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Political Science B.A. 11/05/2008

Curriculum Committee

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Political Science B.A.

Division of Social Sciences - Adm

Division of Social Sciences

- Requirements for this program are current for Spring 2008.
- Required credits to graduate with this degree: 120.
- Required credits within the major: **40 42**
- Degree: Bachelor of Arts.

Objectives—Students who complete the political science major are able to critically analyze not only the behavior of political actors, but also their respective political institutions and political systems. The main objectives of the political science major are to enable students to use strong analytical skills and critical thinking in their analysis of theories, institutions, and processes in political science. The program prepares students for work in government and private business, and it prepares students for additional training in law and graduate programs.

A political science major is expected to show knowledge of political institutions, behavior, and processes in domestic and/or international settings. Students learn how and why governments are structured, operate, make policy, and manage social conflict. A political science major is expected to demonstrate a critical understanding of the major schools of political thought. Upon completion of the major, students of political science:

- 1. have the ability to critically analyze, interpret, and synthesize the theories that are prevalent in a major subfield of political science**
- 2. are more empowered to participate in government due to increased familiarity with politics and government**
- 3. are adequately prepared for entrance into graduate or professional school.**

Objectives—Political science is the study of the political world in a comprehensive sense, including the behaviors, organizations, institutions and philosophical foundations of political life from the level of individuals to the international setting in both contemporary and historical contexts. In addition, political science makes the connection between theory and practice at the ground level by preparing students for active lifelong participation and leadership in democratic society. The political science major curriculum stresses the development of strong analytical skills and critical thinking and prepares students for further academic training in political science, law, public administration and other graduate programs as well as for work in public affairs, business, journalism, interest groups and a wide range of other careers.

Students who complete the political science major are able to critically analyze and interpret political processes, problems and challenges; understand, synthesize and contribute imaginatively to the major research and theoretical debates prevalent in the study of American and comparative politics, international relations and political thought;

present their evidence and arguments in clear, precise language; and participate thoughtfully, knowledgeably and ethically in civic life.

Program Requirements

Students are required to take 2 semester(s) of any second language.
No grades below C- are allowed.

Required courses may not be taken S-N unless offered S-N only.

A minimum GPA of 2.00 is required in the major to graduate. The GPA includes all, and only, University of Minnesota coursework. Grades of "F" are included in GPA calculation until they are replaced.

The Political science discipline strongly recommends that students take advantage of opportunities in internships, field studies, and study abroad.

Students are also strongly encouraged to take advantage of courses in other disciplines such as Economics, History, Psychology, Philosophy and Statistics that will complement and enrich their Political Science coursework

Required Courses

~~Political science majors must complete all of the requirements in a least one subfield. In addition to the introductory course required in the subfield:~~

Take ~~1 or more course(s)~~ 2 courses from the following:

- [POL 1101](#) –Introduction to Political Theory, E/CR (4.0 cr)
- [POL 1201](#) - American Government and Politics, E/CR (4.0 cr)
- [POL 1401](#) - World Politics, IP (4.0 cr)

[POL 2001](#) – Political Science Research Methods, SS (4.0 cr)

Take 1 of the following:

- [STAT 1601](#) - Introduction to Statistics, M/SR (4.0 cr)
- or [STAT 2601](#) - Statistical Methods, M/SR (4.0 cr)

[Pol 4905](#) – Senior Research Seminar in Political Science, SS (2 cr)

Program Sub-plans

Students are required to complete one of the following sub-plans. (Note for the Twin Cities and Morris campuses: The honors sub-plan does not meet this requirement. Honors students are required to complete one sub-plan plus the honors sub-plan. Please see an adviser if no honors sub-plan is listed for the program.)

Subfield I: American Politics

Required Courses

~~POL 1201~~ – American Government and Politics, E/CR (4.0 cr)

~~POL 4901 – Senior Research Seminar in American Government, SS (4.0 cr)~~

~~Elective Courses~~

~~Any fully approved Pol 32xx or Pol 42xx course may be used to fulfill the 12-credit requirement in American Politics.~~

~~Any fully approved Pol 33xx, 43xx, Pol 34xx, Pol 44xx, Pol 35xx, or Pol 45xx course may be used to fulfill the 8-credit requirement in Political Theory, International Relations, and/or Comparative Politics.~~

~~American Politics~~

~~Take 12 or more credit(s) from the following:~~

- ~~POL 3201 – Legislative Process, SS (4.0 cr)~~
- ~~POL 3231 – Constitutional Law: Civil Liberties and Civil Rights, HDIV (4.0 cr)~~
- ~~POL 3232 – Constitutional Law: Governmental Powers and Constraints, SS (4.0 cr)~~
- ~~POL 3251 – Political Participation and Voting Behavior, SS (4.0 cr)~~
- ~~POL 3261 – State and Local Politics, SS (4.0 cr)~~
- ~~POL 3262 – Minorities and Public Policy, HDIV (4.0 cr)~~
- ~~POL 3263 – Political Psychology, SS (4.0 cr)~~
- ~~POL 3267 – Courtroom Proceedings in American State Courts, SS (4.0 cr)~~
- ~~POL 4211 – The American Presidency, SS (4.0 cr)~~
- ~~POL 4221 – Judicial Politics, SS (4.0 cr)~~
- ~~POL 4264 – American Political Culture, HIST (4.0 cr)~~
- ~~POL 4266 – Media and Politics, SS (4.0 cr)~~

~~Political Theory, International Relations, Comparative Politics~~

~~Take 8 or more credit(s) from the following:~~

- ~~POL 3351 – Political Thought: Ancient and Middle Ages, HUM (4.0 cr)~~
- ~~POL 3352 – Political Thought: Modern, HUM (4.0 cr)~~
- ~~POL 3353 – American Political Thought, HUM (4.0 cr)~~
- ~~POL 3401 – U.S. Foreign Policy, SS (4.0 cr)~~
- ~~POL 3411 – International Law, E/CR (4.0 cr)~~
- ~~POL 3421 – International Organizations, E/CR (4.0 cr)~~
- ~~POL 3453 – Russian Politics and Foreign Policy, IP (4.0 cr)~~
- ~~POL 3461 – Diplomatic Negotiations, IP (4.0 cr)~~
- ~~POL 3501 – Government and Politics of Asia, SS (4.0 cr)~~
- ~~POL 3502 – Government and Politics of Europe, SS (4.0 cr)~~
- ~~POL 3504 – Latin American Politics, IP (4.0 cr)~~
- ~~POL 3505 – Military and Political Development, IP (4.0 cr)~~
- ~~POL 3506 – Government and Politics of Africa, IP (4.0 cr)~~
- ~~POL 4301 – Contemporary Political Ideologies, HUM (4.0 cr)~~
- ~~POL 4451 – Comparative Foreign Policy, IP (4.0 cr)~~
- ~~POL 4452 – International Relations Theory, IP (4.0 cr)~~
- ~~POL 4503 – Women in Politics Worldwide, IP (4.0 cr)~~
- ~~POL 4507 – Politics, Violence, Terrorism, and Peace, IP (4.0 cr)~~

~~Elective Credit~~

~~Take 4 or more credit(s) from the following:~~

- ~~POL 3xxx~~

— POL 4xxx

Subfield II: International Relations and Comparative Politics

Required Courses

- POL 1301— Comparative Politics, IP (4.0 cr)
- or POL 1401— World Politics, IP (4.0 cr)
- POL 4902— Senior Research Seminar in International Relations and Comparative Politics, IP (4.0 cr)

Elective Courses

Any fully approved Pol 34xx, Pol 35xx, Pol 44xx, or Pol 45xx course may be used to fulfill the 12 credit requirement in International and Comparative Politics.

Any fully approved Pol 32xx, Pol 33xx, Pol 42xx, or Pol 43xx course may be used to fulfill the 8 credit requirement in American Politics and/or Political Theory.

International Relations and Comparative Politics

Take 12 or more credit(s) from the following:

- POL 3401— U.S. Foreign Policy, SS (4.0 cr)
- POL 3411— International Law, E/CR (4.0 cr)
- POL 3421— International Organizations, E/CR (4.0 cr)
- POL 3453— Russian Politics and Foreign Policy, IP (4.0 cr)
- POL 3461— Diplomatic Negotiations, IP (4.0 cr)
- POL 3501— Government and Politics of Asia, SS (4.0 cr)
- POL 3502— Government and Politics of Europe, SS (4.0 cr)
- POL 3504— Latin American Politics, IP (4.0 cr)
- POL 3505— Military and Political Development, IP (4.0 cr)
- POL 3506— Government and Politics of Africa, IP (4.0 cr)
- POL 4451— Comparative Foreign Policy, IP (4.0 cr)
- POL 4452— International Relations Theory, IP (4.0 cr)
- POL 4503— Women in Politics Worldwide, IP (4.0 cr)
- POL 4507— Politics, Violence, Terrorism, and Peace, IP (4.0 cr)

American Politics and/or Political Theory

Take 8 or more credit(s) from the following:

- POL 3201— Legislative Process, SS (4.0 cr)
- POL 3231— Constitutional Law: Civil Liberties and Civil Rights, HDIV (4.0 cr)
- POL 3232— Constitutional Law: Governmental Powers and Constraints, SS (4.0 cr)
- POL 3251— Political Participation and Voting Behavior, SS (4.0 cr)
- POL 3261— State and Local Politics, SS (4.0 cr)
- POL 3262— Minorities and Public Policy, HDIV (4.0 cr)
- POL 3263— Political Psychology, SS (4.0 cr)
- POL 3267— Courtroom Proceedings in American State Courts, SS (4.0 cr)
- POL 3351— Political Thought: Ancient and Middle Ages, HUM (4.0 cr)
- POL 3352— Political Thought: Modern, HUM (4.0 cr)
- POL 3353— American Political Thought, HUM (4.0 cr)
- POL 4211— The American Presidency, SS (4.0 cr)
- POL 4221— Judicial Politics, SS (4.0 cr)

- POL 4264 American Political Culture, HIST (4.0 cr)
- POL 4266 Media and Politics, SS (4.0 cr)
- POL 4301 Contemporary Political Ideologies, HUM (4.0 cr)
- Elective Credit
- Take 4 or more credit(s) from the following:
- POL 3xxx
- POL 4xxx

Subfield III: Political Theory

Required Courses

- POL 1101 Introduction to Political Inquiry: Thinking about Politics, E/CR (4.0 cr)
- POL 4903 Senior Research Seminar in Political Theory, HUM (4.0 cr)

Elective Courses

Any fully approved Pol 33xx or 43xx may be used to fulfill the 12 credit requirement in Political Theory.

Any fully approved Pol 32xx, Pol 34xx, Pol 35xx, 42xx, 44xx, or 45xx may be used to fulfill the 8 credit requirement in American Politics, International Relations, and/or Comparative Politics.

Political Theory

Take 12 or more credit(s) from the following:

- POL 3351 Political Thought: Ancient and Middle Ages, HUM (4.0 cr)
- POL 3352 Political Thought: Modern, HUM (4.0 cr)
- POL 3353 American Political Thought, HUM (4.0 cr)
- POL 4301 Contemporary Political Ideologies, HUM (4.0 cr)

American Politics, International Relations, Comparative Politics

Take 8 or more credit(s) from the following:

- POL 3201 Legislative Process, SS (4.0 cr)
- POL 3231 Constitutional Law: Civil Liberties and Civil Rights, HDIV (4.0 cr)
- POL 3232 Constitutional Law: Governmental Powers and Constraints, SS (4.0 cr)
- POL 3251 Political Participation and Voting Behavior, SS (4.0 cr)
- POL 3261 State and Local Politics, SS (4.0 cr)
- POL 3262 Minorities and Public Policy, HDIV (4.0 cr)
- POL 3263 Political Psychology, SS (4.0 cr)
- POL 3267 Courtroom Proceedings in American State Courts, SS (4.0 cr)
- POL 3401 U.S. Foreign Policy, SS (4.0 cr)
- POL 3411 International Law, E/CR (4.0 cr)
- POL 3421 International Organizations, E/CR (4.0 cr)
- POL 3453 Russian Politics and Foreign Policy, IP (4.0 cr)
- POL 3461 Diplomatic Negotiations, IP (4.0 cr)
- POL 3501 Government and Politics of Asia, SS (4.0 cr)
- POL 3502 Government and Politics of Europe, SS (4.0 cr)
- POL 3504 Latin American Politics, IP (4.0 cr)
- POL 3505 Military and Political Development, IP (4.0 cr)
- POL 3506 Government and Politics of Africa, IP (4.0 cr)

- ~~— POL 4211 – The American Presidency, SS (4.0 cr)~~
- ~~— POL 4221 – Judicial Politics, SS (4.0 cr)~~
- ~~— POL 4264 – American Political Culture, HIST (4.0 cr)~~
- ~~— POL 4266 – Media and Politics, SS (4.0 cr)~~
- ~~— POL 4451 – Comparative Foreign Policy, IP (4.0 cr)~~
- ~~— POL 4452 – International Relations Theory, IP (4.0 cr)~~
- ~~— POL 4503 – Women in Politics Worldwide, IP (4.0 cr)~~
- ~~— POL 4507 – Politics, Violence, Terrorism, and Peace, IP (4.0 cr)~~
- ~~— Elective Credit~~
- ~~— Take 4 or more credit(s) from the following:~~
 - ~~— POL 3xxx~~
 - ~~— POL 4xxx~~

Of the 24 additional credits from the following list, at least one course must be at the 4xxx level.

Directed Studies and Field Studies may count toward the 24 credits, but they do not replace the requirement to take at least one course from each area. No more than 12 credits can be Directed Studies and Field Studies.

At least one course from:

- Pol 3201 - Legislative Process, SS (4.0 cr)
- Pol 3211 - The American Presidency, SS (4.0 cr)
- Pol 3231 - Constitutional Law: Civil Liberties and Civil Rights, HDIV (4.0 cr)
- Pol 3232 - Constitutional Law: Governmental Powers and Constraints, SS (4.0 cr)
- Pol 3262 - Minorities and Public Policy, HDIV (4.0 cr)
- Pol 3263 - Political Psychology, SS (4.0 cr)
- Pol 4221 - Judicial Politics, SS (4.0 cr)
- Pol 4251 – Political Participation and Voting Behavior, SS (4.0 cr)
- Pol 4264 - American Political Culture, HIST (4.0 cr)
- Pol 4266 - Media and Politics, SS (4.0 cr)

At least one course from:

- Pol 3401 - U.S. Foreign Policy, SS (4.0 cr)
- Pol 3411 - International Law, E/CR (4.0 cr)
- Pol 3461 - Diplomatic Negotiations, IP (4.0 cr)
- Pol 3501 - Government and Politics of Asia, SS (4.0 cr)
- Pol 3502 - Government and Politics of Europe, SS (4.0 cr)
- Pol 3503 – Women in Politics Worldwide, IP (4.0 cr)
- Pol 4451 - Comparative Foreign Policy, IP (4.0 cr)
- Pol 4452 - International Relations, IP (4.0 cr)
- Pol 4503 - Women in Politics Worldwide, IP (4.0 cr)

At least one course from:

- Pol 3351 – Ancient and Medieval Political Thought, HUM (4.0 cr)
- Pol 3352 – Modern Political Thought, HUM (4.0 cr)
- Pol 3354 - Political Ethics, E/CR (4.0 cr)

Pol 3355 - Environmental Political Theory, ENVT (4.0 cr)

Pol 4301 - Contemporary Political Thoughts, HUM (4.0 cr)

Pol 4302 - International Comparative Political Theory, IP (4.0 cr)