Note: Students who wish to become a Political Science major or minor must submit a “Major/Minor Declaration Form” to the Political Science office in 936 PLC. Forms are available on the political science website: polisci.uoregon.edu

MAJOR REQUIREMENTS:

1. A minimum of 48 credits in undergraduate political science courses; of these, a minimum of 32 credits must be upper division.

2. The 48 credits that satisfy major requirements must be taken for letter grades and passed with a C – or better with the exception that one course (as many as 4 credits) may be taken pass/no pass (P/N). Courses offered Pass/No Pass only, such as: Thesis (PS 403) and Honors Thesis Prospectus (PS 411) may be applied to the 48 credits. Credits earned in Practicum (PS 409) may not be applied to the major.

3. No more than a total of 16 credits in Research (PS 401), Thesis (PS 403), Reading and Conference (PS 405), Field Studies (PS 406), Workshop (PS 408), Honors Thesis Prospectus (PS 411), and Overseas Studies: Internship (IONT 488 – subject to preapproval by the political science department) may be applied toward the 48-credit requirement. These courses do not fulfill the subfield requirement.

4. No more than 10 credits of Field Studies (PS 406) or Overseas Studies: Internship (IONT 488) may be applied toward the 48 credits. This work must be done under the direction of a faculty member who, prior to registration, must approve and set up academic criteria to evaluate the work. Credit for Field Studies (PS 406) or Overseas Studies: Internship (IONT 488) must be earned at the University of Oregon.

5. Work completed in Special Studies (PS 199 or 399), Seminars (PS 407) or Experimental Courses (PS 410) may be included in the 48-credit requirement and counted toward a subfield requirement.

6. Of the 48 credits, 8 must be taken in each of the three subfields (United States politics, world politics, and political theory) for a total of 24 credits. A complete list of courses and their assigned subfields is available on the department website. Course subfields are also indicated by notes in the class schedule.

Freshmen and Transfer Students. There are no departmental requirements for entering freshmen. Students planning to transfer to the university from two-year colleges should take the basic introductory political science courses offered at those institutions. At least 20 credits in upper-division graded political science courses must be completed in residence at the University of Oregon to qualify for a B.A. or B.S. degree in political science. Transfer students must meet the subfield distribution requirement.

Second Bachelor's Degree or Second Major. Students who want to earn a second bachelor’s degree or a second or double major in political science must complete 48 credits in political science, as outlined above under Major Requirements. Students who are considering a second bachelor’s degree and have prior political science credits, should consult with the undergraduate advisor, as some prior political science credits may not be applicable to a second bachelor’s degree.

Honors in Political Science. To graduate with honors in political science, a student must (1) have an overall grade point average for UO and transfer credits of at least 3.50 through the winter term prior to graduation, (2) take Honors Thesis Prospectus (PS 411) during fall term of the academic year in which the thesis is completed, and (3) register for 4 credits in Thesis (PS 403). The thesis must be completed at least one term before the term of graduation. An honors committee reviews the student’s performance on the thesis and on courses taken during the senior year before making a final decision about granting the honors distinction.

MINOR REQUIREMENTS

The minor in political science requires 24 credits including 16 upper-division credits. These 24 credits must be taken for letter grade and passed with grades of C- or better. Only 6 of these credits may be in Research (PS 401), Reading and Conference (PS 405), and Workshop (PS 408). As many as 8 credits may be transferred from another institution. Thesis (PS 403), Field Studies (PS 406), Practicum (PS 409), Honors Thesis Prospectus (PS 411), and Overseas Studies: Internship (IONT 488) do not count toward the minor. The minor in Political Science does not have a subfield requirement.
Useful information for the Political Science Major

Welcome to the Political Science Major! Below you will find some general information that will help you throughout your academic career at the University of Oregon as a PS Major. Good luck and enjoy your time here!

Our Website is a Must!
Please visit our website at http://polisci.uoregon.edu for lots of helpful information including the following:

- Subfield course list
- Department directory: contact information for Political Science Faculty/Staff
- Course syllabi: current and archived syllabi
- Political Science forms
- Faculty profiles
- Commencement information
- Important announcements from the department
- Internship opportunities
- Scholarship information
- Pi Sigma Alpha
- Peer Advising information

Peer Advising
Peer advising is one of the services our department offers to our undergrads, and is available all term during the academic year. The Peer Advisors are other PS majors who offer a low-key, friendly venue to get most of your basic degree questions answered. The peer advising office is located in PLC 907. Check the political science website for current Peer Advising office hours. The Peer Advisors can also be reached by email at pspeers@uoregon.edu.

Political Science Department Contact Information:
Mailing Address: 1284 University of Oregon
                Eugene, OR 97403-1284
Main Office Location: PLC Room 936
Office Phone: (541) 346.4864
Email: polisci@uoregon.edu