POLITICAL SCIENCE, MINOR

Program Requirements

To earn a minor in political science, a student must complete a minimum of 18 semester hours of political science courses beyond the requirements of the Core Curriculum Program.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Required Courses</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>List 1</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Select two of the following:</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 2311</td>
<td>Mexican American and Latinx Politics</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 2318</td>
<td>Politics, Groups, &amp; Society</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 3311</td>
<td>Women and Politics</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 3312</td>
<td>Campaigns and Elections</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 3313</td>
<td>The Legislative Process</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 3316</td>
<td>The American Presidency</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 3317</td>
<td>Judicial Politics</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 3341</td>
<td>Introduction to Public Administration</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 3342</td>
<td>Introduction to Public Policy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 3343</td>
<td>Bureaucracy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 3351</td>
<td>Civil Rights &amp; Liberties</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 4311</td>
<td>Urban Politics</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 4312</td>
<td>Government Budgeting and Finance</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 4314</td>
<td>Media and Politics</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 3314</td>
<td>Public Opinion</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 3315</td>
<td>Political Parties</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>List 2</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Select two of the following</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 2319</td>
<td>Religion and Politics</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 2327</td>
<td>The Politics of War</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 3321</td>
<td>Comparative Politics</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 3331</td>
<td>International Relations</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 3361</td>
<td>Western Political Theory</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 3365</td>
<td>Political Theory and Ideologies</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 4320</td>
<td>The Politics of the European Union</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 4321</td>
<td>Comparative Politics of Developing Nations</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 4322</td>
<td>Transitions to Democracy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 4325</td>
<td>Politics in Latin America</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 4361</td>
<td>American Political Thought</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Electives                       |       |
| The remaining 6 hours of unrestricted electives can be any political science course. | 6     |
| **Total Hours**                  | 18    |

Courses

POLS 2304 Introduction to Political Science
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
Introductory survey of the discipline of political science focusing on the scope and methods of the field, and the substantive topics in the discipline including the theoretical foundations of politics, political interaction, political institutions and how political systems function.

TCCNS: GOVT 2304

POLS 2305 U.S. Government and Politics
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
A basic survey of American government, including fundamental political institutions, with special attention to the United States and Texas Constitutions.

TCCNS: GOVT 2305

POLS 2306 State and Local Government
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
The politics, government, and administration of American states, counties, cities, and special districts, with special emphasis on Texas.

TCCNS: GOVT 2306

POLS 2311 Mexican American and Latinx Politics
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
The study of Mexican American and Latinx politics within the American political experience. Topics include historical, cultural, socioeconomic, and constitutional issues that pertain to the study of Mexican Americans and other Latinx populations in the United States. Other topics such as political participation, governmental institutions, electoral politics, political representation, demographic trends, and other contemporary public policy debates will also be addressed.

TCCNS: GOVT 2311

POLS 2318 Politics, Groups, & Society
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
This course explores the role of groups in political and social change in society. In doing so, the course explores the formal and informal institutions which aid and constrain group effectiveness. An emphasis is placed on contemporary examples.

POLS 2319 Religion and Politics
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
The course will examine the intersection of religion and politics historically and during contemporary times with an emphasis on beliefs, behaviors, institutions, and policies.

POLS 2324 Immigration Politics
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
This course will focus on immigration in the United States but will also briefly examine it from a cross-national perspective. Some of the topics covered will include the causes and effects of migration, public opinion on immigration, and contemporary state and local immigration policies. The purpose of this course is to inform students on salient aspects of immigrations within the United States and its consequences on the political system. We will use a variety of tools including classroom discussions, lectures, student response systems, in-class activities, and writing assignments to achieve this goal.

POLS 2325 Political Psychology
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
Political psychology is interdisciplinary using psychology to explain political behavior. This course exposes students to a range of theoretical and empirical approaches to the study of political behavior ranging from voting behavior to nuclear deterrence, from the politics of race to the politics of genocide. We explore topics including leadership, group behavior, voting, media effects, race, ethnicity, nationalism, political extremism, social movements, genocide, and war and deterrence.
POLS 2316 The American Presidency
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
A study of the federal executive branch with an emphasis upon the American Presidency with its relationships to other American political institutions and processes.

POLS 2317 Judicial Politics
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
This course examines the political factors that influence judicial selection, decision-making and the policy-making role of courts. Furthermore, attention is directed at the impact of court decisions and the structure of the judiciary.

POLS 2321 Comparative Politics
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
Concepts, theories and analytical frameworks for comparing different types of political systems around the world. Emphasis is placed on learning about different political systems and using the comparative method to evaluate and develop a richer understanding of politics, political culture, political behavior, and political institutions.

POLS 2331 International Relations
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
Examination of the structure and function of the international system focusing on the power relationships among states, international organizations, and the critical issues animating contemporary international relations.

POLS 2341 Introduction to Public Administration
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
Study of organization and management theories and practices of public administration affecting federal and subnational governments. Bureaucratic structures and procedures will be examined for their effects on policy, program development and evaluation.

POLS 2342 Introduction to Public Policy
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
A survey of the policy process in the United States. The course will examine factors affecting the development, implementation and impact of public policies as well as a discussion of policy alternatives and controversies.

POLS 2343 Bureaucracy
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
Examines the concept of the political role of the bureaucracy and the impact of other government institutions on bureaucratic structures, functions and behavior. The role of bureaucracy in public policy making and the influence of politics on implementation is analyzed.

POLS 2351 Civil Rights & Liberties
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
This course explores the provision of civil rights and liberties, including First Amendment freedoms and criminal rights, through the lens of Supreme Court decisions. While historical cases are examined, special emphasis is put on contemporary Court decisions.

POLS 2361 Western Political Theory
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
The fundamental concepts and problems of political theory, as viewed by the major classical philosophers and contemporary theorists, including justice, power, authority, obligation, freedom, equality.

POLS 2365 Political Theory and Ideologies
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
Major 19th and 20th-Century political theorists and ideological movements. Includes a review of capitalism, socialism, fascism, and liberalism.
POLS 4303 Seminar in Political Science
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
Capstone course for political science majors, examines significant developments and issue in American politics as they are addressed in the professional literature of political science. Offers the opportunity of an intensive study of as selected topic. Emphasis on supervised research on selected topic.
Prerequisite: POLS 3303.

POLS 4311 Urban Politics
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
The institutions, political processes and policy issues of urban areas of the United States.

POLS 4312 Government Budgeting and Finance
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
Study of the politics and processes of governmental budgeting at local, state, and federal levels with emphasis on the interrelatedness of governmental units through budgeting.

POLS 4314 Media and Politics
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
Impact of mass media coverage on American political institutions, the election process, and public opinion in general and the appropriate role of media and news in a society.

POLS 4320 The Politics of the European Union
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
Examination of the institutional, economic and political forces that led to the creation and development of the European Union. Emphasis on the impact the European Union has had on world affairs.

POLS 4321 Comparative Politics of Developing Nations
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
Analysis of contemporary issues within and amongst developing nations. Examines various institutions, political processes, and public policy debates in some or all of the following regions: Africa, Latin America, the Middle East, or Asia.

POLS 4322 Transitions to Democracy
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
Analysis of transitions to democracy from authoritarian rule. Various stages of the transition process and theories of democratization are assessed. Emphasis will be placed on "third wave" transitions to democracy.

POLS 4325 Politics in Latin America
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
Latin American governments and politics as related to such topical problems and processes as land reform and expropriation.

POLS 4361 American Political Thought
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
A survey of the major developments in American political thought from the Colonial period to the present, followed by an analysis of important recent theoretical developments in American political thought.

POLS 4390 Topics in Political Science
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
May be repeated for credit when topic varies.

POLS 4396 Directed Individual Study
1-3 Semester Credit Hours (1-3 Lecture Hours)
See College description.

POLS 4398 Applied Experience
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
NCD.