Political Science

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Political science studies how political systems function, how they serve the common good and solve the many problems confronting modern society in such areas as social justice, international security, economic development, and many more. It studies how political systems interact at the international level, why they succeed or fail and what can be done to improve them.

The Political Science Department offers a B.A. and M.A. degree, a minor, and contributes to a variety of certificate programs. The Department also offers an Accelerated B.A./M.A. Faculty specialties span the entire discipline, from American politics to African politics, from feminist theory to asymmetric warfare, from diplomacy to globalization.

Political Science (B.A.)

Program Requirements
33 hours including the following courses:

One course in each of the following 4 sub-fields

American Politics
POLS 110 Introduction to American Political System
POLS 210 American Constitution
POLS 211 American Constitution: Civil Liberties
POLS 218 American Presidential Elections

POLS 220 Intro to State and Local Government
POLS 293 Special Topics
POLS 310 Judicial Decision-making
POLS 312 The American Presidency
POLS 316 Electoral Behavior
POLS 317 The Legislative Process
POLS 340 Introduction to Public Administration
POLS 342 Introduction to Administrative Law
POLS 393 Special Topics
POLS 414 Political Parties and Interest Groups
POLS 493 Special Topics

Comparative Politics
POLS 150 Introduction to Comparative Politics
POLS 151 Politics of the Developing World
POLS 250 Asian Miracles
POLS 251 West European Politics
POLS 252 Introduction to African Politics
POLS 253 Soviet & Post-Soviet Politics
POLS 254 Ethnicity and Internal War
POLS 255 Political Systems of the Sub-Sahara
POLS 256 The Politics of Asia
POLS 257 Introduction to Latin American Politics
POLS 293 Special Topics
POLS 351 Rebirth of Democracy
POLS 352 Communism, Capitalism, & Social Justice
POLS 353 Comparative Revolutions
POLS 354 Latin American Social Movements
POLS 356 Political Processes in Latin America
POLS 357 Third World Development
POLS 360 Problems of Globalization
POLS 361 Multilateral Diplomacy
POLS 364 International Law
POLS 365 International Relations of Africa
POLS 381 Latin American-U.S. Relations
POLS 486 Political Thought of Asia
POLS 451 Democratization
POLS 450 Russian Political Culture

International Relations
POLS 160 Introduction to International Politics
POLS 260 Intro to International Political Economy
POLS 261 Introduction to Diplomacy
POLS 264 International Terrorism
POLS 265 War and Peace in the Middle East
POLS 266 Middle East in International Politics
POLS 360 Problems of Globalization
POLS 361 Multilateral Diplomacy
POLS 364 International Law
POLS 365 International Relations of Africa
POLS 381 Latin American-U.S. Relations
POLS 461 International Relations: Theory & Practice
POLS 462 International Organization & Management of World Problems
POLS 466 Asymmetric Warfare
POLS 469 Theories of World Politics
POLS 493 Special Topics
Political Thought
POLS 170 Foundations of Political Theory
POLS 371 Ancient and Medieval Political Thought
POLS 372 Renaissance and Modern Political Thought
POLS 375 Democratic Theory
POLS 376 Feminist Theory: Gender Justice
POLS 393 Special Topics
POLS 473 Contemporary Political Ideologies
POLS 475 American Political Thought
POLS 486 Political Thought of Asia
POLS 493 Special Topics

Methods or Analysis
POLS 300 Methods in Political Science
POLS 301 Cultural Analysis
POLS 302 Methods: Social Movements

(Prerequisite for POLS 300, 301, and 302: any two Political Science classes)

2 400-level seminars
POLS 414 Political Parties and Interest Groups
POLS 451 Democratization
POLS 452 Russian Political Culture
POLS 461 International Relations: Theory & Practice
POLS 462 International Organization and Management of World Problems
POLS 466 Asymmetric Warfare
POLS 469 Theories of World Politics
POLS 473 Contemporary Political Ideologies
POLS 475 American Political Thought
POLS 484 Politics of Health
POLS 485 Politics of the Future
POLS 486 Political Thought of Asia
POLS 493 Special Topics

(Prerequisite for 400-level seminars: at least one course in the same subfield and at least junior standing - or instructor permission)

An alternative to one of the 400-level seminars: students having a grade-point average of 3.30 or better may, with Department Chair approval, take POLS 483, an individual research project under the supervision of a Political Science faculty member.

With permission, students may write a Political Science honors thesis, which substitutes for 1 400-level seminar

Political Science electives

Political Science majors may not take more than six hours of independent study (POLS498), and/or internship work toward the 33-hour Political Science requirement.

Madrid Students
The B.A. in Political Science, with a concentration in International Relations, is offered at the Madrid Campus.

Requirements:
Overall requirements for the degree completed in Madrid are the same as those for Political Science majors on the Saint Louis Frost campus, with the addition of advanced courses in International Relations and a related hours requirement (see below)

- Completion of an overall 42 credit hour program: 33 credit hour Political Science program with a focus on International Relations; 6 credit hours in Economics; 3 credit hours in Communication
- Completion of College of Arts and Sciences Core Curriculum
- Related hours: Completion of a minor (such as Spanish, French, German or English), a certificate program (such as the Ibero-American Studies Certificate, or approved elective hours related to the major
- Advanced knowledge of Spanish
- Madrid BA students will be required to take 6 credit hours (two courses) from St Louis political science faculty, either in St Louis or Madrid
- Madrid BA students are encouraged to study abroad for one semester at St Louis University’s home campus.

Minor
A Minor can be attained by taking 18 hours

These courses can be distributed in a general track or a specialized track:

General track
3 courses in three of the four major subfields:
American Politics, Comparative Politics, International Relations, Political Thought

3 political science electives

Specialized track
3 courses in just one of the major subfields

3 political science electives

Course Streams
To give some focus to a major, students are encouraged to develop streams of 3 or 4 courses in at least one of the four sub-fields or a cross-sub-field area of interest (like social justice or democratization or legal studies)
in political science. Thus, students would start with the sub-field introductory course and follow with 2 or 3 other courses in this sub-field. Students should consult with department faculty advisors to develop relevant course streams.

**Honors Thesis**
There is also a Political Science Honors Program option for qualified and highly motivated students. These students need to inform the Department Chair of their interest in the spring of their Junior Year. Students doing an Honors Thesis must have a Political Science GPA of 3.5 and an overall GPA of 3.4. This program involves a full year, two course sequence: POLS490 Research Design and POLS491 Political Science Honors Thesis. Students doing honors theses will have a 36 hour major.

**Internships**
The Political Science department encourages majors to take political internships as part of their degree programs. These provide excellent practical experience that potential employers appreciate. Internships often help majors select a future career. Students select internships in consultation with their mentors.

The Department offers **eleven different internships**, which may satisfy up to 6 credit hours of electives. Aldermanic Internship, Campaign Practicum, State Legislative Internship Washington Internship, Overseas Internship, Foreign Service Internship, Women Leaders Internship, Administrative Internship, Federal Government Internship, Political Science Internship, Research Internship

**Certificate Programs**
The Department of Political Science participates in the Political Journalism Certificate, the Foreign Service Certificate, and the Latin American Studies Certificate programs which are open to any major. Electives may include an approved minor or Certificate Program in the College of Arts and Sciences. See “Certificate Programs” for specific requirements.

**Accelerated B.A./M.A.**
SLU undergraduate political science majors with a GPA of at least 3.4 may apply during their junior year for admission to an accelerated B.A./M.A. program, which offers a concentration in either Law, Culture, and Politics or International Affairs. The accelerated B.A./M.A. in Political Science allows SLU undergraduate political science majors to earn both a Bachelor's and Master's degree in five years.
Political Journalism
Certificate

Jean-Robert Leguey-Feilleux, Ph.D., Co-Director
Department of Political Science, McGannon Hall 134

Avis E. Meyer, Ph.D., Co-Director
Department of Communication, Xavier Hall 300

The Political Journalism Certificate is a cooperative program of the departments of Communication and Political Science. It is open to all majors, including Communication and Political Science.

The Certificate consists of 15 hours in each department, plus 12 hours in related areas, as follows:

**Required Courses**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CMM210 Journalism: News Writing</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>Four of the following Communication courses</td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td>CMM311 Feature Writing</td>
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<td>CMM312 Audio-Visual Script Writing</td>
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<td>CMM313 Editorial Writing</td>
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<td>CMM314 Essays</td>
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<td>CMM342 Literary Journalism</td>
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<td>CMM347 Political Communication</td>
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<td>CMM416 Editing</td>
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<td>CMM447 Rhetoric of Political Campaigns</td>
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<td>CMM491 Internship with University News</td>
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<tr>
<td>POLS110 American Politics</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>POLS220 Intro to State and Local Politics</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>POLS340 Intro to Public Administration</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Additional Political Science electives</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Additional electives, with content links to either journalism or political science, from at least three areas other than Communication and Political Science</td>
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