Political science is the study of the influence of power and authority in and among societies. The primary focus of political science is government institutions and the political processes through which citizens participate in public affairs, political parties, interest groups and election campaigns.
Programs of Study

Bachelor of Arts in Political Science

Careers

Political science provides students with skills in acquiring and analyzing data on political behavior, the relationship between data and theory, the interplay between politics and economics, and the basis of divergent theoretical perspectives. Graduates may pursue careers in local, state and national government or international affairs as policy experts and analysts; election campaign managers; teachers of political science at the secondary and college levels; leaders in the nonprofit sector; and government affairs experts in business.

Requirements

The minimum number of semester credit hours required for the Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science, including the core curriculum requirements, is 120. Thirty-nine of the total semester credit hours required for the degree must be at the upper-division level. At least 33 semester credit hours of political science coursework are required to fulfill the political science major. The 33-hour total is considered a minimum, and students are encouraged to deepen and broaden their grasp of their major through careful allocation of their elective semester credit hours. Students are required to complete at least 6 semester credit hours of support work. These courses, which require advance approval from advisors, should serve to introduce students to other social sciences.

All candidates for this degree must fulfill the core curriculum requirements and the degree requirements, which are listed below.

A. 33 semester credit hours in the major, 21 hours of which must be at the upper-division level. Courses must be selected in the following manner:

1. 6 semester credit hours of courses selected from the following:
   - POL 2503 Introduction to Political Theory
   - POL 2513 Public Administration and Public Policy
   - POL 2533 Introduction to Political Science
   - POL 2603 International Politics
   - POL 2623 Law and Society
   - POL 2633 Comparative Politics

2. 3 semester credit hours
   - POL 2703 Scope and Methods in Political Science

3. 21 semester credit hours of political science electives, 18 hours of which must be at the upper-division level, with at least 3 hours in each of the following subfields (see list of courses by subfield following the description of the political science minor):
   - American politics
   - Comparative politics
   - International relations
   - Political theory
   - Public administration or public law

4. One senior-level seminar selected from the following:
   - POL 4133 Seminar in Juristicprudence
   - POL 4973 Seminar in Political Science

   Approved section of POL 4993, Special Studies in Political Science

B. 6 semester credit hours of courses in the social sciences outside the major, chosen with consent of the adviser

C. 6 semester credit hours of a single language other than English

D. 33 semester credit hours of electives

Minor in Political Science

All students pursuing the minor in political science must complete 18 semester credit hours, 12 hours of which must be upper division.

A. 6 semester credit hours of lower-division courses selected from the following:
   - POL 2503 Introduction to Political Theory
   - POL 2513 Public Administration and Public Policy
   - POL 2533 Introduction to Political Science
   - POL 2603 International Politics
   - POL 2623 Law and Society
   - POL 2633 Comparative Politics
   - POL 2703 Scope and Methods in Political Science

B. 12 upper-division semester credit hours. Students must take at least one upper-division class in three of the six subfields (see list of courses by subfield below):

American Politics
   - POL 3073 African American Politics
   - POL 3083 Race and Ethnic Politics in the United States
   - POL 3093 Mexican American Politics
   - POL 3123 Political Psychology
   - POL 3183 Women in Politics
   - POL 3234 Political Campaigns and Elections
   - POL 3244 Mass Media and Public Opinion
   - POL 3253 Participation and American National Elections
   - POL 3293 The American Presidency
   - POL 3303 Race, Ethnicity and Public Policy
   - POL 3363 Political Parties and Interest Groups
   - POL 3373 The Legislative Process
   - POL 3413 The Politics of Urban Development
   - POL 3573 Politics of the Contemporary City
   - POL 3743 Film in Politics
   - POL 3753 Latina/o Politics
   - POL 3813 Political Polling

Comparative Politics
   - POL 3063 Comparative Political Participation
   - POL 3213 Business and Politics in the Third World
   - POL 3353 Leadership and Ethics
   - POL 3393 Latin American Politics
   - POL 3403 European Politics
   - POL 3423 Geopolitics of Russia and Eurasia
   - POL 3433 Governments and Politics of Southeast Asia
   - POL 3443 Governments and Politics of East Asia
   - POL 3453 The Politics of Mexico
   - POL 3463 Politics of the Third World
   - POL 3473 Theories and Problems in Latin American Politics
   - POL 3493 Politics of the Middle East
   - POL 3553 Social Policy in Modern Welfare States
   - POL 3633 Political Economy
   - POL 3783 Comparative Democratization

International Politics
   - POL 3003 International Law
   - POL 3033 International Governance
   - POL 3043 Human Rights
   - POL 3053 United States–Latin American Relations
   - POL 3483 International Political Economy
   - POL 3593 American Foreign Policy since World War II
   - POL 3513 International Organizations
   - POL 3523 Force in International Politics
   - POL 3563 Current Issues in World Politics
   - POL 3763 Globalization
   - POL 3793 Politics and Ethics of International Business
   - POL 4003 Comparative Foreign Policy
   - POL 4103 Latin America and the World
   - POL 4143 The European Union

Political Theory
   - POL 3103 Political Ideology
   - POL 3113 American Political Theory
   - POL 3133 Political Philosophy: Ancient and Medieval
   - POL 3143 Political Philosophy: Modern
   - POL 3153 Political Philosophy: Contemporary
   - POL 3163 Introduction to Feminist Theory
   - POL 3193 Theories of Citizenship
   - POL 3203 African American Political Thought

Public Administration
   - POL 3413 The Politics of Urban Development
   - POL 3603 Public Policy Formulation and Implementation
   - POL 3613 Public Budgeting and Taxation
   - POL 3623 Public Policy Evaluation
   - POL 3703 Personnel Administration in the Public Sector
   - POL 4323 Administrative Law

Public Law
   - POL 3013 The American Legal Process
   - POL 3023 Civil Liberties in American Law and Practice
   - POL 3223 Judicial Politics
   - POL 3323 Constitutional Law
   - POL 4123 Legal and Philosophical Reasoning
   - POL 4153 Seminar in Jurisprudence
   - POL 4323 Administrative Law

Internship hours cannot count toward the minor.

To declare a minor in political science, obtain advice, or seek approval of substitutions for course requirements, students should consult the College of Liberal and Fine Arts Advising Center.

Information gathered from the 2006–2008 undergraduate catalog.
http://www.utsa.edu/ucat/chapter5/