

# Political Science (BA)

*This program is offered by the College of Humanities and Social Sciences/History, Politics and International Relations Department. It is available at the St. Louis main campus.*

## Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the program, students will be able to:

- Put contemporary political issues in historical context and use historical facts to build arguments about politics.
- Demonstrate familiarity with the political institutions and processes of the United States.
- Understand and evaluate the international and transnational dimensions of particular problems and policies.
- Demonstrate familiarity with several methods and analytical approaches used by political scientists to examine political institutions and processes.

## Degree Requirements

For information on the general requirements for a degree, see Baccalaureate Degree Requirements under the Academic Policies and Information section of this catalog.

- 36 required credit hours in the Department of History, Politics and International Relations
- 27 of the required 36 credit hours must be in political science, including INTL 1500, POLT 1060 and POLT 2600, a research requirement (completed by placing on file with the department a substantial research paper from an upper-level course or a senior thesis) and senior overview.
- 3 international language requirement credit hours
- Applicable University Global Citizenship Program hours
- Electives

Courses completed with a grade of D+ or below do not count toward fulfilling the specific course requirements of the major.

Students must take a minimum of 6 credit hours of HIST and at least 9 credit hours of upper-level coursework (3000-level or above) in the department, of which a minimum of 6 credit hours must be POLT or INTL.

At least 18 of the 36 credit hours must be taken at Webster University.

## International Language Requirement

- A minimum of 3 credit hours in a foreign language is required. Courses used toward the international language requirement may also be used to fulfill global citizenship requirements or a major/minor in a foreign language.
- Transfer students who have completed their 3 credit hours at an institution of higher education are considered to have fulfilled the requirement, as are students who have scored a "3" or higher on an Advanced Placement exam in a non-native language.
- Students whose native language is not English are exempt from the foreign language requirement.

## Curriculum

The 36 credit hours required for political science majors include:

### Core Courses (9 hours)

- INTL 1500 The World System since 1500 (3 hours)
- POLT 1060 Introduction to American Politics (3 hours)

- POLT 2600 Research Methods and Approaches in Political Science (3 hours)  
(INTL 2700 may be substituted)
- POLT 4000 Research Requirement (0 hours)  
(to be taken in conjunction with a designated 3000-level or 4000-level course within the department)
- POLT 4620 Overview (0 hours)

## Distribution Requirements (9 hours)

### U.S. Politics

3 hours from the following:

- POLT 2050 Contemporary American Politics (3 hours)
- POLT 2060 Politics and Gender (3 hours)
- POLT 2070 Politics of Race and Ethnicity (3 hours)
- POLT 3010 American Constitutional Law (3 hours)
- POLT 3020 Civil Liberties and the Law (3 hours)
- POLT 3310 Conduct of Foreign Policy (3 hours)
- POLT 3320 American National Institutions (3 hours)
- POLT 4300 Advanced Studies in American Politics (3-4 hours)

### Comparative Politics

3 hours from the following:

- POLT 1080 Introduction to Comparative Politics (3 hours)
- POLT 2250 Politics in the Industrialized World (3 hours)
- POLT 2550 The Politics of the Developing World (3 hours)
- POLT 3400 Comparative Politics (3 hours)
- POLT 4400 Advanced Studies in Comparative Politics (3-4 hours)

### International Relations

3 hours from the following:

- POLT 1050 Introduction to International Relations (3 hours)
- POLT 4100 Advanced Studies in International Politics (3 hours)
- INTL 2030 International Law (3 hours)
- INTL 3100 International Political Economy (3 hours)
- INTL 3700 International Organizations: Structure and Political Conflict (3 hours)
- INTL 3800 International Security (3 hours)

## Additional Requirements (18 hours)

- HIST electives (6 hours)
- POLT or INTL electives (3 hours)
- Upper-level POLT or INTL electives (6 hours)
- Upper-level elective in HIST, POLT or INTL (3 hours)

*"Political science" includes courses labeled POLT (political science) and those labeled INTL (international relations).*

HIST 1800 may not be used to satisfy the 36-credit-hour requirement in political science.

Teacher certification courses (HIST 3800, HIST 3810) may not be used to satisfy the upper-level coursework, methods or practicum requirements.

A maximum of 3 credit hours of individualized learning experiences (INDZ), practicum or debate may be applied to the total upper-level coursework requirement. A maximum of 6 credit hours of INDZ, practicum or debate may be applied to the total of 36 credit hours.