

Political Science

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The Political Science program approaches the study of politics as both philosophical reflection and analytical art. From the study of ancient, modern, and contemporary sources, students are led to examine critically the ideas and events that have influenced the formation of political principles, government organization, characteristics of citizenship, and social policy. Along with philosophical grounding, the program seeks to provide analytical competence to understand the contemporary political environment, to address public policy issues, and to contribute intellectually and practically to the sociopolitical challenges of our times. The Political Science Department also seeks to provide special educational opportunities for its students in the study of political ideas and public affairs through collaboration with the Center for Political and Economic Thought.

The systematic study of political thought and organization contributes to a well-rounded liberal arts education and helps prepare students to face intelligently the complexities of modern society. The Political Science Department seeks to provide a comprehensive background in the discipline while especially concentrating on American government and politics, political thought, and public policy and administration. The major in Political Science is designed to accomplish several goals: to prepare students for professional studies such as law, public administration, legislation, public policy, international affairs, and related fields; to prepare students for graduate studies that are required for careers of scholarship and teaching; and to help prepare students considering immediate employment in government service, government relations, business, voluntary organizations, public affairs, and politics.

Students with a major in Political Science are eligible to participate in a cooperative program between Saint Vincent and Duquesne Law School that allows students to earn their bachelor's degree and Juris Doctor degree in six years. In this program, qualified students who, with high grades, complete their first three years of study at Saint Vincent, fulfilling the Core Curriculum requirements and the requirements for the major, may transfer into the Law Program and complete the requirements for the Juris Doctor degree in three years. For details, see the explanation of this program in the Pre-Law section of the *Bulletin*.

The Political Science major's culminating activity is a senior thesis. Political Science majors may receive either the Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science degree (see Core Curriculum requirements for each degree)

Political Science/Public Policy Learning Objectives

- Prepare students for graduate studies required for careers in scholarship and teaching.
- Improve student writing and analytical thinking abilities.
- Prepare students for professional studies in areas such as law, public administration, public policy formulation, international affairs, and related fields.
- Prepare students for immediate employment in business and government.

Requirements for a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science:

(See Core Curriculum requirements.)

The social science core is satisfied by completing the major requirements.

Major Requirements (39 credits)

PS 100	Principles of American Politics	3
PS 121	National Government	3
PS 135	Classical Political Thought	3
PS 136	Modern Political Thought	3
PS 242	International Relations	
	or	
PS 343	Comparative Politics	3
PS 250	Public Administration	3
PS 290	Institutions	3
PS 336	American Political Thought	3
PS 339	Constitutional Law: National Powers	
	or	
PS 369	Constitutional Law: Civil Rights and Liberties	3
PS 345	Domestic Public Policy	3
PS 480	Senior Thesis	3
PS —	Political Science elective (Any PS class except PS 550)	3
PS —	Political Science elective (Any PS class except PS 550)	3

Requirements for a Bachelor of Science Degree in Political Science:

(See Core Curriculum requirements.)

The social science core is satisfied by completing the major requirements.

Major Requirements (46 credits)

PS 100	Principles of American Politics	3
PS 121	National Government	3
PS 135	Classical Political Thought	3
PS 136	Modern Political Thought	3
PS 242	International Relations	3
	or	
PS 343	Comparative Politics	3
PS 250	Public Administration	3
PS 290	Institutions	3
PS 336	American Political Thought	3
PS 339	Constitutional Law: National Powers	3
	or	
PS 369	Constitutional Law: Civil Rights and Liberties	3
PS 345	Domestic Public Policy	3
PS 480	Senior Thesis	3
PS —	Political Science elective (Any PS class except PS 550)	3
BA 350	Statistics I	3
EC 360	Econometrics or BA 351 Statistics II	3
MA 109/111	Calculus I	4

Minor in Political Science (pre-law minor)

A minor in Political Science requires 18 credits. The following six courses are required:

PS 100	Principles of American Politics	3
PS 121	National Government	3
PS 135	Classical Political Thought	3
	or	
PS 136	Modern Political Thought	3
PS 250	Public Administration	3
PS 336	American Political Thought	3
PS 345	Domestic Public Policy	3

Variations from above are possible with permission of the Chair of the Political Science department. A student may choose, with the departmental advisor and with the consent of the Dean, a program designed to meet individual objectives

Minor in Public Administration

For those **majoring in Political Science**, in addition to the major requirements, the following courses will be required:

EC 101	Principles of Microeconomics	3
PS 150	Government and Business	3

The student will also be required to choose three courses from the following list:

BA 104	Introduction to Management	3
BA 170	Organizational Behavior	3
EC 331	Public Finance	3
PS 390	Environmental Law and Policy	3

For those **not majoring in Political Science**, 18 credits are required for the minor in Public Administration. The following courses will be required:

BA 350	Business Statistics I	3
PS 150	Government and Business	3
PS 222	State and Local Government	3
PS 250	Public Administration	3

The student will also be required to choose two courses from the following list:

BA 104	Introduction to Management	3
BA 170	Organizational Behavior	3
EC 331	Public Finance	3
PS 390	Environmental Law and Policy	3

The above program is an interdisciplinary program under the direction of the Political Science Department. Substitutions for some of the courses above are allowed with the consent of the Dean of the McKenna School.

Public Policy

Courses from both economics and political science have been combined to create this major. The major emphasizes the analysis of public institutions and policy formulation. See the Public Policy listing in this *Bulletin* for information concerning this major.

Pre-Law

The Political Science Department offers courses by trained lawyers. Students participate in the PreLaw Club, where students meet members of the Bench and Bar, including many Saint Vincent College graduates. Students interested in law and legal internships should contact the PreLaw advisor, Dr. Gabriel Pellathy.

Graduate Study

Candidates for the B.S. or B.A. degree who plan to pursue a Ph.D. in political science generally have two options in graduate school—they must show competence in two foreign languages or have a reading knowledge of one language and quantitative skills. Competence in two foreign languages implies that candidates are fluent in one and have reading knowledge in the other. We suggest that B.A. candidates consider taking foreign language courses beyond the second intermediate level. The quantitative skill requirement for graduate school varies.

Public Affairs and Public Administration

For those seeking M.A. degrees in public affairs and public administration, it would be advantageous to complete BA 100, BA 101, EC 201, EC 202, BA 350, and EC 360. Students should have further discussions with their advisors.

International Affairs

Those students who intend to pursue a master's degree in international affairs are strongly encouraged to complete two languages, EC 201, EC 202, BA 350, EC 360, EC 351, and EC 353.

Internship Programs

Internships in the third and fourth years are recommended.

Majors are welcome to apply for internships and to work with the Center for Political and Economic Thought. The State of Pennsylvania has internships available in Harrisburg, and the department will aid qualified students in acquiring them. Local part-time internships are also feasible—Career Services will coordinate and assist in student placement. Political Science students interested in such internships for credit will need the approval of the School Dean. In addition, the Department must be convinced that benefit will accrue to both the student and the cooperating body. The number of credits granted for the internship is decided on an individual basis, not to exceed three credits in a semester. Internships are Pass/Fail and limited to a total of six credits. See the Business Administration section of this Bulletin for a detailed explanation of Internship requirements for McKenna School students. Students must register for PS 550, Internship.

Departmental Activities

Depending on their interest and initiative, students are encouraged to join activities such as the Politics Club, Pre-Law Club, the Mock Trial Team, the staff of the Center for Political and Economic Thought, the Republican Club, and the Democrat Club. The SVC Mock Trial team is quickly becoming nationally recognized—we compete against and have defeated numerous Ivy League teams. Other recommended activities include attending relevant lectures sponsored by the Center for Political and Economic Thought on this campus.

Job Opportunities After Graduation

Political Science majors interested in civil service jobs should take both the federal and state civil examinations. Availability of positions in these areas varies from year to year, depending upon government's hiring practices. Specific federal and state government agencies may have their own entrance examinations. A student going into government service might find it an advantage to take a general Political Science program with a minor in Public Administration. For other job opportunities in the private sector, please consult Career Services.

Teacher Preparation

See the Education Department for teacher certification requirements in Early Childhood Education, Elementary Education, and Secondary Education. Interested students must contact the Education Department Chairperson and confer with their academic advisor. All programs begin in the sophomore year by registering for ED 100: Foundations of Education.

Independent Study Course

It is possible, with the approval of the School Dean, to do individual research projects/papers for credit. Students register for PS 500, taking not more than three credits each semester.

Typical First-Year Schedule

		Fall	Spring
PS 100	Principles of American Politics	3	
PS 121	National Government	3	
	Foreign Language (intermediate or elementary if needed)	3	3
PS 135	Classical Political Thought	3	
PS 136	Modern Political Thought		3
PS 222	State & Local Government		3
EL 102	Language and Rhetoric	3	or 3
TH 119	Exploring Religious Meaning	3	or 3
	College Core	0-6	0-9

All students will take one course designated as a First-Year Seminar which will satisfy a Core Curriculum requirement.

Course Descriptions

PS 100 Principles of American Politics

Political science raises fundamental questions: how ought we, as human beings, to live? Put another way, what is the nature of good and evil, right and wrong, justice and injustice? Implicit in these questions, at the practical level of government, are further questions as to how we in fact live, how we should organize ourselves in communities, and who ought to govern in the communities in which we, as political beings, dwell. The American constitutional order represents one set of answers to these fundamental questions. This course examines the genesis of this constitutional order through a close study of the writings, speeches, and deeds of those who were responsible for its creation. It also elucidates the relationship of the regime to the larger tradition of Western political thought. The course will aid students in understanding the American regime as its founders understood it and in evaluating this understanding. The course will also pay attention to the extent to which the regime as it currently operates either does or does not reflect this original understanding. Offered every semester. Three credits.

PS 121 National Government

A political analysis approach to the federal system of American national government is made. The traditional branches of the national government are thoroughly examined. The student is expected to acquire a strong understanding of the Constitution. However, serious changes are taking place in both the nation and the modern world which affect governance. A critical approach will consider procedures, issues, and policy proposals to develop understanding of the realities of national politics and policy. Offered fall semester. Three credits.

PS 135 Classical Political Thought

A survey of the basic principles of political philosophy from the Western tradition. This course examines fundamental ideas about the political good suggested by classical philosophers. Readings will normally include selections from Plato, Aristotle, Augustine, and Aquinas. Offered fall semester. Three credits.

PS 136 Modern Political Thought

A survey of the basic principles of political philosophy from the Western tradition. This course examines fundamental ideas about the political good suggested by modern philosophers. Readings will normally include selections from Machiavelli, Hobbes, Locke, Rousseau, Kant, Hegel, and Nietzsche. Recommended: PS 135. Offered spring semester. Three credits.

PS 150 Government and Business

The making of public policy affecting the private sector will be analyzed. An examination of the structure and processes of federal agencies dealing with business, with stress put on independent regulatory agencies. Some comparisons to practices of other countries are explored. Designed for freshmen and sophomores. Offered spring semester. Three credits.

PS 222 State and Local Government

The structures, functions, and relationships of the various units of state and local government are presented, and their linkage to the federal government is analyzed. Important policy issues are analyzed and office-holders are invited to speak in class. A term paper on a local or state unit or function, or a profile of an office-holder, will be required. Offered spring semester. Three credits.

PS 227 Criminal Law and Process

The primary objective of this course is to present to the student basic principles and methods of the American Criminal Justice System. It will discuss aspects of crime, means of social control, law enforcement, and the operation of criminal courts. Offered spring semester. Three credits.

PS 242 Introduction to International Relations

This course studies the process of international relations from a variety of perspectives. The three levels of international politics are analyzed; the different state and non-state actors are examined; the balance of power concept and its alternatives are addressed; and the future of the national state system is examined. Several major models commonly used to understand the international system are explored. Not recommended for first-year students. Prerequisite: PS 121. Offered fall semester. Three credits.

PS 250 Public Administration

This course is concerned with the political environment, styles, theories and decisions of public administrators. Organization theories, accountability and leadership, budgeting and relationships between governmental units will be discussed. This is a required course for the Public Administration minor. Offered fall semester. Three credits.

PS 290 Institutions

This course examines the institutions (i.e., Congress, the Presidency, and the Courts) of American government in the order that they are presented in the United States Constitution. The Constitution itself, thus, serves as the guide. Students read relevant chapters from *The Federalist* in order to gain a full appreciation of the aims of the Founders in terms of the design and intent of the governing institutions. Students delve into a good deal of relevant literature, both primary and secondary in nature. Offered fall semester. Three credits.

PS 300, 301, 302, 303 Introduction to Legal Reasoning I-IV

This course introduces the student to various fields of the law, especially the objectives and reasoning pursued in criminal law, contract law and negligence law. The proper ways of stating a case and presenting it to a court will be fully discussed, and the merits and weaknesses of illustrative cases will be subjected to comprehensive analysis. The course is not only a preparation for those wishing to take the Law School Admission Test (LSAT), but a background for participation in College Mock Trial team competition. Each class (I to IV) has a different case associated with it. Pass/Fail option only. Prerequisite: must be on Mock Trial team. Offered fall semester. One credit per semester up to four total credits.

PS 336 American Political Thought

A study of important themes and/or developments in American political thought from the Civil War to the present. A key theme will be the change from Madisonian constitutionalism to the Progressivism of the 20th century; the course will examine the political ideas that underlie this transformation. Subjects to be addressed include the nature of political equality, social Darwinism, pragmatism, Progressivism and its critics, constitutional interpretation, and the "Reagan Revolution." Prerequisite: PS 100. Offered fall semester. Three credits.

PS 339 Constitutional Law: National Powers

The study of the American Constitution is basic to those in the Political Science discipline and all who try to understand the essence of our republic as it has evolved over the past 200 years. Political theory, historical forces and the nature and importance of the law in society are all blended in the course materials. The course considers both how the Constitution as written by the

framers sought a limited federal government, and how that limitation was expanded by Supreme Court interpretation after 1935. Specific areas of personal liberty (freedom of speech, religion, privacy, etc.) are also covered in detail, along with important developments in Constitutional criminal procedure. The course is conducted pursuant to a modified Socratic method, emphasizing and welcoming student participation in class. Prerequisite: PS 121. Offered spring semester. Three credits.

PS 341 Global Terrorism

This course analyzes the growing phenomena of Terrorism. Students examine diverse perspectives from governments, leading experts and the terrorists themselves. The course covers the source and growth of terror, tactics of terror, key terrorist incidents, specific terrorist groups and profiles of key individual leaders within groups. Students study and discuss government policy related to terror including how the U.S. and other countries counter terrorism. Finally, the course examines the social and political problems associated with terrorism. Offered spring semester. Three credits.

PS 343 Comparative Politics

This course offers an examination of different political systems and how they compare with each other. Students study how varying forms of government affect the lives of people and how it forces nations to react to each other. Students will be asked to select one of more systems for closer analysis and report their research in a written paper. Students also study the major problems facing the international community and how each system may approach solutions to them. Offered spring semester. Three credits.

PS 345 Domestic Public Policy

Examines the public policy process and analyzes selected U.S. domestic issues of current concern. Considers the political principles, interests, and empirical evidence behind differing policy positions and evaluates their impact. Readings may be from public policy advocates, politicians, commentators and scholars. Offered spring semester. Three credits.

PS 369 Constitutional Law: Civil Rights and Liberties

An analysis of federal court decisions dealing with Bill of Rights guarantees, with special emphasis on U.S. Supreme Court rulings. First Amendment issues—free speech, freedom of religion, and freedom of associations, as well as 14th Amendment issues—equal opportunity, voting, and civil rights legislation, are explored. Federal policies and politics in this area are analyzed. Suggested prerequisite: PS 339. Offered fall semester. Three credits.

PS 370 George Washington Fellowship

The George Washington Fellows Program is named after our nation's first president in order to focus on the theme of citizen-

ship. Washington emphasized in his writings and addresses that the success of the new American republic would depend upon the nation's ability to become a sacred union of citizens. The Program seeks to attract students interested in scholarly inquiry into the key questions of American citizenship, paying careful attention to the duties and responsibilities of individuals in a free, well-ordered society. Applications for projects in the following areas will be accepted: American political thought, American economic thought, political or economic thought generally, American culture and religion, and American constitutionalism. Offered fall semester. Zero credit.

PS 390 Environmental Law and Policy

A survey of the history and present status of laws seeking to establish acceptable safety levels for air, water, chemicals, and land use. Methodologies of standard-setting, alternate policies, financial costs, and future developments will be discussed. Offered fall semester. Three credits.

PS 460, 461, 462, 463 Topics in Political Philosophy

This seminar style course concentrates on a particular topic in political philosophy. Topics vary from year to year, and typically include an in-depth examination of a particular work, philosopher, or idea of central significance to the development of political thought or practice. Offered fall semester. May be repeated. Three credits

PS 480 Senior Thesis

Facilitates and supervises the writing of the senior thesis, which is the culminating project for political science majors. Special care will be taken to aid students in utilizing their research and writing skills so that they may produce a high quality thesis. Offered spring semester. Three credits.

PS 500 Independent Study

Such study involves research in areas of special interest to students, under faculty supervision. Offered to those students whom the department judges ready for such responsibility. May be repeated. Variable credit (not to exceed three credits per semester).

PS 550 Internship

Internships constitute a practicum to supplement academic learning. See the description above. The number of credits and the hours involved vary depending on the nature of the internship. Please see the Career Development Center Staff for current procedures that must be followed, in addition to securing departmental approval and supervision. Pass/Fail option only. Students are subject to the McKenna School's Student Guide To Internship Procedures And Requirements. See the Business Administration section of this *Bulletin* for a detailed description. May be repeated. Variable credit up to three credits.