POLITICAL SCIENCE MINOR

The minor in political science offers students the opportunity to acquire a foundation in the discipline as well as significant exposure to advanced courses.

Students may want to choose courses that complement and deepen their major area of study. For example, an economics major may want to focus on political economy courses. A history major might study contemporary politics in an area on which he or she is focusing. A philosophy major may study political theory. Alternatively, students can choose to broaden their knowledge of political science in areas unrelated to their majors. Students should consult with a member of the departmental undergraduate advising team to develop an individual program of study.

**Course** | **Title**
--- | ---
Minor Requirements (6 units) |  
At least 2 200-level courses chosen from:  
POLL SCI 201-0 | Introduction to Political Theory  
POLL SCI 220-0 | American Government and Politics  
POLL SCI 230-0 | Introduction to Law in the Political Arena  
POLL SCI 240-0 | Introduction to International Relations  
POLL SCI 250-0 | Introduction to Comparative Politics  
4 additional political science courses, including at least 3 at the 300 level

Notes about substitutions and restrictions:

- At most one course from study abroad may count toward the minor.
- At most two units of POLL SCI 399-0 Independent Study may count towards the minor.
- Courses taken P/N cannot be counted toward the minor (this is a Weinberg College rule; for details see Grade Requirements ([https://catalogs.northwestern.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/#schoolrequirementstext](https://catalogs.northwestern.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/#schoolrequirementstext)).
- Receiving a 5 on an AP exam (either American Government or Comparative Politics) can place students out of the equivalent 200-level course, but test credit awarded cannot be substituted for the courses (6) required to complete the minor. Thus, instead of taking POLL SCI 220-0 or POLL SCI 250-0, the student must take an additional 300-level course. Students wishing to use their AP credit in this fashion must meet with the Director of Undergraduate Studies to place the request.

Courses

**American Politics Courses**

These courses examine political behavior, power, and politics in American society and in the institutions of US government at the national, state, and local levels.

**Course** | **Title**
--- | ---
POLL SCI 220-0 | American Government and Politics  
POLL SCI 230-0 | Introduction to Law in the Political Arena  
POLL SCI 320-0 | The American Presidency  
POLL SCI 321-0 | Urban Politics  
POLL SCI 322-0 | Ideas and Institutions in Urban Politics  
POLL SCI 323-0 | Public Opinion and Voting Behavior  
POLL SCI 324-0 | Political Parties and Elections  
POLL SCI 325-0 | Congress and the Legislative Process  
POLL SCI 326-0 | Race and Public Policy  
POLL SCI 327-0 | African American Politics  
POLL SCI 328-0 | Public Policy  
POLL SCI 329-0 | U.S. Environmental Politics  
POLL SCI 330-0 | U.S. Refugee Policy & Localities  
POLL SCI 331-0 | Politics of the Supreme Court  
POLL SCI 332-0 | Constitutional Law I  
POLL SCI 333-0 | Constitutional Law II: Civil and Political Rights  
POLL SCI 334-0 | Latino Politics  
POLL SCI 335-0 | Political Psychology  
POLL SCI 336-0 | Immigration Politics and Policy  
POLL SCI 250-0 | Introduction to Comparative Politics  
POLL SCI 350-0 | Social Movements  
POLL SCI 351-0 | Politics of the Middle East  
POLL SCI 352-0 | Global Development  
POLL SCI 353-0 | Politics of Latin America  
POLL SCI 354-0 | Politics of Southeast Asia  
POLL SCI 355-0 | Politics of China  
POLL SCI 356-0 | Constitutional Challenges in Comparative Perspective  
POLL SCI 357-SA | Political Economy of Israel  
POLL SCI 358-SA | Contemporary South Africa: A Political Economy/Policy Perspective  
POLL SCI 359-0 | Politics of Africa  
POLL SCI 361-0 | Democratic Transitions  
POLL SCI 361-SA | Democratic Transitions  
POLL SCI 362-0 | Politics of Europe  
POLL SCI 363-SA | The Political Economy of the European Union  
POLL SCI 364-SA | France: Politics, Culture, & Society  
POLL SCI 365-SA | Decision Making in the European Union  
POLL SCI 366-SA | The Dynamics of Law Making in the European Union  
POLL SCI 368-0 | Political Economy of Development  
POLL SCI 369-0 | Politics of Post-Soviet Russia  
POLL SCI 373-0 | Chinese Foreign Policy  
POLL SCI 374-0 | Politics of Capitalism  
POLL SCI 379-SA | China in Transition: Ideology, Political Economy, Law, and Relations with the US  
POLL SCI 381-SA | Political Economy of Contemporary China  
POLL SCI 388-0 | Institutions and Society  
POLL SCI 389-0 | Understanding Genocide

**Comparative Politics Courses**

Some of these courses concentrate on understanding the politics of specific national systems, while others focus on certain types of political phenomena and make cross-national comparisons.

**Course** | **Title**
--- | ---
POLL SCI 250-0 | Introduction to Comparative Politics  
POLL SCI 350-0 | Social Movements  
POLL SCI 351-0 | Politics of the Middle East  
POLL SCI 352-0 | Global Development  
POLL SCI 353-0 | Politics of Latin America  
POLL SCI 354-0 | Politics of Southeast Asia  
POLL SCI 355-0 | Politics of China  
POLL SCI 356-0 | Constitutional Challenges in Comparative Perspective  
POLL SCI 357-SA | Political Economy of Israel  
POLL SCI 358-SA | Contemporary South Africa: A Political Economy/Policy Perspective  
POLL SCI 359-0 | Politics of Africa  
POLL SCI 361-0 | Democratic Transitions  
POLL SCI 361-SA | Democratic Transitions  
POLL SCI 362-0 | Politics of Europe  
POLL SCI 363-SA | The Political Economy of the European Union  
POLL SCI 364-SA | France: Politics, Culture, & Society  
POLL SCI 365-SA | Decision Making in the European Union  
POLL SCI 366-SA | The Dynamics of Law Making in the European Union  
POLL SCI 368-0 | Political Economy of Development  
POLL SCI 369-0 | Politics of Post-Soviet Russia  
POLL SCI 373-0 | Chinese Foreign Policy  
POLL SCI 374-0 | Politics of Capitalism  
POLL SCI 379-SA | China in Transition: Ideology, Political Economy, Law, and Relations with the US  
POLL SCI 381-SA | Political Economy of Contemporary China  
POLL SCI 388-0 | Institutions and Society  
POLL SCI 389-0 | Understanding Genocide

**International Politics Courses**

This field includes the study of major actors and arenas in the world scene, global processes through which cooperation and conflict are managed in the international system, and ways in which change occurs and resources become allocated in the global system.
## Political Science Minor

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>POLI_SCI 240-0</td>
<td>Introduction to International Relations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLI_SCI 340-0</td>
<td>International Relations Theory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLI_SCI 341-0</td>
<td>International Political Economy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLI_SCI 342-0</td>
<td>International Organizations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLI_SCI 343-0</td>
<td>Politics of International Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLI_SCI 344-0</td>
<td>U.S. Foreign Policy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLI_SCI 345-0</td>
<td>National Security</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLI_SCI 346-0</td>
<td>European Union in International Affairs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLI_SCI 347-0</td>
<td>Ethics in International Relations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLI_SCI 348-0</td>
<td>Globalization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLI_SCI 349-0</td>
<td>International Environmental Politics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLI_SCI 372-0</td>
<td>The Middle East in International Politics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLI_SCI 376-0</td>
<td>Civil Wars</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLI_SCI 377-0</td>
<td>Drugs and Politics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLI_SCI 378-0</td>
<td>America and the World</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLI_SCI 380-0</td>
<td>Refugee Crises and Human Rights</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLI_SCI 382-0</td>
<td>Politics of Religious Diversity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLI_SCI 383-0</td>
<td>War and Change in International Politics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLI_SCI 384-0</td>
<td>International Responses to Mass Atrocities</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Political Theory Courses

These courses examine the ideas that inform the thinking of today’s citizens, representatives, and political scientists. They are organized by historical periods and conceptual similarity.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>POLI_SCI 201-0</td>
<td>Introduction to Political Theory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLI_SCI 301-0</td>
<td>Classical Political Theory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLI_SCI 302-0</td>
<td>Subjects, Citizens, Revolutionaries: Early Modern Political Thought</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLI_SCI 303-0</td>
<td>Modernity and Its Discontents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLI_SCI 304-0</td>
<td>Human Rights Between East and West</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLI_SCI 306-0</td>
<td>American Political Thought</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLI_SCI 307-0</td>
<td>Deportation Law and Politics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLI_SCI 308-0</td>
<td>Critical Theory and the Study of Politics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLI_SCI 308-SA</td>
<td>Critical Theory and the Study of Politics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLI_SCI 309-0</td>
<td>Political Theories of the Rule of Law</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Research Methodology Courses

Courses in this field help students engage in the research they may encounter in their 300 level courses and help prepare students to conduct original research on the causes and consequences of political phenomena. The methodological techniques are often transferable to research problems in government and business.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>POLI_SCI 210-0</td>
<td>Introduction to Empirical Methods in Political Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLI_SCI 211-0</td>
<td>Introduction to Interpretive Methods in Political Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLI_SCI 310-0</td>
<td>Methods of Political Inference</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLI_SCI 311-0</td>
<td>Logics of Political Inquiry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLI_SCI 312-0</td>
<td>Statistical Research Methods</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Seminars and Independent Study

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>POLI_SCI 390-0</td>
<td>Special Topics in Political Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLI_SCI 394-LK</td>
<td>Professional Linkage Seminar</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>