POLITICAL SCIENCE

Description

A political science major combines the analytical and communication skills of a liberal arts degree with an in-depth understanding of governments and political processes. Your political science degree prepares you for virtually any career path, from government to law, journalism to business. Courses in political science examine government and politics in the United States and around the world.

Honors Program. Students interested in the honors program should contact John Gruhl, honors advisor, for further information.

Prelaw Students. Students in Prelaw may find the courses in American government, politics, and law particularly useful. In particular, they are advised to take some of the following courses: POLS 345 Courts, Judges, and Lawyers; POLS 347 Myths and Realities of the Justice System; POLS 441 Constitutional Law; POLS 442 Civil Liberties: Freedom of Expression and Conviction; POLS 443 Civil Liberties: Issues of Fairness and Equality; and POLS 469 International Law.

Admission

College Admission

The entrance requirements for the College of Arts and Sciences are the same as the UNL General Admission Requirements. Students who are admitted through the Admission by Review process may have certain conditions attached to their enrollment at UNL. These conditions are explained under “Removal of Deficiencies.”

In addition to these requirements, the College of Arts and Sciences strongly recommends a third and fourth year of one foreign language in high school. Four years of high school coursework in the same language will fulfill the College of Arts and Sciences' language requirement. It will also allow students to continue language study at a more advanced level at UNL, and provide more opportunity to study abroad.

Crafting a customized plan for academic and career success.

Advising

Academic and Career Advising

The Academic and Career Advising Center in 107 Oldfather Hall is centrally located and easily accessed resource for students in all majors in the College of Arts and Sciences. The professional academic advisors and career coaches offer 1-1 meetings on a walk-in and appointment basis weekdays. Advisors will provide assistance choosing majors and minors, understanding degree requirements and academic policies, completing paperwork, meeting deadlines, adding/dropping courses, and planning for graduation. In addition, career coaches can help students identify career options related to their interests and connect them with experiences like internships, research, and more that will prepare them for those career options. These specially trained advisors and coaches also serve as first point of contact in the College for all incoming freshmen and transfer students during New Student Enrollment.

Students in the College who have declared a major will be assigned an academic advisor who is their first point of contact for a variety of questions. Academic advisors help students be successful in adjusting to UNL overall as well as making progress toward degree completion. The assigned advisor may be located within the department of their primary major, or in the Advising Center. Students can identify their assigned advisor in MyRED on the academics tab. In addition, faculty advisors are experts in their discipline, including advanced coursework and requirements, opportunities for research, student organizations, and considering graduate school in the discipline. Students who have declared a pre-health or pre-law area of interest will also work with advisors in the Exploratory and Pre-Professional Advising Center (Explore Center) in 127 Love Library South, who are specially trained to guide students preparing to enter a professional school.

For complete and current information on advisors for majors, minors, or pre-professional areas, contact the Arts and Sciences Academic and Career Advising Center, 107 Oldfather Hall, 402-472-4190, http://cas.unl.edu/advising.

College Degree Requirements

College Distribution Requirements

Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science (16 hours + Language)

The College of Arts and Sciences distribution requirements are designed to ensure a breadth of courses within the liberal arts degree. By engaging in study in several different areas within the College, students develop the ability to learn in a variety of ways and apply their knowledge from a variety of perspectives. All requirements are in addition to University ACE requirements.

- A student may not use a single course to satisfy both an ACE outcome and a College distribution requirement.
- A student may not use a single course to satisfy more than one College Distribution Requirement.
- A student may not use a course from their primary major to satisfy the Breadth Requirement (F), but may apply an ancillary requirement of the primary major or a course from their second major toward this requirement.
- Independent study, directed readings, or internship courses cannot be used to satisfy a College Distribution Requirement.
- Cross-listed courses from interdisciplinary programs will be applied in the same area as courses from the home/cross-listed department.

| CDR A - Written Communication | 3 |
| CDR B and BL - Natural, Physical, and Mathematical Sciences with Lab | 4 |
| CDR C - Humanities | 3 |
| CDR D - Social Science | 3 |
| CDR E - Language | 0-16 |

Some courses from geography and anthropology may also be used to satisfy the lab requirement above.¹

¹ Some courses from geography and anthropology may also be used to satisfy the lab requirement above. ¹

² Some courses from geography and anthropology may also be used to satisfy the lab requirement above. ²

³ Some courses from geography and anthropology may also be used to satisfy the lab requirement above. ³
Fulfilled by the completion of the 6-credit-hour second-year sequence in a single foreign language in one of the following departments: Classics and religious studies, or modern languages and literatures. Instruction is currently available in Arabic, Chinese, Czech, French, German, Greek, Japanese, Latin, Russian, and Spanish. A student who has completed the fourth-year level of one foreign language in high school is exempt from the language requirement, but encouraged to continue on in their language study.

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<tr>
<th>CDR F - Additional Breadth</th>
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Select from natural, physical and mathematical sciences (Area B), humanities (Area C), or social sciences (Area D). Cannot be a course from the primary major.

Credit Hours Subtotal: 16-32

1. See Degree Audit or a College of Arts and Sciences advisor for approved geography and anthropology courses that apply as natural science.
2. Language courses numbered 210 and below do not fulfill the CDR C.
3. See Degree Audit or College of Arts and Sciences advisor for list of natural/physical science courses in anthropology, geography, and psychology that do not apply as social science.

**Scientific Base**

**Bachelor of Science Only (60 hours)**
The bachelor of science degree requires students to complete 60 hours in mathematical, physical and natural sciences. Approved courses for scientific base credit come from the following College of Arts and Sciences disciplines: actuarial science, anthropology (selected courses), astronomy, biochemistry (excluding BIOC 101), biological sciences (excluding BIOS 100 or BIOS 203), chemistry (excluding CHEM 101), computer science (excluding CSCE 10), geography (selected courses), geology, life sciences, mathematics (excluding courses below MATH 104), meteorology, microbiology, physics and statistics.

See your degree audit or a College of Arts and Sciences advisor for a complete list including individual classes that fall outside of the disciplines listed above. Up to 12 hours of scientific and technical courses offered by other colleges may be accepted toward this requirement with approval of a college advisor.

**Language Requirement**
UNL and the College of Arts and Sciences place great value on academic exposure and proficiency in a second language. The UNL entrance requirement of two years of the same foreign language or the College’s language distribution requirement (CDR E) will rarely be waived and only with relevant documentation. See the main College of Arts and Sciences page for more details.

**Minimum Hours Required for Graduation**
A minimum of 120 semester hours of credit is required for graduation from the College of Arts and Sciences. A total grade point average of at least 2.0 is required.

**Grade Rules**

**Restrictions on C- and D Grades**
The College will accept no more than 15 semester hours of C- and D grades from other domestic institutions except for UNO and UNK. All courses taken at UNO and UNK impact the UNL transcript. No transfer of C- and D grades can be applied toward requirements in a major or a minor. No UNL C- and D grades can be applied toward requirements in a major or a minor. International coursework (including education abroad) with a final grade equivalent to a C- or lower will not be validated by College of Arts and Sciences departments to be degree applicable.

**Pass/No Pass Privilege**
The College of Arts and Sciences adheres to the University regulations for the Pass/No Pass (P/N) privilege with the following additional regulations:

- Pass/No Pass hours can count toward fulfillment of University ACE requirements and college distribution requirements up to the 24-hour maximum.
- Most arts and sciences departments and programs do not allow courses graded Pass/No Pass to apply to the major or minor. Students should refer to the department’s or program’s section of the catalog for clarification. By college rule, departments can allow up to 6 hours of Pass/No Pass in the major or minor.
- Departments may specify that certain courses of theirs can be taken only on a P/N basis.
- The college will permit no more than a total of 24 semester hours of P/N grades to be applied toward degree requirements. This total includes all Pass grades earned at UNL and other U.S. schools. NOTE: This 24-hour limit is more restrictive than the University regulation.

**Grading Appeals**
A student who feels that he/she has been unfairly graded must ordinarily take the following sequential steps in a timely manner, usually by initiating the appeal in the semester following the awarding of the grade:

1. Talk with the instructor concerned. Most problems are resolved at this point.
2. Talk to the instructor’s department chairperson.
3. Take the case to the Grading Appeal Committee of the department concerned. The Committee should be contacted through the department chairperson.
4. Take the case to the College Grading Appeals Committee by contacting the Dean’s Office, 1223 Oldfather Hall.

**Course Level Requirements**

**Courses Numbered at the 300 or 400 Level**
Thirty (30) of the 120 semester hours of credit must be in courses numbered at the 300 or 400 level. Of those 30 hours, 15 hours (1/2) must be completed in residence at UNL.

**Residency Requirement**
Students must complete at least 30 of the 120 total hours for their degree at UNL. Students must complete at least 1/2 of their major coursework including 6 hours at the 300 or 400 level in their major, and 15 of the 30 hours required at the 300 or 400 level in residence. Credit earned during education abroad may be used toward the residency requirement only if students register through UNL.

**ACE Requirements**
Consistent with the mission and values of the University, ACE is based on a shared set of four institutional objectives and ten student learning outcomes. The ACE program was approved by faculty in all eight undergraduate colleges and endorsed by the Faculty Senate, the student government, and the Academic Planning Committee in January 2008.
for implementation in the fall 2009. ACE aligns with current national initiatives in general education.

To meet the ACE Program requirement, a student will complete a minimum of 3 credit hours for each of the ten ACE Student Learning Outcomes (a total of 30 ACE credit hours). See the ACE website at: http://ace.unl.edu for the most current information and the most recently certified courses.

Catalog to Use

Students must fulfill the requirements stated in the catalog for the academic year in which they are first admitted to and enrolled as a degree-seeking student at UNL. In consultation with advisors, a student may choose to follow a subsequent catalog for any academic year in which they are admitted to and enrolled as a degree-seeking student at UNL in the College of Arts and Sciences. Students must complete all degree requirements from a single catalog year. Beginning in 1990-1991 the catalog which a student follows for degree requirements may not be more than 10 years old at the time of graduation.

Learning Outcomes

Graduates of political science will be able to:

1. Explain the basic theories and concepts of at least two fields of political science.
2. Understand the exercise of power in pursuit of political objectives.
3. Engage in analytical and critical thinking about political subjects.
4. Effectively communicate the products of analytical and critical thinking orally and in writing.

Major Requirements

Thirty-three (33) hours of political science courses with at least 9 hours at the 400 level.

Core Requirements

POLS 100     Power and Politics in America 3
or POLS 105   American Ways

Select one of the following: 3

POLS 108     Political Ideas
POLS 383     Justice and the Good Life
POLS 384     Liberalism and Its Critics
POLS 386     Truth and Progress
POLS 481     Marx and the Aftermath of Marxism
POLS 160 /  International Relations 3
POLS 160H
POLS 286     Political Analysis 1 3
POLS 400     Democracy and Democratic Citizenship 1 3

Total Credit Hours 15

1  POLS 286 must be taken before POLS 400.

Specific Major Requirements

Political Science Sub-Areas

Select two of the following four sub-areas. Complete 9 hours of POLS in each of your two chosen sub-areas. 2

American Government and Public Policy

POLS 210     Bureaucracy and the American Political System
POLS 221     Politics in State and Local Governments
POLS 225     Nebraska Government and Politics
POLS 227     The Presidency
POLS 230     Elections, Political Parties, and Special Interests
POLS 232     Public Issues in America
POLS 235     Public Policy: Concepts and Processes
POLS 236     Public Policy Analysis: Methods and Models
POLS 238     Blacks and the American Political System
POLS 325     Legislative Process
POLS 332     Climate Change: Policy and Politics
POLS 334     Polls, Politics and Public Opinion
POLS 338     Women and Politics
POLS 345     Courts, Judges, and Lawyers
POLS 347     Myths and Realities of the Justice System
POLS 425     Congress and Public Policy
POLS 426     Topics in American Public Policy
POLS 430     Political Communication
POLS 441     Constitutional Law
POLS 442     Civil Liberties: Freedom of Expression and Conviction
POLS 443     Civil Liberties: Issues of Fairness and Equality
POLS 475     Water Quality Strategy

International Relations and Comparative Politics

POLS 104     Comparative Politics
POLS 171     Introduction to East Asian Civilization
POLS 260     Problems in International Relations
POLS 261     Conflict and Conflict Resolution
POLS 263     Causes of War and Peace
POLS 268     Threats to World Order
POLS 270     From National to Human Security
POLS 277     Latin American Politics
POLS 281     Challenges to the State
POLS 332     Climate Change: Policy and Politics
POLS 333     Immigration and Politics
POLS 361     The United Nations and World Politics
POLS 363     United States Foreign Policy
POLS 459     International Political Economy
POLS 466     Pro-seminar in International Relations I
POLS 467     Pro-seminar in International Relations II
POLS 469     International Law
POLS 476     Ethnic Conflict and Identity
POLS 477     Israel and the Middle East
POLS 478     Pro-seminar in Latin American Studies

Human Rights and Security

POLS 263     Causes of War and Peace
POLS 268     Threats to World Order
POLS 270     From National to Human Security
POLS 362     Globalization, Human Rights and Diversity
POLS 375 Conflict and Development in Africa
POLS 377 Transnational Criminal Networks
POLS 463 American Foreign Policy and the Use of the Military
POLS 470 International Human Rights
POLS 472 State Terror
POLS 473 Problems in International Law and Organization
POLS 476 Ethnic Conflict and Identity
POLS 479 Insurgency, Guerrilla Warfare, and Terrorism

Biology, Psychology, and Politics

POLS 150 Introduction to Biology, Psychology, and Politics
POLS 250 Genetics, Brains, and Politics
POLS 350 Issues in Biology, Psychology, and Politics
POLS 450 Seminar in Biology, Psychology, and Politics

Credit Hours Subtotal: 18

Courses may only count in one sub-area.

Additional Major Requirements

Grade Rules

C- and D Grades
A grade of C or above is required for all courses in the major and minor.

Pass/No Pass
No course taken Pass/No Pass will be counted toward the major or minor, with the exception of POLS 395.

Course Level Requirement
At least 9 hours must be at the 400 level.

Prerequisite Requirements/Rules
POLS 286 is a pre-requisite for POLS 400. Junior standing or above is recommended for all 400-level courses.

Requirements for Minor Offered by Department

Eighteen (18) hours of POLS courses, including POLS 100 Power and Politics in America, and at least one course at the 400 level.

Grade Rules

C- and D Grades
A grade of C or above is required for all courses in the major and minor.

Pass/No Pass
No course taken Pass/No Pass will be counted toward the major or minor, with the exception of POLS 395.

POLS 100 Power and Politics in America
Description: Introduction to American government and politics.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
ACE: ACE 6 Social Science ACE 8 Civic/Ethics/Stewardship
Groups: American Government & Public Pol

POLS 104 Comparative Politics
Description: Description and analysis of the principal types of modern political systems, including types of democracies and dictatorships found in Western systems, Eastern systems, and the Third World. Occasional comparison made with American institutions and political processes. Deals both with structures and major policy problems confronting these political systems: the politics of education, human rights, demands for regional autonomy, ethnic conflict and diversity, political violence, demand for welfare services, crises in agriculture, and other topics of relevance.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
Groups: International Relations & Compar

POLS 105 American Ways
Crosslisted with: HIST 105
Prerequisites: Open to freshmen only.
Notes: Not open to students with credit in HIST 110 or HIST 111 or POLS 100.
Description: Develops an historical perspective on current American political problems. The peculiar American relationship to questions of scarcity and how our political institutions have been shaped by these questions.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
Groups: United States or Canadian Hist

POLS 108 Political Ideas
Description: Introduction to major political concepts and controversies that have developed in the Western world. Liberty, equality, democracy, human nature, among others. Readings come from leading political theorists, past and present.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC

POLS 130 News Literacy, The Public, and Politics
Description: Broad introduction to how the media work to disseminate information, how people use the media to gather information, and how politicians use the media to get their messages out. Evaluate bias and media effects from the perspective of journalists, politicians, and the public.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
POLS 150 Introduction to Biology, Psychology, and Politics
Description: An introduction to the central theories, methods, and findings in the application of biological and psychological techniques to politics.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
ACE: ACE 6 Social Science
Groups: Biology, Psychology, & Politics

POLS 160 International Relations
Crosslisted with: POLS 160H, GLST 160
Description: How and why states act as they do in their contemporary international relations. Continuing factors, such as power, war, ideology, and governmental organizations, and recently emerging influences, including supranational organizations, multinational corporations, and natural resource allocation analyzed. Diverse approaches and theories examined.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
ACE: ACE 9 Global/Diversity
Groups: International Relations & Compar

POLS 160H International Relations
Crosslisted with: POLS 160, GLST 160
Description: How and why states act as they do in their contemporary international relations. Continuing factors, such as power, war, ideology, and governmental organizations, and recently emerging influences, including supranational organizations, multinational corporations, and natural resource allocation analyzed. Diverse approaches and theories examined.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
ACE: ACE 9 Global/Diversity
Groups: International Relations & Compar

POLS 171 Introduction to East Asian Civilization
Crosslisted with: HIST 181
Description: Survey of the traditional cultures and modern history of China and Japan. Emphasis on political systems, intellectual and religious history, and cultural developments.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
Prerequisite for: HIST 380
ACE: ACE 9 Global/Diversity
Groups: Pre-1800 History

POLS 189H University Honors Seminar
Prerequisites: Good standing in the University Honors Program or by invitation.
Notes: University Honors Seminar 189H is required of all students in the University Honors Program.
Description: Topics vary.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
ACE: ACE 6 Social Science

POLS 198 Special Topics
Description: Hot political topics of the day. Topics will vary.
Credit Hours: 1
Max credits per semester: 1
Max credits per degree: 4
Format: LEC
Groups: Other, Theses, and Dissertations

POLS 210 Bureaucracy and the American Political System
Description: Introductory survey to the administrative arm of American national, state, and local government. Bureaucracy has become so important to the functioning of the federal system it has been termed "the fourth branch of government." Bureaucracy's role as a political institution of the first order, not just as an implementer of policy. Bureaucratic power, structure, and democratic control.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
Groups: American Government & Public Pol

POLS 221 Politics in State and Local Governments
Description: Broad introduction to the political structure and operations of state and local governments. Role and power of state and local governments; government institutions; political parties and interest groups; public policy; state constitutions.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
Groups: American Government & Public Pol

POLS 225 Nebraska Government and Politics
Description: Various aspects of Nebraska government and politics. unicameral legislature, the governor and executive branch, the courts, political parties in Nebraska politics, political participation, and current issues of concern to Nebraskans.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
Groups: American Government & Public Pol

POLS 227 The Presidency
Description: Creation, development, structure, powers, and functions of the office of the President of the United States.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
ACE: ACE 6 Social Science
Groups: American Government & Public Pol
POLS 230 Elections, Political Parties, and Special Interests
Description: Roles of political parties and interest groups in government and politics, focusing on their efforts of elections and lobbying.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
ACE: ACE 6 Social Science
Groups: American Government/Public Pol

POLS 232 Public Issues in America
Description: Major public issues in American politics. Government spending, civil rights; welfare and health care; poverty; education; urban problems; crime, violence and repression; defense policy; agricultural policy; environment/energy policy.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
Groups: American Government/Public Pol

POLS 235 Public Policy: Concepts and Processes
Description: Basic policy theories and the policy process, paying special attention to key events that create or prevent policy opportunities and problems that arise throughout the policy process. Substantive policy issues used to illustrate the various concepts and process models.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
Groups: American Government/Public Pol

POLS 236 Public Policy Analysis: Methods and Models
Description: Approaches to public policy analysis. The nature of politics and policy with emphasis on the role of the citizen, uses of information types in the formation of public policy, the analysis of policy content, and the problems of training for policy analysis. Basic policy analysis methods including interviewing participant observation, document analysis, and surveying.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
Groups: American Government/Public Pol

POLS 238 Blacks and the American Political System
Crosslisted with: ETHN 238
Description: Role of the Blacks in the American political system, with emphasis on strategies used to gain political power and influence decision makers; problems faced in the southern and urban political settings.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
ACE: ACE 9 Global/Diversity ACE 6 Social Science
Groups: American Government/Public Pol

POLS 250 Genetics, Brains, and Politics
Description: Role of genes, neural activity, and physiology in shaping human behavior, especially political behavior.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
ACE: ACE 6 Social Science ACE 4 Science
Groups: Biology/Psychology/Politics

POLS 260 Problems in International Relations
Description: Selected current or otherwise important problems in international relations. Content varies but may include such subjects as weapons and security policies, human rights, multinational corporations, ideologies, etc.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
Groups: International Relations/Compar

POLS 261 Conflict and Conflict Resolution
Crosslisted with: ANTH 261, SOCI 261
Description: Introduction to the study of the biological, economic, political-historical, and cultural bases of war and group conflict.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
Groups: International Relations/Compar

POLS 263 Causes of War and Peace
Description: Leading theories on war and peace, highlighting the causes and consequences of WWI, WWII, the Korean War, Vietnam, and the Gulf War.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
Groups: International Relations/Compar

POLS 265 From National to Human Security
Description: Variety of global crises and challenges that pose threats to world order. Population growth; scarcities of food, energy, and non-fuel minerals; vulnerability of industrial states to resource scarcities; nuclear proliferation; arms racing; and terrorism.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
Groups: International Relations/Compar

POLS 270 From National to Human Security
Description: Provide a solid understanding of the historical and theoretical debates related to security studies within the sub field of international relations. Traditional and new threats to security as it relates to world order. How nation-states are responding to these threats namely through multilateral, multi-level strategies based on certain assumptions of governance.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
Groups: Human Rights and Security
POLS 277 Latin American Politics  
**Crosslisted with:** ETHN 277, LAMS 277  
**Description:** Constitutional and political development of selected Latin American countries; contemporary problems and institutions. Latin America in world affairs with special reference to the inter-American relations and the United States.  
**Credit Hours:** 3  
**Max credits per semester:** 3  
**Max credits per degree:** 3  
**Format:** LEC  
**Groups:** International Relations&Compar

POLS 281 Challenges to the State  
**Description:** Challenges to the state related to human rights and gender issues. How growth of non-state actors affects individuals and groups and their rights. Gendered notions of the state, national security, women's rights, and humanitarian intervention.  
**Credit Hours:** 3  
**Max credits per semester:** 3  
**Max credits per degree:** 3  
**Format:** LEC  
**Groups:** International Relations&Compar

POLS 286 Political Analysis  
**Description:** Ways of studying politics and social situations. Rather than asking what political systems "should" do, the primary questions are what political systems actually do and how we know what they do. Whether the application of the scientific process to social questions is valid? Problems in carrying out proper scientific research. The wide variety of techniques that have been applied to analyze politics.  
**Credit Hours:** 3  
**Max credits per semester:** 3  
**Max credits per degree:** 3  
**Format:** LEC  
**Prerequisite for:** POLS 400; POLS 450

POLS 295 Legislative Page Program  
**Description:** The development and workings of the Nebraska legislature. POLS 295 requires serving as page with the Nebraska Unicameral.  
**Credit Hours:** 3  
**Max credits per semester:** 3  
**Max credits per degree:** 3  
**Format:** FLD

POLS 325 Legislative Process  
**Description:** Legislature’s role in the American arrangement of legislative-executive-judicial responsibilities. Attention to the internal operation of the Congress with focus on the standing committee stage. State legislative experiences and proposals to reform the legislative system emphasized.  
**Credit Hours:** 3  
**Max credits per semester:** 3  
**Max credits per degree:** 3  
**Format:** LEC  
**Groups:** American Government&Public Pol

POLS 332 Climate Change: Policy and Politics  
**Description:** Examines how the impacts of climate change are evaluated and used to motivate policy; analyzes proposals and policies aimed at mitigating climate change at both the federal and the international level; and identifies stakeholders and assesses their impacts on climate change dialogue and policy.  
**Credit Hours:** 3  
**Max credits per semester:** 3  
**Max credits per degree:** 3  
**Format:** LEC  
**Groups:** International Relations&Compar, American Government&Public Pol

POLS 333 Immigration and Politics  
**Crosslisted with:** ETHN 333  
**Description:** Immigration as a multifaceted sociopolitical phenomenon. The history of different waves of immigration to the United States. Emphasis on the diversity within every immigrant group, as well as differences and similarities regarding their acculturation process. Public attitudes towards immigration in historical perspective. The American political system's capacity to incorporate newcomers into civic life.  
**Credit Hours:** 3  
**Max credits per semester:** 3  
**Max credits per degree:** 3  
**Format:** LEC  
**ACE:** ACE 9 Global/Diversity  
**Groups:** International Relations&Compar

POLS 334 Polls, Politics and Public Opinion  
**Crosslisted with:** COMM 334  
**Description:** Attitudes and behavior of citizens with respect to politics, how these attitudes and behaviors are shaped, how they are measured, and what influence they have on government.  
**Credit Hours:** 3  
**Max credits per semester:** 3  
**Max credits per degree:** 3  
**Format:** LEC  
**Groups:** American Government&Public Pol

POLS 338 Women and Politics  
**Crosslisted with:** WMNS 338  
**Description:** Survey of women as political actors: participation in political life, barriers to participation, political attitudes, issues of special concern to women, and issues of particular concern to women of color.  
**Credit Hours:** 3  
**Max credits per semester:** 3  
**Max credits per degree:** 3  
**Format:** LEC  
**Groups:** American Government&Public Pol

POLS 345 Courts, Judges, and Lawyers  
**Description:** Role of courts, judges, and lawyers in the American legal system and political process. Covers all federal and state courts but emphasizes the US Supreme Court.  
**Credit Hours:** 3  
**Max credits per semester:** 3  
**Max credits per degree:** 3  
**Format:** LEC  
**Groups:** American Government&Public Pol
POLS 347 Myths and Realities of the Justice System
Description: American criminal justice system from arrest through sentencing. How the system appears to operate. How the system actually operates.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
Groups: American Government & Public Policy

POLS 350 Issues in Biology, Psychology, and Politics
Description: A consideration of special issues in the study of biology, psychology, and politics, including emotions, behavioral genetics, neuroimaging, decision-making, and research on human subjects.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 9
Format: LEC
ACE: ACE 6 Social Science
Groups: Biology, Psychology, & Politics

POLS 351 The United Nations and World Politics
Description: Analysis of the role and influence of the United Nations in international relations. Comparison of the UN with the League of Nations and with regional international organizations such as the Organization of American States and NATO. Attention to UN programs concerning security, human rights, economic development, and environmental protection.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
Groups: International Relations & Comparative

POLS 352 Globalization, Human Rights and Diversity
Description: Sources of globalization, its various forms, and how it triggers resistance from those who wish to preserve the local and particular from globalizing influences.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
Groups: Human Rights and Security

POLS 353 United States Foreign Policy
Description: Major domestic factors affecting how US foreign policy is made and the resulting patterns of policy. US foreign policy in four issue-areas: security, human rights, economics, and ecology.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
Groups: International Relations & Comparative

POLS 354 Model United Nations
Crosslisted with: GLST 364
Description: An introduction to the United Nations system and the Model United Nations program, including research, debate and resolution writing.
Credit Hours: 1
Max credits per semester: 1
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC

POLS 355 Conflict and Development in Africa
Crosslisted with: ETHN 375
Description: Uses knowledge, theories, methods, and historical perspectives appropriate to the social sciences to understand the causes of conflict and development in Africa. Pays attention to the diversity of conflict and development-related experiences on the continent.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
ACE: ACE 6 Social Science ACE 9 Global/Diversity
Groups: Human Rights and Security

POLS 377 Transnational Criminal Networks
Description: Causes, consequences and aftermath of drugs and thugs (war criminals, drugs/arms traffickers and modern-day caudillos, among others) and their role in contemporary international and human security.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
Groups: Human Rights and Security

POLS 381 Cultures in Transit
Crosslisted with: MODL 381, GLST 381
Description: Interdisciplinary comparative literature course that offers critical studies on socio-political changes in modern nations and respective cultures. It focuses on war, revolution, migration, exile, diaspora, and transnational conditions. Letter grade only.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC

POLS 383 Justice and the Good Life
Description: The questions of how we ought to live our lives via the study of classic texts in political thought. Debate what makes our actions just, and, indeed our lives just, choice-worthy, and even heroic.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC

POLS 384 Liberalism and Its Critics
Description: The core ideas of liberal political thought. Critiques from both the Left and the Right to shed light on why the American experiment in governance - with its intellectual roots in the Enlightenment of 17th and 18th Century Europe - turned out as it did and how it might have been changed or improved.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC

POLS 386 Truth and Progress
Description: Surveys the landscape of contemporary political theory, addressing some of the major debates of the past twenty years about reason, right action, human nature, good government, and truth.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
POLS 395 Internship in Political Science
Prerequisites: Junior standing; 12 hours of POLS; and permission.
Notes: Pass/No Pass only. Requires the assignment of and the supervision by a faculty member.
Description: Internship in government agencies, public-interest groups, political parties, or other organizations.
Credit Hours: 1-6
Min credits per semester: 1
Max credits per semester: 6
Max credits per degree: 6
Format: FLD
Groups: Other, Theses, and Dissertations

POLS 398 Special Topics
Credit Hours: 1-6
Min credits per semester: 1
Max credits per semester: 6
Max credits per degree: 24
Format: LEC

POLS 399 Individual Readings
Prerequisites: Permission.
Credit Hours: 1-24
Min credits per semester: 1
Max credits per semester: 24
Max credits per degree: 24
Format: IND

POLS 399H Honors: Individual Research
Prerequisites: Permission.
Credit Hours: 1-6
Min credits per semester: 1
Max credits per semester: 6
Max credits per degree: 6
Format: IND

POLS 400 Democracy and Democratic Citizenship
Prerequisites: POLS 286. Political science major.
Description: Democracy as a form of government. Types of democracy, alternatives to democracy, and the history and consequences of democracy. Democratic citizenship, what makes a good democratic citizen, whether and how democratic citizenship can be promoted.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
ACE: ACE 10 Integrated Product

POLS 425 Congress and Public Policy
Crosslisted with: POLS 825
Description: The policy making role of the Congress including the institutionalization of the House and the Senate, an analysis of congressional behavior, the committee process, and the policy responsiveness of Congress.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
Groups: American Government & Public Pol

POLS 426 Topics in American Public Policy
Crosslisted with: POLS 826
Description: A significant public policy in American politics. Topics: science, technology, and public policy; or health politics.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 6
Format: LEC
Groups: American Government & Public Pol

POLS 430 Political Communication
Crosslisted with: COMM 430, POLS 830, COMM 830
Prerequisites: 12 hrs communication studies.
Description: Role of communication in the political process, with emphasis on communication strategies in political campaigns. Includes communication variables important in the political process, an application of communication theory and principles to political rhetoric, and analysis and criticism of selected political communication events.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
Groups: American Government & Public Pol

POLS 441 Constitutional Law
Crosslisted with: POLS 841
Description: Supreme Court doctrine determining the distribution of powers within the national government and between the national government and the state governments.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
Groups: American Government & Public Pol

POLS 442 Civil Liberties: Freedom of Expression and Conviction
Crosslisted with: POLS 842
Description: Supreme Court doctrine interpreting the First Amendment, covering freedom of speech, assembly, and association; freedom of the press; and freedom of religion.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
Groups: American Government & Public Pol

POLS 443 Civil Liberties: Issues of Fairness and Equality
Crosslisted with: POLS 843
Description: Supreme Court doctrine covering the rights of the accused, the right to privacy and the right to racial and sexual equality.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
Groups: American Government & Public Pol
POLS 450 Seminar in Biology, Psychology, and Politics
Prerequisites: POLS 286 or permission of instructor
Description: Advanced consideration of the theories, methods, and findings in the application of biological and psychological techniques to politics.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
ACE: ACE 6 Social Science
Groups: Biology, Psychology, Politics

POLS 459 International Political Economy
Crosslisted with: POLS 859
Description: Interface of politics and economics in the international arena. Political dimension of economic issues emphasized. Includes: liberal, mercantile, and radical approaches; theories of imperialism; dependency and interdependency; distribution of the global product; and the political aspects of markets; the politics of trade, aid, investment, multinational corporations, food, and energy.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC

POLS 463 American Foreign Policy and the Use of the Military
Crosslisted with: POLS 863
Description: Military action as an instrument of American foreign policy. Constitutional basis of the president’s and Congress’s war powers; assessments of the role of the White House, Congress, CIA, senior pentagon officials, the American public, and military alliances - NATO and coalitions of the willing - in supporting and directing the use of military action abroad; and the political and strategic consequences of various American applications of military force.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
Groups: International Relations, Compar

POLS 466 Pro-seminar in International Relations I
Crosslisted with: ECON 466, ECON 866, AECN 467, ANTH 479, ANTH 879, ECON 866, GEOG 448, GEOG 848, HIST 479, HIST 879, SOCI 466, SOCI 866
Prerequisites: Senior standing and permission.
Notes: Open to students with an interest in international relations. Topics vary.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
Groups: Human Rights and Security

POLS 467 Pro-seminar in International Relations II
Crosslisted with: ECON 467, ECON 867, POLS 867
Prerequisites: Senior standing and permission.
Notes: Open to students with an interest in international relations. Topics vary.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
Groups: International Relations, Compar

POLS 469 International Law
Crosslisted with: POLS 869
Description: Rules and principles accepted by the members of the international community as defining their rights and duties, and the procedure employed in protecting their rights and performing their duties.
Credit Hours: 1-4
Min credits per semester: 1
Max credits per semester: 4
Max credits per degree: 4
Format: LEC
Groups: International Relations, Compar

POLS 470 International Human Rights
Crosslisted with: POLS 870
Description: Development of international norms on human rights and attempts to implement those standards. Emphasis on political process, with attention to law, philosophy, economics, and culture. Coverage of the United Nations, regional organizations, private agencies, and national foreign policies.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
Groups: Human Rights and Security

POLS 472 State Terror
Prerequisites: Permission.
Description: Use of terror as an instrument of state policy. A series of case studies of large scale politically based killings. Why and which states use terror and politicide against their own citizens.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
Groups: Human Rights and Security

POLS 473 Problems in International Law and Organization
Crosslisted with: POLS 873
Notes: POLS 361 or 469 highly recommended.
Description: Selected issues in international law and organization. Content varies. Includes: US Senate’s treatment of treaties, use of customary law by US courts, current cases before the World Court, leading legal issues handled by the UN Security Council and General Assembly, etc.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
Groups: Human Rights and Security
POLS 475 Water Quality Strategy
Crosslisted with: NRES 475, NRES 875, SOCI 475, SOCI 875, SOIL 475, WATS 475, AGRO 475, AGRO 875, CIVE 475, CIVE 875, CRPL 475, CRPL 875, GEOL 475, GEOL 875, MSYM 475, MSYM 875, POLS 875
Prerequisites: Senior standing.
Notes: Capstone course.
Description: Holistic approach to the selection and analysis of planning strategies for protecting water quality from nonpoint sources of contamination. Introduction to the use of methods of analyzing the impact of strategies on whole systems and subsystems; for selecting strategies; and for evaluating present strategies.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
ACE: ACE 10 Integrated Product
Groups: American Government&Public Pol

POLS 476 Ethnic Conflict and Identity
Crosslisted with: JUDS 476, POLS 876
Description: Theories of natinalism and ethnic conflict. Case studies of Europe, the Middle East, and Africa. The post-Cold War era as multi-polar and multi-cilizational. The states and different cultures that compete for influence and authority to dominate the "New World order." The division of the world along ethnic, religious, and class lines rather than by ideology. The future of international politics and the reassessment of the causes of "conflicts of culture" and their containment.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
Groups: International Relations&Compar

POLS 477 Israel and the Middle East
Crosslisted with: JUDS 477, POLS 877
Description: Israeli politics, society, and relations with its neighbors, particularly the Palestinians. Rise of Zionism and the Palestinian response to it; wars between Israel and Arab neighbors, and the eventual peace agreements between the two; the internal dynamics of Israeli political life; and state of Zionism today.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
Groups: International Relations&Compar

POLS 478 Pro-seminar in Latin American Studies
Crosslisted with: ANTH 478, GEOG 478, HIST 478, LAMS 478, SOCI 478, MODL 478, EDPS 478, ANTH 878, GEOG 878, HIST 878, POLS 878, SOCI 878, MODL 878, EDPS 878
Prerequisites: Junior standing and permission.
Notes: Topical seminar required for all Latin American Studies majors.
Description: An interdisciplinary analysis of topical issues in Latin American Studies.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 6
Format: LEC
Groups: Lat Am,Asian,Middle East Hist International Relations&Compar

POLS 479 Insurgency, Guerrilla Warfare, and Terrorism
Description: Nature, strategies, and mechanics of insurgency, guerrilla warfare and terrorism, where they fit in the spectrum of conflict, and various techniques and methods for analyzing them.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC
Groups: Human Rights and Security

POLS 481 Marx and the Aftermath of Marxism
Description: Arguments in favor of and opposed to Marxism, both in theory and practice.
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 3
Format: LEC

POLS 498 Special Topics
Crosslisted with: POLS 898
Credit Hours: 3
Max credits per semester: 3
Max credits per degree: 24
Format: LEC

PLEASE NOTE
This document represents a sample 4-year plan for degree completion with this major. Actual course selection and sequence may vary and should be discussed individually with your college or department academic advisor. Advisors also can help you plan other experiences to enrich your undergraduate education such as internships, education abroad, undergraduate research, learning communities, and service learning and community-based learning.

Political Science (B.A.)
Career Information
The following represents a sample of the internships, jobs and graduate school programs that current students and recent graduates have reported.

Transferable Skills
• Contextualize political, social, and historical events
• Defend and discuss complex issues from multiple angles
• Develop and defend evidence based arguments
• Communicate clearly using different forms of writing to and for a variety of different audiences
• Gain global perspective and high levels of intercultural awareness
• Make decisions carefully, using appropriate theoretical frameworks
• Read, understand, and critically review scientific information
• Simplify complex information and present it to others
• Understand the connection between people, places, and communities
• Use various qualitative and quantitative research methodologies
• Analyze and explain data
• Compose convincing arguments and present logical information
• Analyze and interpret difficult texts
• Collaborate with a team to develop solutions
• Comprehend and critically evaluate complex information
Jobs of Recent Graduates

- Campaign Organizer, Impact Organization/Environment New Mexico - Albuquerque NM
- Assistant Attorney General, Nebraska Attorney General’s Office - Lincoln NE
- Director of Voting Rights, Nebraskans for Civic Reform - Lincoln NE
- Economic Analyst, The United States Government - Washington D.C. MD
- Public Involvement Specialist, State of Nebraska - Lincoln NE
- Civic Engagement and Organizing Coordinator, Border Action Network - Tucson AZ
- Deputy Data Director, Democrat Party of Virginia - Richmond VA
- Resource and Student Engagement Coordinator, Nebraska Family Alliance - Lincoln NE
- Immigration Services Officer, The Department of Homeland Security - Lincoln NE
- Financial Services Officer, Sacs Federal Credit Union - Omaha NE
- Government Relations Intern, American Society of Hematology - Washington, D.C. DC
- Outreach and Communications Associate, Cambridge Global Advisors - Washington DC
- Research Manager, Nebraska Department of Economic Development - Lincoln NE
- Staff Assistant, US House of Representatives - Washington DC DC
- Truman Fellow/Policy Analyst, U.S. Dept of Health and Human Services - Washington DC

Internships

- Legislative Research Aide, Lancaster County Veteran Services - Lincoln NE
- Intern, Great Plains National Security Education Consortium - Lincoln NE
- Country Assistance Coordinator Intern, United States Dept of State - Washington DC
- Legislative and Lobbying Intern, Nebraskans for Civic Reform - Lincoln NE
- Community Development Intern, Nebraska Dept of Economic Development - Lincoln NE
- Senator Deb Fischer Intern, United States Senate - Lincoln NE
- CommerceConnect Intern, United States Dept of Commerce - Washington DC DC
- School of Government Internship, Sun Yat-Sen University - Guangzhou, China ZZ
- Congressman Adrian Smith Intern, United States House of Representatives - Washington D.C. DC
- National Intern, Project Vote Smart - Philipsburg MT

Graduate & Professional Schools

- Juris Doctorate, Harvard University - Cambridge MA
- Master’s Degree, International Education and Policy Management, Vanderbilt University - Nashville TN
- Master’s Degree, Public Administration, University of Nebraska at Omaha - Omaha NE
- Ph.D., Economic Analysis and Policy, Stanford University - Stanford CA
- Ph.D., Political Science, University of Rochester - Rochester NY
- School of Language Studies, Foreign Service Institute -
- Master’s Degree, Teacher Education, Doane College - Crete NE
- Master’s Degree, International Relations, University of Oregon - Eugene OR
- Ph.D., Diplomatic History, Ohio State University - Columbus OH
- Juris Doctorate/Master of Business Administration, Kansas University - Lawrence KS
- Medical Doctor, University of Nebraska Medical Center - Omaha NE
- Juris Doctorate, Georgetown University Law Center - Washington DC
- Master’s Degree, Critical and Creative Thinking, UNO - Omaha NE
- Juris Doctorate, Rutgers School of Law - Camden NJ
- Master’s Degree, Survey and Methodology, University of Nebraska-Lincoln - Lincoln NE