

SOCIAL SCIENCES >

POLITICAL SCIENCE

From public policies and laws to the broader concept of how societies are governed, politics influence many things. They play a big part in everyday activity. The Political Science degree program at Wayne State concentrates on five major areas related to politics: the operation of the government, political behavior, political theory, public policy, and international relations. A Political Science degree can prepare you well for additional study in law, economics, geography, and social sciences. Or, because of your solid understanding of politics' influence on the people, a Political Science degree can prepare you for a successful career in business, leadership, or public administration.

fast facts

Credit hours: 42 (noncomprehensive) or 48

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.

Department: History, Politics, and Geography

School: Arts and Humanities

Popular pairings: Communication Studies, Criminal Justice, Geography, History, Pre-Law, Public Administration

focus on results

What You'll Learn

- American politics
- Constitutional law
- Comparative politics
- Public administration and policy
- Research
- Writing
- Critical thinking

Possible Careers

- Politician
- Policy analyst/advocate
- Lobbyist
- Political correspondent
- Lawyer or paralegal
- Legislative aide
- Political science teacher
- Economic development coordinator
- Journalist
- Non-profit management
- City administration

Types of Employers

- Law firms
- State government offices
- Federal government offices
- Non-profit organizations
- Congressional offices
- Social services
- Court systems
- Urban planning agencies
- Foreign service agencies
- Television and news channels
- Newspapers and magazines
- Schools, colleges, and universities

outside the classroom

Activities/Opportunities

- Constitution Day
- Multicultural events
- Peer mentoring and tutoring
- Rural Law Opportunities Program (RLOP)
- Service-Learning
- Study Abroad

Clubs/Organizations

- Legal Minds
- Pi Gamma Mu
- Student Senate



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

Courses and outcomes

2026-27 Academic Year

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 Concentration

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)	
Upper-level electives from the courses listed above*.....	3-9**

*An internship may fulfill 3 hours of electives.

**Take 3 credits of upper-level electives from the courses listed above for the 42-hour option; take 9 credits for the 48-hour option.

Student learning outcomes

1. Apply essential knowledge of the seven social science disciplines (economics, criminal justice, geography, history, political science, psychology, and sociology)
2. Identify the key theories and methods of inquiry of each of the seven social science disciplines
3. Explain four sub-topics of the seven social science disciplines
4. Analyze student's primary area of emphasis compared, and contrasted, with two other social sciences

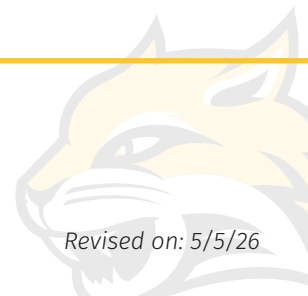
political science faculty



Visit www.wsc.edu/hpg 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.



Revised on: 5/5/26