

Political Science

Bachelor's of Arts in Political Science

The Bachelor's (BA) Degree in Political Science will develop knowledge of American political institutions, world politics, political theory, public administration, and public policy. Our students learn to analyze, interpret, and explain political phenomena through the lens, and with the methods, of a political scientist. Our integrated curriculum challenges students to develop their critical thinking, communication, and research skills, preparing our graduates for citizenship, leadership, post-graduate study and diverse employment possibilities. Political Science is an excellent background for students preparing for careers in government, politics, civil society, the law, and the private sector.

As a Political Science major, you will construct an individualized course of study drawing on our rich curriculum, internship program, complimentary majors and minors, and study abroad opportunities. Students will take a lower division foundation block of four courses that introduces them to the sub-fields of Political Science and their modes of inquiry. After completion of the four-class foundation block, students individualize their course of study while fulfilling their upper division coursework requirements and a research design class.

Requirements for a degree in Political Science include:

1. Completion of four Political Science lower division foundation courses;
2. Completion of eight Political Science upper division courses with at least one course in each of the sub fields: American political institutions, political theory, world politics, and public administration/policy;
3. Completion of either STAT 216Q- Introduction to Statistics OR three credits of a foreign language at a second semester first year level, or higher;
4. Completion of PSCI 390R-Research Methods in Political Science your Junior year;
5. Completion of MSU general graduation requirements of 120 credits, including 42 upper division credits, and the MSU core.

*All Major requirements must be completed with a grade of "C" or better

Curriculum

First: Take all of the following lower division foundation courses:

PSCI 210IS	Introduction to American Government	3
PSCI 230D	Introduction to International Relations	3
PSCI 240	Introduction to Public Administration	3
PSCI 250	Introduction to Political Theory	3

Second: Take either Introduction to Statistics or three credits of a foreign language at second semester first year, or higher.

STAT 216Q	Introduction to Statistics	3
or one of the following sequences leading to first year second semester of foreign language		
ARAB 102D	Elementary Modern Arabic II	3
CHIN 102D	Elementary Chinese II	3
CHIN 201D	Intermediate Chinese I	3
CHIN 202D	Intermediate Chinese II	3

FRCH 102D	Elementary French II	3
FRCH 201D	Intermediate French I	3
FRCH 202D	Intermediate French II	3
GRMN 102D	Elementary German II	3
GRMN 201D	Intermediate German I	3
GRMN 202D	Intermediate German II	3
JPNS 102D	Elementary Japanese II	3
JPNS 201D	Intermediate Japanese I	3
JPNS 202D	Intermediate Japanese II	3
SPNS 102D	Elementary Spanish II	3
SPNS 201D	Intermediate Spanish I	3
SPNS 202D	Intermediate Spanish II	3

Third: Take Research Methods

PSCI 390R	Research Methods	3
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Fourth: Take eight of the following upper division courses, at least one from each of the four subfields:

Upper Division Electives by Subfield

American Political Institutions

PSCI 302	Media and Politics	3
PSCI 347	The U.S. Congress and the Legislative Process	3
PSCI 341	Political Parties and Elections	3
PSCI 346	American Presidency	3
PSCI 348	Multicultural Politics in the United States	3
PSCI 429	National Security Policy Decision-Making	3
PSCI 446	Congressional Campaign	3
PSCI 451	State and Local Government Policy Making	3
PSCI 470	Rural Politics	3
PSCI 471	American Constitutional Law	3

Political Theory

PSCI 323	Modern Political Thought	3
PSCI 331	International Relations Theory	3
PSCI 339	Culture and Ideology: The Development of the Modern Prison	3
PSCI 354	Contemporary Issues in Political Theory	3
PSCI 356	Classical Political Thought	3
PSCI 454	Cinema and Political Theory	3
PSCI 455	Politics & Virtue	3

International Relations/Comparative Politics

PSCI 331	International Relations Theory	3
PSCI 336	European Union	3
PSCI 337	Model United Nations	3
PSCI 338	Comparative Politics	3
PSCI 353	British Politics	3
PSCI 414	Drug Trafficking and Governance in the Americas	3
PSCI 418	The Politics of War & Peace	3
PSCI 423	Politics of Development	3
PSCI 429	National Security Policy Decision-Making	3
PSCI 434	International Law	3
PSCI 436	Politics of Food & Hunger	3

PSCI 437	International Political Econ	3
PSCI 439	International Human Rights	3
PSCI 483	The Politics of Authoritarianism	3
Public Administration/Policy		
PSCI 362	Natural Resource Policy	3
PSCI 407	Public Policy Analysis	3
PSCI 415	The Political Economy of Energy	3
PSCI 447	Politics of Community Development	3
PSCI 451	State and Local Government Policy Making	3
PSCI 461	Administrative Law	3
PSCI 465	Public Administration and Policy	3
NRSM 430	Natural Resource Law	3

B.A. in Political Science course trajectory

Freshman Year		Credits	
		Fall	Spring
PSCI 210IS - Introduction to American Government		3	
PSCI 250 - Introduction to Political Theory		3	
W CORE - We recommend College Writing I		3	
US CORE - University Seminar		3	
First Semester Foreign Language or Q CORE (100 level math course or above)		3	
PSCI 230D - Introduction to International Relations			3
PSCI 240 - Introduction to Public Administration			3
Second Semester Foreign Language or STAT 216			3
University CORE			6
Year Total:		15	15

Sophomore Year		Credits	
		Fall	Spring
One upper division Political Science course		3	
Remaining PSCI Foundation courses and/or University CORE		6	
Internship and/or remaining electives, minor, double major requirements		6	
Two upper division Political Science courses			6
Two remaining Political Science Foundation or University CORE requirements			6
Internship and/or remaining electives, minor, double major requirements			3
Year Total:		15	15

Junior Year		Credits	
		Fall	Spring
Two upper division Political Science courses		6	
PSCI 390R - Research Methods		3	
Remaining PSCI electives and/or University CORE		6	
Two upper division Political Science courses			6
Remaining Political Science electives and/or University CORE			3
Internship and/or remaining electives, minor, double major requirements			6
Year Total:		15	15

Senior Year		Credits	
		Fall	Spring
Internship and/or remaining electives, minor, double major requirements		12	
One upper division Political Science course		3	
Internship and/or remaining electives, minor, double major requirements			15
Year Total:		15	15
Total Program Credits:			120

Political Science Non-Teaching Minor

To earn a Political Science Non-Teaching Minor, a minimum of 21 credit hours are required, with 9 credits from upper division classes, 300-level and above in addition to taking all four foundation courses.

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PSCI 210IS	Introduction to American Government	3
PSCI 230D	Introduction to International Relations	3
PSCI 240	Introduction to Public Administration	3
PSCI 250	Introduction to Political Theory	3
3 upper division Political Science classes 300-400 level, internships are NOT included		
Total Credits		21

For previous catalog years and curriculum's, please click here (<http://catalog.montana.edu/archived-catalogs/>). Please reach out to the department at either politicalscience@montana.edu or (406) 994-4141 for more information or questions.

Undergraduate Curriculum in Political Science Curriculum

First: Take all of the following lower division foundation courses:

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PSCI 230D	Introduction to International Relations	3
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JPNS 202D	Intermediate Japanese II	3
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PSCI 446	Congressional Campaign	3
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PSCI 470	Rural Politics	3
PSCI 471	American Constitutional Law	3

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PSCI 434	International Law	3
PSCI 436	Politics of Food & Hunger	3
PSCI 437	International Political Econ	3
PSCI 439	International Human Rights	3
PSCI 483	The Politics of Authoritarianism	3

Public Administration/Policy

PSCI 362	Natural Resource Policy	3
PSCI 407	Public Policy Analysis	3
PSCI 415	The Political Economy of Energy	3
PSCI 447	Politics of Community Development	3
PSCI 451	State and Local Government Policy Making	3
PSCI 461	Administrative Law	3
PSCI 465	Public Administration and Policy	3
NRSM 430	Natural Resource Law	3

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Freshman Year	Credits	
	Fall	Spring
PSCI 210IS - Introduction to American Government	3	
PSCI 250 - Introduction to Political Theory	3	
W CORE - We recommend College Writing I	3	
US CORE - University Seminar	3	
First Semester Foreign Language or Q CORE (100 level math course or above)	3	
PSCI 230D - Introduction to International Relations		3
PSCI 240 - Introduction to Public Administration		3
Second Semester Foreign Language or STAT 216		3
University CORE		6
Year Total:	15	15
Sophomore Year	Credits	
	Fall	Spring
One upper division Political Science course	3	
Remaining PSCI Foundation courses and/or University CORE	6	
Internship and/or remaining electives, minor, double major requirements	6	
Two upper division Political Science courses		6
Two remaining Political Science Foundation or University CORE requirements		6
Internship and/or remaining electives, minor, double major requirements		3
Year Total:	15	15
Junior Year	Credits	
	Fall	Spring
Two upper division Political Science courses	6	
PSCI 390R - Research Methods	3	
Remaining PSCI electives and/or University CORE	6	
Two upper division Political Science courses		6
Remaining Political Science electives and/or University CORE		3
Internship and/or remaining electives, minor, double major requirements		6
Year Total:	15	15
Senior Year	Credits	
	Fall	Spring
Internship and/or remaining electives, minor, double major requirements	12	
One upper division Political Science course	3	

Internship and/or remaining electives, minor, double major requirements	15	
Year Total:	15	15
Total Program Credits:		120

A minimum of 120 credits is required for graduation; 42 of these credits must be in courses numbered 300 and above. No political science course may be counted in more than one upper division sub-field requirement.

Political Science majors must fulfill Social Science Inquiry (IS) and Diversity (D) University Core requirements outside of the PSCI rubric. Before a Political Science major may enroll in any upper division political science course, the student must have achieved a grade of "C" or better in PSCI 201-Scope and Methods and have taken the associated introductory sub-field prerequisite as indicated for the major.

The Master of Public Administration (MPA) degree is a professional degree designed to prepare both pre- and mid-career professionals and administrators for supervisory, analytical support and policy-making positions in public sector agencies, and non-profit organizations, at local, state and federal levels. The program stresses sound preparation in wide range of administrative competencies. MPA coursework includes studies in public administration theory, human resource management, public budgeting, leadership, ethics, organization dynamics, and research methods for public administrators. Information on this program can be found at the MPA Graduate Program (<http://catalog.montana.edu/graduate/letters-science/political-science/>) page.