

## Term Information

Effective Term Spring 2020

## General Information

Course Bulletin Listing/Subject Area Political Science  
Fiscal Unit/Academic Org Political Science - D0755  
College/Academic Group Arts and Sciences  
Level/Career Undergraduate  
Course Number/Catalog 3500  
Course Title Political Games: Rational Choice Theory and the Study of Politics:  
Transcript Abbreviation Political Games  
Course Description Are political outcomes and institutions the result of decision-making by rational, self-interested political actors? This course explores how the assumption of individual rationality has shaped the field of political science.  
Semester Credit Hours/Units Fixed: 3

## Offering Information

Length Of Course 14 Week, 7 Week  
Flexibly Scheduled Course Never  
Does any section of this course have a distance education component? No  
Grading Basis Letter Grade  
Repeatable No  
Course Components Lecture  
Grade Roster Component Lecture  
Credit Available by Exam No  
Admission Condition Course No  
Off Campus Never  
Campus of Offering Columbus

## Prerequisites and Exclusions

Prerequisites/Corequisites  
Exclusions  
Electronically Enforced Yes

## Cross-Listings

Cross-Listings

## Subject/CIP Code

Subject/CIP Code 45.1001  
Subsidy Level Baccalaureate Course  
Intended Rank Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior

## Requirement/Elective Designation

The course is an elective (for this or other units) or is a service course for other units

## Course Details

### Course goals or learning objectives/outcomes

- By the completion of the course, students should broadly understand the theories and methods of social scientific inquiry that make up the rational choice approach in political science.
- Students will understand the core assumptions that are common across rational choice models of political behavior
- Students will know what an analytical model is and how it can guide social scientific inquiry.
- Students will know how analytical models of politics can guide policymakers.

### Content Topic List

- The foundations of rational choice theory (e.g. utility theory)
  - Game theory (strategic decision-making in group settings)
  - Social choice theory (aggregating individual preferences into group preferences)
  - Public choice theory (e.g., modeling government actors as self-interested "economic" actors)
  - Normative implications (e.g., interacting course concepts with theories of justice and morality)
- Yes

### Sought Concurrence

## Attachments

- 3500 supplementary info (002).doc: supplemental information  
*(Other Supporting Documentation. Owner: Smith, Charles William)*
- POLITSC 3500 Philosophy Concurrence email.msg.pdf: Philosophy Concurrence  
*(Concurrence. Owner: Smith, Charles William)*
- syllabus\_POLITSC\_3500\_Political\_Games.pdf: POLITSC 3550 syllabus  
*(Syllabus. Owner: Smith, Charles William)*
- POLTSC 3500 Economics Concurrence email.pdf: Economics Concurrence  
*(Concurrence. Owner: Smith, Charles William)*
- Curriculum Map BS Poli Sci.pdf: Curriculum Map BS Poli Sci  
*(Other Supporting Documentation. Owner: Smith, Charles William)*
- Curriculum Map BA Poli Sci.pdf: Curriculum Map BA Poli Sci  
*(Other Supporting Documentation. Owner: Smith, Charles William)*

## Comments

- Please upload updated curriculum map since rationale explains the course will count in the Political Science BS. The panel will ask for it. Please return request asap so that we can put it on the next SBS Panel agenda. *(by Vankeerbergen, Bernadette Chantal on 09/26/2019 11:35 AM)*

**COURSE REQUEST**  
3500 - Status: PENDING

Last Updated: Haddad,Deborah Moore  
09/26/2019

**Workflow Information**

Status	User(s)	Date/Time	Step
Submitted	Smith,Charles William	09/26/2019 10:44 AM	Submitted for Approval
Approved	Caldeira,Gregory Anthony	09/26/2019 10:54 AM	Unit Approval
Approved	Haddad,Deborah Moore	09/26/2019 11:23 AM	College Approval
Revision Requested	Vankeerbergen,Bernadette Chantal	09/26/2019 11:35 AM	ASCCAO Approval
Submitted	Smith,Charles William	09/26/2019 12:53 PM	Submitted for Approval
Approved	Caldeira,Gregory Anthony	09/26/2019 01:01 PM	Unit Approval
Approved	Haddad,Deborah Moore	09/26/2019 03:03 PM	College Approval
Pending Approval	Jenkins,Mary Ellen Bigler Hanlin,Deborah Kay Oldroyd,Shelby Quinn Vankeerbergen,Bernadette Chantal	09/26/2019 03:03 PM	ASCCAO Approval

# Political Games: Rational Choice Theory and the Study of Politics (PS 3500)

Prof. Alex Acs  
Department of Political Science  
Office: Derby 2008  
Office hours: Tuesday, 2:30 - 4:30 PM  
acs.1@osu.edu

Spring 2020  
Format of Instruction:  
Lecture (160 contact hrs./week)  
Location: Smith Lab 1009  
Tues. & Thurs. 12:45 - 2:05 PM

## Course Description

A central premise in economics is that individuals are rational—that is, they are motivated primarily by their own personal welfare. While this assumption of rationality has been a building block for developing models of economic behavior, it has also been used to understand political behavior, including voting, government policymaking, and the underlying organization of political institutions, including legislatures, bureaucracies and judicial systems. In this course, we will look at how the assumption of rationality has been applied to the study of politics and the development of related analytical models—where a model is an abstract, simplified version of a political phenomenon of interest, e.g., a model of majority-rule voting. At best, the models can help us, as social scientists, distill a complicated world into a manageable analytical framework. As we proceed, our approach will involve both learning some of the foundational models, as well as challenging them—as a philosopher would do—by questioning the strength of the underlying assumptions, and the scope of each model’s predictive power, namely how well they explain the world we observe. The course has no prerequisites, but it will require a willingness to engage with abstract, analytical material.

## Books

There are two required course books:

1. Gerald F. Gaus. *On Philosophy, Politics, and Economics*
2. Macartan Humphreys. *Political Games: Mathematical Insights on Fighting, Voting, Lying and Other Affairs of State*

We will also be reading excerpts from Ethan Bueno de Mesquita's *Political Economy for Public Policy*. Additional course readings are listed in the schedule below and will be made available on Carmen.

## Course Requirements

- *Midterm and final exam.* An in-class midterm and final exam will cover material from the readings and lectures.
- *Reading quizzes.* We will have frequent, unannounced reading quizzes in class that will cover the reading assigned for that day. I will drop your three lowest quiz grades.
- *Class attendance and participation.* You are expected to attend each class and to participate in class discussion and debate.

## Grade Breakdown and Scale

- 20% reading quizzes
- 30% midterm exam
- 50% final exam

Your final grade will be determined using the standard university conversion chart:

Letter	Prct.
A	93-100
A-	90-92
B+	87-89
B	83-86
B-	80-82
C+	77-79
C	73-76
C-	70-72
D+	67-69
D	60-66
E	0-60

## Course Goals

By the completion of the course, students should broadly understand the theories and methods of social scientific inquiry that make up the rational choice approach in political science, including:

1. The core assumptions that are common across rational choice models of political behavior;
2. What an analytical model is and how it can be useful to social scientific inquiry; and
3. How analytical models of politics can guide policymakers, e.g., the design of constitutions and political systems.

## Course Policies

- *Laptops closed, cell phones off.* You are encouraged to take notes during class, though you will have to do so the old-fashioned way, with pencil and paper. In-class quizzes, however, will be run through TopHat, which will require you to use either a smartphone or laptop.
- *Course announcements.* I will post any course announcements, like a syllabus change, on Carmen.
- *Missed class.* If you miss class, please do not email me with the details. Since you can miss up to three quizzes without penalty, missing a few classes should not be a problem for your grade. I will post lecture notes online, and you can ask your classmates for their notes. If you miss the midterm or final, get in touch with me immediately.
- *Contacting me.* The best way to get in touch is through my OSU email, [acs.1@osu.edu](mailto:acs.1@osu.edu). You can also use the Carmen email system, though I check it less frequently.

## Schedule

(Readings should be completed before class)  
DATES ARE FROM SPRING 2019

### Introduction

- January 8 –
- January 10 –
  - Gaus Introduction and Ch. 1 "Instrumental and Economic Rationality" (pp. 7 - 14)
- January 15 –
  - Gaus Ch. 1 "Instrumental and Economic Rationality" (pp. 15 - 28)
- January 17 –
  - Gaus Ch. 2 "Utility Theory" (pp. 30 - 49)
- January 22 –
  - Gaus Ch. 2 "Utility Theory" (pp. 50 - 67)
- January 24 –
  - Gaus Ch. 3 "Efficiency" (pp. 72 - 83)
- January 29 –
  - Gaus Ch. 3 "Efficiency" (pp. 84 - 93)

### Strategic Decision-making

- January 31 –
  - Gaus Ch. 4 "Game Theory" (pp. 95 - 101)
  - Humphreys game theory introduction (pp. xi - xxii)
- February 5 –
  - Gaus Ch. 4 "Game Theory" (pp. 102 - 116)
  - Humphreys "The Tragedy of the Commons (The Prisoner's Dilemma)" (pp. 2 - 3)
- February 7 –
  - Gaus Ch. 4 "Game Theory" (pp. 116 - 125)

- Humphreys "The Shadow of the Future (The Folk Theorems)" (pp. 10 - 11)
- [optional] Humphreys "Playing with your Progeny (Overlapping Generations)" (pp. 12 - 13)
- February 12 –
  - Gaus Ch. 4 "Game Theory" (pp. 125 - 135)
  - Humphreys "Strategic Substitution (The Game of Chicken)" (pp. 4 - 5)
- February 14 –
  - Gaus Ch. 4 "Game Theory" (pp. 135 - 142)
  - Humphreys "Strategic Complementarities (The Assurance Dilemma)" (pp. 6 - 7)

## Social Choice Theory

- February 19 -
  - Bueno de Mesquita (pp. 51 - 60)
  - Humphreys "Irrational Majorities (Condorcet's Paradox)" (pp. 20 - 21)
- February 21 -
  - Bueno de Mesquita (pp. 60 - 71)
  - Humphreys "There Is No General Will (Arrow's Theorem)" (pp. 22 - 23)
  - [optional] Gaus Ch. 5 "Social Choice Theory"
- February 26 - Implications of social choice theory for voting and constitution-building
  - Humphrey's "Why the Middle Matters" (pp. 30 - 31)
  - Kenneth Shepsle *Analyzing Politics* (pp. 82 - 83)
  - William Riker. *The Art of Political Manipulation* Ch. 11 ("The Powell Amendment")
- February 28 – class exercise: application of majority rule voting to Democratic primary contest
  - Eric Maskin and Amartya Sen. "The Rules of the Game: A New Electoral System." *The New York Review of Books*.
- March 5 – Review



- March 7 – **Midterm**

## SPRING BREAK

### Public Choice Theory

- March 19
  - Gaus Ch. 6 "Public Choice Theory" (pp. 177 - 183)
- March 21 – class exercise: [Downsian convergence](#)
  - Gaus Ch. 6 "Public Choice Theory" (pp. 184 - 203)
- March 26
  - Bueno de Mesquita Ch. 10 "Influence Over Elected Officials"
  - Humphreys "Throw the Rascals Out" (pp. 98 - 99)
- March 28
  - Bueno de Mesquita Ch. 11 "Institutions, Incentives and Power" (pp. 305 - 314)
  - Humphreys "The Selectorate Model" (pp. 100 - 101)
- April 2
  - Bueno de Mesquita Ch. 11 "Institutions, Incentives and Power" (pp. 314 - 326)
- April 4
  - Bueno de Mesquita Ch. 4 "Collective Action" (pp. 101 - 105 & skim section 4.2 on public goods)
  - Humphreys "Small is Beautiful (The Logic of Collective Action)" (pp. 108 - 109)

### Normative Frameworks

- April 9
  - Bueno de Mesquita Ch. 1 "Normative Frameworks" (pp. 13 - 27)
- April 11
  - Bueno de Mesquita Ch. 1 "Normative Frameworks" (pp. 27 - 37)
  - Humphreys "The Problem with Utilitarians" (pp. 18 - 19)
- April 16 – Review
- April 18 – **Final Exam**

## Academic Misconduct

It is the responsibility of the Committee on Academic Misconduct to investigate or establish procedures for the investigation of all reported cases of student academic misconduct. The term “academic misconduct” includes all forms of student academic misconduct wherever committed; illustrated by, but not limited to, cases of plagiarism and dishonest practices in connection with examinations. Instructors shall report all instances of alleged academic misconduct to the committee (Faculty Rule 3335-5-487). For additional information, see the [Code of Student Conduct](#).

All students believe that they know how not to plagiarize. Many of them are wrong. Every year, many of them find that out the hard way. Don’t be one of them.

The short version is that passing off another person’s work or ideas as your own is plagiarism. That includes the unacknowledged word-for-word use or paraphrasing of another person’s work or ideas. It is not enough, for example, simply to copy and paste a passage and then cite the source at the end. If the passage is taken word-for-word, it must be in quotes as well to indicate that fact.

There is an excellent video [here](#), if you have any doubts. You should be crystal clear, as the University’s policies exist to ensure fairness, and violators of University regulations on academic integrity will be dealt with severely.

## Disability Services

Students with disabilities (including mental health, chronic or temporary medical conditions) that have been certified by the Office of Student Life Disability Services will be appropriately accommodated and should inform the instructor as soon as possible of their needs. The Office of Student Life Disability Services is located in 098 Baker Hall, 113 W. 12th Avenue; telephone 614-292-3307, [slds@osu.edu](mailto:slds@osu.edu); [slds.osu.edu](http://slds.osu.edu).

New Course Proposal  
Political Science 3500  
“Political Games: Rational Choice Theory and the Study of Politics”

**Description for Course Catalogue**

Are political outcomes and institutions the result of decision-making by rational, self-interested political actors? This course explores how the assumption of individual rationality has shaped the field of political science.

**Rationale**

This course introduces undergraduates to rational choice theory, an influential methodological approach used by political scientists to reduce complex political phenomena to manageable analytical models. In addition to exposing students to this subfield, the course will: (a) sharpen students' critical thinking skills; (b) augment the undergraduate methods curriculum in Political Science by adding another course that will count toward our new Bachelor of Science degree; (c) provide an accessible lead-in to our existing game theory course (PS 4553); and (d) count toward the foundations portion of the Philosophy, Politics and Economics (PPE) major.

**Learning Objectives (course goals)**

By the completion of the course, students should broadly understand the theories and methods of social scientific inquiry that make up the rational choice approach in political science, including:

1. The core assumptions that are common across rational choice models of political behavior;
2. What an analytical model is and how it can guide social scientific inquiry; and
3. How analytical models of politics can guide policymakers, e.g., in the design of constitutions and political systems

**Topic List**

1. The foundations of rational choice theory (e.g., utility theory)
2. Game theory (strategic decision-making in group settings)
3. Social choice theory (aggregating individual preferences into group preferences)
4. Public choice theory (e.g., modeling government actors as self-interested "economic" actors)
5. Normative implications (e.g., interacting course concepts with theories of justice and morality)

**Prerequisites**

There are no prerequisites, although students who have taken microeconomics may be familiar with some of the course concepts, e.g. utility theory.

**From:** [MacGilvray, Eric](#)  
**To:** [Smith, Charles William](#); [Caldeira, Gregory](#)  
**Cc:** [Acs, Alex](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Concurrence request: PS 3500  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 24, 2019 9:41:56 PM

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Concurrence from Philosophy for PS 3500.

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Downing, Lisa" <[downing.110@osu.edu](mailto:downing.110@osu.edu)>  
**Subject:** **Re: Concurrence request: PS 3500**  
**Date:** September 24, 2019 at 8:56:37 PM EDT  
**To:** "MacGilvray, Eric" <[macgilvray.2@polisci.osu.edu](mailto:macgilvray.2@polisci.osu.edu)>

Hi Eric,

An e-mail suffices for concurrence, right? I'm happy to concur on PS 3500. Thanks for letting me know about it. I would like to note that we are interested in hiring someone eventually who might teach in the area of rational choice, e.g. a philosopher of economics who could support the PPE program. And so we might eventually develop a lower-level course in this area, in addition to our 5000-level course already on the books. However, I think there would be plenty of room for both courses, especially in the context of a thriving PPE program.

All best,

Lisa

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Lisa Downing  
Professor and Chair  
Department of Philosophy  
Ohio State University

On Sep 24, 2019, at 11:41 AM, MacGilvray, Eric  
<[macgilvray.2@polisci.osu.edu](mailto:macgilvray.2@polisci.osu.edu)> wrote:

Dear Lisa,

Attached is a concurrence request for a new course being proposed by my colleague Alex Acs called "Political Games: Rational Choice Theory and the Study of Politics." I've also attached the course syllabus and the supplementary info (rationale, catalog description, etc) which gives a bit more context on the aims of the course. As the latter document says, this course will serve as a useful lead-in for our existing game theory course (PS 4553), and will also count toward the "formal reasoning" requirement for the PPE major — which is why the concurrence request is coming from me.

Could I ask you to please sign and return the concurrence form at

your earliest convenience? We'd like to get the course on the books by spring if possible, and as you know there are several curricular hoops to jump through. And of course please let me know if you have any questions or concerns about the course itself.

Many thanks,

Eric

ERIC MacGILVRAY  
Associate Professor  
Department of Political Science  
Chair, Philosophy, Politics & Economics Steering Committee  
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](mailto:macgilvray.2@osu.edu)  
<https://ppe.osu.edu>

<Concurrence\_Form Philosophy.pdf><PS 3500 syllabus.pdf><PS  
3500 supplementary info.pdf>

**From:** [MacGilvray, Eric](#)  
**To:** [Caldeira, Gregory](#); [Acs, Alex](#); [Smith, Charles William](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Concurrence request: PS 3500  
**Date:** Thursday, September 26, 2019 8:59:19 AM

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Concurrence from Econ on PS 3500. We should be ready to submit at this point?

ERIC MacGILVRAY  
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email [macgilvray.2@osu.edu](mailto:macgilvray.2@osu.edu)  
<https://ppe.osu.edu>

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Peck, Jim" <[peck.33@osu.edu](mailto:peck.33@osu.edu)>  
**Date:** September 26, 2019 at 8:56:05 AM EDT  
**To:** "MacGilvray, Eric" <[macgilvray.2@polisci.osu.edu](mailto:macgilvray.2@polisci.osu.edu)>  
**Subject: Re: Concurrence request: PS 3500**

Dear Eric,

I have read the attachments in your 9/24/2019 email request for concurrence for PS 3500. The Department of Economics supports your request.

Best wishes,

Jim



James Peck  
Professor and Chair, Department of Economics  
The Ohio State University

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**From:** MacGilvray, Eric <macgilvray.2@polisci.osu.edu>

**Sent:** Tuesday, September 24, 2019 11:43 AM

**To:** Peck, Jim <peck.33@osu.edu>

**Subject:** Concurrence request: PS 3500

Dear Jim,

Attached is a concurrence request for a new course being proposed by my colleague Alex Acs called “Political Games: Rational Choice Theory and the Study of Politics.” I’ve also attached the course syllabus and the supplementary info (rationale, catalog description, etc) which gives a bit more context on the aims of the course. As the latter document says, this course will serve as a useful lead-in for our existing game theory course (PS 4553), and will also count toward the “formal reasoning” requirement for the PPE major — which is why the concurrence request is coming from me.

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Many thanks,

Eric

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154 North Oval Mall  
Columbus, OH 43210

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email [macgilvray.2@osu.edu](mailto:macgilvray.2@osu.edu)  
<https://ppe.osu.edu>

## **Curriculum Map: BA Political Science**

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.

### Learning Goals:

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 through 3000 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 4000 and 5000 level, although 2000- and 3000-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 4000 and 5000 level, although 3000-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 4000 and 5000 level, although 1000-, 2000- and 3000-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 the students the confidence to assume progressively greater initiative and independence through their undergraduate years and beyond.

### Level Index:

- A = Basic
- B = Higher-level Introductory
- C = Broad-based Advanced
- D = Focused Advanced

### Overview of Program Learning Goals



Course Number	Course	Field	Credit Hours	Learning Goals			
				1	2	3	4
<b>Pre-Major Courses</b>							
1100	Intro to American Politics	American Politics	3	x			x
1200	Intro to Comparative Politics	Comparative Politics	3	x			x
1300	Global Politics	International Relations	3	x			x
2150	Voters & Elections	American Politics	3	x	x		x
2300	American Foreign Policy	International Relations	3	x	x		x
2400	Intro to Political Theory	Political Theory	3	x	x		x
<b>Field Distribution</b>							
				x	x	x	x
<b>Focus Area</b>							
					x	x	x
<b>Course Levels</b>							
	1000(A)			x			x
	2000(B)			x	x		x
	3000(B)			x	x	x	x
	4000(C)				x	x	x
	5000(D)				x	x	x

Program Learning Goals for All Undergraduate Courses

Course Number	Course	Field	Credit Hours	Learning Goals			
				1	2	3	4
<b>Level A</b>							
1100	Intro to American Politics	American Politics	3	x			x
1105	American Political Controversies	American Politics	3	x			x
1165	Intro to Politics	American Politics	3	x			x
1200	Intro to Comparative Politics	Comparative Politics	3	x			x
1300	Global Politics	International Relations	3	x			x
<b>Level B</b>							
2150	Voters & Elections	American Politics	3	x	x		x
2194	Group Studies	American Politics	3	x	x		x
2300	American Foreign Policy	International Relations	3	x	x		x
2367	Contemp Issues in American Politics	American Politics	3	x	x		x
2400	Intro to Political Theory	Political Theory	3	x	x		x
2496	Study at a Domestic Institution	Variable		x	x		x

3100	American Politics & Policy Making	American Politics	3	x	x	x	x
3115	Intro to the Policy Process	American Politics	3	x	x	x	x
3170	Political Psychology	American Politics	3	x	x	x	x
3191	Internship	American Politics	1		x	x	x
3220	Politics of the Developing World	Comparative Politics	3	x	x	x	x
3225	Post-Conflict Reconstruction	Comparative Politics	3	x	x	x	x
3290	Comparative Public Policy	Comparative Politics	3	x	x	x	x
3110(H)	Defense Policy & National Security	International Relations	3	x	x	x	x
3420	Political Theories of Democracy	Political Theory	3	x	x	x	x
3430	Political Theories of Freedom	Political Theory	3	x	x	x	x
3440	Political Theories of Justice	Political Theory	3	x	x	x	x
3450	Ethics and Public Policy	Political Theory	3	x	x	x	x
3460	Global Justice	Political Theory	3	x	x	x	x
3500	Political Games	Variable	3	x	x	x	x
3549	Survey Research in Political Science	Political Theory		x	x	x	x
3596.01	Politics of Crime and Punishment	American Politics	3	x	x	x	x
3596.02(H)	Nationalism & Ethnicity	Comparative Politics	3	x	x	x	x
3780	Data Literacy & Data Visualization	Variable	3	x	x	x	x
3785	Data Science	Variable	3	x	x	x	x
3905	Political Manipulation	American Politics	3	x	x	x	x
3910	Identity Politics	International Relations	3	x	x	x	x
3912	Political Leadership	American Politics	3	x	x	x	x
<b>Level C</b>							
4110	The American Presidency	American Politics	3		x	x	x
4115	Bureaucracy & Public Policy	American Politics	3		x	x	x
4120	US Congress	American Politics	3		x	x	x
4123	Political Crisis & Reform	American Politics	3		x	x	x
4125	American State Politics	American Politics	3		x	x	x
4126	Ohio Politics	American Politics	3		x	x	x
4127	Governing Urban America	American Politics	3		x	x	x
4127H	Honors City Politics	American Politics	3		x	x	x
4130	Law & Politics	American Politics	3		x	x	x
4131	American Supreme Court	American Politics	3		x	x	x
4132H	Supreme Court Decision Making	American Politics	3		x	x	x

4135	American Constitutional Law	American Politics	3	x	x	x
4136	Civil Liberties	American Politics	3	x	x	x
4137	Politics of Legal Decision Making	American Politics	3	x	x	x
4138	Women & the Law	American Politics	3	x	x	x
4139 (E)	Gun Politics	American Politics	3	x	x	x
4140	Black Politics	American Politics	3	x	x	x
4145	Asian American Politics	American Politics	3	x	x	x
4150	American Political Parties	American Politics	3	x	x	x
4152	Campaign Politics	American Politics	3	x	x	x
4160	Public Opinion	American Politics	3	x	x	x
4162	Religion & American Politics	American Politics	3	x	x	x
4164	Pol Participation & Voting Behavior	American Politics	3	x	x	x
4165	Mass Media & American Politics	American Politics	3	x	x	x
4170	Gender & Politics	American Politics	3	x	x	x
4175	Women, Government & Public Policy	American Politics	3	x	x	x
4190	Pol Decision Making & Public Policy	American Politics	3	x	x	x
4191	Internship	American Politics	3	x	x	x
4192	Policy Analysis	American Politics	3	x	x	x
4193	Individual Studies	American Politics	3	x	x	x
4200	Politics of Modern Democracies	Comparative Politics	3	x	x	x
4210	Politics of European Integration	Comparative Politics	3	x	x	x
4212	Dictatorship to Democracy	Comparative Politics	3	x	x	x
4214	Northern European Politics	Comparative Politics	3	x	x	x
4216	East European Politics	Comparative Politics	3	x	x	x
4218	Russian Politics	Comparative Politics	3	x	x	x
4219	European Political Development	Comparative Politics	3	x	x	x
4225H	Dem in Muslim Majority Countries	Comparative Politics	3	x	x	x
4230	Chinese Political System	Comparative Politics	3	x	x	x
4231	China: State & Society	Comparative Politics	3	x	x	x
4232	Contemporary Politics of South Asia	Comparative Politics	3	x	x	x
4235	Japanese Politics	Comparative Politics	3	x	x	x
4236	Southeast Asian Politics	Comparative Politics	3	x	x	x
4240	Latin American Politics	Comparative Politics	3	x	x	x
4241	Special Topics in Latin American Politics	Comparative Politics	3	x	x	x

4242	Incomplete Democracies	Comparative Politics	3	x	x	x
4245H	Democratic Erosion	Comparative Politics	3	x	x	x
4249	Domestic Politics of Intl Conflict	Comparative Politics	3	x	x	x
4250(H)	African Politics	Comparative Politics	3	x	x	x
4262	The New Religious Politics	Comparative Politics	3	x	x	x
4270	The Canadian Political System	Comparative Politics	3	x	x	x
4280	State & Economy	Comparative Politics	3	x	x	x
4282	Politics of Income Inequality	Comparative Politics	3	x	x	x
4285	Comparative Pol of the Welfare State	Comparative Politics	3	x	x	x
4300	Theories of International Relations	International Relations	3	x	x	x
4305	International Theory	International Relations	3	x	x	x
4310	Security Policy	International Relations	3	x	x	x
4315	International Security & Causes of War	International Relations	3	x	x	x
4318	Politics of International Terrorism	International Relations	3	x	x	x
4320	Strategies for War & Peace	International Relations	3	x	x	x
4326	Russian Foreign Policy	International Relations	3	x	x	x
4327	Politics in the Middle East	International Relations	3	x	x	x
4330	Global Governance	International Relations	3	x	x	x
4331	The United Nations System	International Relations	3	x	x	x
4332	Politics of Globalization	International Relations	3	x	x	x
4335	International Environmental Politics	International Relations	3	x	x	x
4380(H)	Pol Analysis of Intl Econ Relations	International Relations	3	x	x	x
4381	Contemp Intl Political Economy	International Relations	3	x	x	x
4385(E)	Quantitative Studies of International Conflict	International Relations	3	x	x	x
4420H	Debating Democracy	Political Theory	3	x	x	x
4450	Politics & Ethics	Political Theory	3	x	x	x
4455	Human Rights	Political Theory	3	x	x	x
4460	American Political Ideas	Political Theory	3	x	x	x
4465	Feminist Political Theory	Political Theory	3	x	x	x
4553	Game Theory for Political Scientists	Political Theory	3	x	x	x
4591	Seminar in Public Policy	American Politics	3	x	x	x
4597.01	International Cooperation & Conflict	International Relations	3	x	x	x
4597.02	Political Problems of Contemp World	Comparative Politics	3	x	x	x
4597.03	Gender & Democracy in Contemp World	Comparative Politics	3	x	x	x

4780	Thesis Research Colloquium	Variable	3	x	x	x
4781	Data Analysis in Political Science I	Variable	3	x	x	x
4782	Data Analysis in Political Science II	Variable	3	x	x	x
4784( E)	Complexity Science and the Study of Politics	Variable	3	x	x	x
4891	Topics in American Politics	American Politics	3	x	x	x
4892	Topics in Comparative Politics	Comparative Politics	3	x	x	x
4893	Topics in International Relations	International Relations	3	x	x	x
4894	Topics in Political Theory	Political Theory	3	x	x	x
4895	Topics in Public Policy	Public Policy	3	x	x	x
4910(H)	Business-Government Relations	American Politics	3	x	x	x
4920(H)	Politics in Film & Television	American Politics	3	x	x	x
4940	Politics of Immigration	Comparative Politics	3	x	x	x
<b>Level D</b>						
4998	Undergraduate Research	Variable		x	x	x
4999(H)	Thesis Research	Variable		x	x	x
5124	Urban Politics	American Politics		x	x	x
5140	Ethnic Politics in American Cities	American Politics		x	x	x
5411	Ancient & Medieval Political Thought	Political Theory	3	x	x	x
5412	Early Modern Political Thought	Political Theory	3	x	x	x
5413	19th Century Political Thought	Political Theory	3	x	x	x
5414	20th Century Political Thought	Political Theory	3	x	x	x

## Curriculum Map: BS Political Science

### Learning Goals:

1. Students have a fundamental understanding of the theories, research methods, and substantive issues that guide the study of politics.
2. Students have a basic knowledge across three of the four major fields of Political Science: American Politics, Comparative Politics, International Relations, and Political Theory.
3. Students have advanced knowledge of the methods of research design and data analysis as used in the discipline of Political Science.
4. Students develop analytic and critical thinking skills that will enable them to rigorously evaluate competing arguments and to appraise value-based claims.

### Key to Learning Goal Levels:

F = Foundational

I = Intermediate

A = Advanced

### Prerequisite to the Major (1 Course)

Course Number	Course	Credit Hours	Learning Goals			
			1	2	3	4
1100	Intro to American Politics	3	F		F	F
1200	Intro to Comparative Politics	3	F		F	F
1300	Global Politics	3	F		F	F
1165	Intro to Politics	3	F		F	F
2150	Voters & Elections	3	I		I	I
2300	American Foreign Policy	3	I		I	I
2400	Intro to Political Theory	3	I		I	I

### Core (4 Courses)

Course Number	Course	Credit Hours	Learning Goals			
			1	2	3	4
3500	Political Games	3			I	I
3780	Data Visualization	3			I	I
4781(H)	Data Analysis in Political Science I	3			A	A
4782	Data Analysis in Political Science II	3			A	A
<b>AND one of the following courses:</b>						
3549	Survey Research in Political Science	3			I	I
<b>OR</b>						

4192	Policy Analysis	3		A	A
	<b>OR</b>				
4553	Game Theory for Political Scientists	3		A	A

Breadth Requirement (3 Courses): 1 Course from 3 of 4 Subfields

Course Number	Course	Credit Hours	Learning Goals			
			1	2	3	4
<b>American Politics</b>						
2150(H)	Voters & Elections	3				
2194.01	Group Studies	3				
3100	American Politics & Policy Making	3				
3115	Intro to the Policy Process	3				
2367(H)	Contemporary Issues American Politics	3				
3170	Political Psychology	3				
3310(H)	Foreign Policy and National Security	3				
3596.01	Politics of Crime & Punishment	3				
3905	Political Manipulation	3				
3912	Political Leadership	3				
4110	The American Presidency	3		A	A	A
4115	Bureaucracy & Public Policy	3		A	A	A
4120	US Congress	3		A	A	A
4125	American State Politics	3		A	A	A
4126	Ohio Politics	3		A	A	A
4127	Governing Urban America	3		A	A	A
4130	Law & Politics	3		A	A	A
4131	American Supreme Court	3		A	A	A
4132H	Supreme Court Decision Making	3		A	A	A
4135	American Constitutional Law	3		A	A	A
4136	Civil Liberties	3		A	A	A
4137	Politics of Legal Decision Making	3		A	A	A
4138	Women & the Law	3		A	A	A
4139(E)	Gun Politics	3		A	A	A
4140	Black Politics	3		A	A	A
4145	Asian American Politics	3		A	A	A

4150	American Political Parties	3		A	A	A
4152	Campaign Politics	3		A	A	A
4160	Public Opinion	3		A	A	A
4162	Religion & American Politics	3		A	A	A
4164	Political Participation & Voting Behavior	3		A	A	A
4165	Mass Media & American Politics	3		A	A	A
4170	Gender & Politics	3		A	A	A
4175	Women, Government & Public Policy	3		A	A	A
4190	Political Decision Making & Public Policy	3		A	A	A
4191	Internship	3		A	A	A
4192	Policy Analysis	3		A	A	A
4193	Individual Studies	3		A	A	A
4891(H)	Topics	3		A	A	A
4910(H)	Business-Government Relations	3		A	A	A
5124	Urban Politics	3		A	A	A
5140	Ethnic Politics in American Cities	3		A	A	A
<b>Comparative Politics</b>						
2194.02	Group Studies	3	I		I	I
3220	Politics of the Developing World	3	I	I	I	I
3225	Post-conflict Reconstruction	3		A	A	A
3290	Comparative Public Policy	3		A	A	A
3596.02	Nationalism and Ethnicity	3		I	I	I
4200	Politics of Modern Democracies	3		A	A	A
4210	Politics of European Integration	3		A	A	A
4212	Dictatorship to Democracy	3		A	A	A
4214	Northern European Politics	3		A	A	A
4216	East European Politics	3		A	A	A
4218	Russian Politics	3		A	A	A
4219	European Political Development	3		A	A	A
4225H	Democracy in Muslim Majority Countries	3		A	A	A
4230	Chinese Political System	3		A	A	A
4231	China: State & Society	3		A	A	A
4232	Contemporary Politics of South Asia	3		A	A	A
4235	Japanese Politics	3		A	A	A



4236	Southeast Asian Politics	3		A	A	A
4240	Latin American Politics	3		A	A	A
4241	Special Topics in Latin American Politics	3		A	A	A
4242	Incomplete Democracies	3		A	A	A
4245	Democratic Erosion	3		A	A	A
4249	Domestic Politics of International Conflict	3		A	A	A
4250	African Politics	3		A	A	A
4262	The New Religious Politics	3		A	A	A
4270	The Canadian Political System	3		A	A	A
4280	State & Economy	3		A	A	A
4282	Politics of Inequality	3		A	A	A
4285	Comparative Politics of the Welfare State	3		A	A	A
4597.02/H/E	Political Problems of the Contemporary World	3		A	A	A
4597.03	Gender & Democracy in the Contemporary World	3		A	A	A
4892(H)	Topics	3		A	A	A
4940	Politics of Immigration	3		A	A	A
<b>International Relations</b>						
2194.03	Group Studies	3	I		I	I
2300(H)	American Foreign Policy	3	I		I	I
3310(H)	Defense Policy and National Security	3	I	I	I	I
3910	Identity Politics	3	I	I	I	I
4300	Theories of International Relations	3		A	A	A
4305	International Theory	3		A	A	A
4310	Security Policy	3		A	A	A
4315	International Security & Causes of War	3		A	A	A
4318	Politics of International Terrorism	3		A	A	A
4320	Strategies for War & Peace	3		A	A	A
4326	Russian Foreign Policy	3		A	A	A
4327	Politics in the Middle East	3		A	A	A
4330	Global Governance	3		A	A	A
4331	The United Nations System	3		A	A	A
4332	Politics of Globalization	3		A	A	A
4335	International Environmental Politics	3		A	A	A
4380(H)	Political Analysis of International Economic Relations	3		A	A	A

4381	Contemporary International Political Economy	3		A	A	A
4385(E)	Quantitative Studies of International Conflict	3		A	A	A
4597.01(H)	International Cooperation & Conflict	3		A	A	A
4893(H)	Topics	3		A	A	A
4784( E)	Complexity Science and the Study of Politics	3		A	A	A
<b>Political Theory</b>						
2194.04	Group Studies	3	I		I	I
2400(H)	Intro Political Theory	3	I		I	I
3420	Political Theories of Democracy	3	I	I	I	I
3430	Political Theories of Freedom	3	I	I	I	I
3440	Political Theories of Justice	3	I	I	I	I
3450	Ethics and Public Policy	3	I	I	I	I
3460	Global Justice	3	I	I	I	I
4420H	Debating Democracy	3		A	A	A
4450	Politics & Ethics	3		A	A	A
4455	Human Rights	3		A	A	A
4460	American Political Ideas	3		A	A	A
4465	Feminist Political Theory	3		A	A	A
4894	Topics	3		A	A	A
5411	Justice, Sin & Virtue: Ancient and Medieval Pol Thought	3		A	A	A
5412	Life, Liberty & Property: Early Modern Pol Thought	3		A	A	A
5413	Democracy, Equality & Revolution: Modern Pol Thought	3		A	A	A
5414	Liberalism, Totalitarianism & Empire: Contemp Pol Thought	3		A	A	A