

POLITICAL SCIENCE

Degree: Bachelor of Arts
 Specializations: Political Science
 Pre-Law
 Minors: Political Science
 Pre-Law/Political Science
 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, M. H., J. Evans, Williams, J. Woo.

“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 and business, 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, Cumberland, Regents University, other schools in the Southeast, Arizona, and Georgetown Law Center.

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.

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)

POT 4601 Masters of Political Thought 3
 CPO 3000/4000 level course 3
 INR 3000/4000 level course 3
 POS 3000/4000 level course 3
 POT 3000/4000 level course 3
 3000/4000 level Political Science (CPO, INR, POS, POT) electives..... 6

Choose one:

POS 3734 Political Science Research Methods..... 3
 PUP 3008 Analyzing Political Issues 3

Choose two:

POS 3413 The Presidency 3
 POS 3424 The Legislative Process 3

Including either of:

POS 3608 Constitutional Law: Federalism and Separation of Powers 3
 POS 3624 Constitutional Law: 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 (33 sh)

POS 2041	American Politics	3
POS 3424	Legislative Process	3
POS 3608	Constitutional Law: Federalism and Separation of Powers	3
POS 3624	Constitutional Law: Individual Rights and Privileges	3
POT 4204	American Political Thought.....	3
POT 4601	Masters of Political Thought	3
PUP 3008	Analyzing Political Issues	3

Choose four Pre-Law Specialization Courses (12 sh):

CPO 4314	Democracies	3
INR 4403	International Law.....	3
POS 3413	The Presidency	3
POS 3602	The Founders' Constitution	3
POS 3625	First Amendment Freedoms	3
POS 4673	Jurisprudence	3

Major-Related (15 sh)

Support Areas. Take a total of five courses chosen from at least four different support areas for a total of 15sh.

History

Choose no more than two:

AMH 4131	American Revolutions: 1763-1828	3
AMH 4150	Early American Republic: 1789-1860	3
AMH 4551	U. S. Constitutional and Legal History to 1877.....	3
AMH 4552	U. S. Constitutional and Legal History Since 1877.....	3
AMH 4575	Civil Rights.....	3
EUH 4503	English Constitutional and Legal History	3
	3000/4000 level advisor approved course.....	3

Legal Specialties

Choose no more than two:

CCJ 3024	The American Criminal Justice System	3
CJL 3510	Judicial Process	3
EVR 4035	Environmental Law	3
MMC 4201	The Constitution and the Press	3
PLA 3020	Law and Society.....	3
PLA 3103	Legal Research and Writing	3
PLA 3700	The Legal System and Ethics.....	3
	3000/4000 level advisor approved course.....	3

Literature and Communications

Choose no more than two:

COM 4103C	Leadership Communication.....	3
ENL 4333	Shakespeare.....	3
ENL 4341	Milton	3
POT 3103	Law and Politics in Literature	3
SPC 4513	Argumentation and Debate	3
	3000/4000 level advisor approved course.....	3

Skills

Choose no more than two:

ACG 2021	Principles of Financial Accounting.....	3
ECO 3003	Principles of Economic Theory and Public Policy.....	3
STA 2023	Elements of Statistics.....	3
	3000/4000 level advisor approved course.....	3

Philosophy

Choose no more than two:

PHH 3100	Greek Philosophy	3
PHH 3400	Modern Philosophy	3
PHH 4200	Medieval Philosophy.....	3
PHI 2100	Introduction to Logic	3
PHI 3130	Modern Logic.....	3
PHI 3670	Ethics	3
	3000/4000 level advisor approved course	3

Upper Division Electives (12 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 3734	Political Science Research Methods	3
POT 4204	American Political Thought	3
POT 4601	Masters of Political Thought.....	3

Including either of:

POS 3608	Constitutional Law: Federalism and Separation of Powers	3
POS 3624	Constitutional Law: Individual Rights and Privileges.....	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/Political Science (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

Choose one:

POS	3608	Constitutional Law: Federalism and Separation of Powers.....	3
POS	3624	Constitutional Law: Individual Rights and Privileges.....	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