

POLITICAL SCIENCE (BA)

Program Mission

The mission of the Political Science Program is to combine the energies of students and departmental faculty in pursuit of understanding representative and administrative systems, practices, and aspirations, especially through engagement with professional scholarship. Graduates in political science will have learned foundational theories, practical processes, and an appreciation of varied cultures. The curriculum offers a broad reach across subdisciplines, preparing students for many available career options.

Program Outcomes

1. Graduates will be able to organize research projects relying on peer-reviewed journals, conference papers, original sources, and the work of recognized scholars.
2. Graduates will have learned, through the study of American and foreign government systems, how those apply popular consent toward their views of the common good.
3. Graduates will be able to identify and apply classical and contemporary theories that serve as the bases for civil systems.
4. Graduates will have a working familiarity with the methods of lawmaking, public administration, foreign policy development and public policy making as these are practiced, chiefly in the American system.
5. Graduates will be able to identify and critique how civil systems do or do not incorporate varied cultural views, persons, traditions, and resource differences into their pursuit of their national sense of the common good.

Program Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
POLS-1000 or POLS-1200 or POLS-1500	Introduction to American Government Foundations US Constitutionalism American 20th Century Political History	3
POLS-2010	Comparative World Government & Politics	3
ECON-2090	Principles of Macroeconomics	3
POLS-2500	Introduction to Research Methods	4
POLS-2750	Public Policy Analysis	3
POLS-3250 or POLS-3500	The American Presidency The American Congress	3
POLS-4010	International Relations	3
Select one of the following:		3
POLS-3750	American Constitutional Development	
POLS-3760	Fundamental Freedoms: First Amendment	
POLS-3765	Civil Rights: 14th Amendment	
POLS-3800	Development of Political Thought	3
POLS-4600	Public Administration	3
POLS-4950	Capstone Senior Seminar	3
POLS-COMP	Senior Comprehensive Exam	0
Two additional courses offered by the department		6
Total Hours		40

Transfer students who seek to major in political science must complete a minimum of 50% of their credits in political science at Benedictine College.

Suggested Sequence of Courses for a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science

Course	Title	Hours
Freshman Year		
First Semester		
POLS-1000 or POLS-1500	Introduction to American Government or American 20th Century Political History	3
Foreign Language		4
THEO-1100	Introduction to Theology	3
ENGL-1010	English Composition	3
PSYC-1000 or SOCI-1000	General Psychology or Introduction to Sociology	3
GNST-1000	BC Experience	1
Hours		17
Second Semester		
ECON-2090	Principles of Macroeconomics	3
Foreign Language		4
Historical Foundation		3
Aesthetic Experience		3
Skills & perspectives course		3
Hours		16
Sophomore Year		
First Semester		
POLS-2010	Comparative World Government & Politics	3
EXSC-1115	Wellness for Life	1
Faith Foundation		3
PHIL-1750	Principles of Nature	3
Elective preferably in political science		6
Hours		16
Second Semester		
POLS-2750	Public Policy Analysis	3
POLS-2500	Introduction to Research Methods	4
EXSC Fitness Course		1
Aesthetic Experience		3
Faith Foundation		3
Understanding the Natural World Foundation (with lab)		4
Hours		18
Junior Year		
First Semester		
POLS-3800	Development of Political Thought	3
Elective courses (Political Science or non-departmental) upper-division		10
Philosophical Inquiry		3
Hours		16
Second Semester		
Understanding the Natural World Foundation (without lab)		3

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Constitutional law class		3
POLS-4010	International Relations	3
POLS-4790	Political Science Internship	3
Elective courses (Political Science or non-departmental) upper-division		3
Hours		15
Senior Year		
First Semester		
POLS-4950	Capstone Senior Seminar	3
POLS-COMP	Senior Comprehensive Exam	0
Elective courses, upper-division		12
Hours		15
Second Semester		
POLS-4600	Public Administration	3
Political Science Elective		3
Elective courses (Political Science or non-departmental) upper-division		10
Hours		16
Total Hours		129