# B.A. in Political Science

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>POS 211</td>
<td>The Political Quest</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>POS 499</td>
<td>Senior Seminar</td>
<td>4</td>
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Choose one of the following American politics and government courses:

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<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>POS 100</td>
<td>American Politics and Government</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>POS 216L</td>
<td>American Constitutional History</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>POS 219L</td>
<td>Public Leadership</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>POS 230L</td>
<td>Politics and Religion in the United States</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>POS 306</td>
<td>Public Administration</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>POS 317</td>
<td>Political Psychology</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>POS 325</td>
<td>Political Communication</td>
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<td>POS 330K</td>
<td>Science, Values, and the Making of Environmental Policy</td>
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<td>POS 340</td>
<td>American Political Institutions</td>
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<td>POS 342</td>
<td>American Public Policy</td>
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Choose one of the following international relations courses:

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<tr>
<td>POS 202U</td>
<td>Introduction to International Relations</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POS 305G</td>
<td>The Cold War</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POS 310</td>
<td>American Foreign Relations</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POS 313G</td>
<td>Globalization and International Institutions</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POS 315</td>
<td>The Politics of Terrorism and Counterterrorism</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POS 324G</td>
<td>Human Rights in International History</td>
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Choose one of the following comparative politics courses:

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<tr>
<td>POS 205</td>
<td>Introduction to Comparative Politics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POS 241L</td>
<td>Revolution and Political Development</td>
<td>3</td>
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Courses whose number is followed by a letter fulfill a General Education requirement.

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**POS 100 • American Politics and Government** 3 Credits.
Structure and workings of major parts of the United States national government, such as the Constitution, the presidency, Congress, the courts, the electoral process, and others. How these institutions help Americans deal with significant current issues.

*Offered: Fall, Spring.*

**POS 202U • Introduction to International Relations** 3 Credits.
How governments interact to further their different political, military, and economic interests; basic factors affecting international cooperation and conflict; topics such as summit meetings, terrorism, arms control, and food and energy resources distribution; one or more international crisis simulation exercises.

*Prerequisites: Second-semester freshman standing or higher; GES 130 (may be taken concurrently) or GES 244 (may be taken concurrently). Offered: Fall, Spring.*

**POS 205 • Introduction to Comparative Politics** 3 Credits.
An introduction to the subfield of Comparative Politics with special emphasis on the nature, history, and development of political regimes. Systems to be covered include Western democracies, communist and post-communist...
states, military dictatorships, and politically
developing states.
Offered: Fall.

POS 211 • The Political Quest 3 Credits.
Major problems of politics and international
relations, such as the proper goals of political life,
the nature of justice, and the role of the state.
Methods of inquiry. Development of the student’s
personal political stance and its relation to his or
her maturing faith.
Prerequisites: One political science course. Offered:
Fall, odd # years, Spring.

POS 216L • American Constitutional History 3
Credits.
Examination of the origins and development of
American constitutional ideas and institutions
from the colonial period to the present. Particular
attention paid to the historical connections
between major constitutional cases and broader
social, political, economic, and cultural trends.
Prerequisites: GES 130; GES 160 (may be
taken concurrently) or GES 244 (may be taken
concurrently); one completed PHI course
recommended. Offered: Interim or spring. Special
Notes: Carries cross-credit in history.

POS 219L • Public Leadership 3 Credits.
Principles of public leadership and challenges
for leaders to meet in the modern age; American
experiences with leaders in various roles.
Prerequisites: GES 130; GES 160 (may be
taken concurrently) or GES 244 (may be taken
concurrently). Offered: Occasionally.

POS 221L • American Political Ideologies 3
Credits.
Major modern American ideologies. Liberalism,
conservatism, democratic socialism, anarchism,
liberation theology, fascism, and gender and
ethnic politics. Christian interfaces with various
political theories.
Prerequisites: GES 130; GES 160 (may be
taken concurrently) or GES 244 (may be taken
concurrently). Offered: Occasionally Interim, Spring.

POS 230L • Politics and Religion in the United
States 3 Credits.
Examines the historical and contemporary
relationship between religion and politics in the
United States. Divisions and political affiliations
of various religious communities are considered
alongside discussion of secularism, pluralism,
and civil religion in America.
Prerequisites: [GES 130; GES 160] or GES 244
(may be taken concurrently). Offered: Interim,
occasionally spring. Special Notes: Carries cross-
credit in religious studies.

POS 241L • Revolution and Political Development
3 Credits.
Theory and process of modernization, with
special emphasis on the Anglo-American
historical experience; examinations of U.S. efforts
to promote democracy internationally in Europe,
Asia, and the Middle East since World War II.
Prerequisites: GES 130; GES 160 (may be
taken concurrently) or GES 244 (may be taken
concurrently). Offered: Occasionally interim. Special
Notes: Carries cross-credit in history.

POS 250 • Political Science Practicum 1 Credit.
In consultation with the Political Science
department, students will select an off campus
program of academic study. After the off campus
study, students create a presentation and share
their experiences in a colloquium with other
International Relations, Political Science, and
Business and Political Science majors. The
purpose of this course is to integrate off campus
experiences with curricular learning experiences.
Prerequisites: One POS course; consent of the
Political Science department; Major in International
Relations, Business and Political Sciences, Political
Science, or minor in Political Science. Special Notes:
Graded on an S/U basis. Offered: Spring.

POS 252L • History and Politics of Sports 3
Credits.
The history of sports in the modern era, with
particular attention paid to sports’ connections
to international politics and public policy and to
sports as a mirror for the history of race, gender,
education, business, labor, and religion in the
United States.
Prerequisites: GES 130; GES 160 or GES 244.
Offered: Spring, even # years.

POS 304 • Political Parties 3 Credits.
Examines the role of political parties and
elections in democratic political systems with a
particular focus on the electoral process, political
parties, voting behavior, and citizen participation.
 Begins with the American case as the first large-
scale democratic system and uses that case as
a basis for comparison in examining a number of
other different electoral systems from both the
developed and developing worlds.
Prerequisites: Open to sophomores with consent
of instructor; POS 100 recommended. Offered: Fall,
even # years.
POS 305G • The Cold War 3 Credits.
The Cold War as an event in international history, studied from the perspective of the United States, the Soviet Union, China, Europe, and the Third World. Introduces students to ongoing historical debates and to the sources historians use in those debates (including declassified documents available online).
Prerequisites: [GES 130; GES 160; Contemporary Western Life and Thought (L) course; World Cultures (U) course] or [GES 244; World Cultures (U) course]. Offered: Spring, odd # years. Special Notes: Carries cross-credit in history.

POS 306 • Public Administration 3 Credits.
How public policy is put into effect through the administrative agencies of government and the problems in management of such agencies and their relations with the public.
Prerequisites: Sophomore standing. Offered: Spring. Special Notes: Carries cross-credit in business. Special Notes: POS 100 is a recommended prerequisite.

POS 310 • American Foreign Relations 3 Credits.
Development of United States foreign policy since the Nixon administration, with particular attention paid to contemporary issues, long-range historical trends, and the ways in which foreign policy is formulated and carried out. Independent study on specific topics and issues.
Prerequisites: Sophomore standing with consent of instructor. Offered: Fall, even # years. Special Notes: POS 100, POS 202U are recommended prerequisites.

POS 313G • Globalization and International Institutions 3 Credits.
Examination of the processes, institutions, relationships, and dynamic trends in the international system. Attention is given to the creation or maintenance of international economic systems and international organizations as they address emerging or enduring problems of world politics. Key international institutions, such as the World Trade Organization or the United Nations, are used as case studies.
Prerequisites: [GES 130; GES 160; Contemporary Western Life and Thought (L) course; World Cultures (U) course] or [GES 244; World Cultures (U) course]. Offered: Spring, even # years. Special Notes: Recommended prerequisite POS 202U.

POS 315 • The Politics of Terrorism and Counterterrorism 3 Credits.
Analysis of terror and terrorism, both historically and contemporarily, through study of the political psychology of terrorists and terrorist groups, the tactics of terror, and the complex relationship between terror and states. Special attention paid to the motivations for terror and the effect of religion on terrorism as a political strategy.
Prerequisites: POS 202U. Offered: Spring, odd # years.

POS 317 • Political Psychology 3 Credits.
Political psychology is concerned with the causes, dynamics, and consequences of human thinking and action in the context of politics. This field survey covers the psychology of decision making, political attitude formation, public opinion, personality and emotions, intergroup relations, ideology, and the role of mass media in politics.
Prerequisites: One political science course. Offered: Fall, odd # years. Special Notes: Carries cross-credit in psychology.

POS 321 • Contemporary Democracies 3 Credits.
The meaning of democracy in theory and practice throughout history and in the modern political systems of Great Britain, Japan, and Mexico. Independent research in other democratic systems.
Offered: Fall, odd # years. Special Notes: POS 100 or POS 211 are recommended prerequisites.

POS 324G • Human Rights in International History 3 Credits.
International and comparative exploration of how human rights have been defined, violated, and protected. Discussion of historical topics (e.g., the abolition of the slave trade, social reform and Christian missions, the genocides of the 20th century) as well as contemporary issues. Includes a service-learning project completed at Bethel or with a local organization.
Prerequisites: [GES 130; GES 160; Contemporary Western Life and Thought (L) course; World Cultures (U) course] or [GES 244; World Cultures (U) course]. Special Notes: Carries cross-credit in history. Offered: Occasionally.

POS 325 • Political Communication 3 Credits.
Analysis of the theoretical background behind political communication from a public speaking and media perspective. Attention to decision-making skills required in political campaigns. Discussion of advanced persuasive campaign theory.
Prerequisites: COM 110, POS 100, or consent of instructor. Offered: Occasionally interim. Special Notes: Carries cross-credit in communication studies.
POS 329 • African Politics 3 Credits.
Consideration of political development in Africa from the pre-colonial era through the present, focusing on changes in political regimes through time, the nature of economic struggles, and sources of violent conflict. Specific case studies and shared African experiences and challenges will be examined. 
Offered: Spring. Special Notes: POS 202U or POS 205 recommended. Carries cross-credit in history.

POS 330K • Science, Values, and the Making of Environmental Policy 3 Credits.
What role do citizens and experts play in the public policy process? Do people approach scientific evidence with competing value perspectives? These questions are examined in order to understand the interplay among key people, institutions, values, and power that is present in a series of environmental policy case studies.
Prerequisites: Laboratory Science (D) course; Mathematics (M) course. Offered: Fall, even # years. Special Notes: Carries cross-credit in environmental science.

POS 340 • American Political Institutions 3 Credits.
Examination of the U.S. Congress, Supreme Court, and presidency, with attention to the effects of institutions on the democratic and policy processes. Consideration of political science research on political institutions and contemporary issues facing them.
Prerequisites: POS 100 or consent of instructor. Offered: Fall, even # years.

POS 342 • American Public Policy 3 Credits.
Examination of public policy-the result of government action-through consideration of the policy process, policy design, and current status of American public policy. Special attention devoted to social policy with student investigation and research in public policy.
Prerequisites: POS 100 or consent of instructor. Offered: Spring, even # years.

POS 345 • Modern Political Thought 3 Credits.
Examination and consideration of selected political thinkers of the 19th and 20th centuries, including Freud, Nietzsche, Kuyper, Arendt, Rawls, Berlin, Yoder, Foucault, Mouw, and others. Concentrates on primary sources and Christian responses to the "end of political theory" in the 20th century.
Prerequisites: One course in political science, philosophy, Western history, or consent of instructor. Offered: Spring, odd # years.

POS 356 • Modern Middle East 4 Credits.
Political, social, religious, economic, and cultural history of the Middle East since 1800. Particular attention is paid to colonialism, globalization, war, gender roles revolution, and reform. Controversies such as the Arab/Israeli conflict, the Islamic Revolution in Iran, Saddam Hussein’s Iraq, and the U.S. war on terror are discussed.
Prerequisites: Sophomore standing. Offered: Fall. Special Notes: Carries cross-credit in history.

POS 360 • Classics in Western Political Philosophy 4 Credits.
Selected political theorists. Writers such as Plato, Aristotle, early Christian writers, Machiavelli, Luther, Calvin, Locke, Marx, and Niebuhr. Concentrates on primary sources.
Prerequisites: One course in political science, philosophy, or European history. Offered: Fall, odd # years. Special Notes: Carries cross-credit in philosophy and history.

POS 410 • Topics in Political Science 3 Credits.
Intensive study of a specialized topic in political science. The topic to be studied and the subfield of the course are announced prior to the relevant registration period.
Prerequisites: Junior standing; two courses in political science. Repeatable course Students may repeat the course for credit provided a different topic is covered. Offered: Occasionally.

POS 481 • Internship in Political Science 1-4 Credits.
An off-campus working experience in a government agency or political organization under appropriate supervision. Placement is individually arranged with the Political Science department.
Prerequisites: Consent of department chairperson. Offered: Fall, Spring.

POS 499 • Senior Seminar 4 Credits.
Advanced research and analysis in selected problems and value questions in political science. Prerequisites: POS 211; Senior standing or consent of instructor. Offered: Fall, Spring.