

MAJOR IN POLITICAL SCIENCE, ENVIRONMENTAL POLITICS AND POLICY CONCENTRATION

The Environmental Politics and Policy concentration is designed to help students develop the knowledge and skills to analyze the connections between politics and the natural world, and pursue careers in environmental politics and policy-making. Students will learn about how political forces contribute to environmental degradation, the process for developing environmental policies, strategies to assess the strengths and weaknesses of different policy approaches, and how political forces can be harnessed to develop effective responses to problems such as climate change, water and air pollution, food security, and energy provision. Students will explore these issues from both domestic and global perspectives. Environmental Politics and Policy students are strongly encouraged to complete an internship to gain practical experience working in the field.

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

Graduates may work as policy analysts, advocates, planners, educators or decision-makers in government agencies, non-profit organizations, businesses and consulting firms at the local, state, national and international levels.

For further information on declaring the Major in Political Science, Environmental Politics and Policy Concentration, please schedule an appointment with a College of Liberal Arts Academic Success Coordinator by calling 970-491-3117 or visit Clark C 207.

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.

Freshman

		AUCC	Credits
CO 150	College Composition (GT-CO2)	1A	3
POLS 101	American Government and Politics (GT-SS1)	3C	3
POLS 103	State and Local Government and Politics (GT-SS1)	3C	3
Arts and Humanities (http://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/all-university-core-curriculum/aucc/#arts-humanities)		3B	6
Biological and Physical Sciences (http://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/all-university-core-curriculum/aucc/#biological-physical-sciences)		3A	4
Historical Perspectives (http://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/all-university-core-curriculum/aucc/#historical-perspectives)		3D	3
Quantitative Reasoning (http://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/all-university-core-curriculum/aucc/#quantitative-reasoning)		1B	3
Electives			5
Total Credits			30

Sophomore

POLS 232	International Relations (GT-SS1)	1C	3
POLS 241	Comparative Government and Politics (GT-SS1)	1C	3
Select one course from the following:			3
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	
CO 301D	Writing in the Disciplines: Education (GT-CO3)	2	
CO 302	Writing in Digital Environments (GT-CO3)	2	

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JTC 300	Strategic Writing and Communication (GT-C03)	2	
LB 300	Specialized Professional Writing	2	
Tier Four: Select one from the following: ^{1,2}			3
POLS 361	U.S. Environmental Politics and Policy		
POLS 362	Global Environmental Politics		
POLS 364	Air, Climate, and Energy Policy Analysis		
POLS 3** Tier Three (300-level courses only; see list below) ^{2,3}			0-3
Support Option (See list below)			3-12
Biological and Physical Sciences (http://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/all-university-core-curriculum/aucc/#biological-physical-sciences)		3A	3
Electives			12
Total Credits			33
Junior			
Tier Two: Select one from the following:			3
POLS 420	History of Political Thought	4A,4B	
POLS 421	Contemporary Political Theories	4A,4B	
POLS 422	Democratic Theory	4A,4B	
POLS 423	American Political Theories	4A,4B	
POLS *** Tier Three (courses not taken previously; see list below) ²			3-6
POLS *** Tier Four (courses not taken previously; see list below) ^{1,2}			3-6
Support Option (See list below)			6-12
Electives ⁴			3-12
Total Credits			30
Senior			
POLS 492 (Tier Five) ⁵	Capstone Seminar	4A,4B,4C	3
POLS *** Tier Four (courses not taken previously; see list below) ^{1,2}			3-6
Support Option (See list below)			6-12
Electives ⁴			3-15
Total Credits			27
Program Total Credits:			120

Environmental Politics and Policy Concentration Tier Requirements

Code	Title	AUCC	Credits
TIER ONE COURSES			
12 credits, four courses taken in the freshman and sophomore years as shown above			
POLS 101	American Government and Politics (GT-SS1)	3C	3
POLS 103	State and Local Government and Politics (GT-SS1)	3C	3
POLS 232	International Relations (GT-SS1)	1C	3
POLS 241	Comparative Government and Politics (GT-SS1)	1C	3
TIER TWO COURSES			
3 credits, one course taken in the junior year, as shown above			
POLS 420	History of Political Thought	4A,4B	3
POLS 421	Contemporary Political Theories	4A,4B	3
POLS 422	Democratic Theory	4A,4B	3
POLS 423	American Political Theories	4A,4B	3

TIER THREE COURSES

Select 6 unique credits, two courses, one each from among two different subfields of the three subfields below, taken in the sophomore, junior and/or senior years ^{2,3}

American Politics and Law

POLS 302	U.S. Political Parties and Elections	4A,4B	3
POLS 303	Politics of Organized Interests	4A,4B	3
POLS 304	Legislative Politics		3
POLS 305	Judicial Politics		3
POLS 306	Executive Politics		3
POLS 309	Urban Politics		3
POLS 405	Race and Ethnicity in U.S. Politics	4A,4B	3
POLS 409	Urban and Regional Politics		3
POLS 410	American Constitutional Law		3
POLS 413	U.S. Civil Rights and Liberties		3

International Relations

POLS 331	Politics and Society Along Mexican Border		3
POLS 332/ECON 332	International Political Economy		3
POLS 362	Global Environmental Politics		3
POLS 431	International Law		3
POLS 433	International Organization		3
POLS 435	United States Foreign Policy		3
POLS 436	Comparative Foreign Policy		3
POLS 437	International Security		3

Comparative Politics

POLS 341	Western European Government and Politics		3
POLS 345	Russian, Central, and East European Politics		3
POLS 347	Comparative Authoritarianism		3
POLS 442	Environmental Politics in Developing World		3
POLS 443	Comparative Social Movements		3
POLS 444	Comparative African Politics		3
POLS 445	Comparative Asian Politics		3
POLS 446	Politics of South America		3
POLS 447	Politics in Mexico, Central America, Caribbean		3
POLS 448	Comparative Racial/Ethnic Politics	4A,4B	3
POLS 449	Middle East Politics	4A,4B	3

TIER FOUR COURSES

Select 12 unique credits, four courses taken in the sophomore, junior and/or senior years ^{1,2}

POLS 361	U.S. Environmental Politics and Policy		3
POLS 362	Global Environmental Politics		3
POLS 364	Air, Climate, and Energy Policy Analysis		3
POLS 442	Environmental Politics in Developing World		3
POLS 459	Program Evaluation for Public Administrators		3
POLS 460	Public Policy Process		3

POLS 462	Globalization, Sustainability, and Justice	3
POLS 463	Urban Policy and Management	3
POLS 465	Public Policy Analysis	3

A maximum of six credits from the following may be used to fulfill the Tier Four requirement:

POLS 392	Washington DC Semester Seminar	
POLS 486A	Practicum: Legislative Politics	
POLS 486B	Practicum: Government	
POLS 487	Internship – Washington DC Semester	
POLS 496	Washington DC Semester Colloquium Group Study	

Maximum of one course (three credits) may be taken from the following:

AREC 340/ECON 340	Introduction-Economics of Natural Resources	
HIST 351	American West to 1900	
HIST 352	American West Since 1900	
HIST 355	American Environmental History	
HIST 470	World Environmental History, 1500-Present	
HIST 476	History of America's National Parks	
SOC 320	Population-Natural Resources and Environment	
SOC 322	Environmental Justice	
SOC 364	Food, Agriculture and Global Society	
SOC 460	Environmental and Natural Resource Sociology	
SOC 463	Sociology of Disaster	

TIER FIVE COURSE

3 credits, one course taken in the senior year

POLS 492	Capstone Seminar ⁵	4A,4B,4C	3
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Support Option

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

Minor or Interdisciplinary Minor Support Option

Code	Title	Credits
	Select a minor or interdisciplinary minor in consultation with advisor.	21-24

Student-Selected Course Group Support Option

Code	Title	Credits
	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).	21

Second Major Support Option

Code	Title	Credits
	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.	27-36

Foreign Language Support Option

Code	Title	Credits
	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.	15-22

Methods Support Option

Code	Title	Credits
	Methods Support Option	21
POLS 320	Empirical Political Analysis	3
STAT 301	Introduction to Applied Statistical Methods	3
	Select two from the following:	6
PHIL 120	History and Philosophy of Scientific Thought (GT-AH3)	
PHIL 327	Philosophy of Behavioral Sciences	
PHIL 415	Logic and Scientific Method	
	Select one from the following:	3
STAT 305	Sampling Techniques	
STAT 340	Multiple Regression Analysis	
STAT 350	Design of Experiments	
	Select two from the following:	6
ANTH 441	Method in Cultural Anthropology	

AREC 335/ ECON 335	Introduction to Econometrics
SOC 210	The Power of Numbers--Statistics in Sociology
SOC 311	Sociological Research Methods

¹ Select a minimum of 12 upper-division (300- to 400-level) credits to fulfill Tier Four. Sophomores may take only 300-level courses from this section. Students may substitute a maximum of 3 credits in one of two ways: 1. from non-POLS specified courses shown above in the program; 2. by petitioning the advisor to include a non-POLS upper-division course when at least fifty percent (50%) of the course material and grading are related to environmental politics and policy. A course syllabus will be required for this option.

² Courses selected to fulfill Tier Three requirements may not also fulfill Tier Four requirements, and vice versa.

³ Sophomores may take only 300-level Tier Three courses.

⁴ 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).

⁵ Students must complete one upper-division course in each of four of the five departmental subfields (American Politics, Political Theory, International Relations, Comparative Politics, and Public Policy and Administration) prior to taking POLS 492.

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.

Upper-Division course in at least four subfields of Political Science required to register for POLS 492.

Freshman

Semester 1

	Critical	Recommended	AUCC	Credits
CO 150 College Composition (GT-CO2)		X	1A	3
POLS 101 American Government and Politics (GT-SS1)		X	3C	3
Arts and Humanities (http://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/all-university-core-curriculum/aucc/#arts-humanities)			3B	3
Biological and Physical Sciences (http://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/all-university-core-curriculum/aucc/#biological-physical-sciences)			3A	4
Elective				2

Total Credits

15

Semester 2

	Critical	Recommended	AUCC	Credits
POLS 103 State and Local Government and Politics (GT-SS1)		X	3C	3
Arts and Humanities (http://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/all-university-core-curriculum/aucc/#arts-humanities)			3B	3
Historical Perspectives (http://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/all-university-core-curriculum/aucc/#historical-perspectives)			3D	3
Quantitative Reasoning (http://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/all-university-core-curriculum/aucc/#quantitativereasoning)	X		1B	3
Elective				3
CO 150 and AUCC 1B (Quantitative Reasoning) must be completed by the end of Semester 2.	X			

Total Credits

15

Sophomore

Semester 3

	Critical	Recommended	AUCC	Credits
POLS 232 International Relations (GT-SS1)		X	1C	3
POLS 241 Comparative Government and Politics (GT-SS1)			1C	3
Support Option (See option list on Concentration Requirements Tab)				3-12
Tier Three (See Department List on Concentration Requirements tab)				0-3
Biological and Physical Sciences (http://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/all-university-core-curriculum/aucc/#biological-physical-sciences)		X	3A	3
Elective				3

Total Credits

18

Semester 4

	Critical	Recommended	AUCC	Credits
Select one course from the following:		X		3
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	
CO 301D	Writing in the Disciplines: Education (GT-CO3)			2	
CO 302	Writing in Digital Environments (GT-CO3)			2	
JTC 300	Strategic Writing and Communication (GT-CO3)			2	
LB 300	Specialized Professional Writing			2	
Tier Four: Select one course from the following:					3
POLS 361	U.S. Environmental Politics and Policy				
POLS 362	Global Environmental Politics				
POLS 364	Air, Climate, and Energy Policy Analysis				
Electives					9
Total Credits					15
Junior					
Semester 5					
		Critical	Recommended	AUCC	Credits
Tier Four (See List on Concentration Requirements Tab)					3-6
Tier Three (See List on Concentration Requirements Tab)					3-6
Support Option (See option list on Concentration Requirements Tab)					3-6
Elective					0-3
Total Credits					18
Semester 6					
		Critical	Recommended	AUCC	Credits
Tier Two: Select one from the following:					3
POLS 420	History of Political Thought			4A,4B	
POLS 421	Contemporary Political Theories			4A,4B	
POLS 422	Democratic Theory			4A,4B	
POLS 423	American Political Theories			4A,4B	
Support Option (See option list on Concentration Requirements Tab)					3-6
Electives					3-9
Total Credits					12
Senior					
Semester 7					
		Critical	Recommended	AUCC	Credits
Tier Four (See List on Concentration Requirements Tab)					3-6
Support Option (See option list on Concentration Requirements Tab)					3-6
Elective					0-3
Total Credits					12
Semester 8					
		Critical	Recommended	AUCC	Credits
POLS 492 (Tier Five)	Capstone Seminar	X		4A,4B,4C	3
Support Option (See option list on Concentration Requirements Tab)					3-6
Electives					3-12
The benchmark courses for the 8th semester are the remaining courses in the entire program of study.					X
Total Credits					15
Program Total Credits:					120