

POLS - Political Science

Although there is not a graduate program in political science, the following courses are available for graduate credit.

Courses numbered 500 to 799 = *undergraduate/graduate*. (Individual courses may be limited to undergraduate students only.) Courses numbered 800 to 999 = *graduate*.

POLS 570. International Political Economy (3).

Cross-listed as ECON 570. Examines policy decisions regarding exchanges of trade, money and labor that span national boundaries. Studies the interaction of politics and economics at the international level, as well as the modern history of the global economy. Economics often studies the material benefits and costs of different policies. Political science asks why these policies exist in the first place with a focus on who gets the benefits, who pays the costs, and how decisions about allocating benefits and costs are made. *Course includes diversity content.*

POLS 600. Senior Thesis (3).

Capstone course for political science majors designed to pull together many of the themes and concepts covered in introductory and upper-division courses. The main component is writing a senior thesis in which students conduct in-depth research about a topic of their interest. The topic should be related to one of the main areas of political science: American politics, international relations or comparative politics. In exceptional cases, students may write a paper related to political theory. Course professor provides guidelines and a schedule of activities, supervises and grades the overall research process; however each student works closely with a faculty member in order to develop his or her research projects. For undergraduate students only.

POLS 700. Advanced Directed Readings (1-3).

Repeatable for credit. Prerequisite: departmental consent.

POLS 710. Public Sector Organizational Theory and Behavior (3).

Cross-listed as PADM 710. Reviews the scope of the field of public administration including a survey of key concepts and schools of thought underlying the field. Identifies issues shaping the future development of the field.

POLS 725. Public Management of Human Resources (3).

Cross-listed as PADM 725. Surveys the major areas of management of human resources in the public sector. Includes hiring, training, evaluation and pay promotion policies. Emphasizes the laws governing public personnel management and the unique merit, equal employment opportunity, productivity, unionization and collective bargaining problems found in the public sector.

POLS 750. Workshop (2-4).

Prerequisite: instructor's consent.

POLS 865. Public and Nonprofit Financial Management (3).

Cross-listed as PADM 865. Introduction to state local government financial administration. Topics include: government accounting systems, budgeting, government financial statement and financial condition analysis, internal financial control systems, debt management and policy, and government cash management and pension investment management systems. Prerequisite: PADM 765 or instructor's consent.

POLS 867. State and Local Government Budgeting (3).

Cross-listed as PADM 867. Covers government budgeting processes and institutions as well as a variety of tools and techniques for budget preparation, decision making, executing and evaluating spending programs while maintaining good financial condition. Emphasizes both political and technical skills in managing public resources.

Along with spreadsheet exercises for technical analysis, cases on government budgeting are used to understand (1) how public budgets reflect a government's purposes, policies and priorities as well as its implementation plans, and (2) how public budgets reveal the political power used by a variety of actors involved in the decision-making process. Prerequisite: PADM 865 or instructor's consent.