

Requirements for the Major in Political Science

11 courses (34 credit hours) including:

- **One course in each of the four sub-fields of political science** (12 hours)

American Politics. All students must complete POLS 1150 American Political Systems.

Comparative Politics. For example, Introduction to Comparative Politics, Politics of the Developing World, Latin American Politics, the Asian Miracles, Politics of Asia, Introduction to African Politics, Sub-Saharan Africa, Soviet & Post-Soviet Politics, Comparative Revolution, Ethnicity and Internal War.

International Politics. For example, Introduction to International Politics, the Middle East in International Politics, War and Peace in the Middle East, Introduction to Diplomacy, International Organizations, Problems of Globalization, International Law, Terrorism, Introduction to International Political Economy.

Political Thought. Students must select *one* of the following: POLS 1700 Foundations of Political Theory, POLS 2700 Issues in Political Philosophy, POLS 3710 Ancient and Medieval Political Thought, POLS 3720 Renaissance and Modern Political Thought, or POLS 3760 Feminist Theory, Gender Justice.

- **One course in research methods** (4 hours). POLS 2000 Methods in Political Science (class and lab).
- **Two senior seminars** (6 hours). Two 4000-level political science seminars. To register for a senior seminar, students must have completed at least one (and preferably more) course in the same sub-field and they must have fulfilled the methods requirement.

As an alternative to one of the 4000-level seminars, students having a grade-point average of 3.30 or better may, with Department Chair approval, take POLS 4960, an individual research project under the supervision of a Political Science faculty member.

Honors Thesis Option. An **Honors Thesis**, POLS 4990-4991 (6 hours), also fulfills one senior seminar requirement. Working with a 3-person faculty committee, the student designs, completes, and defends a research project. This option is particularly helpful for students who intend to go to graduate school. Honors thesis students complete 37 hours in political science.

- **Four political science electives** (12 credit hours). Working with a faculty advisor, students are encouraged to take courses related to their particular interests in political science.

The Department offers **eleven different internships**, including Campaign Practicum, State and Local Government Internship Foreign Service Internship, Women Leaders Internship, Administrative Internship, Federal Government Internship.

Political science majors may not take more than six hours of independent study (POLS 4980) and/or internship work toward the 34-hours Political Science requirement. The two 4000-level seminars and the methods class must be completed at Saint Louis University, not by transfer credit. Only 15 hours of transfer credit can apply toward the Political Science major. Students may not count more than 18 hours of work completed at the 1000 and 2000 level.

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Rev. March 2015 ras