

POLITICAL SCIENCE (B.A.)

What is Political Science?

Political Science teaches us how and why people join together in communities and make the choices they do. It helps us understand how to understand and address many challenges in our society and throughout the world. Political Science also helps us to understand how our choices as individuals affect the world around us.

Why Study Political Science?

Students who major or minor in Political Science will learn about the institutions, groups, leaders, policies and ideas that shape the American political system and the governments of foreign countries.

- Understand the American political process
- Find out how our public policies are developed
- Learn about the role of law in U.S. society and internationally
- Discover the philosophies that shape political ideas
- Examine different political systems in foreign countries
- Analyze key issues in foreign policy
- Be a more informed citizen

Major Requirements:

The major in Political Science involves 33 credits, including 15 credits in required courses:

- Introduction to Politics
- American Government and Politics
- Comparative Politics
- International Relations
- Essentials of Political Thought

Students then choose 18 credits in electives from a list of courses on topics in American Government, Comparative Politics, International Relations, Political Thought, and Law. Among their electives, students may opt to participate in a 4 credit non-paying internship in a local political office or in Washington, D.C.

Careers for Political Science Majors

Our students find that their work in Political Science leads them to a wide variety of job options. Many of our students pursue careers in law. Others work in public service as policy analysts in federal and state governments, or as city managers or administrators. Some graduates work in the foreign policy arena, at the United Nations or with other international organizations. Some graduates choose to engage in politics more directly and serve as elected officials, activists and policy advocates in public interest groups, or work in non-profit organizations. Still other graduates find that their knowledge of politics and skill at analyzing complex institutions offer an excellent preparation for a career in journalism, business, or social studies education.

Degree Requirements Overview

Code	Title	Credits
	SEEDS General Education Requirements	27-30
	New Student Seminar	1
	Major Requirements	33

Free Electives ¹	59-56
Total Credits	120

¹ Graduate Swing Courses will count toward free electives for students in combined (UG/GR) programs.

Major Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
Required Courses		
POLS 100	Introduction to Politics	3
POLS 101	American Government and Politics	3
POLS 201	Comparative Politics	3
POLS 202	International Relations	3
POLS 300	Essentials of Political Thought	3

Political Science Major Elective Courses

Select 18 credits from following: 18

Up to 15 credits may be from any one group. 12 credits must be from POLS 300 to POLS 497 or JURI 474.

American Politics		
POLS 214	Gender and Politics	
POLS 215	U.S. Race and Ethnic Politics	
POLS 216	Urban Politics	
POLS 301	American Party System	
POLS 302	Social Movements and Interest Groups	
POLS 304	State and Local Government	
POLS 306	Campaign Politics	
POLS 309	U.S. Latino/a Politics	
POLS 312	Black Politics in the United States	
POLS 313	Politics and Technology	
POLS 314	Seminar in Campaign Politics	
POLS 317	The American Congress	
POLS 318	The American Presidency	
POLS 319	Politics and Film	
POLS 324	Applied Policy Analysis	
POLS 327	Food and Politics	
POLS 420	Seminar and Internship in Political Science	
POLS 425	Politics of Federal Bureaucracy	
POLS 429	Polling in the U.S	
POLS 436	Political Science Washington, D.C., Internship	
American Law		
JURI 210	Perspectives on Law	
POLS 320	Law in Society: Civil Law	
POLS 321	Law in Society: Criminal Law	
POLS 322	American Constitutional Law: The Federal System	
POLS 323	American Constitutional Law: Civil Rights and Liberties	
POLS 331	Animal Rights: Law, Politics and Culture	
POLS 332	U.S. Immigration: Law and Politics	
POLS 351	Comparative Legal Perspectives: Israel and the United States	
Public Administration and Public Policy		
POLS 205	Introduction to Public Administration	

POLS 208	Introduction to Public Policy
POLS 304	State and Local Government
POLS 310	Public Personnel Administration
POLS 311	Governmental Budgeting
POLS 315	Urban Administration
POLS 324	Applied Policy Analysis
POLS 425	Politics of Federal Bureaucracy
POLS 426	Seminar and Internship in Public Administration I
Political Thought	
JURI 300	Essentials of Jurisprudence
POLS 307	American Political Thought
POLS 331	Animal Rights: Law, Politics and Culture
POLS 333	Special Topics in Political Thought
POLS 334	Politics of Science Fiction
POLS 335	Theories of Political Economy
POLS 363	Politics and Morality of War
Comparative Politics	
POLS 204	Government and Politics of Africa
POLS 206	Government and Politics of China and Japan
POLS 303	Politics of Development and Modernization
POLS 327	Food and Politics
POLS 335	Theories of Political Economy
POLS 339	Contemporary Western European Politics
POLS 340	Government and Politics of India and South Asia
POLS 341	Government and Politics of Latin America
POLS 342	Government and Politics of the Middle East
POLS 343	Government and Politics in the Post-Soviet States
POLS 351	Comparative Legal Perspectives: Israel and the United States
International Relations	
JURI 474	Human Rights Law
POLS 203	International Organizations
POLS 207	American Foreign Policy
POLS 319	Politics and Film
POLS 353	Intelligence and National Security
POLS 362	International Relations in Asia
POLS 363	Politics and Morality of War
POLS 364	War and International Security
POLS 365	Global Environmental Politics
POLS 430	International Law
POLS 431	Globalization and Security
Other Major Electives	
LAWS 220	Conflict and Its Resolution
POLS 410	Directed Study
POLS 416	Special Topics in Political Science
POLS 497	Honors Seminar-Political Science

Total Credits**33**

New Student Seminar

Code	Title	Credits
Students in the Adult Learner program must take GNED 100.		
Complete one course from the following. Some courses may be restricted by major. Consult with an academic advisor.		1
ADVS 198	Pathways to Success	
CHEM 190	Freshman Seminar in Chemistry	
FYS 100	First Year Seminar	
GNED 100	Adult Academic Success Seminar	
GNED 199	New Student Seminar	
HPEM 199	Freshman Seminar in Health and Physical Education	
IDS 155	Pathways to Adult Learning	
JUST 199	New Student Seminar	
MATH 102	New Student Experience for Mathematical Sciences	
MUGN 199	Freshman Seminar for Music Majors	
NURS 199	Introduction to Nursing	
POLS 199	Freshman Seminar in Political Science and Law	

SEEDS General Education Requirements

Click here for a list of courses that fulfill the SEEDS requirements. (<http://catalog.montclair.edu/programs/seeds-general-education-requirements/>)

Code	Title	Credits
Foundations		
<i>Effective Writing I</i>		
Complete one Effective Writing I course		3
<i>Effective Writing II</i>		
Complete one Effective Writing II course.		3
<i>Interactive Communication</i>		
Complete one Interactive Communication course.		3
<i>Quantitative Reasoning</i>		
Complete one Quantitative Reasoning course.		3
<i>Political and Civic Life</i>		
Fulfilled by POLS 101 in the major.		
<i>World Language</i>		
Complete two sequential classes in one World Language when starting at the Beginner I or Beginner II level. Complete one class when starting at the Intermediate/Advanced Level.		3-6
Exploration		
Complete one course from four different Exploration categories:		12
<i>Analyzing Cultures and Societies</i>		
<i>Creative Expression</i>		
<i>Ethical Inquiry</i>		
<i>Historical Thinking</i>		
<i>Literary and Artistic Analysis</i>		
<i>Scientific Reasoning</i>		
Total Credits		27-30

Recommended Roadmap to Degree Completion

This recommended degree plan is provided as an outline for students to follow in order to complete their degree requirements within four years and 120 credits. This plan is a recommendation and MUST be used in consultation with their academic advisor. Important note: Students should be aware this plan assumes no pre-requisite coursework is required. If pre-requisite coursework is needed, students may have additional requirements to fulfill which do not appear on the plan.

First Year

Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
GNEC 199		1 SEEDS: Effective Writing II (Recommend WRIT 106)	3
SEEDS: Effective Writing I (Recommend WRIT 105)		3 SEEDS: World Language II (if needed)	3
POLS 101 (fulfills SEEDS: Political and Civic Life)		3 POLS 201 (SEEDS: Exploration 1 (Recommend Analyzing Cultures and Society))	3
SEEDS: World Language I		3 SEEDS: Exploration 2 (Recommend Historical Thinking)	3
SEEDS: Interactive Communication		3 SEEDS: Exploration 3 (Recommend Literary and Artistic Analysis)	3
POLS 100		3	
		16	15

Second Year

Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
POLS 202		3 SEEDS: Quantitative Reasoning	3
SEEDS: Exploration 4 (Recommend Ethical Literary)		3 POLS Elective (200 level)	3
POLS Elective (200 level)		3 Free Elective/Minor Course	3
Free Elective/Minor Course		3 Free Electiv/Minor Course	3
Free Electiv/Minor Course		3 Free Elective/Minor Course	3
		15	15

Third Year

Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
POLS 300		3 POLS Elective (300+ or level)	3
POLS Elective (300+ or level)		3 Free Elective/Minor Course	3
Free Elective/Minor Course		3 Free Elective/Minor Course	3
Free Elective/Minor Course		3 Free Elective/Minor Course	3

Free Elective/Minor Course	2 Free Elective/Minor Course	3
		14
		15

Fourth Year

Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
POLS Elective (300+ or level)		3 POLS Elective (300+ or level)	3
Free Elective/Minor Course		3 Free Elective/Minor Course	3
Free Elective/Minor Course		3 Free Elective/Minor Course	3
Free Elective/Minor Course		3 Free Elective/Minor Course	3
Free Elective/Minor Course		3 Free Elective/Minor Course	3
		15	15

Total Credits 120