Duluth Campus

Political Science B.A.

History, Political Science & International Studies

College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences

- Program Type: Baccalaureate
- Requirements for this program are current for Spring 2023
- Required credits to graduate with this degree: 120
- Required credits within the major: 35
- Degree: Bachelor of Arts

This program prepares students for careers in government and business, the study of law, and graduate study in political science, domestic and international public policy, and related fields. It offers general liberal education coursework, specialized coursework for students majoring in other disciplines, and a related field for graduate students.

Students have considerable flexibility in designing their major to ensure it meets personal and professional interests. Students should consult their faculty advisor to define the focus and coverage of their program and select courses in other disciplines, including second majors and minors. Students are encouraged to acquire collateral skills in areas such as statistics, computer applications, and foreign languages. Students interested in graduate study should begin planning in their junior year. Many programs expect proficiency in statistical analysis and/or a foreign language.

Honors Requirements: Departmental honors in political science will be automatically granted to any student who is a political science major graduating with a grade point average of 3.80 or higher in political science courses taken at UMD or accepted for transfer to UMD. The average will be calculated using only political science courses.

Program Delivery

This program is available:

- via classroom (the majority of instruction is face-to-face)

Admission Requirements

For information about University of Minnesota admission requirements, visit the Office of Admissions website.

General Requirements

The Board of Regents, on recommendation of the faculty, grants degrees from the University of Minnesota. Requirements for an undergraduate degree from University of Minnesota Duluth include the following:

1. Students must meet all course and credit requirements of the departments and colleges or schools in which they are enrolled including an advanced writing course. Students seeking two degrees must fulfill the requirements of both degrees. However, two degrees cannot be awarded for the same major.
2. Students must complete all requirements of the Liberal Education Program.
3. Students must complete a minimum of 120 semester credits.
4. At least 30 of the last 60 degree credits earned immediately before graduation must be awarded by UMD.
5. Students must complete at least half of their courses at the 3xxx-level and higher at UMD. Study-abroad credits earned through courses taught by UM faculty and at institutions with which UMD has international exchange programs may be used to fulfill this requirement.
6. If a minor is required, students must take at least three upper division credits in their minor field from UMD.
7. The minimum cumulative UM GPA required for graduation will be 2.00 and will include only University of Minnesota coursework. A minimum UM GPA of 2.00 is required in each UMD undergraduate major and minor. No academic unit may impose higher grade point standards to graduate.
8. Diploma, transcripts, and certification will be withheld until all financial obligations to the University have been met.

Program Requirements

1. A second field of study (e.g. minor, major, degree) is required for this major.
2. At least 8 political science credits must be taken at UMD.
3. Global experience is a UMD goal for all students, and international study is encouraged. Talk with an academic or faculty advisor to explore academic options for fulfilling some of your degree requirements through study abroad.

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Learning in Community (1 cr)

The Learning in Community requirement will be waived for transfer students with at least 30 credits taken post high school and for UMD students who started in a UMD program where this was not required. First-year students who have completed 30 PSEO credits may request a waiver to the students primary college.

UST 1000 - Learning in Community (1.0 - 2.0 cr)
or EHS 1000 - Into the World [GLOBAL PER] (3.0 cr)
or ES 1000 - Global Cultural Perspectives on Environmental Sustainability [GLOBAL PER] (3.0 cr)
or LING 1000 - Language and Culture in the U.S. What does it Mean to Speak American [CDIVERSITY] (3.0 cr)
or PSY 1100 - Living Your Best Life: Applying Positive Psychology [CDIVERSITY] (3.0 cr)

Advanced Writing (3 cr)

Take 1 course(s) totaling 3 or more credit(s) from the following:
WRIT 31xx - Adv Writing (3 cr)

Core (7 cr)

POL 1011 - American Government and Politics [LE CAT6, SOC SCI] (3.0 cr)
POL 4190 - Senior Seminar (4.0 cr)

Foundations (9 cr)

POL 2700 is the preferred course for methodology. Note: One attempt of POL 1800 is applicable towards the major. If the course is taken twice the additional credits will not apply to the major, but will apply to the overall degree.

Take 3 or more course(s) from the following:
- POL 1050 - International Relations [LE CAT, GLOBAL PER] (3.0 cr)
- POL 1500 - Introduction to Comparative Politics [LE CAT, GLOBAL PER] (3.0 cr)
- POL 1610 - Introduction to Political Theory [LE CAT, HUMANITIES] (3.0 cr)
- POL 1800 - Mock Trial (3.0 cr)
- POL 2700 - Methodology and Analysis [LOGIC & QR] (4.0 cr)
- POL 1xxx-2xxx

Electives (15 cr)

Students must take at least 5 courses across the following lists. Four courses must be at the POL 3xxx-4xxx level. Students have the option to complete this requirement by taking all courses at the POL 3xxx-4xxx level or in combination with the optional areas listed.

Take 4 or more course(s) from the following:
- POL 3001 - American Public Policy (3.0 cr)
- POL 3015 - State and Local Government (4.0 cr)
- POL 3025 - Popular Culture and Politics [HUMANITIES] (4.0 cr)
- POL 3040 - Women and Politics (3.0 cr)
- POL 3080 - Environment and Politics (3.0 cr)
- POL 3100 - Contemporary Issues in American Politics (3.0 cr)
- POL 3120 - Congress and the Presidency (4.0 cr)
- POL 3131 - Judicial Politics and Policy Making (3.0 cr)
- POL 3141 - Pol Parties & Polarization (3.0 cr)
- POL 3142 - Voting, Campaigning, and Elections (3.0 cr)
- POL 3143 - Political Psychology (3.0 cr)
- POL 3150 - American Constitutional Law I (3.0 cr)
- POL 3151 - American Constitutional Law II (3.0 cr)
- POL 3195 - Special Topics: (various titles to be assigned) (3.0 cr)
- POL 3311 - Public Opinion and Polling Methods (3.0 cr)
- POL 3400 - Contemporary Issues in World Politics (4.0 cr)
- POL 3403 - American Foreign Policy (3.0 cr)
- POL 3420 - International Organization and Global Governance (3.0 cr)
- POL 3451 - Theories of International Relations (4.0 cr)
- POL 3456 - International Security: War and More (4.0 cr)
- POL 3511 - Politics of South Asia (3.0 cr)
- POL 3515 - Theories of Comparative Politics (3.0 cr)
- POL 3517 - Western European Political Systems (4.0 cr)
- POL 3518 - Transitional Politics of Asia (3.0 cr)
- POL 3530 - Comparative Constitutional Law and Judicial Politics (3.0 cr)
- POL 3570 - Politics of Developing Nations (3.0 cr)
- POL 3575 - Latin American Politics and Development (3.0 cr)
- POL 3580 - Central American Politics (3.0 cr)
- POL 3600 - Political Concepts (3.0 cr)
- POL 3610 *{Inactive}*(3.0 cr)
- POL 3652 - Modern Political Thought (4.0 cr)
- POL 4195 - Special Topics: (various titles to be assigned) (3.0 cr)

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•POL 3458 - International Negotiation & Bargaining: Negotiating Across Cultures (3.0 cr)
or INTS 3458 - International Negotiation & Bargaining: Negotiating Across Cultures (3.0 cr)
•POL 3xxx-4xxx
•Optional Lower Division Elective
Take 0 - 1 course(s) from the following:
•POL 1xxx-2xxx
•Optional Experience (consent required)
Take 0 - 4 credit(s) from the following:
•POL 3097 - Government Internship (1.0 - 6.0 cr)
•POL 3197 - Nongovernmental Internship (1.0 - 6.0 cr)
•POL 4191 - Independent Study (1.0 - 4.0 cr)
•POL 4910 - Teaching Assistantship in Political Science (1.0 - 2.0 cr)
•Optional Complementary Elective
Take 0 - 1 course(s) from the following:
•AMIN 3206 - Federal Indian Policy [LE CAT8, LECD CAT08, SOC SCI, CDIVERSITY] (3.0 cr)
•AMIN 3230 - American Indian Tribal Government and Law [SOC SCI, CDIVERSITY] (3.0 cr)
•AMIN 4230 - Introduction to Federal Indian Law [SOC SCI, CDIVERSITY] (3.0 cr)
•BLAW 2001 - The Legal Environment [LE CAT8, HUMANITIES] (3.0 cr)
•CRIM 3324 - Sociology of Criminal Law (3.0 cr)
•CRIM 3380 - Death Penalty (3.0 cr)
•ECON 2030 - Applied Statistics for Business and Economics [LOGIC & QR] (3.0 cr)
•ECON 4213 - Mathematical Economics (3.0 cr)
•ECON 3570 - Public Finance (3.0 cr)
•GEOG 4393 - Political Geography (3.0 cr)
•HIST 3265 - The Soviet Experiment: Russia, the USSR, and Contemporary Russia [LE CAT7, LEIP CAT07, GLOBAL PER] (4.0 cr)
•HIST 3243 - Europe in Crisis in the 20th Century (4.0 cr)
•HIST 3386 - The United States and the World since 1898 (4.0 cr)
•HIST 3465 - Twentieth Century China Politics (4.0 cr)
•HIST 3615 - Modern Africa (4.0 cr)
•HIST 3726 - Modern Middle East: 18th Century-Present [GLOBAL PER] (4.0 cr)
•INTS 4100 - Seminar in International Studies (4.0 cr)
•PHIL 3231 - Law and Punishment (4.0 cr)
•PHIL 3291 - Current Social Political Philosophy (4.0 cr)
•SOC 3155 - Quantitative Research Methods and Analysis (4.0 cr)
•SOC 3156 - Qualitative Research Methods and Analysis (4.0 cr)
•WS 3100 - Feminist Thought [HUMANITIES, CDIVERSITY] (4.0 cr)
•WS 3600 - Ecofeminism: Theories and Sustainable Practices [SUSTAIN] (3.0 cr)

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