

Political Science B.A./B.S.

A bachelor's degree in political science prepares graduates for a very broad range of educational and career opportunities. Political science graduates have gone on to successful careers in business, public administration, government, teaching, and politics. Others have continued their educations in graduate school and law school. In addition to being knowledgeable in the subject areas of political philosophy, American politics, comparative politics, international relations and foreign policy, and social science research methods; majors in political science develop the ability to think clearly and critically, as well as the ability to engage in effective written and oral communication.

The undergraduate program requires students to select courses from four subcategories: Political Theory and Philosophy, Public Policy, American Government and Politics, and Comparative Politics and International Relations. Each subcategory contains a range of 6-7 courses, from which students must choose two courses (6 semester hours) per subcategory, for a total of eight courses (24 semester credit hours) across all subcategories. In addition, students are required to select 6 semester hours of elective credit (Electives in the Major) from a list of approved courses, along with the Required Courses in the Major.

The Bachelor of Science in Political Science degree also offers an emphasis in Legal Studies, which consists of six specific courses. Please note that some of the Political Science (PSCI) courses that make up the Legal Studies emphasis are also available as electives or as part of the subcategory course listings. Students who choose to complete the Legal Studies emphasis must take the 6 emphasis courses in addition to the required subcategory and elective coursework. Courses cannot be counted toward both the Legal Studies emphasis and the subcategory requirements. In other words, students cannot "double dip" by using Legal Studies emphasis courses to fulfill both subcategory and emphasis requirements.

For students pursuing the Legal Studies emphasis as part of the BS in Political Science degree, it is important to plan accordingly to ensure that these courses are taken beyond the required subcategory and elective coursework.

Core Curriculum Courses

See the Core Curriculum Requirements (<https://coursecatalog.tamuc.edu/undergrad/core-curriculum-requirements/>) 42

Required courses in the major

PSCI 347	Intro to Research Methods	3
PSCI 488	Contemporary Ideas	3

Political Theory and Philosophy

Choose 2 courses from the following: 6

PSCI 332	Democ & Democratization
PSCI 410	Order, Justice, and Community
PSCI 411	Liberty, the State, and the Person
PSCI 412	The Age of Ideology
PSCI 414	Amer Political Thought
PSCI 430	Rev & Revolutionary Movmt

Public Policy

Choose 2 courses from the following: 6

PSCI 335	Political Economy
PSCI 342	Intro to Global Pub Pol
PSCI 346	Intro to Public Policy
PSCI 437	Foreign Policy
PSCI 442	Constitutional Law
PSCI 443	Civil Liberties and Civil Rights

American Politics

Choose 2 courses from the following: 6

PSCI 336	American State and Local Government
PSCI 341	American Presidency
PSCI 344	Amer Pol Par/Electoral Po
PSCI 345	Public Opinion
PSCI 441	Congressional Politics
PSCI 444	Law, Politics, and the Judicial Process

Comparative Politics and International Relations

Choose 2 courses from the following: 6

PSCI 331	European Political System
PSCI 332	Democ & Democratization
PSCI 333	Non-European Polit Systm
PSCI 342	Intro to Global Pub Pol
PSCI 430	Rev & Revolutionary Movmt
PSCI 437	Foreign Policy
PSCI 438	International Relations

Electives within the major

Choose 2 courses from the following that were not already used to satisfy a requirement above : 6

PSCI 332	Democ & Democratization
PSCI 333	Non-European Polit Systm
PSCI 335	Political Economy
PSCI 341	American Presidency
PSCI 336	American State and Local Government
PSCI 342	Intro to Global Pub Pol
PSCI 346	Intro to Public Policy
PSCI 344	Amer Pol Par/Electoral Po
PSCI 345	Public Opinion
PSCI 348	Applied Data Analysis (This course may only be taken as an elective by BA degree candidates)
PSCI 410	Order, Justice, and Community
PSCI 411	Liberty, the State, and the Person
PSCI 412	The Age of Ideology
PSCI 414	Amer Political Thought
PSCI 430	Rev & Revolutionary Movmt
PSCI 437	Foreign Policy
PSCI 438	International Relations
PSCI 441	Congressional Politics
PSCI 442	Constitutional Law
PSCI 443	Civil Liberties and Civil Rights
PSCI 497	Special Topic

Choose BA or BS Option (listed below) 42

Total Hours 120

BS ONLY (Non- Language)

Must Take 3

PSCI 348	Applied Data Analysis
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Required Minor

Minimum 18 hours required in the Minor 18

Additional Electives Required

Minimum 21 hours of electives required 21

Total Hours 42

BA**Language Requirement**

12 hours of a foreign language* 12

Minor Required

Minimum 18 hours in the Minor 18

Additional Electives

Minimum 12 hours required 12

Total Hours 42

In addition to fulfilling these requirements, students majoring Political Science must submit a portfolio of their work in Political Science courses and complete a survey on their experiences in the program. Details may be found on the department's website.

Notes

While some courses are included more than once in the list of required courses for the first or second major, a particular course may NOT be used to satisfy more than one requirement.

A grade of “C” or higher must be earned in all courses in this Major.

First Year

Fall	Hours
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Total Hours: 0