and Local Government
POL 234 American Political Participation
POL 275 Law and Politics in American Society
 Any other experiential course relating to political science by approval of the Department

Two of the following courses – not the same courses as used above

POL 225 State and Local Government
POL 234 American Political Participation
POL 275 Law and Politics in American Society
POL 316 American Presidency
POL 317 American Congress
POL 331 Business Law I
POL 336 Introduction to Public Policy
POL 350 Public Administration
POL 410 American Constitutional Law I: Powers and Duties
POL 420 American Constitutional Law II: Civil Rights and Liberties
 Only one course from this subfield may be a law course.

Two of the following courses – not the same course as used above

POL 120 Introduction to International Relations
POL 320 International Security and Conflict Management
POL 341 International Law and Organizations
POL 355 Comparative Politics in Developed Countries
POL 390 American Foreign Policy

Additional POL credits, if necessary, to meet the minimum required of 25 hours beyond POL 110.

Professional Development Requirements

POL 498 Portfolio (take with POL 470)
SNR/SNT489 (POL) Senior Internship/Project

Related Field Requirement

Twelve semester hours in a related field such as journalism, philosophy, history, economics, psychology, or sociology (any variations must be approved by the department and submitted in writing to the Academic Records Office). Courses may be taken outside these departments for a related field only with the consent of the chairperson of the department of political science. All related field courses must be completed with a grade of *D* or better.

NOTE: *POL 110 should be taken before the completion of the sophomore year.*

Political Economy Major

Cannot be combined with Economics and/or Political Science majors

Core requirements***Political Science Field***

- POL 110** American National Government
- POL 120** Introduction to International Relations
- POL 130** Introduction to Comparative Politics
- POL 336** Introduction to Public Policy
- POL 360** Social and Political Thought

Economics Field

- ECO 121** Principles of Microeconomics
- ECO 123** Principles of Macroeconomics

Statistics Field

- ECO 380** Econometrics

Senior Capstone Courses

- ECO 475** Strategic Implementation Project
- ECO 499** Senior Competency Practicum or **POL 499** Senior Competency Practicum

Elective courses

Political Science Field – choose three courses from the following

- POL 316** American Presidency
- POL 317** American Congress
- POL 320** International Security and Conflict Management
- POL 341** International Law and Organizations
- POL 350** Public Administration
- POL 390** American Foreign Policy
- POL 410** American Constitutional Law I: Powers and Duties
- POL 420** American Constitutional Law II: Civil Rights and Liberties

Economics Field – choose two courses from the following

- ECO 330** Money and Banking
- ECO 350** International Business and Finance
- ECO 360** Labor Economics and Management

Professional Development Requirement

- PDP 200** Preparing for Your Internship

INT XXX Internship in Economics or related field (4 credits) or **SNR/SNT489 (POL)** Senior Internship/Project (4-6 credits)

ECO 482 Professional Practicum or **POL 498** Portfolio (take with POL 470)

Related Field Requirement

MAT 131 Introduction to Quantitative Analysis

MAT 224 Basic Applied Statistics

Two of the following courses

ACC 341 Introduction to Taxation

BUS 331 Business Law I

PHL 220 Principles of Ethics

PSY 320 Social Psychology

SOC 210 Criminal Justice

SOC 321 Criminology

Other courses approved by faculty from both political science and economics

Political Science Minor

Core requirements

POL 110 American National Government

POL 120 Introduction to International Relations

POL 130 Introduction to Comparative Politics

POL 360 Social and Political Thought

One of the following courses

POL 410 American Constitutional Law I: Powers and Duties

POL 420 American Constitutional Law II: Civil Rights and Liberties

International Relations Minor

Note: This minor is not available to political science majors.

Core requirements

POL 120 Introduction to International Relations

POL 130 Introduction to Comparative Politics

POL 341 International Law and Organizations

POL 360 Social and Political Thought

One of the following courses

BUS/ECO 350 International Business and Finance

POL 355 Comparative Politics in Developed Countries

HIS 361 East Asian History

HIS 365 History of the Middle East

PHL/REL 250 Living Religions East

Two semesters of a foreign language offered by Franklin College.

Political Economy Minor

Note: This minor is not available to political science majors or minors, economics majors or minors, or international relations minors.

Core requirements*Political Science Field*

- POL 110** American National Government
- POL 120** Introduction to International Relations
- POL 336** Introduction to Public Policy

Economics Field

- ECO 121** Principles of Microeconomics
- ECO 123** Principles of Macroeconomics

Elective courses*Political Science Field* – choose one course from the following

- POL 130** Introduction to Comparative Politics
- POL 225** State and Local Government
- POL 316** American Presidency
- POL 317** American Congress
- POL 360** Social and Political Thought

Economics Field – choose one course from the following

- ECO 330** Money and Banking
- ECO 350** International Business and Finance
- ECO 360** Labor Economics and Management

Political Science Course Descriptions

POL 110 American National Government		4 credit hours
Fall	Civic Learning & Human Behavior exploratories	

Introduction to the basic principles, theories, and major factors which influence decision-making within the political process.

POL 120 Introduction to International Relations		4 credit hours
Spring, even academic years	Comparative Perspectives & Human Behavior exploratory	

History, theory, practice, and analysis of the forces and conflicts among nation-states, including such factors as nationalism, diplomacy, war, i.e., causes, peaceful resolution and discussion of systems to prevent war, polycentrism and power, i.e., public opinion, technology, economics, and military.

POL 130 Introduction to Comparative Politics		4 credit hours
Spring, odd academic years	Human Behavior & Comparative Perspectives exploratories	

Introduction to the methodology of systematic country comparison through use of selected examples from Asia, Africa, Latin America and/or Europe. Issues such as the roles played by political institutions, ideologies, cultures and interest groups are examined alongside the concepts of nation-building, development and democratization. Students learn a method for comparing countries across political systems.

POL 225 State and Local Government		4 credit hours
On demand	Civic Learning exploratory	

The American political process as viewed from the perspective of state and local governmental institutions, including political parties, interest and clientele groups, the electoral process, urban politics, traditional and new patterns of city and county government, and problems and needs of metropolitan areas.

POL 234 American Political Participation		4 credit hours
Fall, even academic years	Civic Learning exploratory	

Patterns of voting, political parties, interest groups, and the election process in the American political system and their impact on stability and change in the system. Students will be required to complete a substantial service component within this course, either through media coverage of political participation at TheStatehouseFile.com or through service to a relevant political organization.

POL 275 Law and Politics in American Society		4 credit hours
Fall, odd academic years		

The focus of this course will be on tracing the American legal philosophy from the roots of its political and legal settings. Special attention will be paid to the English legal heritage, the concepts of law and justice, and the different types of law in American society. Course fee of \$200.

POL 300 Topics in Political Science		3 credit hours
Spring		

The purpose of this course is to bridge the gap between theory and practice in the field of politics. Important topics, both international and domestic, may be selected by the department. Courses will be offered upon the request of a faculty member and with approval of the Vice President of Academic Affairs.

POL 316 American Presidency		4 credit hours
On demand		Prereq: POL 110

Examination of the institutionalization of the presidency, as well as the topics of power, personality, public opinion, and elections. Students develop an understanding of the constraints placed on the individuals that hold the presidency as well as the manner in which the behavior of these individuals irrevocably change the institution. Students learn of the powers and imperatives of the American presidency, as well as an understanding of the president's role in the American political order.

POL 317 American Congress		4 credit hours
On demand		Prereq: POL 110

Examination of the institutionalization of Congress, the theories regarding motivations of its members and how these motivations likely impact the nature of the institution itself. Topics discussed include: rules, procedures, and structures of Congress; elections; and the role of parties, leadership and interest groups. Students learn alternative ways of conceiving the motivations of members of Congress and how such motivation might impact policy, as well as the importance of information in making legislative decisions.

POL 320 International Security and Conflict Management		4 credit hours
On demand		Prereq: POL 120

Examination of international conflict and cooperation. A wide range of competitive situations are surveyed, including: war, global economy, terrorism and the environment. The structure and functions of international organizations and their role in the resolution of international conflicts are also examined. Students learn to critically assess international relations theory regarding the prospects of war and peace.

POL 331 Business Law I		3 credit hours
Fall and spring		

The purpose of this course is to enable the student to comprehend the legal significance of decisions made within the corporate organization. It acquaints the student with the American legal system and the concepts and processes through which law develops and disputes are resolved. The focus of this course will be on contract law, sale of goods (UCC Article 2), and property law. Same as BUS 331.

POL 336 Introduction to Public Policy		4 credit hours
On demand		Prereq: POL 110

Introduction to the elements of the American public policy process including the identification, formation, adoption, implementation, and impact stages.

POL 341 International Law and Organizations		4 credit hours
Fall, odd academic years		Prereq: POL 120

Nature, sources, and functions of international law with particular attention to the rights and duties of states. The new subject of international law: international organizations particularly the United Nations will be examined thoroughly.

POL 350 Public Administration		4 credit hours
On demand		Prereq: POL 110

Theories and processes of public bureaucracy with emphasis on alternate efficiency and accountability problems in a democratic political system.

POL 355 Comparative Politics in Developed Countries		4 credit hours
On demand		Prereq: POL 130 or consent of instructor

This course examines the political cultures, governmental institutions, and current policy debates in Canada, France and Germany. Relations between these countries and the United States will also be examined.

POL 360 Social and Political Thought		4 credit hours
Fall	Reasoning and Values exploratory	

Study of social and political ideas such as the nature and justification of political power, the nature and legitimacy of governments, and related topics, from Plato to the present. Same as PHL 360.

POL 375 Justice and Advocacy		2 credit hours
Fall, odd academic years		Prereq: POL 275

This course focuses on advanced concepts relating to the American system of justice. Students will learn about the rules of evidence, rhetorical strategy in a legal setting, principles of civil and criminal law, and other issues relating to court proceedings and trial practice. This course does not satisfy the hours required toward a major in Political Science.

POL 390 American Foreign Policy		4 credit hours
On demand		Prereq: POL 120

Examination of the leading theoretical approaches to the study of American foreign policy. The impact of Realist and Liberal paradigms are explored along with the role of culture in the formation of foreign policy. Additional approaches such as decision-making, leadership, public opinion and psychology are also explored. Students learn to critically evaluate foreign policy from several different perspectives.

POL 410 American Constitutional Law I: Powers and Duties		4 credit hours
On demand	Reasoning and Values exploratory	Prereq: POL 110

Analysis of decisions of the Supreme Court of the U.S., with special emphasis on decisions relating to the powers and duties of the institutions of American government.

POL 420 American Constitutional Law II: Civil Rights and Liberties		4 credit hours
Spring		Prereq: POL 110

Analysis of decisions of the Supreme Court of the U.S., with special emphasis on decisions relating to the Bill of Rights and the 14th Amendment.

POL 469 Methods of Political Inquiry		4 credit hours
Fall		Prereq: POL 110

Survey of the variety of ways political scientists study phenomena. Students gain familiarity with the prominent paradigmatic and methodological approaches employed by political scientists. This course serves to coalesce prior coursework exploring political science literature and provides an overview of the principles of research design. Students will explore different methodological approaches to addressing research questions. This course culminates in practical student application of what they learned as evidenced by the submission of a formal research proposal.

POL 470 Senior Seminar		4 credit hours
Spring		Prereq: POL 110, 360 & either POL 410 or POL 420; Coreq: POL 498

Methods and materials of research in government. Each student chooses a research question which culminates in a formal empirical analysis which is presented to the College.

POL 482 Political Science Practicum		1-2 credit hours
		Prereq: instructor permission

A supervised, pre-approved experience which allows a student to pursue specific learning goals and/or be involved in a field experience during the regular academic semester.

POL 490 Independent Study		1-2 credit hours
		Prereq: departmental consent is required

Courses are designed to encourage student initiative and to provide a degree of flexibility in the departmental program. Normally the subject is not sufficiently or appropriately covered in departmental course offerings. Course can consist of individualized reading and research in a field or area of student interest or need.

POL 498 Portfolio		No credit
Spring		Coreq: POL 470

The main component of this collection of student work will be the research paper completed in POL 470 that students develop from courses taken within the department and internships they may have completed. Contents may also include designated class assignments, case studies and projects, or assignments and projects of the student's choosing. The portfolio is completed with assignments related to leadership and professional development from the PDP 200 course.

POL 499 Senior Competency Practicum		No credit

The senior competency practicum is both a written essay and oral exam. The questions for the essay exam are submitted by the faculty of the department who also conduct the oral exam. A grade of 'C-' or better is considered a passing grade.

SNR/SNT 489 (POL) Senior Internship/Project		4-6 credit hours

A senior internship/project which may also be completed in the junior year.