

POLITICAL SCIENCE MAJOR

Department of Political Science (<https://catalog.washcoll.edu/catalog/departments-programs/political-science/>)
Division of Social Sciences

Political Science Major Requirements

Code	Title	Credits	Notes
Core Courses		20	
POL 102	American Government and Politics (to be taken in the freshman or sophomore year)		
POL 104	Introduction to World Politics (to be taken in the freshman or sophomore year)		
POL 201 or POL 202	Theories of Peace and Conflict (to be completed by the junior year) Justice, Power, and Political Thought		
POL 209	Political Data Analysis (to be taken in the spring of the junior year)		
POL 401	Political Science Senior Seminar		
Select 7 Courses From Below (1 From Each Category)		28	
American Government and Political Thought			
POL 310	Parties and Interest Groups		
POL 311	Congress & Political Polarization		
POL 312	The American Presidency		
POL 313	Campaigns and Elections		
POL 314	Religion and Politics in the U.S.		
POL 317	State and Local Politics		
POL 320	Law and Society		
POL 321	Women and Politics		
POL 323	Constitutional Law		
POL 324	American Political Thought		
POL 331	Enduring Topics Westrn Political Thought		
POL 334	Media and Politics		
Comparative Politics			
POL 341	Politics of Development		
POL 344	Comparative Government: Western Europe		
POL 345	Democracy in Asia: Past and Future		
POL 348	Latin American Politics		
POL 351	Politics, Religion, Ethnicity in S. Asia		
POL 356	Africa in the World		
International Politics			
POL 371	International Politics		
POL 373	Human Rights & Social Justice		
POL 374	International Organization & Law		
POL 375	International Political Economy		
POL 380	American Foreign Policy		
POL 382	U.S.- Latin American Relations		
POL 384	International Relations of East Asia		
POL 386	Comparative Peace Processes		

POL 388	U.S. Foreign Policy in the Middle East	_____
POL 389	Gender and Conflict	_____
Experiential Learning ¹		0
Senior Capstone Experience (POL SCE)		2-4
Total Credits		50-52

- ¹ Must complete one experiential learning activity, a meaningful experience related to politics outside of the classroom. It is important for students to apply theories and concepts in “real-world” setting. See below for the many ways to complete the Experiential requirement:
- Completion of an POL internship related approved by the political science faculty (either credit or non-credit bearing). Credit-bearing internships include structured programs such as the Maryland General Assembly. The Washington Center Internship Program in Washington, DC and the Hansard Programme in London—all of which have GPA requirements. Also allowed are internships through the Global Education Office (<https://catalog.washcoll.edu/catalog/academic-resources/global-education-office-geo/>). Students may arrange their own political internship experience and work with political science faculty to develop course credit or may opt to complete an internship without a credit option. To earn college credit for a political internship, arrangements must be made **prior** to the start of the internship.
 - Participation in a Model Diplomacy Program (POL 471 Model Diplomacy) or a Model United Nations program (POL 473 Model United Nations) together with the two-credit course component. Please see Professor Carrie Reiling, advisor to the Model UN programs, for more information for applying to participate.
 - Participation in the Geographic Information Systems program that has a direct policy or political application.
 - Completion of a substantial volunteer or political advocacy activity *outside* of class requirements that has been approved by a political science faculty. Regular participation in student clubs, such as Student Government or College Democrats or Republicans, does not count.
 - At least one semester or summer study abroad. The college currently participates in more than 30 study-abroad programs—including 15 programs in which courses are taught in English. Students who complete the Oxford Research Seminar, the Prague program, or other short-term study abroad related to Political Science may count it for the experiential learning activity.

Students completing POL 209 Political Data Analysis, can have that course count as one quantitative course toward the college’s distribution requirements.

Students may interested in special programs and student conferences:

- Model Diplomacy and Model United Nations
- Student Conference on United States Affairs at West Point
- PLEN Seminar on Women and Congress, Women and Public Policy, and/or Women in Global Policy

Major

- International Studies Major (<https://catalog.washcoll.edu/catalog/interdisciplinary/international-studies-major/>)
- Political Science Major (p. 1)

Minor

- Peace and Conflict Studies Minor (<https://catalog.washcoll.edu/catalog/interdisciplinary/peace-conflict-studies-minor/>)
- Political Science Minor (<https://catalog.washcoll.edu/catalog/departments-programs/political-science/political-science-minor/>)