

# POLITICAL SCIENCE MAJOR (B.A.)

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.

## What is Political Science?

The Greek philosopher Aristotle (384-322 B.C.) once said that Political Science was the most important subject to study because it teaches us how and why people join together in communities and make the choices they do. This remains true today as we struggle to understand how to cope with many difficult problems in our society and in other countries. Political Science also helps us to understand how our choices 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

## Life After Political Science

Our students find that their work in Political Science leads them to 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 choose to engage in politics more directly and serve as 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.

A minimum of 120 credits of coursework is required for the baccalaureate degree with a minimum 2.0 overall GPA, and a minimum 2.0 major GPA. However, more than 120 credits may be required depending upon the major field of study.

## Program Requirements Overview

Code	Title	Credits
	General Education Requirements	42
	World Languages and Cultures Requirements	3-9
	Major Requirements	33
	Free Electives <sup>1</sup>	42-36
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>120</b>

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

## Major Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Required Courses</b>		
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 at the 300-400 level.

<b>American Politics</b>		
POLS 214	Women in Politics	
POLS 215	Ethnic Politics in America	
POLS 216	Urban Politics	
POLS 301	American Party System	
POLS 302	Public Opinion and Pressure Groups	
POLS 304	State and Local Government	
POLS 306	Campaign Politics	
POLS 312	Black Politics in America	
POLS 313	The Internet, Politics Public Policy	
POLS 314	Seminar in Campaign Politics	
POLS 317	The American Congress	
POLS 318	The American Presidency	
POLS 319	Politics and Film	
POLS 324	American Public Policy	
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	
<b>American Law</b>		
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
<b>Public Administration and Public Policy</b>	
POLS 205	Introduction to Public Administration
POLS 304	State and Local Government
POLS 310	Public Personnel Administration
POLS 311	Governmental Budgeting
POLS 315	Urban Administration
POLS 324	American Public Policy
POLS 425	Politics of Federal Bureaucracy
POLS 426	Seminar and Internship in Public Administration I
POLS 427	Seminar and Internship in Public Administration II
<b>Political Thought</b>	
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
<b>Comparative Politics</b>	
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 329	Narco-Terrorism
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
<b>International Relations</b>	
JURI 474	Human Rights Law
POLS 203	International Organizations
POLS 207	American Foreign Policy
POLS 319	Politics and Film
POLS 329	Narco-Terrorism
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
<b>Other Major Electives</b>	
POLS 410	Directed Study
POLS 416	Special Topics in Political Science
POLS 497	Honors Seminar-Political Science

**Total Credits****33**

## General Education Requirements

Click here for a list of courses that fulfill General Education categories. (<http://catalog.montclair.edu/undergraduate-graduate-degree-requirements/general-ed-ba-bs/>)

Code	Title	Credits
<b>A. New Student Seminar</b>		
	Complete a 1 credit New Student Seminar	1
<b>C. Communication</b>		
	1. Writing	3
	2. Literature	3
	3. Communication	3
<b>D. Fine and Performing Arts</b>		
	Complete a 3 credit Fine and Performing Arts course.	3
<b>F. Humanities</b>		
	1. Great Works and Their Influences	3
	2. Philosophical and Religious Perspectives	3
<b>G. Computer Science</b>		
	Complete a 3 credit Computer Science course.	3
<b>H. Mathematics</b>		
	Complete a 3 credit Mathematics course.	3
<b>I. Natural Science Laboratory</b>		
	Complete a 4 credit Natural Science Laboratory course.	4
<b>J. Physical Education</b>		
	Complete a 1 credit Physical Education course.	1
<b>K. Social Science</b>		
	1. American and European History	3
	2. Global Cultural Perspectives	3
	3. Social Science Perspectives	3
<b>L. Interdisciplinary Studies</b>		
	Complete a 3 credit Interdisciplinary Studies course.	3
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>42</b>

## World Languages and Cultures Requirements

Click here for a list of courses that fulfill World Languages and Cultures categories. (<http://catalog.montclair.edu/undergraduate-graduate-degree-requirements/world-languages-cultures-requirement/>)

Code	Title	Credits
<b>World Languages</b>		
	Based on language placement exam, complete one or two sequential courses in the same language.	3-6
<b>World Cultures</b>		
	Requirement may be fulfilled by course selected in General Education 0-3 - Social Science: Global Cultural Perspectives.	
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>3-9</b>

## Recommended Roadmap to Degree Completion

This recommended four-year plan is provided as an outline for students to follow in order to complete their degree requirements within four

years. This plan is a recommendation and students should only use it in consultation with their academic advisor.

Course	Title	Credits
<b>First Year</b>		
<b>Fall</b>		
GNED 199	New Student Seminar	1
WRIT 105	College Writing I	3
CMST 101	Fundamentals of Speech: Communication Requirement	3
World Language 1		3
POLS 100	Introduction to Politics	3
POLS 101	American Government and Politics	3
		<b>Credits 16</b>
<b>Spring</b>		
WRIT 106	College Writing II	3
GENERAL EDUCATION: (H) Mathematics		3
GENERAL EDUCATION: (K1) Social Science – American and European History		3
World Language 2		3
POLS 201	Comparative Politics	3
		<b>Credits 15</b>
<b>Second Year</b>		
<b>Fall</b>		
GENERAL EDUCATION: (F1) Humanities – Great Works and Their Influences		3
GENERAL EDUCATION: (G) Computer Science		3
GENERAL EDUCATION: (L) Interdisciplinary Studies		3
World Cultures		3
POLS 202	International Relations	3
		<b>Credits 15</b>
<b>Spring</b>		
GENERAL EDUCATION: (D) Fine and Performing Arts		3
GENERAL EDUCATION: (F2) Humanities – Philosophical and Religious Perspectives		3
GENERAL EDUCATION: (I) Natural Science Laboratory		4
GENERAL EDUCATION: (K2) Social Science – Global Cultural Perspectives		3
POLS Elective (200 level)		3
		<b>Credits 16</b>
<b>Third Year</b>		
<b>Fall</b>		
GENERAL EDUCATION: (J) Physical Education		1
POLS 300	Essentials of Political Thought	3
Free Elective/Minor Course		3
Free Elective/Minor Course		3
Free Elective/Minor Course		3
Free Elective/Minor Course		3
		<b>Credits 16</b>
<b>Spring</b>		
POLS Elective (300-400 level)		3
POLS Elective		3
Free Elective/Minor Course		3
Free Elective/Minor Course		3

Free Elective/Minor Course	3
<b>Credits</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Fourth Year</b>	
<b>Fall</b>	
POLS Elective (300-400 level)	3
POLS Elective (300-400 level)	3
Free Elective/Minor Course	3
Free Elective/Minor Course	3
Free Elective/Minor Course	3
<b>Credits</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Spring</b>	
POLS Elective (300-400 level)	3
Free Elective/Minor Course	3
Free Elective/Minor Course	3
Free Elective/Minor Course	3
<b>Credits</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>120</b>