

Political Science (POLS)

Courses required for the first year: None
Courses recommended for the first year: POLS 101, POLS 103, POLS 105, and POLS 107
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The Major in Political Science

Major in Political Science: 32 credits, including 2 of POLS 101, 103, 105, and 107; POLS 301; POLS 302; and POLS 490. At least one course from three of the four concentration areas, with at least three courses in one area.

Required Courses

Course Number	Course Name	Learning Perspective/ Suffix	Prerequisites	Usually offered: F, J, SP, SU*	Credits
Choose two of the following four:					
POLS 101	American Government	PS		F, J, SP	4
POLS 103	Global Perspectives	PS, G		F, SP	4
POLS 105	Comparative Politics	PS, G		F, SP	4
POLS 107	Contemporary Political Ideas	PH		J	4
All of the following:					
POLS 301	Introduction to Political Science			F	2
POLS 302	Analyzing Politics		302	SP	2
POLS 490	Senior Inquiry		301,302	F, SP	4

Concentration Areas

Course Number	Course Name	Learning Perspective/ Suffix	Prerequisites	Usually offered: F, J, SP, SU*	Credits
American Politics					
101	American Government	PS		F, J, SP, SU	4
203	Identity in American Politics	PS, D		SP	4
260	The Legal System	PS		F	4
325	Process and Politics			F	4
326	Politics of Environmental Policy	PS		F	4
330	American Political Participation			F	4
334	Race, Wealth, & Inequality in American Politics	PS, D		SP	4
335	Gender & Politics	PS, D		SP	4
338	The American Presidency			SP	4
361	Constitutional Law I	PS		SP	4
362	Constitutional Law II	PP, D		SP	4
364	Topics in Law & Politics			F	2
Comparative Politics					4
105	Comparative Politics	PS, G		F, SP	4
344	Politics in Arab World	PH, G		F, SU	4
346	Politics in Latin America	PS, G		SP	4
348	Politics in Brazil	PS, G		J	4
International Relations					4
103	Global Perspectives	PS, G		F, SP	4
317	International Law and International Organization			F	4
318	China in World Affairs	PS, G		G	4
320	American Foreign Policy			SP	4
Political Theory					4
107	Contemporary Political Ideas	PH		J	4
351	Liberal Democracy	PH		F	4
352	Capitalism & Modernity	PH		F	4
353	Democracy & Mass Politics	PH		SP	4

The Minor in Political Science

Minor in Political Science: 20 credits, including one of 101, 103, 105, or 107. 12 credits must be in one concentration area of Political Science. 8 credits must be in 300 level courses.

Required Courses: One of the following four

Course Number	Course Name	Learning Perspective/ Suffix	Prerequisites	Usually offered: F, J, SP, SU*	Credits
POLS 101	American Government	PS		F, J, SP, SU	4
POLS 103	Global Perspectives	PS, G		F, SP	4
POLS 105	Comparative Politics	PS, G		F, SP	4
POLS 107	Contemporary Political Ideas	PH		J	4

Concentration Areas

Course Number	Course Name	Learning Perspective/ Suffix	Prerequisites	Usually offered: F, J, SP, SU*	Credits
American Politics					
101	American Government	PS		F, J, SP, SU	4
203	Identity in American Politics	PS, D		SP	4
260	The Legal System	PS		F	4
325	Process and Politics			F	4
326	Politics of Environmental Policy	PS		F	4
330	American Political Participation			F	4
334	Race, Wealth, & Inequality in American Politics	PS, D		SP	4
335	Gender & Politics	PS, D		SP	4
338	The American Presidency			SP	4
361	Constitutional Law I	PS		SP	4
362	Constitutional Law II	PP, D		SP	4
364	Topics in Law & Politics			F	2
Comparative Politics					4
105	Comparative Politics	PS, G		F, SP	4
344	Politics in Arab World	PH, G		F, SU	4
346	Politics in Latin America	PS, G		SP	4
348	Politics in Brazil	PS, G		J	4
International Relations					4
103	Global Perspectives	PS, G		F, SP	4
317	International Law and International Organization			F	4
318	China in World Affairs	PS, G		G	4
320	American Foreign Policy			SP	4
Political Theory					4
107	Contemporary Political Ideas	PH		J	4
351	Liberal Democracy	PH		F	4
352	Capitalism & Modernity	PH		F	4
353	Democracy & Mass Politics	PH		SP	4

Major Overview

Recent graduates have careers in law, business, education, urban planning, community, organizing, and grant writing. Augustana counts among its alumni former mayors, state legislators and an Illinois congressman. Recent political science graduates are Rock Island City Council and County Board members, an assistant city manager and a lobbyist in Springfield and Chicago.

*Fall, J term, Spring, Summer; see [Academic Calendar](#) for specific dates

Updated January 2024