

Political Science

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

The goal for study in political science is to maximize students' capacity to analyze and interpret the significance and dynamics of political events and governmental processes. The purpose is not simply to arouse curiosity, purvey factual information, or reveal the significance of political events and issues. Instead, study in political science is intended to equip students for managing the effects of politics on themselves and society, while equipping them with the tools to evaluate and shape future political action. Political Science should prepare politically interested and concerned students to deal with their political world after graduation, in ways appropriate to their individual inclinations as actively engaged citizens in our democratic society.

Courses in political science are an integral facet of a well- rounded liberal arts education and valuable to students from all academic disciplines. Students are encouraged to connect and apply their knowledge and skills to real-life political situations in off-campus settings during their time at Eastern.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Students who complete a minor in Political Science should be able to:

- Assess different theories, concepts, methods, and analytical approaches employed by the discipline of political science.
- Evaluate problems of normative inquiry as well as those of empirical analysis, and synthesize the two appropriately in the analysis of the political ideas, values, and assumptions underlying public policy conflicts.
- Compare the problems of diversity faced by different peoples in different nations (including the student's own), with the interrelated nature of the world's political, economics, and social problems.
- Judge contemporary political analysis via the ability to recognize arguments, test hypotheses, and support via oral and written communication.
- Apply contextual knowledge and skills to the public policy process and "real-life" political situations via the opportunity to observe and participate as an informed citizen in a variety of on and off-campus settings.

MEANS OF ASSESSMENT

Political Science students are evaluated in a variety of ways across the curriculum. Evaluation modes and strategies attempt to measure program learning outcomes. Objective exams measure student mastery of the concepts, critical thinking and logic skills underlying the study of political science. Writing in a variety of

formats including policy memoranda, short essay examinations, critical reading summaries, and research papers of varying length hone the student's abilities in communication, persuasion, and critical thinking. Role-playing exercises and group processes improve the student's ability to work in collaborative situations. Students are encouraged to self-assess their own learning as well as develop an understanding of the evaluative strategies utilized by faculty members.

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MINOR IN POLITICAL SCIENCE

- Students must complete a minimum of 30 credit hours in Political Science
- A minimum grade of C- and a cumulative GPA of 2.0 (or better) is required in all courses counting toward the minor.
- A minimum of 10 graded credits count toward the minor must be completed at EOU.

REQUIRED COURSES:

POLS 101 American National Government (5)

POLS 221 International Relations (5)

POLS 340 Politics and Media (5)

Choose *one* of the following:

POLS 407 Capstone (5)

POLS 450 Applied Policy Analysis (5)

ELECTIVES:

A minimum of 10 upper division Political Science courses.

Total program: 30 credits

POLITICAL SCIENCE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

POLS 101 - American Nat Gov*SSC (Credits: 5)

Gen Ed Core-Social Sciences

Institutional Graduation Requirement –DPD, UWR

An overview of the historical foundations of our democratic system of government, appraisal of key political institutions and actors, with the intent of promoting informed and active citizenry by students.

POLS 110 - Selected Topics (Credits: 1 to 6)

An in-depth presentation of a topic of interest. Topics will vary from year to year depending on the interests and availability of faculty.

POLS 150 - Political Econ Sport*SSC (Credits: 5)

Gen Ed Core-Social Sciences

An examination of (a) The role of gender and race in sports; (b) The politics underlying the pursuit of professional sports franchises; (c) The political economy of international sports (Olympics, World Cup); (d) Labor-management issues in professional sports; and (e) The role played by quasigovernmental institutions (NCAA, IOC, FIFA). (This course is cross listed with ECON 150.)

POLS 151 - Intro to Public Admin*SSC (Credits: 5)

Gen Ed Core-Social Sciences

A comprehensive introduction to the study and practice of Public Administration in the United States and its political, economic and legal environment, along with an overview of analytical techniques and evaluative methods used by public administrators.

POLS 210 - POLS 210 (Credits: 1 to 6)

An in-depth presentation of a topic of interest. Topics will vary from year to year depending on the interests and availability of faculty.

POLS 221 - International Relations*SSC (Credits: 5)

Gen Ed Core-Social Sciences

Institutional Graduation Requirement – DPD, UWR

An examination of the primary issues confronting the international system, including the environment, nationalism, transition to democracy and human rights, along with attempts to regulate political, economic, social and military conflict.

POLS 250 - Politics and Music*AEH (Credits: 3)

Gen Ed Core-Aesthetics & Humanities

An examination of the interaction between politics and music, with a particular focus on musical genres (folk, popular, classical) as a vehicle of political ideology.

POLS 251 - Social Science Research Methods (Credits: 5)

An introduction to the basic concepts and techniques used in social science research, including social scientific inquiry and research design, quantitative data gathering and analysis, and qualitative data gathering and analysis. Prerequisites: Math 095.

POLS 310 - Selected Topics (Credits: 1 to 6)

An in-depth presentation of a topic of interest. Topics will vary from year to year depending on the interests and availability of faculty. Prerequisite: Upper division standing or consent of instructor. Student must have at least sophomore standing to register for this course.

POLS 314 - State & Local Govt (Credits: 5) Institutional Graduation Requirement – UWR

This course evaluates the structural factors, actors, political economy and primary policy challenges confronting state and local government in the United States. Prerequisite: Any lower division Political Science course. Student must have at least sophomore standing to register for this course.

POLS 315 - Globalization and Beer (Credits: 2)

An examination of the brewing industry as a case study of the political and economic aspects of globalization, with a particular focus on Europe. An evaluation of the horizontal and vertical integration, along with political regulatory structures, of the global brewing industry. The offering of the course coincides with the Portland International Beer Festival, held every July in Portland, Oregon. Prerequisite: Student must be at least 21 years of age to attend community event as part of the weekend course work (attendance mandatory).

POLS 316 - Politics and Beer (Credits: 2)

An examination of the political economy of the craft brewing industry in Oregon, with a particular focus on questions of taxation, bureaucratic regulation, government relations, and economic development. The offering of the course coincides with the Oregon Brewer's Festival, held every July in Portland, Oregon. Prerequisite: Student must be at least 21 years of age to attend community event as part of the weekend course work (attendance mandatory).

POLS 317 - Beer and Tourism (Credits: 2)

An examination of the political economy underlying the relationship between the craft brewing and tourism industries. The offering of the course coincides with the Holiday Ale Festival held every December in Portland, Oregon.

POLS 318 - The American Dream (Credits: 2)

An examination of the historical basis, ethos, myths, and reality surrounding the American Dream, with focus on immigration, the pursuit of wealth, fame, fortune, and home ownership as a road to achieving The Dream.

POLS 320 - The Presidency (Credits: 5)

An evaluation of the primary sources of presidential power, including electoral politics, the presidency, media relations, along with an appraisal of the role of symbolic and political leadership in democratic societies. Prerequisite: Any lower division Political Science course. Student must have at least sophomore standing to register for this course.

POLS 340 - Politics and Media*SSC (Credits: 5) Gen Ed Core-Social Sciences

Institutional Graduation Requirement - UWR
An analysis of the political economy of the mass media, its role in the American electoral system, and the impact of new and emerging forces (Internet, e.g.) on democracy. Student must have at least sophomore standing to register for this course.

POLS 350 - Public Policy*SSC (Credits: 5) Gen Ed Core-Social Sciences

An evaluation of the American political system by following individual programs through their origins, design and formation, and implementation. Prerequisites: None. Recommended: Basic knowledge of American government. Student must have at least sophomore standing to register for this course.

POLS 351- Public Admin*SSC (Credits: 5) Gen Ed Core-Social Sciences

An investigation of the role of public management in the political process; including the social and political environment of public administration and issues of organizational behavior, efficiency, responsiveness, and ethics. Prerequisites: None. Recommended: Basic understanding of American government. Student must have at least sophomore standing to register for this course.

POLS 352 - Budgetary Politics & Process (Credits: 5) Institutional Graduation Requirement - UWR

This course provides a general understanding of budget preparation, adoption and execution; proposed reforms of the budget process; revenue strategies; and competing theories of the politics of budgeting. The course will be structured around a series of case studies and practical exercise. Prerequisites: Students must have at least sophomore standing to register for the course.

POLS 353 - Community & Reg Planning (Credits: 5) Institutional Graduation Requirement - UWR

The class aims to give students a feel for the hands-on work of community and regional planning, while providing conceptual understanding of the historical, political, legal social and environmental contexts that surround and affect the field, via case studies of a series of pressing planning issues – land use, economic development, sustainability.

POLS 354 - Public Personnel Mngmnt (Credits: 5) Institutional Graduation Requirement - UWR

An examination of the organization and operation of personnel systems and the role of leadership in the public and non-profit sectors. Course explores the motivational and personnel programs required by the organization, along with the leadership strategies for effective human resource management. Prerequisites: Must have at least sophomore standing to register.

**POLS 382 - Constitutional Law (Credits: 5)
Institutional Graduation Requirement – UWR**

A survey of the principles of Constitutional Law, focusing on Federalism, Interstate Commerce and Separation of Powers Evaluation of case management tools (standing, judicial review, political question) employed by the Supreme Court, along with an assessment of the judicial politics underlying constitutional development. Student must have at least sophomore standing to register for this course.

**POLS 383 - Civil Liberties (Credits: 5)
Institutional Graduation Requirement – UWR**

An appraisal of substantive due process and its impact on social issues (abortion, gender), along with an evaluation of the Supreme Court's treatment of freedom of expression and the impact of the 14th Amendment's Equal Protection Clause on our diverse 'melting pot' society. Student must have at least sophomore standing to register for this course.

POLS 384 - Administrative Law & Process (Credits: 3)

An examination of the constitutional basis for administrative regulation, and the legal relationship between administrative agencies and private individuals. The course evaluates the process of administrative agency rulemaking, enforcement and adjunction functions, statutory constraints on agency procedure and judicial oversight of agency action.

POLS 402 - Selected Topics (Credits: 1 to 5)

This course is recommended for advanced students wishing to gain in depth knowledge of a particular subject. Student must have at least junior standing to register for this course.

POLS 407 - Seminar (Credits: 5)

(Capstone) Student must have at least junior standing to register for this course.

POLS 409 - Field Placement (Credits: 1 to 15)

(Practicum) Designed to offer the student an opportunity to explore career areas and to extend the educational experience beyond the classroom. Student must have at least junior standing to register for this course.

POLS 410 - Selected Topics (Credits: 1 to 5)

Topics will vary, but may include theory, law, behavior and conflict regulation, and regional studies. Prerequisite: Upper division standing or consent of instructor. Student must have at least junior standing to register for this course.

**POLS 450 - Applied Policy Analysis (Credits: 5)
Institutional Graduation Requirement - UWR**

(PA Capstone) An evaluation of the crucial components and analytical approaches to public policy analysis, designed to help students develop the skills required to define and critically analyze policy problems, articulate relevant decision making criteria for policy analysis, and evaluate alternative policy options.

**POLS 477 - Gambling Policy (Credits: 5)
Institutional Graduation Requirement – UWR**

An appraisal of (1) theoretical explanations of the public process, and their applicability to the study of gambling; (2) the role of state lotteries within public finance; and (3) Emerging types of gambling activity (Indian gaming, Casino gambling, Internet). Student must have at least junior standing to register for this course.

POLS 480 - Political Sci Ed (Credits: 1 to 3)

Designed to provide an overview of the discipline of Political Science for those intending to teach it as a primary and secondary school subject. This course is a supplement for education majors who already have substantial course work in political science. Student must have at least junior standing to register for this course.