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>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Required Courses</td>
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<td>Select one of the following:</td>
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<tr>
<td>POLS 3312</td>
<td>Campaigns and Elections</td>
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<td>POLS 3314</td>
<td>Public Opinion</td>
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<td>POLS 3315</td>
<td>Political Parties</td>
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<td>POLS 3313</td>
<td>The Legislative Process</td>
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<td>POLS 3316</td>
<td>The American Presidency</td>
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<td>POLS 3317</td>
<td>Judicial Politics</td>
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<td>Select one of the following:</td>
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<tr>
<td>POLS 3321</td>
<td>Comparative Politics</td>
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<tr>
<td>POLS 3331</td>
<td>International Relations</td>
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<td>POLS 4325</td>
<td>Politics in Latin America</td>
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<td>Select one of the following:</td>
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<td>POLS 3361</td>
<td>Western Political Theory</td>
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<td>POLS 3365</td>
<td>Political Theory and Ideologies</td>
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<td>POLS 4361</td>
<td>American Political Thought</td>
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<td>Electives</td>
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<td>The remaining 6 hours of unrestricted electives can be any political science course.</td>
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<td>Total Hours</td>
<td>18</td>
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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 3303  Contemporary Political Analysis
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
Analysis of current problems in national and international politics. Emphasis is on methods of analysis, particularly the use of computers. Includes a segment on career opportunities for political science majors.

POLS 3311  Women and Politics
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
The course will examine public policies affecting women, political participation, women in public office, and political attitudes of women.

POLS 3312  Campaigns and Elections
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
A survey of the literature on campaigns and elections including theories of voter choice; effects of mass media and campaign finance regulations on the conduct and outcome of elections; effects of elections on policy; emphasis on U.S. national elections.

POLS 3313  The Legislative Process
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
Survey and description of the legislative process in the United States Congress with relevant comparisons to practices within the several states and foreign nations. Emphasis upon the lawmaking process explained in terms of structure, participants, groups, associations and power relationships.

POLS 3314  Public Opinion
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
An analysis of the kinds and distributions of opinions and attitudes in the mass public and the effects of those opinions on activities of policy makers, with special attention to problems of linking public opinion to public policy.

POLS 3315  Political Parties
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
Organization, history, and activities of political parties and functions they serve in national, state, and local politics in the United States and elsewhere.

POLS 3316  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 3317  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 3318  Interest Groups
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
Role of interest groups in politics: types of groups and resources; internal
dynamics; group strategies/tactics (including PACs); forms of indirect
and direct lobbying; influence of groups in the political arena.

POLS 3319  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 3321  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 3331  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 3341  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 3342  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 3343  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 3351  U.S. Constitution and Federalism
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
The course will examine the development of the U.S. Constitution since
1789 through legal decisions and interpretations. The development,
evolution, and interpretations of federalism are also addressed. (Note:
This course will complete the Texas Teacher Certification requirement
in government for those who already have three semester hours in U.S.
Government and need three additional semester hours that include the
government and constitution of Texas.)

POLS 3361  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 3365  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 3369  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 3371  Urban Politics
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
The institutions, political processes and policy issues of urban areas of
the United States.

POLS 3381  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 3391  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 3392  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 3393  Comparative Politics of Developing Nations
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
Analysis of contemporary issues within and amongst developing
countries. 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 3394  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 3395  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 3396  The Politics of War
3 Semester Credit Hours (3 Lecture Hours)
This course will examine the politics of war from ancient times to the
present. Included in this survey are great generals and military
strategists, from Sun Tzu to Napoleon to generals of the American Civil
War. Students will study concepts of international law, the law of nations,
and the laws of war. The course further examines military strategy and
tactics of the 20th century.
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.