

# POLITICAL SCIENCE

Degree: Bachelor of Arts  
 Specializations: Political Science, Pre-Law  
 Minors: Political Science, Pre-Law  
 Department: Government  
 Building 50, Room 120  
 (850) 474-2929  
 http://uwf.edu/govt/  
 govt@uwf.edu  
 College: Arts and Sciences  
 Semester Hours Required for Degree: 120

Faculty: A.G. Cuzán (Chairperson), J.D. Alvis (Pre-Law Advisor), R.L. Anderson (Emeritus), J. Evans, M.L. Goel (Emeritus), D.S. Myers (Emeritus), J.A. Robinson (President Emeritus), M. Williams (International Studies Advisor), J. Witt (Emeritus)

“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 is advised that undergraduates acquire generic language, research, and organizational skills; 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 GPA for 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 3000/4000 level course.....3  
 INR 3000/4000 level course.....3  
 POS 3000/4000 level course.....3  
 POT 4601 Masters of Political Thought.....3  
 PUP 3000/4000 level course.....3  
 3000/4000 level Political Science (CPO, INR, POS, POT) electives .....6

*Choose one:*

POS 3XX2 Analyzing Political Issues.....3  
 POS 3734 Political Science Research Methods .....3

*Choose two:*

POS 3XX1 The Presidency .....3  
 POS 3424 The Legislative Process .....3  
 or either:  
 POS 3XXX Federalism and Separation of Powers.....3  
 POS 3XX3 Individual Rights and Privileges .....3

*If not completed at the lower division:*

CPO 2002 Comparative Politics .....3  
 INR 2002 International Politics .....3  
 POS 2041 American Politics .....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****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 each from five of the following six categories:

**History**

AMH 4111	Colonial America	3
AMH 4150	Early American Republic: 1789-1860	3
AMH 4231	America Between the Wars, 1920-1940	3
AMH 4420	History of Florida	3
EUH 3122	High Middle Ages	3
EUH 4503	English Constitutional & Legal History	3

**Philosophy**

PHH 3100	Greek Philosophy	3
PHH 3400	Modern Philosophy	3
PHH 4200	Medieval Philosophy	3
PHH 4600	Contemporary Philosophy	3
PHI 2100	Introduction to Logic	3
PHI 3130	Modern Logic	3
PHI 3670	Ethics	3
PHI 4300	Theory of Knowledge	3
PHM 3200	Social and Political Philosophy	3

**English/American Literature**

AML 4102	American Fiction	3
AML 4300	American Authors	3
ENL 4230	18th Century Authors	3
ENL 4240	Romantic Movement	3
ENL 4273	20th Century British Literature	3
ENL 4333	Shakespeare	3

**Business**

ACG 2021	Principles of Financial Accounting	3
ECO 3003	Principles of Economic Theory & Public Policy	3

FIN 3140	Personal Financial Planning	3
GEB 3032	Business Foundations for Non-Business Majors	3
GEB 3212	Writing for Business: Theory and Practice	3

**Skills**

CGS 2570	Personal Computer Applications	3
CGS 3464	Programming Using Visual Basic for Non-Majors	3
STA 2023	Elements of Statistics	3

**Communication**

2000/3000/4000 level foreign language course	3	
COM 3462	Persuasive Communication	3
COM 4110	Business & Professional Communication	3
SPC 3301	Interpersonal Communication	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 minor 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

Note: Changes to the Political Science Specialization have been proposed by the department and are pending Faculty Senate and University approval. Approval is expected before the beginning of the academic year.