

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.

Program Requirements Overview

Unless otherwise noted, 120 credits of coursework is required for the baccalaureate degree with a minimum 2.0 overall GPA, and a minimum 2.0 major GPA.

Code	Title	Credits
General Education Requirements		42
World Languages and Cultures Requirements		3-9
Major Requirements		33
Free Electives ¹		42-36
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	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 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	Advanced Public 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	Advanced Public Policy Analysis
POLS 425	Politics of Federal Bureaucracy
POLS 426	Seminar and Internship in Public Administration I
POLS 427	Seminar and Internship in Public Administration II
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 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
International Relations	
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
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

General Education Requirements

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

Code	Title	Credits
A. New Student Seminar		
	Complete a 1 credit New Student Seminar	1
C. Communication		
	1. Writing	3
	2. Literature	3
	3. Communication	3
D. Fine and Performing Arts		
	Complete a 3 credit Fine and Performing Arts course.	3
F. Humanities		
	1. Great Works and Their Influences	3
	2. Philosophical and Religious Perspectives	3
G. Computer Science		
	Complete a 3 credit Computer Science course.	3
H. Mathematics		
	Complete a 3 credit Mathematics course.	3
I. Natural Science Laboratory		
	Complete a 4 credit Natural Science Laboratory course.	4
J. Physical Education		
	Complete a 1 credit Physical Education course.	1
K. Social Science		
	1. American and European History	3
	2. Global Cultural Perspectives	3
	3. Social Science Perspectives	3
	Students in P12 Subject Area Teaching programs complete EDFD 200 as part of the Teacher Education sequence.	
L. Interdisciplinary Studies		
	Complete a 3 credit Interdisciplinary Studies course.	3
	Students in P12 Subject Area Teaching programs complete SASE 210 as part of the Teacher Education sequence.	
Total Credits		42

World Languages and Cultures Requirements

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

Code	Title	Credits
World Languages		
	Based on language placement exam, complete one or two sequential courses in the same language. Requirement is automatically fulfilled by language major courses.	3-6
World Cultures		

Requirement may be fulfilled by course selected in General Education 0-3 - Social Science: Global Cultural Perspectives. Requirement may also be fulfilled by major coursework. See list of courses.

Total Credits 3-9

Recommended Roadmap to Degree Completion

This 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.

First Year

Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
GNED 199		1 WRIT 106	3
WRIT 105		3 GENERAL EDUCATION: (H) Mathematics	3
CMST 101		3 GENERAL EDUCATION: (K1) Social Science – American and European History	3
World Language 1		3 World Language 2	3
POLS 100		3 POLS 201	3
POLS 101		3	
	16		15

Second Year

Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
GENERAL EDUCATION: (F1) Humanities – Great Works and Their Influences		3 GENERAL EDUCATION: (D) Fine and Performing Arts	3
GENERAL EDUCATION: (G) Computer Science		3 GENERAL EDUCATION: (F2) Humanities – Philosophical and Religious Perspectives	3
GENERAL EDUCATION: (L) Interdisciplinary Studies		3 GENERAL EDUCATION: (I) Natural Science Laboratory	4
World Cultures		3 GENERAL EDUCATION: (K2) Social Science – Global Cultural Perspectives	3
POLS 202		3 POLS Elective (200 level)	3
	15		16

Third Year

Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
GENERAL EDUCATION: (J) Physical Education		1 POLS Elective (300-400 level)	3
POLS 300		3 POLS Elective	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	
	16	15

Fourth Year

Fall	Credits	Spring	Credits
POLS Elective (300-400 level)		3 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
Free Elective/Minor Course		3 Free Elective/Minor Course	3
Free Elective/Minor Course		3	
	15		12

Total Credits 120