

# Requirements for the B.A. or B.G.S. Political Science Major

Hours

## Political Science Core Knowledge and Skills

Majors must complete a course in each of the following areas:

Introduction to U.S. Politics. Satisfied by one of the following:

[POLS 110](#) Introduction to U.S. Politics 3

or [POLS 111](#) Introduction to U.S. Politics Honors

Introduction to Comparative or International Politics. Satisfied by one of the following:

[POLS 150](#) Introduction to Comparative Politics 3

or [POLS 151](#) Introduction to Comparative Politics Honors

or [POLS 170](#) Introduction to International Politics

or [POLS 171](#) Introduction to International Politics Honors

**Diversity and Social Justice. Satisfied by one of the following:**

[POLS 301](#) Introduction to Political Theory 3

or [POLS 302](#) Introduction to Political Theory, Honors

or [POLS 308](#) Topics in Social Justice: \_\_\_\_\_

or [POLS 501](#) Contemporary Political Thought

or [POLS 612](#) Psychology in Politics

or [POLS 630](#) Politics of Identity

or [POLS 640](#) Politics of Reproductive Policy

or [POLS 644](#) Justice and Public Policy in Democratic Societies

or [POLS 674](#) Ethics in International Relations

or [POLS 680](#) International Relations in Political Philosophy

or [POLS 686](#) International Human Rights

**Political Science Methods of Inquiry.** Satisfied by:

[POLS 306](#) Political Science Methods of Inquiry 3

## Political Science Required Distribution of Electives

Majors must complete an elective course from at least 2 different subfields below. 6

### Political Philosophy & Empirical Theory

Satisfied by one of the following:

[POLS 501](#) Contemporary Political Thought

or [POLS 301](#) Introduction to Political Theory

or [POLS 302](#) Introduction to Political Theory, Honors

[POLS 502](#) History of Political Thought

[POLS 503](#) Politics in Literature

[POLS 600](#) Contemporary Feminist Political Theory...

[POLS 602](#) American Political Ideas

- [POLS 603](#) Democratic Theory
- [POLS 604](#) Religion and Political Theory
- [POLS 607](#) Modern Political Theory
- [POLS 608](#) Social Choice and Game Theory
- [POLS 609](#) Topics in Political Theory: \_\_\_\_\_
- [POLS 626](#) Political Polling and Survey Research
- [POLS 644](#) Justice and Public Policy in Democratic Societies
- [POLS 680](#) International Relations in Political Philosophy <sup>1</sup>

**U.S. Political Institutions & Processes**

Satisfied by one of the following:

- [POLS 511](#) The Judicial Process
- [POLS 512](#) Latino Politics in the U.S.
- [POLS 515](#) American Political Parties
- [POLS 516](#) Public Opinion and American Democracy
- [POLS 520](#) Political Campaigns
- [POLS 521](#) Mass Media and Politics
- [POLS 566](#) Social Welfare, Taxation, and the Citizen <sup>1</sup>
- [POLS 610](#) Constitutional Law: Governmental Powers
- [POLS 611](#) Constitutional Law: Civil Liberties
- [POLS 612](#) Psychology in Politics <sup>1</sup>
- [POLS 613](#) Comparative U.S. State Politics
- [POLS 614](#) Urban Politics
- [POLS 615](#) Campaigns and Elections
- [POLS 616](#) Interest Group Politics
- [POLS 617](#) The Congress
- [POLS 618](#) The Presidency
- [POLS 619](#) Topics in American Politics: \_\_\_\_\_
- [POLS 620](#) Formulation of Public Policy <sup>1</sup>
- [POLS 630](#) Politics of Identity
- [POLS 645](#) Corruption, Crisis and Scandal
- [POLS 667](#) Islam and Politics

**Public Policy & Public Administration**

Satisfied by one of the following:

- [POLS 528](#) Environmental Justice and Public Policy
- [POLS 566](#) Social Welfare, Taxation, and the Citizen <sup>1</sup>
- [POLS 620](#) Formulation of Public Policy <sup>1</sup>
- [POLS 621](#) Public Policy Analysis
- [POLS 622](#) Government and the Economy
- [POLS 623](#) The Politics of Social Policy

- [POLS 624](#) Environmental Politics and Policy
- [POLS 625](#) Extremist Groups and Government Response
- [POLS 628](#) The Politics of Public Health
- [POLS 629](#) Topics in Public Policy: \_\_\_\_\_
- [POLS 634](#) Bureaucratic Politics
- [POLS 640](#) Politics of Reproductive Policy

**Foreign Governments & Comparative Politics**

Satisfied by one of the following:

- [POLS 553](#) Comparative Environmental Politics
- [POLS 561](#) Liberation in Southern Africa
- [POLS 562](#) Women and Politics
- [POLS 563](#) Comparative Political Economy
- [POLS 564](#) Elections and Political Parties Around the World
- [POLS 565](#) Political Change in Asia
- [POLS 600](#) Contemporary Feminist Political Theory
- [POLS 643](#) The European Union
- [POLS 644](#) Justice and Public Policy in Democratic Societies
- [POLS 650](#) Palestinians and Israelis
- [POLS 652](#) Politics in Europe
- [POLS 653](#) Gender, War, and Peace
- [POLS 654](#) Politics and Government of Russia and the Central Eurasian States
- [POLS 655](#) Politics of East-Central Europe
- [POLS 656](#) Government and Politics of East Asia
- [POLS 657](#) Government and Politics of Southeast Asia
- [POLS 658](#) Theories of Politics in Latin America
- [POLS 659](#) Political Dynamics of Latin America
- [POLS 660](#) The Politics and Problems of Developing Countries
- [POLS 661](#) Politics of the Middle East
- [POLS 665](#) Politics in Africa
- [POLS 666](#) Political Economy of East Asia
- [POLS 667](#) Islam and Politics
- [POLS 668](#) Reform in Contemporary China
- [POLS 669](#) Topics in Comparative Politics: \_\_\_\_\_

**International Relations**

Satisfied by one of the following:

- [POLS 612](#) Psychology in Politics
- [POLS 661](#) Politics of the Middle East
- [POLS 670](#) United States Foreign Policy
- [POLS 671](#) International Cooperation

<a href="#">POLS 672</a>	International Political Economy
<a href="#">POLS 673</a>	International Organization
<a href="#">POLS 674</a>	Ethics in International Relations
<a href="#">POLS 675</a>	Russian Foreign Policy
<a href="#">POLS 676</a>	International Relations of Asia
<a href="#">POLS 677</a>	U.S. National Security Policy
<a href="#">POLS 678</a>	Chinese Foreign Policy
<a href="#">POLS 679</a>	International Conflict
<a href="#">POLS 680</a>	International Relations in Political Philosophy (These courses (listed in 2 fields) will count for completion of only one field requirement.)
<a href="#">POLS 681</a>	Comparative Foreign Policy
<a href="#">POLS 684</a>	International Law: The State and the Individual
<a href="#">POLS 685</a>	International Law: Laws of Armed Conflicts
<a href="#">POLS 689</a>	Topics in International Relations:

### **Political Science Required Electives**

Majors must complete 4 elective courses (12 hours), of which 3 courses (9 hours) must be upper-level courses.

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### **Capstone Experience**

Recommended for majors but not required:

<a href="#">POLS 493</a>	Directed Readings
<a href="#">POLS 494</a>	Washington Semester Intern Seminar
<a href="#">POLS 495</a>	Topeka Semester Intern Seminar
<a href="#">POLS 496</a>	Washington Semester Field Work
<a href="#">POLS 497</a>	Topeka Semester Field Work
<a href="#">POLS 498</a>	Honors Thesis
<a href="#">POLS 499</a>	Capstone Research/Field Work Experience

### **Honors Experience**

Recommended for students with a minimum grade point average of 3.5 in Political Science coursework and 3.25 overall. These averages must be achieved before the final semester.

### **Major Hours & Major GPA**

While completing all required courses, majors must also meet each of the following hour and grade-point average minimum standards:

#### **Major Hours**

Satisfied by 30 hours of major courses. A student may count no more than 6 hours toward the major from the following courses combined: [POLS 493](#), [POLS 494](#), [POLS 495](#), [POLS 496](#), [POLS 497](#), or [POLS 498](#).

**Major Hours in Residence**

Satisfied by a minimum of 15 hours of KU resident credit in the major.

**Major Junior/Senior Hours**

Satisfied by a minimum of 21 hours, of which 15 hours must be courses (400+) in the major.

**Major Junior/Senior Graduation GPA**

Satisfied by a minimum of a 2.0 KU GPA in junior/senior courses (300+) in the major. GPA calculations include all junior/senior courses in the field of study including F's and repeated courses. See the [Semester/Cumulative GPA Calculator](#).