

POLITICAL SCIENCE (B.A.)

Political Science majors complete a minimum of 120 credits to earn a bachelor's degree: 49–51 credits of core courses (<https://catalog.salve.edu/undergraduate/curriculum-degree-programs/>), 32–37 elective credits, and 37 credits in their major. Majors take one introductory course at the 100-level, three foundation courses at the 200-level, a seven credit sequence of Skills for Success courses in the junior and senior years, and six elective credits at the 200-level and above.

Code	Title	Credits
Gateway to Political Science		
Select one of the following two courses; the other course will not count for the major:		3
POL-115	The American Political System	
POL-120	How to Rule the World: Introduction to International Relations	
Political Theory Foundation		
Select one of the following two courses; the other course may count as an elective for the major:		3
POL-201	Classical Political Philosophy	
POL-202	Modern Political Philosophy	
American Government Foundation		
POL-215	American Government: Classic and Contemporary Readings	3
International Relations and Comparative Politics Foundation		
Select one of the following two courses; the other course may count as an elective for the major:		3
POL-211	International Relations and Diplomacy	
POL-240	Comparative Politics	
Skills for Success		
POL-372	Seminar in Research and Methodology	3
POL-400	Guided Research Capstone	3
POL-402	Multi-Media Research Application Capstone	1
Electives		
Select six additional Political Science courses at the 200-level or above		18
Total Credits		37

Concentrations

The major does not require a concentration. Majors in Political Science may, however, take either of two concentrations: Political Science, American Government and Public Law or Political Science, International Relations and Comparative Politics Concentration. To complete a concentration, four of the six electives (12 out of the 18 elective credits) must be taken from one of the following lists.

American Government and Public Law Concentration Requirements

The three courses taken as part of the Foundation requirement—Theory Foundation (POL-201 Classical Political Philosophy or POL-202 Modern Political Philosophy) and American Government Foundation (POL-215 American Government: Classic and Contemporary Readings) will not count toward a concentration.

Code	Title	Credits
Select four of the following:		12
POL-201 or POL-202	Classical Political Philosophy ¹ Modern Political Philosophy	
POL-222	American Legal History	
POL-247	State Government Internship	
POL-299	Special Topics	
POL-324	American Political Thought	
POL-398	Special Topics in American Government	
POL-403	Constitutional Law and Development	
POL-406	The Fourth Amendment: Search and Seizure	
POL-414	Civil Liberties	
POL-415	Modern American Foreign Policy	
POL-421	Congress and the Legislative Process	
POL-422	American Presidency	
Total Credits		12

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POL-201 Classical Political Philosophy or POL-202 Modern Political Philosophy (whichever course is not taken to fulfill the Political Theory Foundation requirement).

International Relations and Comparative Politics Concentration Requirements

The three courses taken as part of the Foundation requirement—American Government Foundation (POL-215 American Government: Classic and Contemporary Readings and International Relations and Comparative Politics Foundation (POL-211 International Relations and Diplomacy or POL-240 Comparative Politics) will not count toward a concentration.

Code	Title	Credits
Select four of the following:		12
POL-211 or POL-240	International Relations and Diplomacy ¹ Comparative Politics	
POL-299	Special Topics	
POL-331	Contemporary Latin America	
POL-332	Contemporary Middle East	
POL-333	Contemporary Africa	
POL-334	Contemporary Asia	
POL-345	International Environment and Development	
POL-399	Special Topics in International and Comparative Politics	
POL-415	Modern American Foreign Policy	
POL-416	Contemporary Europe and Russia	
POL-420	Political Economy of Industrial Societies	
Total Credits		12

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POL-211 International Relations and Diplomacy or POL-240 Comparative Politics (whichever is not taken to fulfill the International Relations and Comparative Politics Foundation requirement).

Students preparing for graduate school are recommended to take the following: STA-173 Statistical Methods, ECN-101 Introductory

Macroeconomics, and one or two History courses (American, European, or Non-Western, depending on student's area of interest).

Degree Plan for Political Science (B.A.)

Course	Title	Credits
First Year		
Fall		
UNV-101 & FYT-100	University Seminar and First Year Transitions	4
POL-115 or POL-120	The American Political System or How to Rule the World: Introduction to International Relations	3
Core Course		3
Core Course		3
Core Course		3
Credits		16
Spring		
Core Course		3
Core Course		3
Core Course		3
POL Elective		3
UNV-102	University Seminar II	3
Credits		15
Second Year		
Fall		
RTS-225 or PHL-225	The Quest for the Ultimate: Dialogue with Global Religious Traditions ¹ or Quest for the Good Life	3
POL-211	International Relations and Diplomacy	3
POL-201	Classical Political Philosophy	3
POL Elective		3
Core Course		3
Credits		15
Spring		
RTS-225 or PHL-225	The Quest for the Ultimate: Dialogue with Global Religious Traditions ¹ or Quest for the Good Life	3
Core Course		3
POL-240	Comparative Politics	3
POL-202	Modern Political Philosophy	3
Elective		3
Credits		15
Third Year		
Fall		
POL Elective		3
POL-215	American Government: Classic and Contemporary Readings	3
Core Course		3
Elective		3
Elective		3
Credits		15
Spring		
POL Elective		3
Core Course		3
Elective		3
Elective		3
POL-372	Seminar in Research and Methodology	3
Credits		15
Fourth Year		
Fall		
POL-400	Guided Research Capstone	3
POL Elective		3
Elective		3

Elective		3
Elective		3
Credits		15
Spring		
POL Elective		3
Elective		3
Elective		3
Elective		3
Elective		3
POL-402	Multi-Media Research Application Capstone	1
Credits		16
Total Credits		122

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One each semester.