

# Department of Political Science

**FACULTY** Professors *Aspin (chair), Gill, Hall, Lermack;*  
*Associate Professors Curtis, Dannehl, Cobeyn;*  
*Distinguished Adjunct Professor Michel.*

The undergraduate major is designed to maximize students' capacity to analyze and interpret the significance and dynamics of political events and governmental processes be they at the global level or at the local community level. Students build an excellent foundation for numerous careers by mastering the accumulated basic general knowledge of political science and developing the related analytical skills. Political science majors most frequently pursue careers in law, business, governmental service, private political organizations, journalism, and academic political science. Many students with yet other career aspirations major in political science so they can understand not only how government affects them, but also how they can affect government.

## Major in Political Science

A major in political science consists of a minimum of ten political science courses and satisfaction of the department's requirements for either the B.A. or B.S. degree.

## Political Science Course Requirements

The political science requirements are: (1) A core of four courses to provide a grounding in the traditional sub-fields of the discipline: PLS 105, American politics; PLS 205, comparative politics; PLS 207, political theory; and PLS 208, international relations; (2) PLS 209, scope and methods of political science; (3) two upper-level (300-400) courses in each of two sub-fields to permit concentration and to acquire a depth of understanding; and (4) a senior seminar (PLS 491, 492, 493, or 494) designed to be a culminating experience.

Sub-field course work is distributed as follows:

American politics: PLS 105, 202, 301, 310, 311,  
360, 419, 420, 421, 422, 440,  
459, 460, 494

Comparative politics: PLS 205, 303, 304, 305, 306, 491

International relations: PLS 208, 302, 317, 318, 319, 492

Political theory: PLS 207, 300, 307, 308, 407, 493

Each student's prospectus, which must be approved by his/her advisor, will outline the courses to be taken to satisfy the degree requirements. Individual interests and special capabilities of the student, as well as the scope of the discipline, are considered in preparing the prospectus. Courses initially proposed in the prospectus may be revised upon approval of the advisor. The Political Science Department maintains a policy of close supervision of its majors and urges them to consult regularly with their faculty advisor.

In planning their academic program, students intending to major in political science are encouraged to complete the core courses (PLS 105, 205, 207, 208) as early as practicable. Students should complete PLS 209 prior to enrolling in a senior seminar.

## Bachelor of Arts Degree Requirements

Two years or its equivalent of college-level foreign language. (This means that a student must complete 202 or a 300-level language course. Whenever that has been completed, the requirement has been met.)

## Bachelor of Science Degree Requirements

Students must complete four courses:

**Required:** (three courses)

- (1) Any course in mathematics (except MTH 100)
- (2) Statistics (MTH 111 or PSY 205 or QM 262)
- (3) Computer Science (CIS 102, 203; CS 106, 121, or 206)

**Elective:** (choose one course from among the following):

BMA 272; CIS 102, 203; CS 106, 121, 206; ECO 325, 332, 333, 319; MTG 341; MTH 115 or above; QM 263; PSY 306

## Minor in Political Science

The minor is to provide students with a flexible, coherent, and guided study in the discipline of political science as it relates to their specific academic major or personal interests and needs. The minor requires a minimum of 15 hours in political science, at least 9 hours of which must be at the junior-senior level. The 9 hours of junior-senior-level courses cannot also be used to satisfy the requirements of any other major or minor.

All minors must take PLS 105, PLS 209, and a senior seminar (PLS 491, 492, 493, or 494). In addition, the student must take 6 hours of junior-senior level courses representing a coherent program of study and meeting the approval of a political science faculty advisor. It is the role of the student's faculty advisor to help work out a specific program coinciding with the student's academic major, interests, and needs.

Some suggested programs of study:

**Pre-Law:** 105, 209, 360, 419, 459, 460, 494.

**Public Management:** 105, 209, 419, 420, 421, 422, 494.

**Communications and Politics:** 105, 209, 301, 310, 360, 419, 494.

**Behavioral Politics:** 105, 209, 301, 310, 311, 360, 422, 494.

**International and Comparative Politics:** 105, 209, 302, 303, 304, 305, 317, 318, 319, 491 or 492.

**Urban Politics:** 105, 209, 419, 420, 421, 422, 494.

**Political Philosophy:** 105, 209, 307, 308, 407, 493.

## Off-Campus Programs

Political science majors are urged to consider the many off-campus programs available. Bradley annually sends students to the various Washington Semester programs (through American University in Washington, D.C.). The University also participates in many programs of study abroad. Students are also urged to consider participating in either the department's internship program or in the University's Cooperative Education/Internship Program (see the Cooperative Education/Internship section of this

catalog). Bradley students are eligible to do internships through the Washington Center for Internships. The Center seeks to utilize the resources of the nation's capital to provide participatory learning experiences in order to enhance students' academic, civic, and professional development. All of these programs provide students with practical experience while they are pursuing academic goals.

## Pre-Law

A statement on pre-law curricula is given at the beginning of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences section of this catalog.

## Course Descriptions

**PLS 105 Introduction to American Government 3 hrs. (Gen. Ed. SF)**

The American political system: constitutional principles, political processes, and governmental policy making.

**PLS 202 State and Local Government 3 hrs.**  
Political processes through which rapidly growing problems of the state and local governments are identified, fought over, and resolved.

**PLS 205 Introduction to Comparative Politics 3 hrs. (Gen. Ed. SF)**

Comparative analysis of selected political systems. Prerequisite: PLS 105 or consent of instructor.

**PLS 207 Introduction to Political Thought 3 hrs. (Gen. Ed. HP)**

Recurrent concepts or issues in political thought and ways they have been treated by classic and contemporary writers. Obligation and the social contract, liberty, justice and equality, property, representation.

**PLS 208 Fundamentals of International Relations 3 hrs. (Gen. Ed. SF)**

Fundamental issues and problems that have contributed to structuring current patterns of international relations. Prerequisite: PLS 105 or consent of instructor.

**PLS 209 Scope and Methods of Political Science 3 hrs.**  
Introduction to political inquiry; research methods necessary for in-depth research. Prerequisite: PLS 105.

**PLS 290 Participation in Mock Trial 1 hr.**

Research and performance laboratory for students who participate in the American Mock Trial Association competition. May be repeated for a maximum of 4 hours credit. Prerequisite: consent of instructor.

**PLS 300 Topics in Political Thought 3 hrs.**

Topics of special interest which may vary each time course is offered. Topic stated in current Schedule of Classes. May be repeated under a different topic for a maximum 6 hours credit. Prerequisite: PLS 207.

**PLS 301 Topics in American Politics 3 hrs.**

Analysis of research, concepts, institutions, theories, and literature. Topics of special interest which may vary each time course is offered. Topic stated in current Schedule of Classes. May be repeated under a different topic for a maximum of 6 hours credit. Prerequisite: PLS 105.

**PLS 302 Topics in International Relations 3 hrs.**

Topics of special interest which may vary each time course is offered. Topic stated in current Schedule of Classes. May be repeated under a different topic for a maximum of 6 hours credit. Prerequisite: 3 hours of political science.

- PLS 304 Governments of West Europe** 3 hrs.  
Governmental structures, public policies, policy making processes, ideological foundations, and dynamics of political and economic change in the parliamentary democracies of West Europe; emphasis on Britain, France, Germany, the Netherlands, and Sweden. Prerequisite: PLS 205.
- PLS 305 Topics in Comparative Government** 3 hrs.  
Topics of special interest which may vary each time course is offered. Topic stated in current Schedule of Classes. May be repeated under a different topic for a maximum of 6 hours credit. Prerequisite: PLS 205.
- PLS 306 Comparative Public Policy** 3 hrs.  
A comparative introduction to the social and economic policies of such advanced industrial democracies as Japan, Britain, France, Germany, Sweden, the Netherlands, and the United States. Prerequisite: PLS 205.
- PLS 307 Classical Political Philosophy** 3 hrs.  
(Gen. Ed. HP)  
Systematic political thought in Western philosophy during ancient and medieval times. Cross listed as PHL 307. Prerequisite: junior standing.
- PLS 308 Modern Political Philosophy** 3 hrs.  
(Gen. Ed. HP)  
From the beginning of the modern period through the 19th century. Cross listed as PHL 308. Prerequisite: junior standing.
- PLS 310 Political Behavior** 3 hrs.  
Formation of opinion, perception of political events, voting behavior, and political participation; significance for democratic government. Prerequisite: PLS 105.
- PLS 311 Political Parties: Electorate and Politics** 3 hrs.  
Organization and activities of modern political parties, forces shaping partisan organization and activities, and development of public policy. Emphasis on party politics in contemporary America, with attention to American political history and comparative party systems. Prerequisite: PLS 105.
- PLS 317 International Law** 3 hrs.  
Nature, sources, and development of international law as it has been invoked in diplomatic practices, international adjudications, and national courts. Prerequisite: PLS 208 or consent of instructor.
- PLS 318 International Organization** 3 hrs.  
The analysis of major international problems of a character requiring the concerted efforts of international organization in their solutions. Prerequisite: PLS 208 or consent of instructor.
- PLS 319 International Political Economy of the Industrialized World** 3 hrs.  
Overview of theories and issues in international political economy affecting relations among advanced industrialized countries. Development of the international political economy; institutions for its management; emerging issues and future prospects. Prerequisites: ECO 222; PLS 208; or consent of instructor.
- PLS 360 Judicial Politics** 3 hrs.  
(Gen. Ed. SF)  
Political behavior of American trial courts and variables connecting them to the larger political system. Examples from criminal procedure and civil justice cases. Emphasis on police and prosecutorial discretion; recruitment of judges; juries; and social function of judgments and punishments. Prerequisite: PLS 105 or consent of instructor.
- PLS 380 Washington Center Seminar** 3 hrs.  
Provides credit for students participating in the seminar component of the Washington Center program in Washington, D.C. Prerequisites: consent of instructor.
- PLS 390 Participation in Mock Trial** 1 hr.  
Research and performance laboratory for junior and senior students who participate in the American Mock Trial Association competition. May be repeated for a maximum of 4 hours credit. Prerequisites: consent of the instructor; junior/senior standing.
- PLS 407 American Political Philosophy** 3 hrs.  
Systematic political thought in American philosophy from colonial times to the present. Cross listed as PHL 407. Prerequisite: PLS/PHL 307 or 308, or consent of instructor.
- PLS 419 Introduction to Public Administration** 3 hrs.  
Public administration in a democratic setting; history of American PA, organization theory, public personnel, budgeting, intergovernmental relations, decision making and policy analysis, the regulatory process, and ethics in government. Prerequisite: PLS 105 or 202.
- PLS 420 Public Personnel Administration** 3 hrs.  
A study of the basic issues and techniques of public personnel administration: focus on the distinctive setting in which public managers function, theories of motivation in the work place, and the tasks commonly faced by human resource managers in the public sector. Prerequisite: junior standing.
- PLS 421 The Politics of Regulation** 3 hrs.  
An examination of the modern administrative state through an in-depth study of the federal regulatory process; administrative law and procedure; the politics involved in the development and reform of the federal regulatory bureaucracy. Prerequisites: PLS 105; junior standing.
- PLS 422 Urban Politics** 3 hrs.  
Study of selected problems in metropolitan areas: political forms, ethnic politics, education, housing, poverty, corrections; theories dealing with these problems. Prerequisites: PLS 105; junior standing.
- PLS 440 Public Policy Analysis** 3 hrs.  
In-depth study of the policy making process, including agenda setting, policy formation, implementation, evaluation, and change. Prerequisites: PLS 105, 209; or consent of instructor.
- PLS 459 Constitutional Law** 3 hrs.  
Position of the Supreme Court in American system of government as both symbol and instrument of power. Case method. Prerequisite: PLS 105; junior standing.
- PLS 460 Constitutional Law** 3 hrs.  
Supreme Court as one of the policy making agencies of the federal government. Relationship between citizen and government in civil, property, and political rights. Prerequisite: PLS 105; junior standing.
- PLS 480 Internship in Political Science** 1-6 hrs.  
Students work with selected political agencies, to study practical political problems from the perspective of the discipline. Course may be repeated for a maximum of six credit hours. Pass/Fail. Prerequisite: consent of the instructor.

**PLS 485 Research 1-6 hrs.**

Individual research for qualified students. May be repeated for a maximum of 6 hours credit. Prerequisites: 3.2 average in student's major; junior/senior standing; consent of instructor.

**Each of the 490 courses listed below consists of specialized study in the particular area offered.**

**Prerequisites: senior standing; major or minor in political science. No political science major may take more than two courses in the 490 sequence.**

**PLS 491 Seminar in Comparative Politics 3 hrs.**

**PLS 492 Seminar in International Relations 3 hrs.**

**PLS 493 Seminar in Political Theory 3 hrs.**

**PLS 494 Seminar in American Politics 3 hrs.**

**PLS 583, 584 Reading in Political Science 1-3 hrs. each semester**

Individual in-depth work on a subject approved and supervised by a PLS faculty member. For highly qualified students. Prerequisites: senior standing; political science major; consent of instructor.