# Major in Political Science

Thirty-nine units with a grade equivalent of 2.00 or higher are required for the major in Political Science. Students must complete the following requirements:

### Foundation Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>POSC 101</td>
<td>INTRODUCTION TO POLITICAL SCIENCE</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POSC 103</td>
<td>AMERICAN NATIONAL GOVERNMENT</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POSC 105</td>
<td>GOVERNMENTS OF THE WORLD</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POSC 107</td>
<td>INTRODUCTION TO INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POSC 207</td>
<td>STATE GOVERNMENT</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POSC 209</td>
<td>INTRODUCTION TO LAW</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POSC 212</td>
<td>HONORS IN POLITICAL SCIENCE</td>
<td>1</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Topical Areas Required Courses

Select four of the following (each course must be in a different topical area):

**Topical Area: American Government and Public Administration**
- POSC 375: PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION
- POSC 381: THE PRESIDENCY
- POSC 383: CONGRESS
- POSC 384: JUDICIAL SYSTEM

**Topical Area: Comparative Politics**
- POSC 329: THE POLITICS OF ETHNICITY AND NATIONALISM
- POSC 337: COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT OF FOREIGN POWERS: THE WESTERN WORLD
- POSC 339: COMPARATIVE POLITICAL SYSTEMS
- POSC 340: COMPARATIVE PUBLIC POLICY

**Topical Area: International Relations**
- POSC 303: THEORY OF INTERNATIONAL POLITICS
- POSC 434: COMPARATIVE FOREIGN POLICY
- POSC 436: U.S. FOREIGN POLICY
- POSC 447: INTERNATIONAL LAW AND ORGANIZATION

**Topical Area: Law and the Judicial System**
- POSC 418: CONSTITUTIONAL LAW AND POLITICS
- POSC 419: CIVIL RIGHTS AND CIVIL LIBERTIES: THE FIRST AND FOURTEENTH AMENDMENTS
- POSC 422: THE SUPREME COURT

**Topical Area: Political Theory**
- POSC 427: POLITICAL THEORY I
- POSC 428: POLITICAL THEORY II
- POSC 430: AMERICAN POLITICAL THOUGHT

**Topical Area: State and Local Government**
- POSC 304: POLITICS OF METROPOLITAN GROWTH AND CHANGE
- POSC 305: URBAN GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

### Research Requirement

- POSC 301: POLITICAL RESEARCH I

### Research Requirement

- POSC 375: PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

#### Electives

Select four upper-division political science electives:

Courses taken in Topical Areas cannot be used to fulfill this requirement.

No more than 9 units (3 courses) of special topics courses (POSC 470-POSC 479) and internship credit (POSC 493 or POSC 494) combined may be used to fulfill the requirement.

All courses must be completed with a grade equivalent of 2.00 or higher except POSC 465. “Pass” will count only for POSC 465.

#### Seminar Requirement

Select one of the following:

- POSC 481: SEMINAR IN AMERICAN GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC POLICY
- POSC 482: SEMINAR IN COMPARATIVE POLITICS
- POSC 483: SEMINAR IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
- POSC 484: SEMINAR IN LAW AND JUDICIAL SYSTEM
- POSC 485: SEMINAR IN POLITICAL THEORY
- POSC 486: SEMINAR IN STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

**Total Units**: 39

1. The honors courses POSC 102 and POSC 108 can be substituted for POSC 101 and POSC 107 respectively.

2. Specific topics of the seminars vary from term to term. Students must have completed at least 15 units in political science prior to taking the seminar. POSC 301 is also a prerequisite for each seminar course. Each seminar has its own additional prerequisites that are shown in the course listing section of this catalog.

### Suggested Four-Year Plan

Based on course availability and student needs and preferences, the selected sequences will probably vary from those presented below. Students should consult with their advisor to make the most appropriate elective choices.

#### Freshman

**Term 1**
- Units Term 2
- 3 TSEM 102 or ENGL 102 (Core 1 or 2)
- MATH (Core 3)
- 3-4 POSC Foundation Requirement
- Core or Elective
- Core or Elective
- Core or Elective
- 15-16

**Sophomore**

**Term 1**
- Units Term 2
- POSC Foundation Requirement
- Science Core 7
- Core or Elective
- Core or Elective
- Core or Elective
- 16

**Term 2**
- Units Term 2
- 3 TSEM 102 or ENGL 102 (Core 1 or 2)
- 3-4 POSC Foundation Requirement
- 3 Core or Elective
- 3 Core or Elective
- 3 Core or Elective
- 15-16
### Major in Political Science

#### Junior

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term 1</th>
<th>Units Term 2</th>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>POSC Topical Area</td>
<td>3 POSC Topical Area</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POSC Topical Area</td>
<td>3 POSC Topical Area</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elective</td>
<td>3 Elective</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elective</td>
<td>3 Elective</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elective</td>
<td>3 Elective</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td><strong>15</strong></td>
<td><strong>15</strong></td>
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</table>

#### Senior

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term 1</th>
<th>Units Term 2</th>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>POSC Seminar</td>
<td>3 POSC Upper-level Elective</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POSC Upper-level Elective</td>
<td>3 POSC Upper-level Elective</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>POSC Upper-level Elective</td>
<td>3 Elective</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elective</td>
<td>3 Elective</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elective</td>
<td>3 Elective (optional, if needed)</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>15</strong></td>
<td><strong>15</strong></td>
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</table>

Total Units 121-123

1. Students will possess Substantive Knowledge about Politics. They will be able to describe and understand the structure and nature of politics and government.
2. Students will develop Critical Thinking Skills. They will be able to identify historical, cultural and socio-economic assumptions that underlie politics and explain how they affect perceptions and actions.
3. Students will obtain an appreciation for the Affective Meanings of Politics. They will be able to explain the importance of politics in their attitudes and beliefs about current issues that affect local, national and international affairs.
4. Students will acquire Skills for Learning and Life. They will be able to present articulate and persuasive arguments about politics in written and oral communications.