

THE BACHELOR OF ARTS DEGREE IN POLITICAL SCIENCE (PSCI)

The curriculum in Political Science is designed to provide knowledge and understanding of the basic concepts of political science, the fundamental theories of the state and its evolution, the national and international political forces and the constitutional system. The major or minor sequence in Political Science may serve as basic undergraduate preparation for (1) entrance into graduate school, (2) entrance into law school, (3) a career in public service, or (4) the teaching of government, civics, or other related social studies in the public schools.

Requirements for a Major in Political Science

The major in Political Science consists of a minimum of 36 credit hours (in addition to the PSCI 1301 Core requirement) and a maximum of 39 credit hours.

1. The following courses are required:
PSCI 1302, 1303, 2304, 2313, 2316, 3316, 3328, 4308, and 4329.
2. The balance of required semester hours must be selected from the list of Political Science electives:
PSCI 1300, 2300, 2309, 3310, 3329, 3314, 3317, 3315, 4300, 4319, 4318, 4317, 4307, and ECON 2301 or ECON 2302.

Requirements for a Minor in Political Science

The minor in Political Science consists of 18 credit hours.

1. The following courses are required:
PSCI 1302, 1303, and 3317.
2. The balance of the credit hours may be selected from the list of required Political Science electives:
PSCI 1300, 2313, 3310, 3329, 3317, 3328, 3315, 4300, 4319, 4318, 4317, 4308, and 4307.

A SUGGESTED COURSE SEQUENCE FOR THE POLITICAL SCIENCE MAJOR

FALL		YEAR 1		SPRING	
ENGL	1301 Intro. to College Comp.	3	ENGL	1302 College Rhetoric and Comp.	3
MATH	1314 College Algebra	3	COMM	1315 Public Speaking	3
PSCI	1301 American Government	3	KINE	1304 Dimensions of Health & Wellness	3
KINE	Personal Fitness/Sports	1		Fine Arts Core	3
	Language I	3		Language II	3
COSC	1300 Introduction to Computers	3			
Total Hours		16	Total Hours		15

FALL		YEAR 2		SPRING	
Science I		4	Science II		4
World Literature I, II or American Lit.		3	Behavioral Science Core		3
HIST 1301/1302 U.S. History I or II		3	Diversity Core I		3
RELI 2302 Comparative Religion		3	PSCI 2304 Info. Mgt. for Social Sciences		3
PHIL 2301 Philosophy and Ethnic			Political/Social Science		3
PSCI 1301 Intro. to Political Science		3			
Total Hours		16	Total Hours		16

FALL		YEAR 3		SPRING	
Elective		3	PSCI 3328 Ancient Political Theory		3
PSCI 2313 Soc. Science Statistics I		3	PSCI 4308 Modern Political Theory		3
PSCI 3316 Public Administration		3	Political Science Elective		3
Diversity Core II		3	Elective		3
Elective		3	Elective		3
Total Hours		15	Total Hours		15

FALL		YEAR 4		SPRING	
PSCI 2316 Comparative Government		3	Political Science Elective		3
Political Science Elective		3	PSCI 4329 Senior Seminar		3
Elective		3	Elective		3
Elective		3	Elective		3
Elective		3	Elective		3
Total Hours		15	Total Hours		15

COURSES IN POLITICAL SCIENCE (PSCI)

PSCI 1300 Introduction to Transportation **3 Credit Hours**

This course is a survey of concepts, research methods, career opportunities, institutions and groups involved in the field of transportation studies.

Prerequisite: PSCI 1303 or consent **Offered:** Fall/Every Three Years of instructor

PSCI 1301 American Government (Federal) **3 Credit Hours**

A study of the organization, processes, and functions of the Federal government of the United States, emphasizing an analysis of the U.S. Constitution, its origins, development, and interpretation. Other topics include the operation of our representative democracy, civil rights and civil liberties, political parties, and elections. It is required of all teacher certification candidates.

Prerequisites: None **Offered:** Fall/Spring Yearly

PSCI 1302 American Government (State and Local) **3 Credit Hours**

This course is a study of the organizational processes and problems of state and local government in our country, with particular emphasis on the government of the State of Texas. The course covers the Texas Constitution, its legislative, executive, and judicial functions, and how policy is formed at the state and local level. It is required of all teacher certification candidates.

Prerequisites: None **Offered: Fall/Spring Yearly**
PSCI 1303 Introduction to Political Science **3 Credit Hours**

This course is a study of the evolution of the discipline, contributions of major political thinkers, techniques of political analysis, and career options for students of political science. This course is required for all Political Science majors.

Prerequisites: None **Offered: Fall/Spring Yearly**

PSCI 2300 International Politics **3 Credit Hours**

This course is a review of political principles, problems, and factors involved in the foreign policies and relations of nation-states. Particular emphasis placed on the sources and uses of national power and difficulties in limiting the use of such power.

Prerequisites: None **Offered: Spring/Every Three Years**

PSCI 2304 Information Management for the Social Sciences **3 Credit Hours**

This course focuses on the Internet, intermediate to advanced level applications on electronic spreadsheet, database, graphics, and other modes of presenting ideas and reports. It involves a survey of case applications in public and private organizations, and one hour of lecture and three hours of laboratory work. Same course as SOCI 2304.

Prerequisite: COSC 1300 **Offered: Spring**

PSCI 2305 Social Science Statistics I **3 Credit Hours**

This course introduces concepts and methods used in social science statistics and helps students learn how to use statistical tools wisely. It is required for Psychology and Sociology majors.

Prerequisite: MATH 1314 **Offered: Fall/Yearly**

PSCI 2316 Comparative Government **3 Credit Hours**

This course is a comparative treatment of the governmental and political institutions of selected modern states and of state and local governments of the U.S.

Prerequisites: None **Offered: Fall/Every Other Year**

PSCI 3310 American Constitutional Law **3 Credit Hours**

This course is a study of the origin and development of American constitutional principles, law, and practices; judicial review; and the impact of constitutional law and practice on policy development and execution. Case materials consist of leading constitutional decisions of the U.S. Supreme Court.

Prerequisites: None **Offered: Fall/Every Other Year**

PSCI 3314 Social Science Statistics II **3 Credit Hours**

This course emphasizes advanced quantitative methods needed to perform statistical analysis using microcomputers. Students learn how to use the SPSS/PC+ program to perform statistical analysis. Emphasis is on analysis of variance (ANOVA) and multiple regression. May be counted as an elective in Psychology and Sociology.

Prerequisites: PSCI 2305

PSCI 3315 Social Welfare Policy

This course is a survey of the development of selected legislation, such as adoptions, housing, child labor, physical and mental health, and social security, with emphasis on pre-legislative and legislative developments affecting welfare services. Same as SOCI 3315

Offered: Spring/Yearly

3 Credit Hours

**Prerequisite: SOCI 1301 or PSCI 1302
or CRIJ 1301**

**Offered: Spring
(during Legislative Session)**

PSCI 3316 Public Administration

This course is an examination of all aspects of the art and science of administering governmental agencies: coordination and control, communication, personnel management, public relations, and planning. Comparisons are made with private management.

3 Credit Hours

Prerequisites: None

Offered: Fall/Yearly

PSCI 3317 Public Policy

This course emphasizes introductory concepts and analytical techniques in policy analysis as well as the role of various constituents in the policy process.

3 Credit Hours

Prerequisites: None

Offered: Fall/Yearly

PSCI 3328 Ancient Political Theory

This course is an examination of the classical foundations of political thought.

3 Credit Hours

Prerequisites: None

Offered: Spring/Yearly

PSCI 3329 Urban Politics

This course is an examination of political behavior in urban areas of the United States. It reviews patterns of urban political systems and politics in America's large cities and their relations to and impact on minorities living in the inner city. It emphasizes the strategies and tactics of groups in shaping urban politics and programs.

3 Credit Hours

Prerequisites: None

Offered: Spring/Every Other Year

PSCI 4300 Internship/Coop in Political Science

This is an internship experience for Political Science majors. Students work as interns with three options: Legislative Work; Parties, Campaigns and Elections; Governmental Research.

3 Credit Hours

**Prerequisites: PSCI 2305, nine hours upper division
or instructor approval.**

Offered: As Needed

PSCI 4307 Special Topics in Political Science

This course covers specific topics in Political Science, which vary from one semester to the next. Examples of possible topics include, but are not limited to, Technology and World Politics, The Geo-Politics of Energy/Environment, Global Terrorism, and the Politics of Global Narcotics. Students may take the course twice when a different topic is covered. The course is open to upper-level majors and minors or by permission of the instructor.

3 Credit Hours

Prerequisites: None **Offered: As Needed**
PSCI 4308 Modern Political Theory **3 Credit Hours**

This course is a survey of major political philosophers, theorists, periods, and movements. Emphasis is placed on modern ideologies and on the evolution and development of the American political system.

Prerequisites: None **Offered: As Needed**

PSCI 4317 African Government and Politics **3 Credit Hours**

This is a survey course on contemporary government and politics of Sub-Saharan Africa designed to broaden political perspective through exposure to African political culture and to provide historical background from which the student may examine and analyze political trends and ideologies in contemporary Africa.

Prerequisites: None **Offered: Fall/Every Three Years**

PSCI 4318 Foreign Policy **3 Credit Hours**

This course is a study of the principles, problems, and issues involved in the formulation and execution of American foreign policy as well as analysis of current trends in foreign policy.

Prerequisites: None **Offered: Fall/Every Three Years**

PSCI 4319 Quantitative Methods for the Social Sciences **3 Credit Hours**

This course covers introductory concepts, models, and techniques of quantitative analysis designed to facilitate decision making and problem solving for students interested in public management. Topics include project management, simulation, scheduling, and quality control.

Prerequisite: PSCI 2305 **Offered: Fall/Every Other Year**

PSCI 4329 Senior Seminar **3 Credit Hours**

This is a capstone course involving a comprehensive review of the discipline including its core competencies. It covers test preparation and test taking techniques and includes a comprehensive departmental examination.

Prerequisites: Senior status **Offered: Spring/Yearly**