



The Political Science Department is dedicated to transmitting the fundamentals of political science to a broad community through innovative teaching, respected research, and committed service to improve the community, the state, the nation and beyond. As a discipline, Political Science is committed to introduce students to the core questions of the liberal arts by encouraging them to reflect on the demands, sometimes contradictory, that inevitably fall on them as citizens and as human beings.

## QUICK FACTS

- Internships are available working for Federal and State Legislatures, regulatory agencies, lobbying firms, think tanks, corporations, and international organizations offer students real world experience.
- Pi Sigma Alpha, our chapter of the National Political Science Honor Society, won best chapter 7 out of the last 8 years. It sponsors seminars and service projects.
- Each year faculty work with several Undergraduate Research Fellows on projects which result in publication and presentations of professional meetings.

## CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

- Students pursue careers as U.S. Senate and U.S. House staff members, Washington lobbyists, Foreign Service officers, Intelligence analysts, Federal Reserve System managers, campaign consultants, analysts for the Utah State Legislature, and legal professionals.
- Additionally, recent graduates have chosen careers in fields such as business, education, communications, public relations, social work, law enforcement, and consulting.

## SCHOLARSHIPS

- The political science department offers a number of scholarships to eligible students each year. Scholarship applications are available online or can be picked up in the office, located in MAIN 320, at the beginning of Spring Semester.
- For information regarding scholarships offered through the Department of Political Science, please contact the department at (435) 797-1306 or at [politicalscience@usu.edu](mailto:politicalscience@usu.edu).

## INTERNSHIPS

- A myriad of internship opportunities exist for Utah State students interested in politics. Each semester our students work with politicians at the local, state and federal level. In the past, students have worked for think-tanks, government agencies, lobbying firms and legislators on Capitol Hill including Orrin Hatch and Ted Kennedy. Internships are available at agencies and organizations including the American Farmland Trust, CIA, CNN, Foreign Embassies, Kennedy Center for the Arts, USAID, U.S. Chamber of Commerce, U.S. Department of Energy, White House and more.
- For more information regarding internships, please contact Federal and State Relations in MAIN 109 or at (435) 797-0257.
- If you have acquired an internship and need help funding it, you can apply for the Internship Assistance Award. For more information, contact the Department of Political Science at 435-797-1306 or visit <http://politicalscience.usu.edu/htm/study/internships>

## APPLICATION INFORMATION

- New freshmen admitted to USU in good standing qualify for admission to the Political Science major.
- Transfer students from other institutions or from other USU majors need a 2.5 total GPA to be admitted.
- For more information, contact:  
Dan Mathews, undergraduate advisor  
TSC 302  
435-797-3883  
[daniel.mathews@usu.edu](mailto:daniel.mathews@usu.edu)



**Political Science Major (BS or BA\*)**  
**Graduation Requirements**

Students are *strongly encouraged* to meet with an academic advisor each semester. \*BA degree requires foreign language training. See page 3.

**Bachelor of Arts Degree Language Requirement**

A Bachelor of Arts (BA) degree signifies proficiency in one or more foreign languages. Specifically, the BA requirement may be completed in one of the following ways:

1. Demonstration of proficiency in *one* foreign language by successful completion of one course at the 2020-level or higher (or its equivalent).  
**Or**
2. Demonstration of proficiency in American Sign Language by successful completion of **COMD 4920** and **COMD 4780**, and by passing an exit interview.  
**Or**
3. Demonstration of proficiency in *two* foreign languages by successful completion of the 1020 course level in one language **and** the 2010 course level in the second language (or its equivalent).  
**Or**
4. Completion of an upper-division (3000-level or higher) foreign language grammar or literature course requiring the 2020 course level (or its equivalent) as a prerequisite. Conversation courses *cannot* be considered for satisfying this requirement.

For nonnative English-speaking students *only*, the following options are available:

1. Successful completion of the Intensive English Language Institute (IELI) program for international students.  
**Or**
2. TOEFL, Michigan, or IELI placement scores high enough to meet the University admission criteria.

**General Education Requirements**

**Note:** Approved University Studies courses and requirements are listed in the *General Catalog*. The most current listings are shown online at: <http://catalog.usu.edu/>

Students must complete the General Education Requirements:

- POLS 1100 (required for POLS and LCS majors) will fulfill the American Institutions requirement
- POLS 2200 (optional for POLS majors) will fulfill the Social Sciences requirement

Students must also complete the University Studies Depth Requirements:

- POLS 4990 (required for POLS majors), plus POLS 4220, POLS 4310 or POLS 4450 (if selected in the Area Requirements), will fulfill the Communication Intensive (CI) requirement

- POLS 3000 (required for POLS majors) will fulfill the Quantitative Intensive (QI) requirement
- Complete at least 2 credits in approved 3000-level or above courses from each of the following two categories: Humanities and Creative Arts (DHA) and Life and Physical Sciences (DSC)

**Pre-Major Requirements**

Students who wish to become Political Science majors must apply for admission after completing the Department's pre-major program. New freshmen in good standing are eligible to declare the pre-major. Continuing students and transfer students with a 2.5 GPA are eligible to declare the pre-major. When the pre-major courses are completed with a GPA of 2.5, the student will be able to declare the Political Science major. A student must be declared as a Political Science Major in order to apply for graduation.

Complete all of the following (15 credits):

<b>ENGL 2010</b> - Intermed. Writ.: Res. Writ. in a Pers. Mode (CL2).....	<b>3</b>
<b>POLS 1100</b> - United States Government and Politics (BAI).....	<b>3</b>
<b>POLS 2100</b> - Introduction to International Politics <b>or</b>	
<b>POLS 2200</b> - Comparative Politics (BSS).....	<b>3</b>
<b>POLS 2300</b> - Introduction to Political Theory.....	<b>3</b>
<b>STAT 1040</b> - Introduction to Statistics (QL) <b>or</b>	
<b>MATH 1030</b> - Quantitative Reasoning (QL) <b>or</b>	
<b>MATH 1050</b> - College Algebra (QL).....	<b>3-4</b>

Other courses may be applied to the pre-major but only upon approval of the Political Science Department

**Notes:** Advanced Placement US Government is not used for the POLS 1100 requirement, and Advanced Placement Comparative Politics is not used for the POLS 2200 requirement. Credits taken for Political Science Major or Minor Requirements may not be used to fulfill requirements of other majors and minors without departmental approval.

**Complete Two additional General Education courses (6 credits) chosen with undergraduate advisor:**

In an effort to support essential learning outcomes, it is recommended that the student follow the general education program contained in the *Preparing for Degrees, Careers and Lives: Pathways to General Education* pamphlet developed by the College of Humanities and Social Sciences.

Careful selection of general education classes can enhance a student's undergraduate experience. The following are examples of recommendations to help students enhance their experience in the social sciences and foster critical and creative thinking skills of inquiry, analysis, and evaluation.

For example:

Students who wish to emphasize US Government and policy analysis in their curriculum are encouraged to consider:

<b>ECN 1500</b> - Intro to Econ. Inst., History, and Principles (BAI).....	<b>3</b>
<b>ECN 2010</b> - Introduction to Microeconomics (BSS).....	<b>3</b>

Law school candidates:	
<b>PHIL 1250</b> - Practical Logic (BHU).....	3
<b>PHIL 2200</b> - Deductive Logic (QI).....	3
Interest in environmental policy issues:	
<b>WATS 1200</b> - Biodiversity and Sustainability (BLS).....	3
<b>WILD 2200</b> - Ecology of Our Changing World (BLS).....	3
International relations and Foreign Service:	
<b>CMST 2110</b> - Interpersonal Communication (BHU/HR).....	3
Bachelor of Art - foreign language	
Those with an emphasis in political theory:	
<b>HIST 1100</b> - Found. of West. Civ.: Ancient & Medieval (BHU).....	3
<b>HIST 1110</b> - Found. of Western Civilization: Modern (BHU).....	3
<b>PHIL 1120</b> - Social Ethics (BHU).....	3

### Political Science Major Requirements

Completion of Pre-major with a 2.5  
 Min. GPA for Admission: 2.5, USU; 2.5, Career  
 Min. GPA for Graduation: 2.5, major courses; 2.5, USU; 2.5, Career  
 Min. Grade Accepted: C- in major courses

**Total credits in Political Science Courses: 36**

**Overall GPA: 2.5**

**Average GPA in Political Science Courses: 2.50**

### Required Courses (15 credits)

From Pre Major:	
<b>POLS 1100</b> - United States Government and Politics (BAI).....	3
<b>POLS 2100</b> - Introduction to International Politics <b>or</b>	
<b>POLS 2200</b> - Comparative Politics (BSS).....	3
<b>POLS 2300</b> - Introduction to Political Theory.....	3
For Major:	
<b>POLS 3000</b> - Introduction to Political Research (QI).....	3 <sup>1</sup>
<b>POLS 4990</b> - Senior Research Seminar (CI).....	3 <sup>1</sup>

Note:

<sup>1</sup> **POLS 3000** must be taken before **POLS 4990**

### Area Requirements (15 credits minimum)

Select **two** of the following four areas: U.S. Government and Policy, International Relations, Comparative Politics, and Political Theory. Complete **nine upper-division credits** in one of the selected areas and **six upper-division credits** in the other. Even though a course may be listed under more than one area, it can be applied to *only one area*. Prior to taking the upper-division courses in a particular area, students must take the introductory course corresponding to that specific area.

#### U.S. Government & Policy

Note: **POLS 1100** must be taken prior to taking any of the upper-division coursework listed below.

<b>POLS 3110</b> - Parties and Elections (DSS).....	3
<b>POLS 3115</b> - Electoral Behavior.....	3
<b>POLS 3120</b> - Law and Politics (DSS).....	3
<b>POLS 3130</b> - United States Legislative Politics (DSS).....	3
<b>POLS 3140</b> - The Presidency (DSS).....	3
<b>POLS 3150</b> - State and Local Government.....	3
<b>POLS 3170</b> - Law and Economics.....	3
<b>POLS 3180</b> - Introduction to Public Administration.....	3
<b>POLS 3810</b> - Introduction to Public Policy (DSS).....	3
<b>POLS 4000</b> - Political Analysis.....	3
<b>POLS 4120</b> - American Constitutional Law.....	3

<b>POLS 4140</b> - Political Organizations.....	3
<b>POLS 4150</b> - The Supreme Court and the Shaping of America.....	3
<b>POLS 4160</b> - The First Amendment.....	3
<b>POLS 4350</b> - Public Policy and Democratic Theory.....	3
<b>POLS 4800</b> - Supreme Court and American Constitutional History.....	3
<b>POLS 4820</b> - Natural Resources/Environmental Policy (DSS).....	3
<b>POLS 4840</b> - Regulatory Politics.....	3
<b>POLS 4890</b> - Special Topics (3 credit maximum) <sup>2</sup> .....	1-5
<b>POLS 5100</b> - Politics and Public Policy.....	3
<b>POLS 5110</b> - Social Policy.....	3
<b>POLS 5130</b> - Law and Policy.....	3
<b>POLS 5140</b> - Law, Politics, and War.....	3
<b>POLS 5420</b> - The Mass Media and Politics <b>or</b>	
<b>JCOM 5420</b> - The Mass Media and Politics.....	3

#### International Relations

Note: **POLS 1100 and POLS 2200 or POLS 2100** must be taken prior to taking any of the upper division coursework listed below.

<b>POLS 3100</b> - Global Issues.....	3
<b>POLS 3400</b> - United States Foreign Policy (DSS).....	3
<b>POLS 3410</b> - International Human Rights System.....	3
<b>POLS 3430</b> - Political Geography.....	3
<b>POLS 3700</b> - Terrorism and Counterterrorism.....	3
<b>POLS 4210</b> - European Union Politics.....	3
<b>POLS 4280</b> - Politics and War.....	3
<b>POLS 4410</b> - Global Negotiations.....	3
<b>POLS 4450</b> - United States and Latin America (CI).....	3
<b>POLS 4460</b> - National Security Policy.....	3
<b>POLS 4462</b> - US Intelligence Community.....	3
<b>POLS 4463</b> - Grand Strategy & International Policy.....	3
<b>POLS 4464</b> - International Security.....	3
<b>POLS 4470</b> - Foreign Policy in the Pacific.....	3
<b>POLS 4890</b> - Special Topics (3 credit maximum) <sup>2</sup> .....	1-5
<b>POLS 5200</b> - Global Environment.....	3
<b>POLS 5210</b> - Comparative Political Change/Development.....	3
<b>POLS 5270</b> - Latin American Politics and Development.....	3
<b>POLS 5290</b> - Development in Europe.....	3
<b>POLS 5300</b> - Cyber Warfare and International Politics.....	3
<b>POLS 5400</b> - National Security Strategy and Strategic Uncertainty.....	3
<b>POLS 5480</b> - International Trade Policy.....	3
<b>POLS 5770</b> - Strategic Culture.....	3

#### Comparative Politics

Note: **POLS 1100 and POLS 2200 or POLS 2100** must be taken prior to taking any of the upper division coursework listed below.

<b>POLS 3210</b> - Western European Government and Politics (DSS).....	3
<b>POLS 3220</b> - Russ. and East Euro. Government and Politics (DSS).....	3
<b>POLS 3230</b> - Middle Eastern Government and Politics.....	3
<b>POLS 3240</b> - African Government and Politics.....	3
<b>POLS 3250</b> - Chinese Government and Politics (DSS).....	3
<b>POLS 3270</b> - Latin American Government and Politics (DSS).....	3
<b>POLS 4210</b> - European Union Politics.....	3
<b>POLS 4220</b> - Ethnic Conflict and Cooperation (CI).....	3
<b>POLS 4230</b> - Issues in Middle East Politics.....	3
<b>POLS 4260</b> - Southeast Asian Government and Politics.....	3
<b>POLS 4410</b> - Global Negotiations.....	3
<b>POLS 4450</b> - United States and Latin America (CI).....	3
<b>POLS 4890</b> - Special Topics (3 credit maximum) <sup>2</sup> .....	1-5
<b>POLS 5120</b> - Econ. of Russ./East Europe, 9 <sup>th</sup> to 21 <sup>st</sup> Century.....	3
<b>POLS 5140</b> - Law, Politics, and War.....	3
<b>POLS 5210</b> - Comparative Political Change/Development.....	3
<b>POLS 5270</b> - Latin American Politics and Development.....	3
<b>POLS 5290</b> - Development in Europe.....	3
<b>POLS 5350</b> - Evolution, Conflict, and Cooperation (DSS).....	3

## Political Theory

Note: **POLS 1100 and 2300** must be taken prior to taking any of the upper-division coursework listed below.

<b>POLS 3310</b> - American Political Thought (DSS).....	<b>3</b>
<b>POLS 3320</b> - The Foundations of American Constitutionalism.....	<b>3</b>
<b>POLS 4130</b> - Constitutional Theory.....	<b>3</b>
<b>POLS 4310</b> - History of Political Thought I (CI).....	<b>3</b>
<b>POLS 4320</b> - History of Political Thought II (DSS).....	<b>3</b>
<b>POLS 4330</b> - Political Theory and Literature.....	<b>3</b>
<b>POLS 4890</b> - Special Topics (3 credit maximum) <sup>2</sup> .....	<b>1-5</b>

Note:

<sup>2</sup> The subject matter of **POLS 4890** determines the area to which it applies.

## Electives (6 credits)

In addition to the 15 credits of required prerequisite courses and the 15 credits of area courses, students must complete six upper-division elective credits. Any upper-division Political Science courses may be used to fulfill this requirement, with two exceptions:

1. Not more than **three** credits in Directed Readings courses (**POLS 4910**) can apply to this requirement.
2. Not more than **three** credits in the following courses can apply to this requirement:

<b>POLS 5900</b> - Government and Policy Internship Seminar.....	<b>3</b>
<b>POLS 5910</b> - Campaign Internship.....	<b>1-12</b>
<b>POLS 5920</b> - Washington Internship.....	<b>1-12</b>
<b>POLS 5930</b> - State Government Internship.....	<b>1-12</b>
<b>POLS 5940</b> - Administrative Internship.....	<b>1-12</b>
<b>POLS 5950</b> - International Internship.....	<b>1-12</b>

## Minimum University Requirements

Total Credits.....	<b>120</b>
Grade Point Average (most majors require higher GPA).....	<b>2.00</b>
Credits of C- or better.....	<b>100</b>
Credits of upper-division courses (#3000 or above).....	<b>40</b>
USU Credits (10 of last 40 must be USU credits).....	<b>30</b>
Completion of approved major program of study.....	<b>See college advisor</b>
Credits in minor (if required).....	<b>12</b>
Credits in American Institutions (ECN 1500; HIST 1700, HIST 2700 or HIST 2710; HONR 1300; POLS 1100; or USU 1300).....	<b>3</b>
General Education Requirements and University Studies Depth Requirements.....	<b>See college advisor</b>

## Political Science Minor

Students can obtain a minor in political science by completing a total of 18 credits in the field.

Required Courses (9 credits):

<b>POLS 1100</b> - United States Government and Politics (BAI).....	<b>3</b>
<b>POLS 2100</b> - Introduction to International Politics <b>or</b>	
<b>POLS 2200</b> - Comparative Politics (BSS).....	<b>3</b>
<b>POLS 2300</b> - Introduction to Political Theory.....	<b>3</b>

Electives (9 credits)

Any upper-division Political Science courses can be used to complete the minor and fulfill this requirement with **two exceptions**:

1. Not more than **three** credits in Directed Readings courses (**POLS 4910**) can apply to this requirement
2. Not more than **three** credits in Political Science Internship courses (**POLS 5900, POLS 5910, POLS 5920, POLS 5930 and POLS 5940**) can apply to this requirement

## Political Science Teaching Minor

This minor is designed specifically for students seeking careers in secondary education. Students must have at least 18 credits and a 2.75 GPA in Political Science courses.

Required Courses (12 credits):

<b>POLS 1100</b> - United States Government and Politics (BAI).....	<b>3</b>
<b>POLS 2300</b> - Introduction to Political Theory.....	<b>3</b>
<b>POLS 3120</b> - Law and Politics <b>or</b>	
<b>POLS 4120</b> - American Constitutional Law.....	<b>3</b>
<b>POLS 3150</b> - State and Local Government.....	<b>3</b>

Select at least 6 credits from the following courses:

<b>POLS 3110</b> - Parties and Elections (DSS).....	<b>3</b>
<b>POLS 3115</b> - Electoral Behavior.....	<b>3</b>
<b>POLS 3130</b> - United States Legislative Politics (DSS).....	<b>3</b>
<b>POLS 3140</b> - The Presidency (DSS).....	<b>3</b>
<b>POLS 3310</b> - American Political Thought (DSS).....	<b>3</b>
<b>POLS 3400</b> - United States Foreign Policy (DSS).....	<b>3</b>
<b>POLS 4130</b> - Constitutional Theory.....	<b>3</b>
<b>POLS 4150</b> - The Supreme Court and the Shaping of America.....	<b>3</b>
<b>POLS 4160</b> - The First Amendment.....	<b>3</b>
<b>POLS 4350</b> - Public Policy and Democratic Theory.....	<b>3</b>
<b>POLS 5420/JCOM 5420</b> - The Mass Media and Politics.....	<b>3</b>

Additional requirements for STEP:

<b>SCED 3500</b> - Teaching Social Studies.....	<b>3</b>
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## Requirement Changes

Graduation requirements shown on this sheet are subject to change. Students should check with their departments concerning possible changes.

**For more information contact:**

### **Political Science Department**

Office: MAIN 320

Email: [politicalscience@usu.edu](mailto:politicalscience@usu.edu)

Phone: 435-797-1306

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### **Political Science Advisor:**

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