Department of Political Science

- Faculty
- Field Description
- The Major and Courses
- Honors Thesis in Political Science
- The Minor
- Courses
    - Courses in Political Science (POL)
- Department of Political Science Web Site

The Faculty

Chair: David R. Jones

Professors:

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

Associate Professors:

- Louis Bolce
- Els de Graauw
- Gerald D. De Maio
- Stephanie R. Golob
- Till Weber

Assistant Professors:

- Marcus Johnson
- Myung-Koo Kang
- David Lindsey
- Roseanne McManus

back to top

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.

back to top

The Major

In order to officially become a major in Political Science, students **must come in person to the Politcal 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 Special Topics courses (POL 3999), Independent Study projects (POL 5000) Research Practicums (POL 5030), 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.

Base Course	
POL 1101	American Government: Practices and Values
Required Course	
POL 4900	Political Science Capstone Seminar
Electives 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 Special Topics courses (POL 3999), Independent Study projects (POL 5000), Research Practicums (POL 5030), or honors thesis projects (POL 6001H, POL 6002H).	
American Government and Political Institutions	
POL 2001	The United States in an Age of Globalization
POL 3008	Religion and Politics in the United States (HIS 3008, REL 3008)
POL 3101	Political Psychology (PSY 3101)
POL 3102	American Conservatism: Origins, Development, and Contemporary Controversies (HIS 3102)
POL 3310	Public Opinion
POL 3311	Political Parties and Elections
POL 3312	Congress and the Legislative Process
POL 3313	Constitutional Law
POL 3314	Civil Liberties
POL 3316	The Presidency
POL 3318	Immigration and Integration in the United States
POL 3340	Political Socialization
POL 3417	Case Studies in American Government
Comparative Politics	
POL 2260	Introduction to Comparative Government
POL 3086	Modern Middle East and North Africa (HIS 3086)
POL 3104	Politics of the Third World

POL 3361	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 (AAS 3842), (HIS 3842)
International Politics	
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 (AAS 3346), (HIS 3346)
Political Theory and Methodology	
POL 2332	American Political Thought
POL 3062	Political Sociology (SOC 3062)
POL 3201	Topics in Politics and Literature (ENG 3201)
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
Public Policy	
POL 2353	Public Policy
POL 3001	Women: Politics and Policy

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

back to top

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 tudent 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

back to top

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.

back to top

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.

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

POL 3317	The Politics of Energy and the Environment	3 hours; 3 credits
POL 3318	Immigration and Integration in the United States	3 hours; 3 credits
POL 3323	Politics and Government of New York City	3 hours; 3 credits
POL 3333	Political Behavior	3 hours; 3 credits
POL 3334	American Radicalism	3 hours; 3 credits
POL 3335	Early Political Theory	3 hours; 3 credits
POL 3336	Modern Political Theory	3 hours; 3 credits
POL 3337	Contemporary Political Ideologies	3 hours; 3 credits
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 (AAS 3846), HIS 3846)	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 (AAS 3842), HIS 3842)	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
POL 5001	Independent Study in Political Science II	Hours and credits to be arranged
POL 5002	Independent Study in Political Science III	Hours and credits to be arranged
POL 5030	Research Practicum in Political Science I	Variable (3 to 9 hours; 1 to 3 credits)
POL 5031	Research Practicum in Political Science II	Variable (3 to 9 hours; 1 to 3 credits)
POL 5452	Field Work in Government and Politics	3 hours; 3 credits
POL 6001H	Political Science Honors I	3 hours; 3 credits per semester
POL 6002H	Political Science Honors II	3 hours; 3 credits per semester

back to top