

POLITICAL SCIENCE

Degree: Bachelor of Arts
 Specializations: Political Science, Pre-Law
 Minors: Political Science, Pre-Law
 Department: Government
 Building 50, Room 120
 (850) 474-2337
 govt@uwf.edu
 College: Arts and Sciences
 Semester Hours Required for Degree: 120

Faculty: A.G. Cuzán (Chairperson), R.L. Anderson, M.L. Goel, W.G. Howard, D.S. Myers, J.A. Robinson (President Emeritus), J.D. Salmon, J. Witt

"Man is by nature a political animal." Aristotle

One of the oldest fields of study, Political Science is an integral component of a liberal arts education. Beginning with Plato and Aristotle, through Machiavelli, Hobbes, Locke, Rousseau, Burke, de Tocqueville, Marx, and Mill, to Jefferson, Madison, and Hamilton, as well as contemporary political scientists, serious thinkers have pondered at length fundamental questions pertaining to the governance of human societies, including the origin and evolution of law and justice, the comparative performance of democracies and dictatorships, the exercise of political leadership, the origins of war, and the maintenance of peace. It is our task to analyze competing theories purporting to throw light on these questions, subjecting them to the test of reason, history, and experience.

The Pre-Law Specialization emphasizes American government, with special attention paid to constitutional law and the judicial branch. To appreciate the value of our Pre-Law program, be it noted that in "Preparation for Legal Education," the American Bar Association declined to prescribe a particular major or even specific courses for students contemplating going to law school. Instead, it advised undergraduates to acquire generic language, research, and organizational skills; and knowledge of American history, government, and society; political theory, including theories of justice; philosophy and ethics, economics and business, and international relations.

Although there is no single undergraduate path to law school, nationwide the major of choice among students taking the LSAT is Political Science. This is not surprising: the study of government requires students to develop the very skills and to learn exactly the kind of knowledge mentioned by the American Bar Association (ABA). At the University of West Florida, Political Science Pre-Law is a rigorous and rewarding program. Students take courses in political theory, American government and constitutional law, as well as in history, economics, philosophy, literature, communications, and statistics or computer science. They are required to do library research; read, analyze, and evaluate difficult material; and communicate their findings and conclusions clearly, both orally and in writing. Upon graduation, our majors successfully compete with those of other majors and institutions when it comes to the LSAT and admission to law school. Our graduates have gone on to study the law at Florida State University, the University of Florida, Stetson, as well as other schools in the Southeast.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

In addition to general University requirements, students seeking the B.A. in Political Science must meet the following requirements. The average grade of mandatory core courses must be 2.0.

As a prerequisite, students majoring in Political Science need to earn at least a "C" in POS 2041, or to transfer 3 sh of an equivalent lower-division course in American government or political science with a grade of "C" or higher.

Course descriptions are listed alphabetically by prefix in the back of this catalog.

General Studies (36 sh)

For additional information see the General Studies section of this catalog.

Common Prerequisites (6 sh)

State mandated common prerequisites must be completed prior to graduation, but are not required for admission to the program.

Two introductory courses in Political Science with POS, INR, or CPO prefix 6

Lower Division Electives (18-21 sh)

Sufficient 1000/2000 level electives to complete at least 60 semester hours in the lower division. Current UWF students may use elective courses at any level (1000-4999) to meet this elective requirement. Recommended electives are CPO 2002, INR 2002, and POS 2041.

POLITICAL SCIENCE SPECIALIZATION

Major (30-39 sh)

CPO 2002	Comparative Politics	3
INR 2002	International Politics	3
POS 2041	American Politics	3
POS 3734	Political Science Research Methods	3
POT 4204	American Political Thought	3
POT 4601	Masters of Political Thought	3
PUP 3000/4000 level course		3
CPO 3000/4000 level course		3
INR 3000/4000 level course		3
3000/4000 level Political Science electives (POS, PAD, PUP, POT, CPO)		6

Choose one:

POS 3283	Judicial Process	3
POS 3603	American Constitutional Law	3

Choose one:

POS 3122	Issues in American Government and Politics	3
POS 3424	The Legislative Process	3

Major-Related (0 sh)

Upper Division Electives (21-30 sh)

Sufficient 3000/4000 level electives to meet UWF's requirement of 48 semester hours in the upper division or completion of all departmental requirements at the 3000/4000 level, whichever is greater.

PRE-LAW SPECIALIZATION

N

Major (30 sh)

Core (21 sh)

POS 2041	American Politics	3
POS 3122	Issues in American Government & Politics	3
POS 3283	Judicial Process	3
POS 3424	Legislative Process	3
POS 3603	American Constitutional Law	3
POT 4204	American Political Thought	3
POT 4601	Masters of Political Thought	3

Pre-Law Specialization Courses (9 sh)

Choose three:

PLA 3103	Legal Research and Writing	3
POS 3623	Bill of Rights	3
POS 3625	First Amendment Freedoms	3
POS 4673	Jurisprudence	3

Major-Related (15 sh)

Take at least one course from any five of the following categories:

History

AMH 3313	United States Society & Culture in the Twentieth Century	3
EUH 4503	English Constitutional & Legal History	3

Philosophy

PHH 3100	Greek Philosophy	3
PHH 3400	Modern Philosophy	3
PHI 2100	Introduction to Logic	3
PHI 3130	Modern Logic	3
PHI 4633	Biomedical Ethics	3

English/American Literature

AML 4102	American Fiction	3
AML 4330	American Authors	3
ENL 4230	18th Century Authors	3
ENL 4240	Romantic Movement	3
ENL 4273	20th Century British Literature	3

Business

ACG 3082	Accounting for Non-Majors	3
ECO 3003	Principles of Economic Theory & Public Policy	3
FIN 3140	Personal Financial Planning	3
GEB 3212	Writing for Business: Theory and Practice	3

Skills

CGS 2570	Personal Computer Applications	3
STA 2023	Elements of Statistics	3

Communication

2000/3000/4000 level foreign language course	3	
COM 4110	Business & Professional Communication	3
SPC 3602	Advanced Presentational Strategies	3

Upper Division Electives (15 sh)

Sufficient 3000/4000 level electives to meet UWF's requirement of 48 semester hours in the upper division or

completion of all departmental requirements at the 3000/4000 level, whichever is greater.

MINORS

Political Science minors require 15 sh of course work. A grade of "C" or higher is required in all courses.

Political Science (15 sh)

All courses must be completed at UWF and directed studies may not be taken to fulfill requirements. Political Science majors may not earn this minor.

Choose one:

CPO 2002	Comparative Politics	3
INR 2002	International Politics	3
POS 2041	American Politics	3

Choose two:

POS 3122	Issues in American Government & Politics	3
POS 3283	Judicial Process	3
POS 3424	Legislative Process	3
POS 3603	American Constitutional Law	3
POS 3734	Political Science Research Methods	3
POT 4204	American Political Thought	3
POT 4601	Masters of Political Thought	3

Choose one:

INR 3006	Conflict, Violence and Peace	3
INR 3225	Vietnam and American Politics	3
INR 4334	National Security Policy	3

Choose one:

CPO 3103	Politics of Western Europe	3
CPO 3513	Politics of the Far East-Japan & China	3
CPO 4303	Politics of Spain, Portugal & Latin America	3
CPO 4314	Democracies	3
CPO 4531	Politics and Culture of India	3

Pre-Law (15 sh)

This program is designed for students who seek to gain a theoretical understanding of the law pursuant to applying to law school. Political Science majors may not earn this minor.

POS 2041	American Politics	3
POS 3283	Judicial Process	3
POS 3603	American Constitutional law	3

Choose one:

POT 4204	American Political Thought	3
POT 4601	Masters of Political Thought	3

Choose one:

POS 3623	Bill of Rights	3
POS 3625	First Amendment Freedoms	3
POS 4606	Constitutional Controversies	3
POS 4673	Jurisprudence	3