MAJOR IN POLITICAL SCIENCE

Political science is the study of politics and political action in society. It encompasses international agreements and organizations as well as the patterns of political action which both create and shape them. It encompasses citizen action and the institutions which produce public policy at the local, state, and national levels within the United States. It encompasses systems of voting, political parties, and courts, compared across national political systems. It encompasses the raising of normative questions about the nature and purposes of political life. The presence of politics is felt in all areas and sectors of society at all times. The dynamic and transformative effects of political action are seen virtually everywhere.

The department’s curriculum is distributed across five subfields of the discipline: American politics, political theory, comparative politics, international relations, and public policy. Political Science major course work across the subfields of the discipline is complemented by the requirement that each Political Science major completes a designated support option, which includes: a minor in another department, an interdisciplinary minor, the second language support option, the methods support option, or a second major.

Learning Outcomes
Students majoring in Political Science shall demonstrate the following:

- Ability to reason through political claims and assertions by political actors
- Skill in recognizing and responding to diverse ideological perspectives
- Ability to locate political issues and controversies within their relevant institutional and historical contexts
- Familiarity with the institutional processes of politics in numerous global and domestic political arenas
- Confidence in expressing opinions and presenting analyses of political problems and their solutions

Potential Occupations
The Political Science major, like all studies in the liberal arts, provides students with a broad academic background that is serviceable across a broad spectrum of employment in the public and private sectors. Political Science majors are trained to be independent and critical thinkers; to be discerning and active observers and listeners; to communicate persuasively; to constructively engage and solve intellectual and practical problems; to adapt and function effectively in a number of distinct occupational and institutional settings; to function comfortably in a multiethnic, multiracial, and globalizing society. The employment profiles of departmental alumni attest to the breadth of possibilities for today’s graduates: public and non-profit organization managers, prosecutors, public policy analysts and consultants, federal law enforcement agents, legislators and legislative analysts, foreign service officers, private attorneys, demographers, criminal investigators, advertising specialists, urban/regional planners, environmental policy analysts, state budget analysts, public relations representatives, market researchers, elementary and high school teachers, international businessmen and businesswomen, lobbyists, novelists, construction industry managers, insurance agents and managers, financiers, and real estate brokers. Some graduates join professions following advanced study in law, international relations, area studies, public administration, public policy analysis, and business management.

Concentrations
Students may complete the general Political Science major or select one of the following concentrations for a more specialized course of study.

- Environmental Politics and Policy Concentration
- Global Politics and Policy Concentration
- U.S. Government, Law, and Policy Concentration

Requirements
Effective Fall 2018

Political science majors must achieve a minimum grade of C (2.000) in each of the political science (POLS) courses counted toward meeting the requirement of the major.

Political Science, Upper-Division
At least 24 credits of upper-division political science courses must be completed for the major. The 24 credits include the senior capstone course, POLS 492, at least 3 credits of AUCC 4A and 4B in addition to POLS 492, and at least one upper-division course in each of the following five subfields.

American Politics and Law

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>AUCC</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>POLS 302</td>
<td>U.S. Political Parties and Elections</td>
<td>4A,4B</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 303</td>
<td>Politics of Organized Interests</td>
<td>4A,4B</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 304</td>
<td>Legislative Politics</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 305</td>
<td>Judicial Politics</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 306</td>
<td>Executive Politics</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 309</td>
<td>Urban Politics</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 405</td>
<td>Race and Ethnicity in U.S. Politics</td>
<td>4A,4B</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 409</td>
<td>Urban and Regional Politics</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 410</td>
<td>American Constitutional Law</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>POLS 413</td>
<td>U.S. Civil Rights and Liberties</td>
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</table>

Political Theory
# Major in Political Science

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>POLS 420</td>
<td>History of Political Thought</td>
<td>4A,4B</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>POLS 421</td>
<td>Contemporary Political Theories</td>
<td>4A,4B</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 422</td>
<td>Democratic Theory</td>
<td>4A,4B</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 423</td>
<td>American Political Theories</td>
<td>4A,4B</td>
<td>3</td>
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</table>

### International Relations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>POLS 331</td>
<td>Politics and Society Along Mexican Border</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 332/ECON 332</td>
<td>International Political Economy</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 362</td>
<td>Global Environmental Politics</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 431</td>
<td>International Law</td>
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### Comparative Politics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>POLS 341</td>
<td>Western European Government and Politics</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 345</td>
<td>Russian, Central, and East European Politics</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 347</td>
<td>Comparative Authoritarianism</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 442</td>
<td>Environmental Politics in Developing World</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 443</td>
<td>Comparative Social Movements</td>
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<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 444</td>
<td>Comparative African Politics</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 445</td>
<td>Comparative Asian Politics</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 446</td>
<td>Politics of South America</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 447</td>
<td>Politics in Mexico, Central America, Caribbean</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 448</td>
<td>Comparative Racial/Ethnic Politics</td>
<td>4A,4B</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>POLS 449</td>
<td>Middle East Politics</td>
<td>4A,4B</td>
<td>3</td>
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### Public Policy and Administration

<table>
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<tr>
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<th>Credits</th>
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<tr>
<td>POLS 351</td>
<td>Public Administration</td>
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<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 361</td>
<td>U.S. Environmental Politics and Policy</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 364</td>
<td>Air, Climate, and Energy Policy Analysis</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 451</td>
<td>Public Policy Design and Governance</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 459</td>
<td>Program Evaluation for Public Administrators</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 460</td>
<td>Public Policy Process</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 462</td>
<td>Globalization, Sustainability, and Justice</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 463</td>
<td>Urban Policy and Management</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 465</td>
<td>Public Policy Analysis</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
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</table>

### Support Options

Political Science majors must complete one of the following five Support Options.

#### Minor or Interdisciplinary Minor Support Option

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Select a minor or interdisciplinary minor in consultation with advisor</td>
<td>21-24</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

#### Student-Selected Course Group Support Option

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A program of courses proposed by student and approved by advisor containing a minimum of 21 credits, of which at least 12 must be upper-division (300- to 400-level)</td>
<td>21</td>
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</table>

#### Second Major Support Option

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Select a second major in consultation with advisor. This option may require as much as 36 credits. Credit range shown is approximate, and may require more or less, depending on the second major chosen.</td>
<td>27-36</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Other Possible Elective Courses Under the 24-Credit Requirement

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>POLS 320</td>
<td>Empirical Political Analysis</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 392</td>
<td>Washington DC Semester Seminar</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 486A</td>
<td>Practicum: Legislative Politics ^2</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 486B</td>
<td>Practicum: Government ^2</td>
<td>1-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 487</td>
<td>Internship – Washington DC Semester</td>
<td>6-9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 496</td>
<td>Washington Semester Colloquium Group Study</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 5**</td>
<td>Selected graduate course ^3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Foreign Language Support Option**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A minimum of 5 courses totaling at least 15 credits in a single foreign language, including at least 2 courses of language instruction or in the language at the upper-division level.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</table>

**Methods Support Option**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>POLS 320</td>
<td>Empirical Political Analysis¹</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STAT 301</td>
<td>Introduction to Statistical Methods</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Select two from the following:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>PHIL 120</td>
<td>History and Philosophy of Scientific Thought (GT-AH3)</td>
<td>6</td>
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</table>

**Freshman**

<table>
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<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>AUCC</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CO 150</td>
<td>College Composition (GT-CO2)</td>
<td>1A</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 101</td>
<td>American Government and Politics (GT-SS1)</td>
<td>3C</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 103</td>
<td>State and Local Government and Politics (GT-SS1)</td>
<td>3C</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts and Humanities</td>
<td></td>
<td>3B</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biological and Physical Sciences</td>
<td></td>
<td>3A</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Historical Perspectives</td>
<td></td>
<td>3D</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td></td>
<td>1B</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electives</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Credits</strong></td>
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**Sophomore**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>AUCC</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>POLS 232</td>
<td>International Relations (GT-SS1)</td>
<td>3E</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 241</td>
<td>Comparative Government and Politics (GT-SS1)</td>
<td>3E</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Select one course from the following:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CO 300</td>
<td>Writing Arguments (GT-CO3)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CO 301A</td>
<td>Writing in the Disciplines: Arts and Humanities (GT-CO3)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CO 301B</td>
<td>Writing in the Disciplines: Sciences (GT-CO3)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CO 301C</td>
<td>Writing in the Disciplines: Social Sciences (GT-CO3)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CO 301D</td>
<td>Writing in the Disciplines: Education (GT-CO3)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>CO 302</td>
<td>Writing in Digital Environments (GT-CO3)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>JTC 300</td>
<td>Professional and Technical Communication (GT-CO3)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Political Science, Upper-Division (See list above)⁴</td>
<td></td>
<td>3-6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support Option (See list above)</td>
<td></td>
<td>3-12</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biological and Physical Sciences</td>
<td></td>
<td>3A</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electives</td>
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<td><strong>Total Credits</strong></td>
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**Junior**

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<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Political Science - AUCC 4A and/or 4B (See Upper-Division list above)⁵</td>
<td>4A,4B</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Political Science, Upper-Division (See list above)⁴</td>
<td></td>
<td>6-12</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support Option (See list above)</td>
<td></td>
<td>6-12</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electives</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Credits</strong></td>
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**Senior**

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>AUCC</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>POLS 492</td>
<td>Capstone Seminar</td>
<td>4A,4B,4C</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Major in Political Science**

Political Science, Upper-Division (See list above)  
Support Option (See list above)  
Electives

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Program Total Credits: 120

1. Students choosing the Methods Support Option must take POLS 320. Credits earned in POLS 495 may not be used to satisfy this requirement.
2. A maximum of 3 credits of POLS 486A or POLS 486B may count toward the 24-credit upper-division requirement.
3. Students may select a 500-level POLS graduate course with approval of advisor and the instructor to fulfill a maximum of 3 credits of the 24-credit upper-division requirement.
4. Select a minimum of 24 upper-division (300- to 400-level) courses as described above in the Political Science, Upper-Division list.
5. In addition to POLS 492 students must select at least one course from among the courses listed in the five subfields (see Political Science, Upper-Division list above), for a minimum of 3 credits, that meets the AUCC 4A/4B requirement for the major.
6. Students must have completed upper division courses in at least four of the five subfields (see Political Science, Upper-Division list above) in order to enroll in POLS 492.
7. Select enough elective credits to bring the program total to a minimum of 120 credits, of which at least 42 must be upper-division (300- to 400-level).

### Major Completion Map

**Distinctive Requirements for Degree Program:**

Political science majors must achieve a minimum grade of C (2.000) in each of the political science (POLS) courses counted toward meeting the requirement of the major.

At least 24 credits of upper-division political science courses must be completed for the major. The 24 credits include the senior capstone course, POLS 492, at least 3 credits of AUCC 4A and 4B in addition to POLS 492, and at least one upper-division course in each of the following five subfields.

#### Freshman

**Semester 1**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Critical</th>
<th>Recommended</th>
<th>AUCC</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CO 150</td>
<td>College Composition (GT-CO2)</td>
<td>1A</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 101</td>
<td>American Government and Politics (GT-SS1)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>3C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts and Humanities</td>
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<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biological and Physical Sciences</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elective</td>
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Total Credits: 15

**Semester 2**

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<th>AUCC</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>POLS 103</td>
<td>State and Local Government and Politics (GT-SS1)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>3C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts and Humanities</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Historical Perspectives</td>
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<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>1B</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elective</td>
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</table>

CO 150 must be completed by the end of Semester 2.

Total Credits: 15

#### Sophomore

**Semester 3**

<table>
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<tr>
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<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>POLS 232</td>
<td>International Relations (GT-SS1)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>3E</td>
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<tr>
<td>Biological and Physical Sciences</td>
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<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support Option (See option list on Major Requirements Tab)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3-12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electives</td>
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Total Credits: 18

**Semester 4**

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<th>AUCC</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>POLS 241</td>
<td>Comparative Government and Politics (GT-SS1)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>3E</td>
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</table>

Select one course from the following:

- CO 300 Writing Arguments (GT-CO3) 2
- CO 301A Writing in the Disciplines: Arts and Humanities (GT-CO3) 2
- CO 301B Writing in the Disciplines: Sciences (GT-CO3) 2
- CO 301C Writing in the Disciplines: Social Sciences (GT-CO3) 2
Major in Political Science

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Name</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CO 301D</td>
<td>Writing in the Disciplines: Education (GT-CO3)</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>CO 302</td>
<td>Writing in Digital Environments (GT-CO3)</td>
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<td>JTC 300</td>
<td>Professional and Technical Communication (GT-CO3)</td>
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<tr>
<td>POLS***</td>
<td>Upper-Division (See list on Major Requirements Tab)</td>
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<td>Electives</td>
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Total Credits: 15

Junior

Semester 5

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<th>Credits</th>
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<tr>
<td>POLS***</td>
<td>AUCC 4A and/or 4B (See list on Major Requirements Tab)</td>
<td>A,4B</td>
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<td>Support</td>
<td>Option (See Option list on Major Requirements Tab)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Electives</td>
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Total Credits: 15

Semester 6

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<tr>
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<tr>
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<td>Option (See Option list on Major Requirements Tab)</td>
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Total Credits: 15

Senior

Semester 7

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>POLS***</td>
<td>Upper-Division (See list on Major Requirements Tab)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support</td>
<td>Option (See Option list on Major Requirements Tab)</td>
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Total Credits: 15

Semester 8

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<tr>
<td>POLS 492</td>
<td>Capstone Seminar</td>
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<tr>
<td>Support</td>
<td>Option (See Option list on Major Requirements Tab)</td>
<td>X</td>
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<td>3-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electives</td>
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<td>3-6</td>
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The benchmark courses for the 8th semester are the remaining courses in the entire program of study.

Total Credits: 15

Program Total Credits: 120