

# POLITICAL SCIENCE, BACHELOR OF ARTS

The major in political science leads to the degrees of Bachelor of Arts (BA) and Bachelor of Science (BS). The political science curriculum focuses heavily on the development of analytical and communication skills – along with comprehensive knowledge of public policy, politics, current events, and history – and as such prepares undergraduates for a wide range of in the private, public, and non-profit sectors. Courses in political science also serve to complement the liberal arts core at CSU Pueblo and to prepare students for acceptance into graduate programs leading to professional degree Programs.

## Student Learning Outcomes

1. Students should have factual knowledge of many aspects of politics and government that are central objects of study in each of the subfields in political science (American politics, comparative politics, international relations, and political theory).
2. Students should be able to explain core debates (or scholarly theories and perspectives) in the subfields of political science.
3. Students should be able to write papers on topics in political science that (a) exhibit clear prose and correct grammar and (b) present a central argument in a clear and coherent structure or fashion.
4. Students should be able to identify and critique the assumptions, logic, and evidence in both scholarly and lay political arguments.
5. Students should be able to use empirical observations and analytical reasoning to articulate and defend compelling, non-fallacious arguments.

## Outcomes Assessment Activities

- The faculty of the Political Science program use a variety of methods for evaluating the student learning outcomes. These include an assessment of each student learning outcome in the political science senior seminar and a completed student exit survey in the senior seminar.

## Specific Program Requirements

Students who major in Political Science must complete a minimum of 42 semester credit hours in political science. They must earn a grade of C or better in each of those courses, except POLS 498, which is graded S/U. A maximum of six credit hours of POLS 498 can be applied towards the 42 hours required for the major.

- Students seeking the Bachelor of Arts should consult the catalog for the options to complete the foreign language requirement.

## Program Overview

Requirement	Credits
General Education	35
Core Requirements	42
Additional Electives	25
Minor	18
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>120</b>

## Specific Core Requirements

Course	Title	Credits
<b>Required Courses</b>		<b>21</b>
POLS 101	American Government (GT-SS1)	3
POLS 201	International Relations (GT-SS1)	3
POLS 202	Comparative Politics	3
POLS 250	Political Analysis & Methods I	3
POLS 251	Political Analysis & Methods II	3
POLS 355	Western Political Thought	3
POLS 493	Seminar	3
<b>American Politics</b>		<b>3</b>
Select one of the following:		
POLS 301	Political Attitudes & Behavior	3
POLS 302	Latinos in American Democracy	3
POLS 303	Race & Ethnicity in American Democracy	3
POLS 310	Media, Politics, & Power	3
POLS 340	Public Policy	3
POLS 411	Congress & the Presidency	3
POLS 431	Politics & Film	3
<b>International Relations</b>		<b>3</b>
Select one of the following:		
POLS 361	International Conflict	3
POLS 362	Peace Studies	3
POLS 371	Terrorism	3
POLS 430	War & Film	3
POLS 460	U.S. Foreign & Security Policy	3
<b>Comparative Politics</b>		<b>3</b>
Select one of the following:		
POLS 440	Nationalism & Ethnic Conflict	3
POLS 445	Economic Development	3
POLS 450	Democracy & Dictatorship	3
<b>Internship/Research Requirement</b> <sup>1</sup>		<b>3</b>
Select 3 credit hours from one of the following:		
POLS 498	Internship	3
POLS 492	Research	3
<b>Elective Courses</b> <sup>2</sup>		<b>9</b>
Select three Political Science Electives <sup>1</sup> You may take any lower or upper division Political Science courses that were not taken to meet the above requirements.		
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>42</b>

<sup>1</sup> For students pursuing Teacher Education Certification, the Internship/Research is not required.

<sup>2</sup> For students pursuing Teacher Education Certification, only 3 credits are required. Students must complete the specific requirements for the Teacher Education minor.

## Planning Sheet

Disclaimer: The Planning Sheet is designed as a guide for student's planning their course selections. The information on this page provides only a suggested schedule. Actual course selections should be made with the advice and consent of an academic advisor. While accurately portraying the information contained in the college catalog, this form is not considered a legal substitute for that document. Students should

2 Political Science, Bachelor of Arts

become familiar with the catalog in effect at the time in which they entered the institution.

Note: In addition to requirements for the major and general education, students must complete either:

1. Any minor degree program listed in the catalog other than their major;  
or
2. 18 credit hours outside of the major.

Students may not use the same credits to satisfy requirements for both major and minor degrees, or use credits taken to satisfy general education requirements.

Course	Title	Credits
<b>Year 1</b>		
<b>Fall</b>		
ENG 101	Rhetoric & Writing I (GT-CO1)	3
POLS 101	American Government (GT-SS1)	3
General Education	3 credits must be World Language course.	9
<b>Credits</b>		<b>15</b>
<b>Spring</b>		
ENG 102	Rhetoric & Writing II (GT-CO2)	3
General Education	3 credits must be World Language course.	9
POLS 201	International Relations (GT-SS1)	3
<b>Credits</b>		<b>15</b>
<b>Year 2</b>		
<b>Fall</b>		
POLS 250	Political Analysis & Methods I	3
POLS 202	Comparative Politics (GT-SS1)	3
General Education		4
Elective	Must be outside the major.	5
<b>Credits</b>		<b>15</b>
<b>Spring</b>		
General Education		7
Elective	3 credits must be Political Science course.	8
POLS 251	Political Analysis & Methods II	3
<b>Credits</b>		<b>18</b>
<b>Year 3</b>		
<b>Fall</b>		
POLS 355	Western Political Thought	3
Elective	3 credits must be upper division Political Science course. 9 credits must be outside the major; 3 credits must be upper division.	12
<b>Credits</b>		<b>15</b>
<b>Spring</b>		
Elective	9 credits must be upper division Political Science course. 6 credits must be outside the major; 3 credits must be upper division.	15
<b>Credits</b>		<b>15</b>
<b>Year 4</b>		
<b>Fall</b>		
Elective	15 credits must be upper division; 9 credits must be Political Science course. 3 credits must be outside the major.	15
<b>Credits</b>		<b>15</b>
<b>Spring</b>		
POLS 493	Seminar	1-3
Elective	9 credits must be upper division; 3 credits must be outside the major	12
<b>Credits</b>		<b>13-15</b>
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>121-123</b>