

BA in Political Science

Program Requirements

A minimum total of 120 credit hours is required for the BA in political science. In addition to meeting the requirements of the WSU General Education Program (<http://catalog.wichita.edu/undergraduate/academic-information/general-education-program/>) and the requirements of Fairmount College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, students must meet the following requirements:

A major consists of the following five required courses (15 credit hours) and an additional six elective courses (<http://catalog.wichita.edu/undergraduate/courses/pols/>) (18 credit hours) in political science at the 300-level or above.

Course	Title	Hours
General Education		
Select courses to meet General Education requirements ¹		34-35
College Requirements		
Select courses to complete all LAS Competency Areas ¹		36
Major Required Courses		
POLS 121	American Politics	3
POLS 220	Introduction to International Relations	3
POLS 226	Comparative Politics	3
POLS 365	Political Data Analysis	3
POLS 600	Senior Thesis	3
Major Elective Courses		
Select an additional six elective courses in political science at the 300-level or above		18
Open Electives		
Select enough electives to reach 120 credit hours		16-17
Total Credit Hours		120

¹ Required major courses may also count towards General Education and/or LAS Competencies. Students will need to select additional electives to reach 120 credit hours required for graduation with assistance from an advisor.

Departmental Honors

The department offers the option for majors to graduate with honors in political science if they meet the following requirements:

- Obtain a 3.500 average or greater for the four core courses;

Course	Title	Hours
POLS 121	American Politics	3
POLS 220	Introduction to International Relations	3
POLS 226	Comparative Politics	3
POLS 365	Political Data Analysis	3

- Take an additional course beyond the introductory one in each of the four sub-fields (American politics, international politics, comparative politics, political theory);
- Take an additional 6 credit hours of political science courses beyond the 33 credit hours required for a major;
- Maintain a 3.500 GPA for all political science courses; and
- Receive an A or A- for the POLS 600 Senior Thesis capstone course.

Students who would like to be admitted to the honors track should contact the department chair.

Applied Learning

Students in the Bachelor of Arts in political science program are required to complete an applied learning or research experience to graduate from the program. The requirement can be met by completing POLS 600.

Additional applied learning experiences include POLS 153 Model United Nations I, POLS 353 Model United Nations II and POLS 490 Internship in Government/Politics.