

POLITICAL SCIENCE, MINOR

Political science is the study of governments, political processes, public policies and political behavior by groups or individuals and is an ideal major for students with a passion for current events.

At UWM, students take coursework from four broad areas of political science in order to obtain a well-rounded education in the field: American politics, international relations, comparative politics, and political theory. Along with exploring these substantive areas, students strengthen their research, writing, and critical thinking skills. With this background, students leave UWM ready to enter graduate school or the world of work in government, international organizations, campaigns, business, consulting, nonprofits, and many other industries. This broad the minor is available entirely online, or students can mix-and-match and take a some online and some traditional classes.

Many students find that a degree in Political Science aligns well with their interest in law and their plans to attend law school after college. Students planning for law school also often participate in our law sports programs such as intercollegiate moot court and intercollegiate mock trial.

Requirements

Minors are required to complete a minimum of 18 credits in political science, of which at least 9 must be in upper-division courses (numbered 300 or above) taken at UWM. Minors must complete courses in at least two of the following four areas: American politics, comparative politics, international politics, and political theory. Students must attain a 2.0 GPA in all political science courses, including any transfer work, and a 2.0 GPA in all political science courses taken at UWM.

Code	Title	Credits
Introductory and methods courses		
These are courses that count toward your minor in Political Science, but do not count toward the 'two different areas' requirement.		
POL SCI 101	Introduction to Political Science	3
POL SCI 203	Introduction to Political Science Research	3
POL SCI 390	Political Data Analysis	3
POL SCI 392	Survey Research	3
Areas of Political Science		
Use this list to ensure that you take courses from at least two different areas of Political Science.		
<i>American Politics</i>		
POL SCI 104	Introduction to American Government and Politics	3
POL SCI 105	State Politics	3
POL SCI 150	Multicultural America: Minority Voting Rights and Representation	3
POL SCI 201	Introduction to Public Service	3
POL SCI 210	American Public Policy	3
POL SCI 213	Urban Government and Politics	3
POL SCI 215	Ethnicity, Religion and Race in American Politics	3
POL SCI 216	Environmental Politics	3
POL SCI 243	Public Administration	3
POL SCI 250	Law and Society	3

POL SCI 387	Topics in American Politics:	3
POL SCI 398	Cyberpolitics ¹	3
POL SCI 408	The American Presidency	3
POL SCI 410	Law Through Popular Culture	3
POL SCI 411	Constitutional Law: Government Powers and Federalism	3
POL SCI 412	Constitutional Law: Civil Rights and Liberties	3
POL SCI 415	The Politics of Race, Ethnicity and Immigration	3
POL SCI 416	Judicial Politics	3
POL SCI 417	The Supreme Court	3
POL SCI 419	Constitutional Interpretation	3
POL SCI 421	Party Politics in America	3
POL SCI 425	Women in Politics	3
POL SCI 426	Congressional Politics	3
POL SCI 450	Urban Political Problems	3
POL SCI 452	Administrative Law	3
POL SCI 464	Sex, Gender, and the Law	3
POL SCI 467	Elections and Voting Behavior	3
POL SCI 471	Problems in Law Studies:	3
POL SCI 473	Public Opinion	3
POL SCI 475	Political Psychology	3
<i>Comparative Politics</i>		
POL SCI 106	Politics of the World's Nations	3
POL SCI 310	Russian and Post-Soviet Politics	3
POL SCI 312	The Politics of Authoritarian Regimes	3
POL SCI 314	Chinese Politics and Foreign Policy ²	3
POL SCI 321	Politics of Revolution in Developing Nations	3
POL SCI 325	Latin American Politics	3
POL SCI 328	The Arab-Israeli Conflict	3
POL SCI 329	African Politics	3
POL SCI 333	Seminar in Comparative Politics:	3
POL SCI 335	Comparative Political Systems	3
POL SCI 345	Korean Politics and Foreign Policy ²	3
POL SCI 371	Nationalism and Ethnic Conflict	3
POL SCI 374	Health, Wealth, and Democracy	3
POL SCI 377	Elections in the Modern World	3
<i>International Politics</i>		
POL SCI 102	Introduction to International Relations	3
POL SCI 314	Chinese Politics and Foreign Policy ²	3
POL SCI 316	International Law	3
POL SCI 330	The Politics of International Economic Relations	3
POL SCI 337	International Organization and the United Nations	3
POL SCI 338	Seminar in International Relations:	3
POL SCI 340	Politics of Nuclear Weapons	3
POL SCI 343	Asian International Relations	3
POL SCI 345	Korean Politics and Foreign Policy ²	3
POL SCI 359	Problems of American Foreign Policy	3

POL SCI 365	Theories and Methods in International Politics	3
POL SCI 370	International Conflict	3
POL SCI 379	Morality, Conflict and War	3
POL SCI 391	Current Crises and Events in International Relations	3
POL SCI 423	Conduct of American Foreign Affairs	3
<i>Political Theory</i>		
POL SCI 107	Modern Politics: Ideas and Ideologies	3
POL SCI 110	Sex and Power	3
POL SCI 255	The Body Politic: Topics in Health and Politics	3
POL SCI 281	Classics of Political Theory	3
POL SCI 361	History of International Political Thought	3
POL SCI 381	The Development of Western Political Thought	3
POL SCI 382	Modern Political Thought	3
POL SCI 383	Environmental Political Theory	3
POL SCI 384	The Philosophy of Law	3
POL SCI 385	American Political Thought	3
POL SCI 386	Contemporary Political Theory	3
POL SCI 389	Politics and Philosophy:	3

¹ Depending on instructor, may satisfy American Politics or International Relations area requirement, but not both.

² May be used to satisfy Comparative Politics or International Politics but not both.

Letters & Science Minor Advising

Advising for the minor takes place within the department by a faculty member or staff member. Follow the steps using the "Declare a Minor" button on the department's website which may include instructions on how to select a faculty advisor if there is more than one to choose from.

Students who already have an L&S college advisor because their degree plan is in L&S can discuss the minor with them as well since they will be familiar with any minor in L&S. Students who are working on a degree from a UWM college other than the College of Letters & Science will not need an L&S college advisor for just a minor and one will not be assigned. These students should work with the faculty or staff advisor they receive as part of the minor declaration process or contact the department directly for assistance.

Applicants who have not started classes at UWM yet who wish to declare a minor should wait until they are registered for their first UWM classes and then can declare the minor using the "Declare a Minor" button on the program's website. If you have questions about the minor before then, contact let-sci@uwm.edu.