# POLITICAL SCIENCE, CERTIFICATE

There are many definitions of political science. But whether a definition focuses on the analysis of governmental structures, or influences on voter choice, or the relationship between national governments, or the best form of government, at base, political science is about the systematic study of power. Whether power is exercised formally, as is the case between government and the individual, or informally, as is the case between individuals, it is the systematic study of power relationships that provides the subject matter for the discipline. Students who pursue a certificate in political science obtain not only an understanding of the workings of government, but they also develop important skills in critical thinking and analysis. These skills make them ideal candidates for careers in law; in government at the state, national, and international levels; in business; in journalism; and in politics.

## HOW TO GET IN

## HOW TO GET IN
### DECLARING THE CERTIFICATE

There are no pre-requisites for declaring the Political Science certificate. Students can declare at any time on the our website (https://polisci.wisc.edu/politicalsciencecertificate/#requirements-and-declaration). Political science majors are not eligible to declare the Political Science certificate.

## REQUIREMENTS

## REQUIREMENTS

Only 4 credits of Introductory requirement coursework will count in the certificate. Students must take at least one 3 credit Reading and Writing in Political Science course. Students may take more than one Reading and Writing in Political Science course to meet the certificate requirements; additional Reading and Writing in Political Science courses after the first count toward the required Intermediate and Advanced level Elective courses.

| Code | Title | Credits |
|---|---|---|
| **Introductory Course (complete one)** | | **3-4** |
| POLI SCI 104 | Introduction to American Politics and Government | |
| POLI SCI 120 | Introduction to Comparative Politics | |
| POLI SCI 140 | Introduction to International Relations | |
| POLI SCI 160 | Introduction to Political Theory | |
| POLI SCI 182 | Introduction to Comparative Politics (Honors) | |
| POLI SCI 184 | Introduction to American Politics | |
| **Reading and Writing in Political Science (complete one)** | | **3-4** |
| POLI SCI 206 | Introduction to Political Psychology | |
| POLI SCI 305 | Elections and Voting Behavior | |
| POLI SCI 306 | American Political Parties | |
| POLI SCI 324 | Chinese Politics | |
| POLI SCI/ INTL ST 327 | Indian Politics in Comparative Perspective | |
| POLI SCI 330 | Political Economy of Development | |
| POLI SCI/ JEWISH 341 | Israeli Politics and Society | |
| POLI SCI 344 | The Russian War on Ukraine: Causes and Consequences | |
| POLI SCI 345 | Conflict Resolution | |
| POLI SCI 347 | Terrorism | |
| POLI SCI 354 | International Institutions and World Order | |
| POLI SCI 359 | American Foreign Policy | |
| POLI SCI 360 | History of American Political Thought | |
| POLI SCI 364 | Christian Political Thought | |
| POLI SCI 377 | Nuclear Weapons and World Politics | |
| POLI SCI 408 | The American Presidency | |
| POLI SCI 414 | The Supreme Court as a Political Institution | |
| POLI SCI/ PUB AFFR 419 | Administrative Law | |
| POLI SCI 460 | Topics in Political Philosophy | |
| POLI SCI 470 | The First Amendment | |
| POLI SCI 481 | Honors Seminar on Race and Politics in the United States | |
| POLI SCI 529 | Arab-Israeli Conflict | |
| POLI SCI 601 | Proseminar: Topics in Political Science | |
| **Electives** | | **8-10** |

*Any additional "Reading and Writing in Political Science" course from the list above, or any of the following courses:*

| Code | Title | Credits |
|---|---|---|
| POLI SCI 205 | Introduction to State Government | |
| POLI SCI/ CHICLA 231 | Politics in Multi-Cultural Societies | |
| POLI SCI 272 | Introduction to Public Policy | |
| POLI SCI/ CHICLA 302 | Mexican-American Politics | |
| POLI SCI 304 | The Political Economy of Race in the United States | |
| POLI SCI 311 | United States Congress | |
| POLI SCI 314 | Criminal Law and Justice | |
| POLI SCI 315 | Legislative Internship | |
| POLI SCI 320 | Governments and Politics of the Middle East and North Africa | |
| POLI SCI/ INTL ST 325 | Social Movements and Revolutions in Latin America | |
| POLI SCI 328 | Politics of East and Southeast Asia | |
| POLI SCI 329 | African Politics | |
| POLI SCI 332 | German Politics | |
| POLI SCI 334 | Russian Politics | |
| POLI SCI 335 | Social Identities | |
| POLI SCI 336 | Democracy (and Its Uncertain Future) | |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| POLI SCI 338 | The Civil-Military Paradox in U.S. Politics and Society | |
| POLI SCI 339 | Non-Democracies | |
| POLI SCI 340 | The European Union: Politics and Political Economy | |
| POLI SCI 343 | Theories of International Security | |
| POLI SCI 346 | China in World Politics | |
| POLI SCI 349 | Global Access to Justice | |
| POLI SCI 350 | International Political Economy | |
| POLI SCI 356 | Principles of International Law | |
| POLI SCI 361 | Contemporary American Political Thought | |
| POLI SCI/ CLASSICS/ HISTORY 362 | Athenian Democracy | |
| POLI SCI 363 | Literature and Politics | |
| POLI SCI 370 | Islam and Politics | |
| POLI SCI 390 | Study Abroad Topics in Political Science: International Relations | |
| POLI SCI 400 | Topics in Political Science | |
| POLI SCI 401 | Selected Topics in Political Science | |
| POLI SCI 402 | Wisconsin in Washington Internship Course | |
| POLI SCI 405 | State Government and Public Policy | |
| POLI SCI 411 | The American Constitution : Powers and Structures of Government | |
| POLI SCI 412 | The American Constitution: Rights and Civil Liberties | |
| POLI SCI 416 | Community Power and Grass Roots Politics | |
| POLI SCI 417 | The American Judicial System | |
| POLI SCI/ GEN&WS 429 | Gender and Politics in Comparative Perspective | |
| POLI SCI/ INTL ST 431 | Contentious Politics | |
| POLI SCI/ INTL ST 434 | The Politics of Human Rights | |
| POLI SCI/ GEN&WS 435 | Politics of Gender and Women's Rights in the Middle East | |
| POLI SCI/ INTL ST 439 | The Comparative Study of Genocide | |
| POLI SCI 463 | Deception and Politics | |
| POLI SCI/ GEN&WS 469 | Women and Politics | |
| POLI SCI 490 | Study Abroad Topics in Political Science: American Government | |
| POLI SCI 511 | Campaign Finance | |
| POLI SCI 515 | Public Opinion | |
| POLI SCI/ AFROAMER 519 | African American Political Theory | |
| POLI SCI 590 | Study Abroad Topics in Political Science: Political Theory | |
| POLI SCI 659 | Politics and Society: Contemporary Eastern Europe | |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| POLI SCI 690 | Study Abroad Topics in Political Science: Comparative Politics | |
| **Total Credits** | | **16** |

# RESIDENCE AND QUALITY OF WORK

- Minimum 2.000 GPA in all certificate courses
- At least 12 certificate credits must be completed on campus

# CERTIFICATE COMPLETION REQUIREMENT

This undergraduate certificate must be completed concurrently with the student's undergraduate degree. Students cannot delay degree completion to complete the certificate.

## LEARNING OUTCOMES

# LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. Develop an understanding of and appreciation for the methods and approaches in Political Science and their relevance to important theoretical and pragmatic questions.
2. Analyze different forms and practices of governance both democratic and non#democratic.
3. Argue effectively and defend propositions with intellectual integrity, while considering a range of alternative points of view and evidence.
4. Analyze relations among individuals, civil society, political institutions, and states.
5. Analyze the motivations and consequences of political decision# making and activities.

## ADVISING AND CAREERS

# ADVISING AND CAREERS

## ADVISING

Students who are declared or interested in the political science certificate have numerous advising resources available to them. The political science advising team is composed of professional and peer advisors who are excited to talk with students about everything from academic planning to professional development for future careers. Information on the political advising team, how to contact an advisor, and how to schedule an appointment hours can be found on this website (https://polisci.wisc.edu/politicalsciencecertificate/).

## INTERNSHIPS

The Department of Political Science recognizes the importance of internships in helping students develop professional skills and explore potential career paths. Positions can vary depending on availability and students' interests, but recent sponsors have included the Wisconsin State Legislature, the Office of the Governor, Sierra Club, and numerous non-profit, media, lobbyist, and policy organizations in Wisconsin and throughout the country.  Please see our internship board (https://polisci.wisc.edu/internship-board/) for examples of the wide array of opportunities. Political Science certificate students can also get academic credit in conjunction with an internship by taking Poli Sci 315.

## ALUMNI MENTORING

Like internships, networking can be a valuable tool in opening professional doors and learning more about the professional value of the political certificate. The department often matches students with alumni mentors drawn from our Board of Visitors (https://polisci.wisc.edu/board-of-visitors/) and other graduates who can help them get started building a professional network, answer questions about a specific field, provide guidance in applying for jobs or preparing for interviews, and provide general career advice.

## PEOPLE

# PEOPLE

### PROF. JON PEVEHOUSE, CHAIR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

jcpevehouse@wisc.edu

### AMY GANGL, DIRECTOR OF UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES

agangl@wisc.edu

### CASSIE CHULICK, ACADEMIC ADVISOR

cassie.chulick@wisc.edu

### RACHEL MARGOLIES, UNDERGRADUATE ADVISOR, UNDERGRADUATE COORDINATOR

rachel.margolies@wisc.edu