

# Department of Political Science

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## The Faculty

Chair: David R. Jones

### Professors:

- Mitchell S. Cohen
- Alan DiGaetano
- Thomas Halper
- David R. Jones

### Associate Professors:

- Louis Bolce
- Gerald D. De Maio
- Benedetto Fontana
- Stephanie R. Golob
- Susan Tenenbaum

### Assistant Professors:

- Els de Graauw
- Myung-Koo Kang
- Roseanne McManus
- Till Weber

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## Field Description

Our lives, our communities, and our world are to a considerable degree shaped by political events. Political science provides students with an understanding of the multifaceted ideas, structures, and processes of politics in the United States and abroad. Courses are designed to accomplish three principal objectives: to help the student acquire and establish habits of critical and creative thinking about public issues; to enlarge and broaden the students understanding of significant data, major ideas, and activities regarding politics; and to prepare students for careers in law, government, journalism, and education.

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## The Major

In order to officially become a major in Political Science, students **must come in person to the Political Science Department (NVC 5-280) to fill out our major declaration form and have it approved by the chair.**

The Political Science major is unusually flexible. Students are required to take American Government ( [POL 1101](#)), a capstone seminar ( [POL 4900](#)), plus seven other political science courses, representing at least four of the six subfields outlined below. At least two electives must be at the 3000-level.

In addition to our field-specific courses, students can also receive elective credit for Independent Study projects ( [POL 5000](#)) or [Honors Thesis projects](#) ( [POL 6001H](#), [POL 6002H](#)).

*Important Advisory Regarding Capstones:* Students must complete at least two 3000-level courses in Political Science BEFORE they are eligible to register for the capstone ( [POL 4900](#)). Political Science does NOT offer any capstone courses in summer or winter sessions.

<b>Base Course</b>	
<a href="#">POL 1101</a>	American Government: Practices and Values
<b>Required Course</b>	
<a href="#">POL 4900</a>	Political Science Capstone Seminar
<b>Electives</b>	21 credits
Students are to select 21 credits from among all the courses offered by the department, with at least one course from four of the six areas listed below. At least two electives must be at the 3000-level. Students can also receive elective credit for independent study projects ( <a href="#">POL 5000</a> ), or <a href="#">honors thesis projects</a> ( <a href="#">POL 6001H</a> , <a href="#">POL 6002H</a> ).	
<b>American Government and Political Institutions</b>	
<a href="#">POL 2001</a>	The United States in an Age of Globalization
<a href="#">POL 3008</a>	Religion and Politics in the United States ( <a href="#">HIS 3008</a> , <a href="#">REL 3008</a> )
<a href="#">POL 3101</a>	Political Psychology ( <a href="#">PSY 3101</a> )
<a href="#">POL 3102</a>	American Conservatism: Origins, Development, and Contemporary Controversies ( <a href="#">HIS 3102</a> )
<a href="#">POL 3310</a>	Public Opinion
<a href="#">POL 3311</a>	Political Parties and Elections
<a href="#">POL 3312</a>	Congress and the Legislative Process
<a href="#">POL 3313</a>	Constitutional Law
<a href="#">POL 3314</a>	Civil Liberties
<a href="#">POL 3316</a>	The Presidency
<a href="#">POL 3318</a>	Immigration and Integration in the United States
<a href="#">POL 3340</a>	Political Socialization
<a href="#">POL 3417</a>	Case Studies in American Government
<b>Comparative Politics</b>	
<a href="#">POL 2260</a>	Introduction to Comparative Government
<a href="#">POL 3086</a>	Modern Middle East and North Africa ( <a href="#">HIS 3086</a> )
<a href="#">POL 3104</a>	Politics of the Third World
<a href="#">POL 3361</a>	Comparative Politics in Selected Areas of the World

POL 3362	European Political Systems
POL 3364	Latin American and Caribbean Political Systems
POL 3365	Asian Political Systems
POL 3366	African Political Systems
POL 3367	Comparative Revolutions
POL 3368	Communist Political Systems
POL 3842	Making of Modern India ( <a href="#">AAS 3842</a> ), ( <a href="#">HIS 3842</a> )
<b>International Politics</b>	
POL 2240	Introduction to International Relations
POL 3341	International Relations in the Middle East
POL 3342	American Foreign Policy
POL 3343	International Relations in Selected Areas of the World
POL 3344	The United Nations in World Politics
POL 3345	Contemporary International Conflict
POL 3346	The Rise of Asia in World Affairs ( <a href="#">AAS 3346</a> ), ( <a href="#">HIS 3346</a> )
POL 3347	Seminar on Political Globalization
<b>Political Theory and Methodology</b>	
POL 2332	American Political Thought
POL 3062	Political Sociology ( <a href="#">SOC 3062</a> )
POL 3201	Topics in Politics and Literature ( <a href="#">ENG 3201</a> )
POL 3233	Political and Administrative Research
POL 3333	Political Behavior
POL 3334	American Radicalism
POL 3335	Early Political Theory
POL 3336	Modern Political Theory
POL 3337	Contemporary Political Ideologies
POL 3500	Political Analysis
<b>Public Policy</b>	
POL 2353	Public Policy
POL 3001	Women: Politics and Policy

<a href="#">POL 3005</a>	Social Welfare Policy ( <a href="#">HIS 3005</a> )
<a href="#">POL 3103</a>	Political Economy
<a href="#">POL 3315</a>	Government and the American Economy
<a href="#">POL 3317</a>	The Politics of Energy and the Environment
<a href="#">POL 5452</a>	Field Work in Government and Politics
<b>Urban Politics</b>	
<a href="#">POL 2220</a>	State and Local Government
<a href="#">POL 2321</a>	Urban Government
<a href="#">POL 3323</a>	Politics and Government of New York City
<a href="#">POL 3422</a>	Urban Public Policy

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### Honors Thesis in Political Science

The Honors Thesis is a two-semester sequence ( [POL 6001H](#), [POL 6002H](#)) that offers students of superior academic achievement the opportunity to work individually with a professor on a major research project in Political Science. This project involves in-depth and original research of an empirical and/or theoretical question in the field. The degree "with honors" is conferred upon acceptances of the honors project by the Committee on Undergraduate Honors. The six credits earned from completing a thesis will be accepted as part of the 24 credit major.

*Prerequisites:*

- 3.5 GPA in Political Science and also a 3.5 cumulative GPA
- Complete a minimum of four courses in Political Science, including at least two at the 3000-level or above
- Submit an [application and prospectus](#) that has been approved by the prospective faculty mentor, the Chair of Political Science (Dr. David Jones), and the Chair of the Committee of Undergraduate Honors (Dr. Frank Heiland). The deadline for the prospectus is April 1 for a student who wishes to begin the thesis in the Fall semester, and November 1 for a student who wishes to begin the thesis in the Spring semester.
- Students do NOT have to be enrolled in the Honors Program to write an honors thesis.

For more information, please visit the [Honors Thesis in Political Science](#) website

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### The Minor

In order to officially become a minor in Political Science, students must fill out a minor declaration form. **The department strongly recommends that you come in person to the Political Science Department (VC 5-280) for advisement on filling out the minor form, and how to successfully complete our minor.** The Political Science minor is very flexible. Students can take any two 3000-level courses, and then a capstone seminar. ( [POL 4900](#)).

*Important Advisory Regarding Capstones:* Students must complete at least two 3000-level courses in Political Science BEFORE they are eligible to register for the capstone ( [POL 4900](#)). Political Science does NOT offer capstone course in summer or winter sessions.

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## Courses in Political Science

*Important Note:* A number of the courses listed below are not offered every semester. Please consult [CUNYfirst](#) for the information on what courses are currently being offered.

<a href="#">POL 1101</a>	American Government: Practices and Values	3 hours; 3 credits
<a href="#">POL 2001</a>	The United States in an Age of Globalization	3 hours; 3 credits
<a href="#">POL 2220</a>	State and Local Government	3 hours; 3 credits
<a href="#">POL 2240</a>	Introduction to International Relations	3 hours; 3 credits
<a href="#">POL 2260</a>	Introduction to Comparative Government	3 hours; 3 credits
<a href="#">POL 2280</a>	The Great Political Debates: The Individual and Society	3 hours; 3 credits
<a href="#">POL 2321</a>	Urban Government	3 hours; 3 credits
<a href="#">POL 2332</a>	American Political Thought	3 hours; 3 credits
<a href="#">POL 2353</a>	Public Policy	3 hours; 3 credits
<a href="#">POL 3001</a>	Women: Politics and Policy	3 hours; 3 credits
<a href="#">POL 3005</a>	Social Welfare Policy ( <a href="#">HIS 3005</a> )	3 hours; 3 credits
<a href="#">POL 3008</a>	Religion And Politics In The United States ( <a href="#">HIS 3008</a> ), <a href="#">REL 3008</a> )	3 hours; 3 credits
<a href="#">POL 3062</a>	Political Sociology ( <a href="#">SOC 3062</a> )	3 hours; 3 credits
<a href="#">POL 3086</a>	The Modern Middle East and North Africa ( <a href="#">HIS 3086</a> )	3 hours; 3 credits
<a href="#">POL 3101</a>	Political Psychology ( <a href="#">PSY 3101</a> )	3 hours; 3 credits
<a href="#">POL 3102</a>	American Conservatism: Origins, Development, And Contemporary Controversies ( <a href="#">HIS 3102</a> )	3 hours; 3 credits
<a href="#">POL 3103</a>	Political Economy	3 hours; 3 credits
<a href="#">POL 3104</a>	The Politics of the Third World	3 hours; 3 credits
<a href="#">POL 3201</a>	Topics in Politics and Literature ( <a href="#">ENG 3201</a> )	3 hours; 3 credits
<a href="#">POL 3233</a>	Political and Administrative Research	3 hours; 3 credits
<a href="#">POL 3310</a>	Political Opinion	3 hours; 3 credits
<a href="#">POL 3311</a>	Political Parties and Elections	3 hours; 3 credits
<a href="#">POL 3312</a>	Congress and the Legislative Process	3 hours; 3 credits
<a href="#">POL 3313</a>	Constitutional Law	3 hours; 3 credits
<a href="#">POL 3314</a>	Civil Liberties	3 hours; 3 credits
<a href="#">POL 3315</a>	Government and the American Economy	3 hours; 3 credits
<a href="#">POL 3316</a>	The Presidency	3 hours; 3 credits
<a href="#">POL 3317</a>	The Politics of Energy and the Environment	3 hours; 3 credits

POL 3318	Immigration and Integration in the United States	3 hours; 3 credits
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POL 3340	Political Socialization	3 hours; 3 credits
POL 3341	International Relations in the Middle East	3 hours; 3 credits
POL 3342	American Foreign Policy	3 hours; 3 credits
POL 3343	International Relations in Selected Areas of the World	3 hours; 3 credits
POL 3344	The United Nations in World Politics	3 hours; 3 credits
POL 3345	Contemporary International Conflict	3 hours; 3 credits
POL 3346	The Rise of Asia in World Affairs ( <a href="#">AAS 3346</a> ), <a href="#">HIS 3346</a> )	3 hours; 3 credits
POL 3347	Seminar on Political Globalization	3 hours; 3 credits
POL 3361	Comparative Politics in Selected Areas of the World	3 hours; 3 credits
POL 3362	European Political Systems	3 hours; 3 credits
POL 3364	Latin American and Caribbean Political Systems	3 hours; 3 credits
POL 3365	Asian Political Systems	3 hours; 3 credits
POL 3366	African Political Systems	3 hours; 3 credits
POL 3367	Comparative Revolutions	3 hours; 3 credits
POL 3368	Communist Political Systems	3 hours; 3 credits
POL 3417	Case Studies in American Government	3 hours; 3 credits
POL 3422	Urban Public Policy	3 hours; 3 credits
POL 3456	American Intellectual History	3 hours; 3 credits
POL 3500	Political Analysis	3 hours; 3 credits
POL 3842	The Making of Modern India ( <a href="#">AAS 3842</a> ), <a href="#">HIS 3842</a> )	3 hours; 3 credits
POL 3999	Special Topics in Political Science	3 hours; 3 credits
POL 4900	Political Science Capstone Seminar	3 hours; 3 credits
POL 5000	Independent Study in Political Science I	Hours and credits to be arranged

<a href="#">POL 5001</a>	Independent Study in Political Science II	Hours and credits to be arranged
<a href="#">POL 5002</a>	Independent Study in Political Science III	Hours and credits to be arranged
<a href="#">POL 5452</a>	Field Work in Government and Politics	3 hours; 3 credits
<a href="#">POL 6001H</a>	Political Science Honors I	3 hours; 3 credits per semester
<a href="#">POL 6002H</a>	Political Science Honors II	3 hours; 3 credits per semester

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