

POLITICAL SCIENCE MAJOR (BA)

Department website (<https://www.uwp.edu/learn/programs/politicalsciencemajor.cfm>)

College: College of Social Sciences & Professional Studies

This department offers options for the major: the traditional major in political science and the major in political science with a concentration in law. Students need to complete the requirements for one of these options. For example, a student choosing to major in political science with a concentration in law needs to meet the requirements listed under the concentration in law.

1. We seek to help our students attain a practical and theoretical knowledge of politics and the law, assisting them to become conversant in a broad-range of concepts in the areas of political theory, international politics, comparative politics, American government, and the law.
2. We seek to help our students to become critical thinkers; thinkers that are able to question the assumptions that underwrite claims or positions and make reasoned determinations about the truth and strength of various arguments.
3. We seek to help our students to become independent researchers, capable of identifying and articulating hypotheses, seeking information and inputs relevant to the topic, evaluating the credibility of sources and information, applying the appropriate methods and tools for testing or exploring a hypothesis, and drawing proper conclusions based on their findings.
4. We seek to help our students become global citizens in the sense that they have civically-oriented consciousness, a respect for diversity, pluralism and inclusiveness, and a moral and ethical sense of responsibility and moral disposition regarding their place in local, state, national, and international communities.

Requirements for the Political Science Major

A student must be in good academic standing at the time of declaring the major.

All students must complete their degree program within 10 years of declaring a major or minor in political science, or the concentration in law, or completing their first course in political science, whichever is earlier. Credits earned at UW-Parkside or at any other institution that are more than 10 years old cannot be used to complete any major, minor or concentration offered by this department. A student who has been inactive for three or more years must reapply for admission to the major. The department reserves the right to require additional credits or course work.

Code	Title	Credits
Introductory Courses		
Select three of the following:		9
POLS 100	American Politics	
POLS 103	Introduction to Comparative Politics	
POLS 104	Introduction to International Relations	
POLS 105	Introduction to Politics	

POLS 202	Public Policy	
Required Research Course		
POLS 200	Research Methods and Sources ¹	4
Advanced Courses		
Select three of the following, one course from at least three different sub-groups, at least 6 credits must be upper-division: ²		9
<i>American Politics</i>		
POLS 116	Introduction to Law	
POLS 318	Legislative Politics	
POLS 360	Political Parties and Interest Groups	
POLS 375	Elections and Political Participation	
POLS 403	Women, Power and Politics	
<i>World Politics</i>		
POLS 224	American Foreign Policy	
POLS 330	European Politics	
POLS 331	The Politics of Developing Nations	
POLS 332	Socialist Thought and Practice	
POLS 335	Popular Music, Human Rights and Democratization	
POLS 338	Fascism, Nazism, and the Contemporary Radical Right	
POLS 340	The Latin American Left	
POLS 341	International Conflict and Cooperation	
POLS 344	African Politics	
POLS 403	Women, Power and Politics	
POLS 415	International Law	
<i>Political Theory</i>		
POLS 207	Classical Political Philosophy	
POLS 306	Modern Political Philosophy	
POLS 307	Contemporary Political Thought	
POLS 332	Socialist Thought and Practice	
POLS 338	Fascism, Nazism, and the Contemporary Radical Right	
<i>Public Policy</i>		
POLS 202	Public Policy	
POLS 217	Tactical Decision Making	
POLS 302	Environmental Policy	
POLS 312	Introduction to Global Warming Policy and Governance	
POLS 316	Diversity Law: African Americans	
POLS 317	Strategic Decision Making	
POLS 367	Latinos(as) and the Law	
Additional Upper Level Courses		
Select at least three additional courses numbered 300 or above ³		9
Required Senior Seminar		
POLS 445	Senior Seminar in Political Science	3
Total Credits		34

¹ This course is required even if another research methods course has been taken.

² Note: Courses offered in more than one category can satisfy either category, but not both.

³ The political science internship (POLS 494 Internship in Political Science) and independent study (POLS 490 Special Topics in Political Science) are recommended options but are not required. No more than 6 credits of internship and 3 credits of independent study can be counted toward meeting the credit-hour requirements for the major.

Requirements for the Political Science Major with a Concentration in Law

This department offers a concentration in law for political science majors interested in pursuing a career in law or legal studies (practicing law, teaching law, court administration, and government agencies). The concentration in law brings together the most significant perspectives and tools required for a thorough preparation in law and legal studies, grounded in democratic theory and practice.

Students must complete a minimum of 15 credits at UW-Parkside in their major in courses numbered 300 or above. This concentration requires a minimum of 33 credits. These credits are distributed as follows:

Code	Title	Credits
Required Courses		
POLS 100	American Politics	3
POLS 200	Research Methods and Sources	3-4
or PHIL 275	Techniques of Philosophical Research	
POLS 116	Introduction to Law	3
POLS 202	Public Policy	3
POLS 310	Constitutional Law: Civil Liberties	3
POLS 320	Constitutional Law: The Structure and Power of U.S. Government	3
POLS 445	Senior Seminar in Political Science	3
Required Courses Subtotal		21-22
Introductory Course		
Select one of the following:		3
POLS 103	Introduction to Comparative Politics	
POLS 104	Introduction to International Relations	
POLS 105	Introduction to Politics	
Upper Level Electives		
Select three of the following (minimum of one POLS):		9
COMM 385	Conflict Mediation	
COMM 485	Practicum in Conflict Intervention	
CRMJ 316	Criminal Procedure	
CRMJ 325	Restorative Justice	
CRMJ 364	Capital Punishment	
CRMJ 380	Criminal Law	
POLS 302	Environmental Policy	
POLS 312	Introduction to Global Warming Policy and Governance	
POLS 316	Diversity Law: African Americans	
POLS 321	Politics, Law, and Society	
POLS 367	Latinos(as) and the Law	
POLS 415	International Law	
POLS 494	Internship in Political Science ¹	
SOCA 359	Law and Society	

Strongly Recommended

PHIL 201	Logic
Total Credits	33-34

¹ A maximum of 3 credits of internship can be applied to the 9 credits required in this category.

Note: Courses in other departments may have course or departmental prerequisites.

General University Degree Requirements (Bachelor's Degree)

In addition to individual program requirements, students must also fulfill the following requirements:

Requirement	Credits
Skills	7-8
General Education	36
Foreign Language**	6-8
Ethnic Diversity	3
Total	52-55

** Transfer students in sustainable management, and health information management and technology collaborative, online degree-completion programs, the business management online degree-completion program, and the flexible option degree-completion program will be exempt from the university's foreign language requirement. See appropriate academic section for further information.

Skills Requirement (<https://catalog.uwp.edu/policies/#skills>)

Code	Title	Credits
Reading and Writing		
ENGL 101	Composition and Reading	3
Computational Skills		
Select one of the following:		4-5
MATH 102	Quantitative Reasoning	
MATH 103	Elementary Statistics	
MATH 104	College Mathematics with Applications	
MATH 111	College Algebra I	
Total Credits		7-8

General Education (<https://catalog.uwp.edu/policies/#general>)

- General Education Course List (<https://catalog.uwp.edu/programs/general-education-program/#coursestext>)

Foreign Language (<https://catalog.uwp.edu/policies/#language>)

Ethnic Diversity (<https://catalog.uwp.edu/policies/#ethnic>)

Degree Requirements

Requirement	Credits
Minimum Total Credits	120
Upper Level Credits (300 level or above)	36
Residency ¹	30

Cumulative Degree GPA: 2.0 minimum

Course	Title	Credits
Year 1		
Fall Semester		
MATH 104	College Mathematics with Applications	4
ENGL 100	Fundamentals of English	3
POLS 100	American Politics	3
or POLS 103	or Introduction to Comparative Politics	
or POLS 104	or Introduction to International Relations	
or POLS 105	or Introduction to Politics	
or POLS 202	or Public Policy	
Introductory Language		4
General Education (HU)		3
Credits		17
Spring Semester		
ENGL 101	Composition and Reading	3
POLS 103	Introduction to Comparative Politics	3
or POLS 100	or American Politics	
or POLS 104	or Introduction to International Relations	
or POLS 105	or Introduction to Politics	
or POLS 202	or Public Policy	
POLS 104	Introduction to International Relations	3
or POLS 100	or American Politics	
or POLS 103	or Introduction to Comparative Politics	
or POLS 105	or Introduction to Politics	
or POLS 202	or Public Policy	
Introductory Language		4
General Education (NS)		3
Credits		16
Total Credits		33

Course	Title	Credits
Year 2		
Fall Semester		
POLS 200	Research Methods and Sources	4
POLS Advanced Course		3
General Education (HU)		3
General Education (SS)		3
General Education (NS)		3
Credits		16
Spring Semester		
POLS Advanced Course		3
POLS Advanced Course		3
General Education (SS)		3
General Education (HU)		3
General Education (NS)		3
Credits		15
Total Credits		31

Course	Title	Credits
Year 3		
Fall Semester		
POLS 300/400 Level Elective		3
POLS 300/400 Level Elective		3
General Education (HU)		3
General Education (NS)		3
General Elective		3
Credits		15
Spring Semester		
POLS 300/400 Level Elective		3
General Elective		3
General Elective		3

General Elective		3
Credits		12
Total Credits		27
Year 4		
Fall Semester		
300/400 Level General Elective		3
300/400 Level General Elective		3
300/400 Level General Elective		3
General Elective		3
General Elective		3
Credits		15
Spring Semester		
POLS 445	Senior Seminar in Political Science	3
300/400 Level General Elective		3
300/400 Level General Elective		3
General Elective		3
General Elective		3
Credits		15
Total Credits		30