



B.A. IN POLITICAL SCIENCE

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
AT EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

THE POLITICAL SCIENCE B.A. PROGRAM IS A FLEXIBLE PROGRAM WHOSE GRADUATES PURSUE CAREERS IN A VARIETY OF FIELDS, NOT ONLY IN GOVERNMENT, POLITICS AND LAW BUT ALSO IN BUSINESS, NONPROFIT AND ADVOCACY ORGANIZATIONS.

The major emphasizes critical thinking; research and analysis; and written and verbal communication skills, all of which are essential to success in a changing and sometimes uncertain job market. Along with courses in subjects such as the American Presidency, Congress, Civil Liberties, Public Policy and International Relations - the Major includes an emphasis on applied learning and a capstone course designed as a culminating learning experience.

Due to the breadth of the political science field, there are many different types of work to pursue with a degree in political science. The following is a list of examples of job titles of EIU Political Science graduates:

- District office manager for Congressional Representative
- Revenue Officer, Internal Revenue Service
- Foreign Affairs Officer, U.S. State Department
- Special Agent, Federal Bureau of Investigation
- Human Resource Specialist, federal government agency
- Committee Staffer, Illinois House and Senate Democrats and Republicans
- Budget Analyst, Illinois Office of Management and Budget
- Personnel Liaison, Illinois Office of the Governor
- Management Analyst, state government department
- Legislative Liaison, state government department
- County/Regional Planner
- City Human Resource Department Director
- Director of Planning and Programming, county government league
- City Administrator
- Social Sciences Teacher, high school
- Political Science Instructor, community college; Professor, university
- Fund Development Officer, public university
- Director of Constituent Relations, state public university
- Government Relations/Public Relations Director, state school officials association

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EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
600 LINCOLN AVE CHARLESTON, IL 61920
217-581-2523
FAX: 217-581-2926

POLITICAL SCIENCE @ EIU

CORE REQUIREMENTS: 15 SEMESTER HOURS

PLS 1153G American Government and Constitution*
PLS 2033 Research Methods in Political Science

AND THREE OF THE FOLLOWING:

PLS 1003 Introduction to Comparative Politics
PLS 2103 Introduction to Political Theory
PLS 2253G Introduction to International Relations*
PLS 2703 Introduction to Public Policy

FIELD REQUIREMENTS: 18 SEMESTER HOURS

18 hours of 3000-4000 level courses, including at least one from each of the three fields:

COMPARATIVE POLITICS & INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

PLS 3100 Global Threats & Problems
PLS 3203 American Foreign Policy
PLS 3223 International Organizations
PLS 3233 International Terrorism
PLS 3253 Human Rights & International Law
PLS 3303 European Politics & Governments
PLS 3333 Politics of Latin America & the Caribbean
PLS 3343 Government & Politics of the Middle East
PLS 3353 Politics of Sub-Saharan Africa
PLS 3363 Government & Politics in Asia-Pacific Rim
PLS 3373 International Political Economy
PLS 3863A Special Topics in Political Science
PLS 4823 International Policy Issues

PUBLIC LAW & POLITICAL THEORY

PLS 3513 Politics & the Legal Process
PLS 3523 Criminal Law
PLS 3543 Civil Liberties in America
PLS 3553 Federal Indian Law & Policy
PLS 3863D Special Topics in Political Science
PLS 4774 American Constitutional Law
PLS 4853 Contemporary Constitutional Development
PLS 4903 Classic Political Theory
PLS 4913 Contemporary Political Theory
PLS 4923 African American Political Thought
PLS 4933 Ideologies of the Developing World
PLS 4943 American Political Thought

AMERICAN POLITICS, PUBLIC POLICY & PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

PLS 3603 State & Local Government
PLS 3653 American Indian Politics
PLS 3703 African American Politics
PLS 3713 Political Parties & Elections
PLS 3723 Political Behavior
PLS 3733 Interest Groups & Lobbying
PLS 3743 Congress
PLS 3753 The American Presidency
PLS 3863B Special Topics in Political Science
PLS 3903 Women & Politics
PLS 4763 Environmental Politics & Policy
PLS 4793 Civic and Nonprofit Leadership
PLS 4873 Human Resource Management in Public & Nonprofit Organizations
PLS 4893 Budgeting in Government & Nonprofit Organizations

CAPSTONE

PLS 4600 Political Science Capstone

APPLIED POLITICAL SCIENCE EXPERIENCE:

Additionally, students complete an Applied Political Science Experience, which could entail study abroad, an internship, Moot Court, Model Illinois Government, Independent Study, or for qualified students, Departmental Honors.

SEMESTER HOURS REQUIRED FOR THE POLITICAL SCIENCE MAJOR: 39

NOTE: Students are encouraged to take electives, minors, or a double-major in fields that complement their interests, including other social sciences, foreign languages, humanities, and business. Existing prerequisites for all courses must be satisfied.

*Honors sections offered