

## Political Science




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**Program Mission:** The program provides a flexible curriculum for students interested in American government, comparative politics, international relations, public administration and public policy. Students will receive training in the advanced analytical, methodological, and theoretical approaches used in political science. The curriculum prepares students for work in public affairs, including employment in local, state and national government. Other graduates from the program have found employment in journalism, international business, community college teaching and administrative positions in higher education. The program also prepares students for future Ph.D. or legal studies. Internships related to government, politics and the legal system are available.

**Admission Requirements:** To be eligible for degree candidacy, applicants must meet all of the requirements for admission to the Graduate School (see "[Admission to Graduate Degree and Certificate Programs](#)"). In addition, applicants should have a cumulative GPA of 3.00 or higher. Applicants whose GPA falls below 3.00 should submit a GRE score. Preference will be given to applicants with a score of 1000 or higher on the verbal and quantitative sections. All applicants must submit a statement of personal goals and two letters of recommendation from persons familiar with the applicant's academic training and potential for success in graduate school to the department's coordinator of graduate studies.

**Degree Audit:** The graduate plan of study is the EIU Degree Audit, which is generated automatically in the Degree Audit Reporting System (DARS) at the time of degree or certificate candidacy. Modifications of the standard EIU Degree Audit are submitted by the graduate coordinator to the certification officer in the Graduate School at the time modifications are approved. The Degree Audit serves as an unofficial summary of requirements for the program. Degree and certificate candidates are advised to review the comprehensive summary of the Degree Audit process specified on the "Requirements for All Degree and Certificate Candidates" section of the *Graduate Catalog*. Individual programs may require candidates to submit plans of study in addition to the Degree Audit, candidates should consult with the program coordinator.

## Degree Requirements

Degree requirements include those outlined for the master's degree by the Graduate School (see "[Requirements for the Master's Degree](#)"). Additional requirements include a total of 31 semester hours with the thesis, or 33 semester hours with the comprehensive examination option, and a GPA of 3.00. All students will complete 12 hours of course work for a major concentration and six hours for a minor concentration. Students are required to take core courses in their major field.

- PLS 5001 and PLS 5053 are required of all graduate students

### Students Majoring in American Government and Politics Must Take Two of the Following Courses:

- [PLS 4853 - Contemporary Constitutional Development](#). Credits: 3
- [PLS 5073 - Seminar in Political Behavior](#). Credits: 3
- [PLS 5173 - Seminar in Congressional Politics](#). Credits: 3
- [PLS 5273 - Presidential Politics](#). Credits: 3

### Students Majoring in Comparative Politics/International Relations Must Take Both:

- [PLS 5023 - Proseminar in International Politics](#). Credits: 3
- [PLS 5433 - Proseminar in Comparative Politics](#). Credits: 3

### Students Majoring in Public Administration/Public Policy Must Take:

- [PLS 5543 - Proseminar in Public Administration and Policy](#). Credits: 3

## Concentrations Available

Hours earned in independent study (5990), thesis (5950), internship (5980) and special courses (4980-4999) will not count toward completion of major and minor requirements. Consult with the graduate coordinator in advance to determine which concentration requirements will be met by PLS 5843. There will be no substitutions for any of the major and minor area courses. In addition, a course used to meet the requirements of one area cannot be counted for another area.

### American Government and Politics

- [PLS 4774 - American Constitutional Law](#). Credits: 3
- [PLS 4853 - Contemporary Constitutional Development](#). Credits: 3
- [PLS 5073 - Seminar in Political Behavior](#). Credits: 3
- [PLS 5153 - Cities, Politics and Urban Policy. \(4843\)](#) Credits: 3
- [PLS 5163 - Subnational Government](#). Credits: 3
- [PLS 5173 - Seminar in Congressional Politics](#). Credits: 3
- [PLS 5273 - Presidential Politics](#). Credits: 3

### Comparative Politics/International Relations

- [PLS 4823 - International Policy Issues](#). Credits: 3
- [PLS 4933 - Ideologies of the Developing World](#). Credits: 3
- [PLS 5023 - Proseminar in International Politics](#). Credits: 3
- [PLS 5033 - Comparative Institutional Analysis](#). Credits: 3
- [PLS 5043 - International Political Economy](#). Credits: 3
- [PLS 5133 - Governments and Politics of Asia](#). Credits: 3

- PLS 5433 - Proseminar in Comparative Politics. Credits: 3
- PLS 5533 - Seminar in Political Modernization. Credits: 3

## Public Administration/Public Policy

- [PLS 4793 - Civic and Nonprofit Leadership](#) Credits: 3
- [PLS 4873 - Human Resource Management in Public and Nonprofit Organizations](#) Credits: 3
- [PLS 4893 - Budgeting in Government and Nonprofit Organizations](#) Credits: 3
- [PLS 5153 - Cities, Politics and Urban Policy. \(4843\)](#) Credits: 3
- [PLS 5163 - Subnational Government.](#) Credits: 3
- [PLS 5543 - Proseminar in Public Administration and Policy.](#) Credits: 3

## Graduate Assistantships

Information on graduate assistantships may be obtained by contacting the Coordinator of Graduate Studies or Chair, Department of Political Science, 2135 Coleman Hall, EIU.

## **Proposed Revisions: M.A. in Political Science**

**Program Mission:** The program provides a flexible curriculum for students interested in American government, comparative politics, international relations, public administration, and public policy. Students will receive training in the advanced analytical, methodological, and theoretical approaches used in political science. The curriculum prepares students for work in public affairs, including employment in **all levels of local, state and national government, non-profit management, legal careers, lobbying, private sector government relations, and higher education.** ~~Other graduates from the program have found employment in journalism, international business, community college teaching and administrative positions in higher education.~~ The program also prepares students for future Ph.D. or legal studies. Internships related to government, politics and the legal system are available.

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**Degree Audit:** The graduate plan of study is the EIU Degree Audit, which is generated automatically in the Degree Audit Reporting System (DARS) at the time of degree or certificate candidacy. Modifications of the standard EIU Degree Audit are submitted by the graduate coordinator to the certification officer in the Graduate School at the time modifications are approved. The Degree Audit serves as an unofficial summary of requirements for the program. Degree and certificate candidates are advised to review the comprehensive summary of the Degree Audit process specified on the “Requirements for All Degree and Certificate Candidates” section of the Graduate Catalog. Individual programs may require candidates to submit plans of study in addition to the Degree Audit, candidates should consult with the program coordinator.

### **Degree Requirements**

Degree requirements include those outlined for the master’s degree by the Graduate School (see “Requirements for the Master’s Degree”). ~~Additional requirements include a total of 31 semester hours with the thesis, or 33 semester hours with the comprehensive examination option, and a GPA of 3.00. All students will complete 12 hours of course work for a major concentration and six hours for a minor concentration. Students are required to take core courses in their major field.~~ **Additional requirements include a total of 32 semester hours, including research methods, a thesis or capstone project, a major, minor, and electives. Students completing the Thesis option must complete 26 hours in addition to the 6 hour Thesis. Students completing the Capstone Project option must complete 29 hours in addition to the 3 hour Capstone Project.**

### **Required Courses for All Students:**

PLS 5001 (1) – Research in Political Science

PLS 5053 (3) – Research Methods

PLS 5950 (6) – Thesis

OR

PLS 5940 (3) – Capstone Project

~~PLS 5001 and PLS 5053 are required of all graduate students~~

### **Students must complete one of the following tracks:**

#### **Track 1: Political Science**

Students interested in American politics, international relations, comparative politics, public law, and political theory must take 1) two proseminars, 2) 6 additional hours from the Political Science track, 3) 6 hours from the Public Administration/Public Policy track, 4) all required courses, and 5) additional Political Science graduate hours (4 hours for the Thesis option; 7 hours for the Capstone option) from either track or from other graduate electives (PLS 5980, 5990, or 5997).

#### **Political Science Proseminars—complete two of the following (6 hours):**

PLS 5373 (3) – Proseminar in American Politics

PLS 5023 (3) – Proseminar in International Politics

PLS 5433 (3) – Proseminar in Comparative Politics

#### **Political Science Electives—complete two of the following (6 hours):**

PLS 4774 (3) – American Constitutional Law

PLS 4853 (3) – Contemporary Constitutional Development

PLS 5073 (3) – Political Behavior

PLS 5153 (3) – Cities, Politics and Urban Policy\*  
PLS 5163 (3) – Subnational Government\*  
PLS 5173 (3) –Congress and the Presidency  
PLS 4823 (3) – International Policy Issues\*  
PLS 4933 (3) – Ideologies of the Developing World  
PLS 5033 (3) – Comparative Institutional Analysis  
PLS 5533 (3) – Seminar in Political Modernization  
PLS 4903 (3) – Classic Political Theory  
PLS 4913 (3) – Contemporary Political Theory  
PLS 4923 (3) – African American Political Thought  
PLS 4943 (3) – American Political Thought

### **Track 2: Public Administration/Public Policy**

Students interested in public administration, non-profits, and public policy must take 1) two proseminars, 2) 6 additional hours from the Public Administration/Public Policy track, 3) 6 hours from the Political Science track, 4) all required courses, and 5) additional Political Science graduate hours (4 hours for the Thesis option; 7 hours for the Capstone option) from either track or from other graduate electives (PLS 5980, 5990, or 5997).

#### **Public Administration/Public Policy Proseminars—complete two of the following (6 hours):**

PLS 5843a (3) – Proseminar in Public Policy Research and Analysis  
PLS 5543 (3) – Proseminar in Public Administration

#### **Public Administration/Public Policy Electives—complete two of the following (6 hours):**

PLS 4793 (3) – Civic and Nonprofit Leadership  
PLS 4823 (3) – International Policy Issues\*  
PLS 4873 (3) – Human Resource Management in Public and Nonprofit Organizations  
PLS 4893 (3) – Budgeting in Government and Nonprofit Organizations  
PLS 5153 (3) – Cities, Politics and Urban Policy\*  
PLS 5163 (3) – Subnational Government\*

**Courses marked with an \* can count for either track, but cannot double-count.**

### **Other Graduate Electives**

The following courses count as electives in the M.A. degree, but do not count for track requirements. Students completing the Thesis option may count no more than 3 hours from the following courses. Students completing the Capstone Project option may count no more than 6 hours from the following courses.

PLS 5980 (1-3) – Administrative Internship  
PLS 5990 (1-6) – Independent Study  
PLS 5997 (3-6) – Study Abroad

**Students Majoring in American Government and Politics Must Take Two of the Following Courses:**

~~PLS 4853 – Contemporary Constitutional Development. Credits: 3~~  
~~PLS 5073 – Seminar in Political Behavior. Credits: 3~~  
~~PLS 5173 – Seminar in Congressional Politics. Credits: 3~~  
~~PLS 5273 – Presidential Politics. Credits: 3~~

**Students Majoring in Comparative Politics/International Relations Must Take Both:**

~~PLS 5023 – Proseminar in International Politics. Credits: 3~~  
~~PLS 5433 – Proseminar in Comparative Politics. Credits: 3~~

**Students Majoring in Public Administration/Public Policy Must Take:**

~~PLS 5543 – Proseminar in Public Administration and Policy. Credits: 3~~

### **Concentrations Available**

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### **American Government and Politics**

~~PLS 4774 – American Constitutional Law. Credits: 3~~  
~~PLS 4853 – Contemporary Constitutional Development. Credits: 3~~  
~~PLS 5073 – Seminar in Political Behavior. Credits: 3~~  
~~PLS 5153 – Cities, Politics and Urban Policy. (4843) Credits: 3~~

~~PLS 5163—Subnational Government. Credits: 3~~

~~PLS 5173—Seminar in Congressional Politics. Credits: 3~~

~~PLS 5273—Presidential Politics. Credits: 3~~

**~~Comparative Politics/International Relations~~**

~~PLS 4823—International Policy Issues. Credits: 3~~

~~PLS 4933—Ideologies of the Developing World. Credits: 3~~

~~PLS 5023—Proseminar in International Politics. Credits: 3~~

~~PLS 5033—Comparative Institutional Analysis. Credits: 3~~

~~PLS 5043—International Political Economy. Credits: 3~~

~~PLS 5133—Governments and Politics of Asia Credits: 3~~

~~PLS 5433—Proseminar in Comparative Politics. Credits: 3~~

~~PLS 5533—Seminar in Political Modernization. Credits: 3~~

**~~Public Administration/Public Policy~~**

~~PLS 4793—Civic and Nonprofit Leadership Credits: 3~~

~~PLS 4873—Human Resource Managment in Public and Nonprofit Organizations Credits: 3~~

~~PLS 4893—Budgeting in Government and Nonprofit Organizations Credits: 3~~

~~PLS 5153—Cities, Politics and Urban Policy. (4843) Credits: 3~~

~~PLS 5163—Subnational Government. Credits: 3~~

~~PLS 5543—Proseminar in Public Administration and Policy. Credits: 3~~

**Graduate Assistantships**

Information on graduate assistantships may be obtained by contacting the Coordinator of Graduate Studies or Chair, Department of Political Science, 2135 Coleman Hall, EIU.

**Date approved by the department or school: November 18, 2015**

**Date approved by the college curriculum committee: December 11, 2015**

**Date approved by the Honors Council (*if this is an honors course*):**

**Date approved by CAA: CGS:**