

POLITICAL SCIENCE EDUCATION

Subject endorsement to teach grades 6-12

As politics are constantly influencing how we are governed and laws that are made, it's important for the next generation to understand the concepts behind them. Government and civics courses are often part of middle school and high school curriculum. These courses cover topics such as the structure of government, political systems, civic responsibilities, and the function of democracy. Teachers with a Political Science background may also contribute to extracurricular activities such as model United Nations, mock trial, debate teams, and other programs that foster civic engagement and political awareness among students. The Political Science Education program at WSC concentrates on five major areas: the operation of government, political behavior, political theory, public policy, and international relations. With a Political Science Education degree, you'll be ready to teach government and civics classes to grades 6-12. Or, you can pursue advanced education to teach at a college or university level.

In addition to choosing the Political Science subject endorsement, you will also need to select a second subject endorsement to receive your B.A. or B.S.

fast facts

Credit hours: 75

Students must also take 30 credit hours of General Studies courses. A total of 120 credit hours are needed to graduate from WSC. Additional majors or minors can be added to help meet graduation requirements.

Degree options: B.A. or B.S.

Departments: History, Politics, and Geography; Educational Foundations and Leadership

Schools: Arts and Humanities; Education and Behavioral Sciences

Popular pairings: Coaching, History Education, Special Education Generalist

focus on results

What you'll learn

- American politics
- Constitutional law
- Public administration and policy
- Research
- Writing
- Critical thinking
- Classroom management and curriculum development
- Public speaking and presentation

Possible Careers

- Political science teacher
- U.S. government teacher
- Law teacher
- History teacher
- Politician
- Policy analyst / advocate
- Political correspondent
- Lawyer or paralegal
- Journalist
- Political advisor

Types of Employers

- Middle schools
- High schools
- Education and learning centers
- Law firms
- State government offices
- Federal government offices
- Non-profit organizations
- Congressional offices
- Social services
- Court systems

outside the classroom



Visit www.wsc.edu/clubs to learn more about clubs and organizations on campus.

Activities / Opportunities

- Multicultural events
- Constitution Day
- Northeast Nebraska Teacher Academy (NENTA)

Clubs / Organizations

- Nebraska State Education Association (NSEA) Aspiring Educators
- Political Science Club
- Student Senate

The following courses are required for the program of study described on this sheet. Every effort is made to ensure this information is current, but please be aware that some content may have changed. To develop a plan for registering and taking these courses, please consult the current academic catalog and your advisor.

Program courses

Social Sciences Core Courses

GEO 120 World Regional Geography.....	3
Select one of the following history courses....	3
HIS 310 The Renaissance and Reformation (3)	
HIS 315 The Age of Enlightenment (3)	
HIS 360 Colonial and Revolutionary America (3)	
HIS 385 America, 1945 to the Present (3)	
HIS 425 History of the British Empire (3)	
HIS 447 War and Society in World History (3)	
Select one of the following political science courses.....	3
POS 350 The American Presidency (3)	
POS 355 Politics of the Supreme Court (3)	
POS 365 Comparative Government and Politics (3)	
POS 420 American Constitutional Law (3)	
POS 425 Rights and Liberties (3)	
POS 445 Public Administration and Management (3)	
Select one of the following courses.....	3
POS 430 Public Policy (3)	
Appropriate Honors Course 395 or 499 (3)	

Political Science Content Courses

POS 100 American National Government.....	3
POS 110 Introduction to World Politics.....	3
POS 315 Seminar in Political Theory.....	3
SSC 310 Research and Statistical Analysis.....	3
Select two of the following (American Politics)	6
POS 350 The American Presidency (3)	
POS 355 Politics of the Supreme Court (3)	
POS 420 American Constitutional Law (3)	
POS 425 Rights and Liberties (3)	
POS 444 Topics in Political Science (must be American Politics topics) (3)	
Select two of the following (Public Administration and Policy).....	6
POS 402 State and Local Politics (3)	
POS 410 Public Policy Analysis and Program Evaluation (3)	
POS 444 Topics in Political Science (must be Public Administration and Policy topics) (3)	
POS 445 Public Administration and Management (3)	
SSC 319 Statistics for the Social Sciences (3)	

Select one of the following (International Relations/Comparative).....	3
POS 365 Comparative Government and Politics (3)	
POS 444 Topics in Political Science (must be International Relations/Comparative topics) (3)	
Electives.....	3
ECO 430 International Economics (3)	
GEO 300 Human Geography (3)	
GEO 305 Political Geography (3)	
HIS 360 Colonial and Revolutionary America (3)	
HIS 370 The New Nation, 1789-1815 (3)	
HIS 380 America, Civil War Era (3)	
HIS 385 America, 1945 to the Present (3)	
POS 497 Internship	
PSY 316 Social Psychology (3)	
SOC 320 Social Welfare (3)	

Professional Education Courses

EDU 150 Introduction to Professional Education.....	3
EDU 245 Preparing for Level 2: Teacher Candidacy.....	0
EDU 250 Human Development and Cognition.....	3
EDU 275 PK-12 Instructional Design.....	3
EDU 310 Reading, Writing, and Assessment in Content Areas.....	2
EDU 409 Content Area Methods and Assessment (Social Sciences).....	3
EDU 414 Content Area Practicum Experience..	1
EDU 445 Preparing for Level 3: Clinical Practice.....	0
EDU 456 Clinical Practice and Seminar for the Secondary School.....	12
SPD 302 Inclusion and Co-teaching in General Education.....	3
SPD 436 Classroom Management through Social Emotional Learning 7-12.....	3

Student learning outcomes

Political Science programs

1. Explain the key concepts in government and law
2. Research using political science approaches
3. Apply critical thinking skills to issues in government and law
4. Explain the role of individuals in civic society and civic engagement

Education programs

- Teacher candidates who successfully complete an education preparation program at Wayne State will be able to:
1. Create environments that support individual and collaborative learning using knowledge of how students grow and develop, along with individual differences and diverse cultures. (InTASC Standards 1-3)
 2. Plan for instruction by applying content knowledge, a variety of instructional strategies, and multiple methods of assessment to connect concepts for learners in real-world applications. (InTASC Standards 4-8)
 3. Engage in ongoing professional learning and use evidence to reflect on and adapt practice to meet the needs of each learner. (InTASC Standard 9)
 4. Seek leadership roles and opportunities to take responsibility for student learning, to collaborate with stakeholders, and to advance the profession. (InTASC Standard 10)

political science faculty



Visit www.wsc.edu/history-politics-geography-department to learn more about the Department of History, Politics, and Geography.

Randy Bertolas, Ph.D.
Department Chair
 Connell Hall 237
 402-375-7018
raberto1@wsc.edu

Joe Blankenau, Ph.D.
Jenny Miller, Ph.D.

