

Curriculum Map: How and at what level do program courses facilitate student attainment of program learning goals?

Program Learning Goals:

Political science is the study of public power: its mobilization, exercise, and transformation by governments, political parties, interest groups, and mass behavior. Political scientists examine the causes and effects of political power and institutions in decision-making and governance at various levels, from the local to the global. We employ both scientific and humanistic perspectives and a variety of methodological approaches to analyze political structures and processes in all regions of the world.

Majors in political science are expected to:

1. *Acquire basic knowledge* across the four major fields of political science—American Politics, Comparative Politics, International Relations, and Political Theory.

Students accomplish this goal by taking introductory and “pre-major” classes at the 1000 and 2000 level.

2. *Gain deeper knowledge* of the scholarly literature in one of the four major fields.

Students accomplish this goal primarily in courses at the 3000, 4000 and 5000 level, although 2000 level courses may also contribute to this knowledge base.

3. *Become familiar with debates* about theories, research methods, and substantive issues, and learn to engage and assess contributions to the literature.

Students accomplish this goal primarily in courses at the 3000, 4000 and 5000 level, although 2000-level courses may also contribute to this knowledge base.

4. *Develop analytic and critical thinking skills* that will enable them to rigorously evaluate competing arguments and to appraise value-based claims.

Students accomplish this goal primarily in courses at the 3000, 4000 and 5000 level, although 1000 and 2000 level courses may also contribute to this knowledge base.

Political science majors will acquire a knowledge foundation and an array of skills enabling them to pursue a wide variety of professional and leadership roles and to become responsible and well-informed

citizens. We prepare our students for post-graduate studies in numerous areas including public policy, international affairs, law, business, and political science. Our department’s challenging and supportive learning environment gives students the confidence to assume progressively greater initiative and independence through their undergraduate years and beyond.

The charts below provide graphic information showing the relationship of our primary undergraduate major requirements [the field distribution and focus area] and courses, both in general and individually, to our Program Learning Goals. First, our pre major courses are categorized according to a level index and the goals that they fulfill. Second, the “field distribution” is categorized by the goals it fulfills. Third, the “focus area” is categorized by the goals it fulfills. Third, courses are categorized generally by level and by goals fulfilled in each level. Finally, a list of all undergraduate courses, including number, abbreviated title, field [for cross reference to the field and focus requirements], and programs goals is attached.

Level Index A= Basic

 B= Higher-level Introductory

 C=Broad-based Advanced

 D=Focused Advanced

PROGRAM LEARNING GOALS

Pre-Major Courses	Goal # <i>i</i>	Goal # <i>ii</i>	Goal # <i>iii</i>	Goal # <i>iv</i>
Polit Sc 1100 A	✓			✓
Polit Sc 1200	✓			✓
Polit Sc 1300	✓			✓

Polit Sc 2150 B	✓	✓		✓
Polit Sc 2300	✓	✓		✓
Polit Sc 2400	✓	✓		✓
Field Distribution	✓	✓	✓	✓
Focus Area		✓	✓	✓
Course levels				
1000 A	✓			✓
2000 B	✓	✓		✓
3000 C	✓	✓	✓	✓
4000 C		✓	✓	✓
5000 D		✓	✓	✓

Semester #	Title	Field	Goal 1	Goal 2	Goal 3	Goal 4
Level A						
1100	Intro Am Pol	American Politics	√			√
1105	The Politics of Law	American Politics	√			√
1165	Intro to Pol	American Politics	√			√
1200	Intro Comp Pol	Comparative Politics	√			√
1300	Global Politics	International Relations	√			√
Level B						
2150	Voters & Elections	American Politics	√	√		√
2194	Group Studies	American Politics	√	√		√
2294	Group Studies	Comparative Politics	√	√		√
2300	Am Foreign Policy	International Relations	√	√		√
2367	Contemp Issues Am Pol	American Politics	√	√		√
2394	Group Studies	International Relations	√	√		√
2400	Intro Pol Th	Political Theory	√	√		√
2494	Group Studies	Political Theory	√	√		√
2496	Study Domestic Inst	Variable	√	√		√
2594	Group Studies	Public Policy	√	√		√
Level C						
3100	Am Pol & Policy Making	American Politics	√	√	√	√
3115	Intro to the Policy Process	American Politics	√	√	√	√
3220	Pol of Developing World	Comparative Politics	√	√	√	√
3420	Pol Theories Democracy	Political Theory	√	√	√	√
3430	Pol Theories Freedom	Political Theory	√	√	√	√
3440	Pol Theories Justice	Political Theory	√	√	√	√
3450	Ethics and Pub Pol	Political Theory	√	√	√	√
3491	Pol Sci Internship	Variable	√	√	√	√
3549	Survey Res in PS	Political Theory	√	√	√	√
3905	Pol Manipulation - Minozzi	American Politics	√	√	√	√
3910	Identity Politics	International Relations	√	√	√	√
3912	Pol Leadership	American Politics	√	√	√	√
4110	Am Pres	American Politics		√	√	√
4115	Bureaucracy & Pub Pol	American Politics		√	√	√
4120	US Congress	American Politics		√	√	√
4125	Am State Pol	American Politics		√	√	√
4126	Ohio Pol	American Politics		√	√	√
4127	City Politics	American Politics		√	√	√
4130	Law & Politics	American Politics		√	√	√
4132H	Sup Court Dec Making	American Politics		√	√	√
4135	Am Constitutional Law	American Politics		√	√	√
4136	Civil Liberties	American Politics		√	√	√
4137	Politics of Legal Decision Making	American Politics		√	√	√
4138	Women & the Law	American Politics		√	√	√
4139	Gun Pol	American Politics		√	√	√
4140	Black Pol	American Politics		√	√	√
4145	Asian Am Pol	American Politics		√	√	√
4150	Am Pol Parties	American Politics		√	√	√
4152	Campaign Pol	American Politics		√	√	√
4160	Pub Opinion	American Politics		√	√	√
4162	Religion & Am Pol	American Politics		√	√	√
4164	Pol Part & Voting Behav	American Politics		√	√	√
4165	Mass Media & Am Pol	American Politics		√	√	√
4170	Gender & Politics	American Politics		√	√	√
4175	Women, Govt & PubPol	American Politics		√	√	√
4190	Pol DecMakg & Pub Pol	American Politics		√	√	√
4191	Internship	American Politics		√	√	√

4192	Policy Analysis	American Politics	✓	✓	✓
4193	Ind Studies	American Politics	✓	✓	✓
4200	Politics of Modern Democracies	Comparative Politics	✓	✓	✓
4210	Politics of Eur Integration	Comparative Politics	✓	✓	✓
4212	Southern European Politics	Comparative Politics	✓	✓	✓
4214	Northern European Politics	Comparative Politics	✓	✓	✓
4216	East European Politics	Comparative Politics	✓	✓	✓
4218	Russian Politics	Comparative Politics	✓	✓	✓
4219	European Political Development	Comparative Politics	✓	✓	✓
4225H	Democ in Muslim Maj Countries	Comparative Politics	✓	✓	✓
4230	Chinese Political System	Comparative Politics	✓	✓	✓
4231	China: State & Society	Comparative Politics	✓	✓	✓
4232	Contemp Pol S Asia	Comparative Politics	✓	✓	✓
4235	Japanese Politics	Comparative Politics	✓	✓	✓
4236	SE Asian Politics	Comparative Politics	✓	✓	✓
4240	Latin American Politics	Comparative Politics	✓	✓	✓
4241	Special Topics in LAm Pol	Comparative Politics	✓	✓	✓
4242	Incomplete Democracies	Comparative Politics	✓	✓	✓
4249	Domestic Pol of Internat Conflict	Comparative Politics	✓	✓	✓
4262	New Religious Politics	Comparative Politics	✓	✓	✓
4270	Canadian Political System	Comparative Politics	✓	✓	✓
4280	State & Econ	Comparative Politics	✓	✓	✓
4282	Poltics Inequality	Comparative Politics	✓	✓	✓
4285	Comp Pol Welfare State	Comparative Politics	✓	✓	✓
4300	Theories of IR	International Relations	✓	✓	✓
4310	Security Policy	International Relations	✓	✓	✓
4315	Int Sec & Causes War	International Relations	✓	✓	✓
4318	Pol of Int Terrorism	International Relations	✓	✓	✓
4320	Strat War&Peace	International Relations	✓	✓	✓
4326	Russian For Policy	International Relations	✓	✓	✓
4327	Pol in Middle East	International Relations	✓	✓	✓
4330	Global Governance	International Relations	✓	✓	✓
4331	United Nations System	International Relations	✓	✓	✓
4335	Int Environmental Pol	International Relations	✓	✓	✓
4380	[Pol Anal of] Int Econ Relations	International Relations	✓	✓	✓
4381	Comp Int Pol Economy	International Relations	✓	✓	✓
4411	Ancient/Medieval Pol Th	Political Theory	✓	✓	✓
4412	Early Modern Pol Thought	Political Theory	✓	✓	✓
4413	Modern Pol Thought	Political Theory	✓	✓	✓
4414	Topics in Contemp Pol Thought	Political Theory	✓	✓	✓
4420H	Debating Democracy	Political Theory	✓	✓	✓
4450H	Pol & Ethics	Political Theory	✓	✓	✓
4460	Am Pol Ideas	Political Theory	✓	✓	✓
4551	Techniques Pol Anal	Political Theory	✓	✓	✓
4552	Research Methods in PS	Political Theory	✓	✓	✓
4597.01	International Cooperation & Conflict	International Relations	✓	✓	✓
4597.02	Pol Problems Contemp World	Comparative Politics	✓	✓	✓
4597.03	Gender & Democ in Contemp World	Comparative Politics	✓	✓	✓
4891	Topics	American Politics	✓	✓	✓
4892	Topics	Comparative Politics	✓	✓	✓
4893	Topics	International Relations	✓	✓	✓
4894	Topics	Political Theory	✓	✓	✓
4895	Topics	Public Policy	✓	✓	✓
4910	Business-Government Relations	American Politics	✓	✓	✓
4940	Pol of Immigration	Comparative Politics	✓	✓	✓
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Level D					
4998	Undergraduate Research	variable	✓	✓	✓

4999H	Honors Research	Variable	√	√	√
5124	Urban Politics	American Politics	√	√	√
5140	Ethnic Pol in Am Cities	American Politics	√	√	√
5411	Ancient/Medieval Pol Th	Political Theory	√	√	√
5412	Early Modern Pol Thought	Political Theory	√	√	√
5413	Modern Pol Thought	Political Theory	√	√	√
5414	Topics in Contemp Pol Thought	Political Theory	√	√	√
5891H	Honors Sem	American Politics	√	√	√
5892H	Honors Sem	Comparative Politics	√	√	√
5893H	Honors Sem	International Relations	√	√	√
5894H	Honors Sem	Political Theory	√	√	√
5895H	Honors Sem	Public Policy	√	√	√

Soave, Melissa

From: Vankeerbergen, Bernadette <Vankeerbergen.1@osu.edu>
Sent: Thursday, February 06, 2014 4:59 PM
To: Soave, Melissa
Cc: Fink, Steven; Jenkins, Mary Ellen; Harvey, Rebecca
Subject: Revision to the BA in Political Science
Attachments: PS major revision.doc; Rationale for changes.doc; SBS-ASCC letter for PoliSciMajorChanges.doc

Dear Melissa,

Please find attached a revision to the Political Science BA. The changes were approved by ASCC on Friday, January 31 and will next need to be reviewed by CAA. The attachments are: proposed revision, rationale for changes, and cover letter from Social and Behavioral Sciences Panel.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

My best,
Bernadette

Bernadette Vankeerbergen, Ph.D.
Program Manager, Curriculum and Assessment
Arts and Sciences
The Ohio State University
154D Denney Hall
164 W 17th Ave.
Columbus, OH 43210
Phone: 614-688-5679
Fax: 614-292-6303
<http://ascas.osu.edu>



School of Communication

3016 Derby Hall
154 North Oval Mall
Columbus, OH 43210

Phone (614) 292-3400
Fax (614) 292-2055
www.comm.ohio-state.edu

January 27, 2014

To: Rebecca Harvey, Chair, OSU Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee

From: Tom Schwartz, ^{JS} Chair, ASCC Social and Behavioral Sciences Divisional Curricular Panel

Subject: Approval of Changes to Political Science Major

The SBS Panel on January 16, 2014, approved a proposal for changes to the Political Science major. The first change would require undergraduate students to take 24 credit hours of classes numbered 3000 or higher instead of 24 credit hours of classes numbered 4000 or higher. The previous requirement was based on an outdated set of expectations for majors. The new requirement will increase flexibility for majors to meet the program's requirements.

The second change would replace a required "theory" course that can be used to satisfy a methodology requirement with a "core" methodology course, Political Science 4781, providing more flexibility in the major, increasing enrollment in the core methodology course and removing a theory course from the group of choices of methodology courses.

The panel had no objections, voting unanimously in favor of the changes.

Dear Deborah,

The Political Science Department would like to make the following two revisions to our major program. These changes have been debated and unanimously approved by the Undergraduate Studies Committee, have been endorsed by the Chair, and have been circulated to the full faculty without objection.

(1) The current major requirements state that students must take at least 24 credit hours at the 4000 level or higher. We would like to change that to require that they take 24 credits at the 3000 level or higher. The current policy is an artifact of the fact that the 300-level designation under quarters was at one time reserved for Public Administration courses. Those courses have long since been taken off the books, but the numbering convention was maintained and largely carried over in the conversion from quarters to semesters, with the result that we had (and still have) relatively few 300/3000 level courses. This change would bring us into line with what other ASC units are doing and would create greater flexibility in the major and in our numbering of new courses going forward.

(2) The department currently counts undergraduate methodology courses as "theory" courses for the purposes of satisfying the distribution requirement within the major. There is no intellectual rationale for this policy; it's a holdover from the days when theory courses were few and far between. The practical result is that students are able to avoid taking either a theory or a methods course should they wish to do so. We would like to remove the theory designation from methods courses and instead allow one of our core methodology courses, PS 4781, to count toward any of four substantive subfields in satisfying the distribution requirement. This "five pick four" system would incentivize students to take 4781, create more flexibility in the major, and end the lumping together of theory and methods into a single field.

Thank you for your help in moving this forward.

Eric

ERIC MacGILVRAY
Associate Professor
Director of Undergraduate Studies
Department of Political Science
Ohio State University
2140 Derby Hall
154 North Oval Mall
Columbus, OH 43210

tel (614) 292-3710
fax (614) 292-1146
email macgilvray.2@osu.edu

POLITICAL SCIENCE MAJOR PROGRAM

A political science major must meet the basic course and credit hour requirements set down by the College of Arts and Sciences for the Bachelor of Arts degree. (Information on the BA curriculum is available from Arts and Sciences in Denney Hall.)

Prior to declaring a major in Political Science, a student must have at least one course from Political Science 1100, 1200, 1300, 2150, 2300, and 2400.

Revised requirements for the undergraduate major in Political Science:

1. An undergraduate major in Political Science is a coherent program of courses amounting to a minimum of 33 hours of course work numbered at the 2000 level or higher.
2. (A) At least 24 of the 33 hours of course work must be numbered at the ~~4000~~3000 level or higher. These 24 hours do not include course work taken in other departments that are approved as part of the Political Science major program.
(B) A minimum of 21 credit hours must be taken at The Ohio State University; this limits to twelve hours course work transferred from other universities; taken in other cities or countries through study at a foreign or domestic institution; or other Ohio-State sponsored, off-campus programs; and it ensures that more than half of a student's major is taken from Ohio State instructors. At least fifteen of these 21 credit hours must be numbered at the ~~4000~~3000 level or higher.
3. Major programs must include at least one course from each of four fields in Political Science. The fields are American Politics, Comparative Politics, International Relations, and Political Theory. Political Science 4781 may be counted toward any one of the fields in satisfying this requirement.
4. Major programs must include a four-course focus in a field, chosen from American Politics, Comparative Politics, International Relations, or Political Theory. An individualized focus may be created in consultation with an adviser or faculty member.

5. A grade of “C-” or better is necessary in order for a course to count as part of a major program. A student must earn a Cumulative Point-Hour Ratio of 2.0 or higher in all courses included on the major.
6. A maximum combined total of six credit hours in the major can be included from the following categories: independent study; internships; and undergraduate research courses.
7. As many as six credit hours of the 33 required for the major program may be courses with subject matter related to Political Science in other departments. There is no official list of acceptable courses; students should request prior approval from an adviser in the department before scheduling such courses as part of their major programs.

HONORS MAJOR IN POLITICAL SCIENCE

1. An undergraduate Honors major in Political Science is a coherent program of courses amounting to a minimum of 33 hours of course work in 2000-level honors courses and other Political Science courses numbered 3000 and above.
2. At least twelve hours of credit must be in Political Science Honors courses at the ~~4000~~3000-level or higher.
3. (A) At least 24 of the 33 hours of course work must be numbered at the ~~4000~~3000 level or higher. These 24 hours do not include course work taken in other departments that are approved as part of the Political Science major program.
(B) A minimum of 21 credit hours must be taken at The Ohio State University; this limits to twelve hours course work transferred from other universities; taken in other cities or countries through study at a foreign or domestic institution; or other Ohio-State sponsored, off-campus programs; and it ensures that more than half of a student's major is taken from Ohio State instructors. At least fifteen of these 21 credit hours must be numbered at the ~~4000~~3000 level or higher.
4. Major programs must include at least one course from each of four fields in Political Science. The fields are American Politics, Comparative Politics, International Relations, and Political Theory. Political Science 4781 or 4781H may be counted toward any one of the fields in satisfying this requirement.
5. Major programs must include a four-course focus in a field, chosen from American Politics, Comparative Politics, International Relations, or Political Theory. An individualized focus may be created in consultation with an adviser or faculty member.
6. A grade of "C-" or better is necessary in order for a course to count as part of a major program. A student must earn a Cumulative Point-Hour Ratio of 2.0 or higher in all courses included on the major.
7. A maximum combined total of six credit hours in the major can be included from the following categories: independent study; internships; and undergraduate research courses.
8. As many as six credit hours of the 33 required for the major program may be courses with subject matter related to Political Science in other departments. There is no official list of acceptable courses; students should request prior approval from an adviser in the department before scheduling such courses as part of their major programs.

9. In order to graduate with honors, a student's cumulative point-hour ratio must be at the minimum set by the Honors Office (currently 3.4); the student's major point-hour ratio must be a 3.5.