

POLITICAL SCIENCE

(POLSC – B.A., 120 credits)

The Political Science major offers a program for undergraduates who wish to prepare for a variety of occupations. Graduates from Penn State Behrend in Political Science have pursued careers in law, business, education, government service, politics and policy. Many have continued their studies in law school and in graduate degree programs. Graduates from the Political Science program have included Schreyer Scholars, finalists in national scholarship competitions, and matriculants in competitive graduate programs.

The Political Science department consists of five full-time professors, as well as part-time faculty. Among them, they offer courses that include all sub-fields within the major. The program is distinguished in several ways including all students enjoying an emphasis on developing writing and research skills through upper-level course work; some students working as interns in local, state, and congressional offices; and students with particular research interests often work in independent study or occasionally as research assistants.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Penn State Behrend graduates have been employed or have continued their education at the following locations, among others:

GRADUATE AND LAW SCHOOLS: University of Pennsylvania, University of Buffalo, Syracuse University, University of Pittsburgh, Georgetown University, University of Maryland Law School, University of Michigan, Cornell University, The Johns Hopkins University, Michigan State University, Duquesne University, George Washington University, Case Western Reserve University, Oregon State University, University of Illinois, Ohio State University

GOVERNMENT SERVICE: US State Department, Central Intelligence Agency, US Coast Guard, US Department of Justice, NASA, Pennsylvania General Assembly, US Border Patrol, Internal Revenue Services, US Department of Labor, US Marshals Service, US Peace Corps, Pennsylvania State Police, US Capitol Police, JAG Corps, US Navy

BUSINESS & NON-PROFIT: Erie Insurance, Toyota Motor North America, Raytheon, Ballotpedia, Houston Astros, Consol Energy

EDUCATION: Erie School District, Millcreek School District, UCLA, Florida State University, Baltimore School District, University of Notre Dame

POLITICS & POLICY: Edelman Public Relations, Council for a Livable World, Center for Economic & Policy Research, Advisory Board Company, Geospatial Intelligence Review

**Program Chair: Dr. Robert Speel, 814-898-6206, rws15@psu.edu
behrend.psu.edu/politicalscience**

GENERAL EDUCATION (45 credits)

Key to Symbols

- * Students may complete any 9 credits of GN sciences.
- ** Students may complete any 3 credits of GHA as long as the total equals 3 or more credits.
- *** A student may request an exception in order to establish a focus in one area. For example, a student may opt to take *one* course in the Social and Behavioral Sciences, *two* in the Arts, and *three* in the Humanities—referred to as the 3-6-9 sequence.

Writing/Speaking Courses (9 credits)	Your Courses	Credits
ENGL 015 or 030H (GWS)		3
ENGL 202A, B, C or D (GWS)		3
CAS 100A, B, C, or H (GWS)		3
Natural Science Courses (GN)* (9 credits)	Your Courses	Credits
		3
		3
		3
Quantification Courses (GQ) (6 credits)	Your Courses	Credits
		3
		3
Health and Physical Activity (GHA)** (3 credits)	Your Courses	Credits
		1.5
		1.5
Arts Courses (GA)*** (6 credits)	Your Courses	Credits
		3
		3
Humanities Courses (GH)*** (6 credits)	Your Courses	Credits
		3
		3
Social/Behavioral Courses (GS)*** (6 credits)	Your Courses	Credits
		3
		3

Additional Graduation Requirements

Key to Symbols

- **Can also be counted toward General Education or major requirements.
- + Effective for students enrolling in or after summer session 2005.

Course Type: Additional Requirements	Your Courses	Credits
First-Year Seminar (Included in electives or general education)		1
Writing Across the Curriculum in the major (W)**		3
International Cultures (IL)**+		3
United States Cultures (US)**+		3

Bachelor of Arts Degree Requirements (12–24 credits)

FOREIGN LANGUAGE (0–12 credits): students must attain 12th credit level proficiency.

This requirement is governed by a placement policy dictated by the number of levels of foreign language completed prior to admission to college.

Courses: Foreign Language	Credits
	4
	4
	4

B.A. KNOWLEDGE DOMAINS (9 credits)

Formerly, students were required to complete 3 credits in each of three domains (Arts, Humanities, Social & Behavioral Sciences). Effective Summer 2005, students are permitted to complete all 9 credits in any one of six domains or a combination thereof, but *courses may not be taken in the area of the student's primary major*. The six domains are Arts (GA), Humanities (GH), Social & Behavioral Sciences (GS), Natural Sciences (GN), Quantification (GQ), and Foreign Language *if* the coursework is in a second foreign language or beyond the 12th credit proficiency of the first foreign language.

See complete list of courses at: <http://bulletins.psu.edu/undergrad/barequirements/>

Courses: Knowledge Domains	Credits
	3
	3
	3

OTHER CULTURES (3 cr)†

Key to Symbol

†Cannot be used to satisfy the U.S. & International Cultures requirement.

See: <http://bulletins.psu.edu/undergrad/barequirements/otherCultures>

Course: Other Cultures	Credits
	3

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MAJOR (36 credits)

PRESCRIBED COURSES (6 credits)

Courses: Prescribed	Credits
PL SC 001: American National Government	3
PL SC 003: Introduction to Comparative Politics	3

ADDITIONAL COURSES (6 credits)

Courses: Additional	Credits
PL SC 014 or INTST 100	3
PL SC 017 or PL SC 017W	3

REMAINING COURSES (24 credits)

The remaining 24 credits should include 4 courses (12 credits) at the 400-level and at least 3 credits from each of the following groups from courses listed on a program-approved list.

Your Courses: Remaining	Credits	Your Courses (continued)	Credits
	3		3
	3		3
	3		3
	3		3

ELECTIVES (15 credits)

Elective Courses	Credits
	3
	3
	3
	3
	3

SUBFIELDS IN POLITICAL SCIENCE (24 credits)

Please see separate sheet listing approved courses for each subfield requirement.

Key to Symbol

* Courses used to meet the 400-level requirement can also be used to meet a subfield requirement.

Course Type: Subfields in Political Science	Your Courses	Credits
American Government Selection		3
International Politics Selection		3
Comparative Politics Selection		3
Government in Theory and Practice Selection		3
400-Level Course*		3
400-Level Course*		3
400-Level Course*		3
400-Level Course*		3

RECENT STUDENT INTERNSHIPS

Political Science students have recently completed internships with the following politicians and organizations: Office of Senator Bob Casey, Pennsylvania Attorney General's Office, Erie County Department of Health, Pennsylvania Governor's Northwest Regional Office, Center for Strategic and International Studies (Washington), Greenpeace International (Washington), Erie Mayor Joe Sinnott

STUDENT POLITICAL GROUPS

College Democrats hosted Barack Obama, Bill Clinton, Ted Kennedy, and Senator Bob Casey, as well as several other congressional and legislative candidates.

College Republicans hosted Alaska Governor Sarah Palin on campus in 2008 and meet often with local members of congress.

The Political Science Society has hosted a number of political forums on campus, sponsors a Harborcreek candidate forum every other year, and has led voter registration drives on campus.

For more information about any of these groups, or to join, contact Dr. Robert Speel at rws15@psu.edu.

For a full list of Faculty in the School of Humanities and Social Sciences, visit <http://psbehrend.psu.edu/school-of-humanities-social-sciences/faculty-staff-directory>

This publication is available in alternative media upon request. Penn State is committed to affirmative action, equal opportunity, and the diversity of its workforce.

List of Program-Approved Courses for Each Subfield Requirement in Political Science

Students must take at least three credits in each of the following four subfields. Courses listed in two different subfields can be used to meet the requirement in either subfield in which the course is listed; however, no course can be used to meet more than one subfield requirement. Special Topics courses will meet different subfield requirements depending on the topic of the specific course. See the program chair for guidance.

American Government Course List	Course List (continued)
PL SC 002: American Public Policy	PL SC 433: Political Foundations of the Early American Republic
PL SC 110: Rights in America	PL SC 442: American Foreign Policy
PL SC 123: Ethnic and Racial Politics	PL SC 471: Constitutional Law
PL SC 130: American Political Campaigns and Elections	PL SC 472: The American Legal Process
PL SC 177: Politics and Government in Washington, DC	PL SC 473: American Judicial Behavior
PL SC 178: Organized Crime, Law, and Politics	PL SC 480W: Congress and the Presidency
PL SC 299/PL SC 499: Foreign Studies/Foreign Study-Government (North American Politics)	PL SC 482: American State and Urban Politics
PL SC 419: The Bureaucratic State	

Comparative Politics Course List	Course List (continued)
INTST 400: Advanced Summer in International Studies	PL SC 299/PL SC 499: Foreign Studies/Foreign Study-Government (North American Politics)
PL SC 020: Politics of Western Europe	PL SC 423: Post-Soviet Politics
PL SC 022: Politics of Developing Countries	PL SC 456: Politics and Institutions of Latin American Nations
PL SC 123: Ethnic and Racial Politics	PL SC 458: Government and Politics of East Asia
PL SC 132: Politics of International Intolerance	PL SC 488: Comparative Public Policy

International Politics Course List	Course List (continued)
AFR 110: Introduction to Contemporary Africa	PL SC 458: Politics and Government of East Asia
INTST 400: Advanced Seminar in International Studies	PL SC 461: Politics of the European Union
PL SC 132: Politics of International Intolerance	PL SC 467: International Relations of the Middle East
PL SC 177: Politics and Government in Washington DC	PL SC 481: Global Political Economy
PL SC 437: War in World Politics	PL SC 484W: Foreign Policies of Soviet Successor States
PL SC 439: The Politics of Terrorism	PL SC 487: International Law and Organizations
PL SC 442: American Foreign Policy	

Government in Theory & Practice Course List	Course List (continued)
PL SC 002: American Public Policy	PL SC 431: Ancient, Medieval, and Renaissance Political Theories
PL SC 007: Contemporary Political Ideologies	PL SC 432: Modern and Contemporary Political Theories
PL SC 110: Rights in America	PL SC 433: Political Foundations of the Early American Republic
PL SC 111: Debating the Purpose of Government	PL SC 471: Constitutional Law
PL SC 155: Understanding Tyranny	PL SC 472: The American Legal Process
PL SC 178: Organized Crime, Law, and Politics	PL SC 473: American Judicial Behavior
PL SC 308: Introduction to Political Research	PL SC 487: International Law Organizations
PL SC 419: The Bureaucratic State	PL SC 488: Comparative Public Policy
PL SC 428: Gender and Politics	PL SC 489: Public Administration
PL SC 430: Selected Works in the History of Political Theory	