

Political Science

Joe D. Hagan, Chair

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Degree Offered

Bachelor of Arts

Nature of Program

The undergraduate curriculum in the Department of Political Science has six main objectives:

- To acquaint students with the nature and role of government in modern society, thus contributing to the general education of political science majors. In order to achieve this objective, the department offers the general political science emphasis. This emphasis is open to any student who has an interest in political science but who has not yet focused on a specific career goal.
- To impart a basic knowledge and understanding of the public policy-making process, including the techniques used by policy analysts and public administrators. To accomplish this objective, the department offers the public policy and administration emphasis. Students having a desire to work in government and/or to obtain an advanced graduate degree in public policy studies or public administration at WVU, or elsewhere, should enroll in this emphasis. Additional information concerning graduate programs in public administration and public policy (M.A., M.P.A., or Ph.D.) at WVU is in the *WVU Graduate Catalog* online at www.ia.wvu.edu:8888.
- To provide pre-professional training for students preparing to enter the legal profession. Students interested in legal careers should enroll in the pre-law and legal studies area of emphasis.
- To develop specialized knowledge in the field of environmental studies for students whose career interests are natural resource management and protection. Students with this interest should choose the environmental studies emphasis as their major.
- To develop understanding of the international and global dimensions of world and national politics. Students who wish to concentrate their coursework in international relations and foreign affairs as preparation for careers in this area should enroll in the international and world affairs area of emphasis.
- To provide pre-professional training for students who intend to pursue political science as a career. Those who intend to be teachers, researchers, or administrators should plan to enroll in graduate school after completing their bachelor's degrees. The professional political scientist who intends to teach or do applied research in public policy should choose the public policy and administration emphasis. This emphasis will prepare students for the M.A. and Ph.D. with a focus on public policy studies or the M.P.A. with a focus on public administration.

Admission Requirements

Students may apply for admission to the Department of Political Science after completing 58 credit hours with a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.1 or better. In addition, students must maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.0 in order to remain a political science major. Freshman and sophomore students with a 2.0 GPA may apply as pre-political science majors. Upon admission, each student will be assigned a faculty advisor in the department. Pre-political science majors should enroll in the special class *Orientation to Political Science*, which introduces freshmen and sophomores to the political science faculty, academic requirements, and career opportunities in political science.

Degree Requirements

A cumulative and political science GPA of 2.0 is required for graduation. In addition, no major with an incomplete in a political science course will be certified for graduation.

- Students majoring in political science must take POLS 102, 230 or 240, 250, 260, 270 or 271 and 300 and a minimum of 39 hours total in political science including the senior capstone course. Courses may be selected from the following fields. American government and politics: POLS 210, 220, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 321, 325, 326. Public policy and administration: POLS 230, 240, 331, 333, 334, 335, 336, 338, 342, 344, 530, 531, 536. Comparative government and politics: POLS 250, 350, 351, 353, 354, 355, 356, 358, 551, 555. International relations: POLS 260, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 560. Political theory: POLS 270, 271, 372, 373, 375, 379.
- The department also offers courses that deal with the scope of political science and the various techniques employed by political scientists to investigate and analyze political data. POLS 300 is required of all majors.
- Students may also arrange to take selected special courses dealing with a special topic or involving experiential learning. These courses are scheduled on a group or tutorial basis with individual faculty members. Courses available for this type of instruction are POLS 293, 388, 389, 491, 493, and 494. These courses also count toward the 39 hours required in political science. However, no more than six hours of POLS 491 *Field Experience* may count toward the 39-hour requirement. POLS 491 is graded on a pass/fail basis.
- With the exception of the pre-law and legal studies and the government and business emphases, all political science majors must take 12 hours in a secondary field. The choice of a secondary field depends on the interest of the student and the particular emphasis in which the student is enrolled. Secondary fields available include: economics, geography, history, philosophy, psychology, sociology and anthropology, statistics and/or computer science, business, English, journalism, social work, communication studies, mathematics, foreign languages, the natural sciences, and interdepartmental studies. No teaching practicum may be used to satisfy major or secondary field requirements.
- All majors are required to take ECON 201 and 202.

Areas of Emphasis

Each political science major must enroll in a political science emphasis, depending on his or her academic or career interest. The areas of emphasis and the individual requirements of each are as follows:

General Political Science Emphasis (general liberal arts) Students selecting the general emphasis are expected to take courses that expose them to the full range of the discipline of political science and the other social sciences. Required: POLS 102, 230 or 240, 250, 260, 270 or 271 and 300; ECON 201 and 202; 39 hours total in political science courses; six hours from PSYCH 101, SOCA 110, 105, GEOG 102, 108 and PHIL 170; and 12 hours in a secondary field.

Public Policy and Administration Emphasis (public service careers) Students enrolling in the public policy and administration emphasis take courses that prepare them for work in government, non-profit organizations, and selected private businesses. This area emphasizes training in public policy analysis, public administration, selected policy issues (such as energy, environment, and civil rights), and statistical techniques. Required: POLS 102, 220, 230 or 240, 250, 260, 270 or 271 and 300; ECON 201 and 202; six hours of policy courses selected from POLS 315, 331, 333, 334, 335, 336, 338; STAT 211 and CS 101; and 12 hours in a policy field or selected secondary field.

Pre-Law and Legal Studies Emphasis (careers in law or criminal justice) Students selecting the legal studies emphasis are required to take a variety of substantive and skills courses which are recognized as valuable background for the study of law. This specialized curriculum is drawn from several departments, including English, philosophy, statistics, accounting, sociology and anthropology, and psychology. Required: POLS 102, 230 or 240, 250, 260, 270 or 271 and 300; ECON 201 and 202; nine hours (three courses) from the following law-related courses in political science POLS 210, 312, 313, 314, 315, 344, 363; nine hours (three courses) from the following skills courses CS 101, ACCT 201 and 202, SPA 270, ENGL 201, STAT 211, PHIL 170, 260, ECON 225; and six hours (two courses) from the following substantive courses in law-related disciplines SOCA 232, 233, 330, 331, 334, and 461, PHIL 130, 325, ECON 441 and 445, PSYC 251.

Government and Business Emphasis (careers in government and/or business) Students choosing to enroll in the government and business emphasis take courses that will enable them to develop extensive knowledge of government and politics, government as it relates to business, and introductory knowledge of business principles and practices. Students in this emphasis will target jobs in either the public or private sectors. Required: POLS 102, 230 or 240, 250, 260, 270 or 271 and 300, POLS 310, 317, 318, 334; ECON 201 and 202; 12 hours from ACCT 201 and 202, MATH 126, 129, 155, 156, 124, 150, ECON 225, STAT 211, and CS 101; nine hours from BUSA 310, 320, 330, and 340; and three hours from SOCA 334, 337, PSYCH 231, and ECON 441, 445, and 481.

Environmental Studies Emphasis (careers in natural resource management and policy) Students in the environmental studies emphasis receive training in the natural sciences and in the politics of natural resource policy and evaluation. Designed for students who anticipate a career dealing with environmental problems, this emphasis requires: POLS 102, 220, 230 or 240, 250, 260, or 270, 271, 300, 336 or 338; ECON 201 and 202; MATH 155 and ECON 225; six hours from ARE 220, 382, 410; and 12 hours in either biology, chemistry, or geology.

International and World Affairs Emphasis (careers in international affairs) Students choosing the international and world affairs emphasis specialize in several main sub fields of the discipline, including international relations, foreign policy analysis, and foreign and comparative governments. This emphasis is one of two options available to students interested in international relations. The Department of Political Science, in cooperation with other departments, also offers the interdepartmental major in international studies, which is headed by a faculty member in the Department of Political Science. This major offers an extensive treatment of international affairs from the perspective of a variety of disciplines. The international and world affairs emphasis, on the other hand, is offered exclusively by the department. Required: POLS 102, 230 or 240, 250, 260, 270 or 271, and 300; ECON 201 and 202; six hours (two courses) from the following courses dealing with international relations POLS 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368; three hours (one course) which focuses on an industrialized country POLS 350, 351, 352, 353; three hours (one course) which deals with a developing country POLS 354, 355, 356, 358; six hours from the following history courses HIST 209, 242, 425, 426, 430, 463, 464; and 12 upper division hours in a secondary field.

Minor in Political Science

Any student admitted to a major program other than political science may complete a formal academic minor in political science. In order to earn a formal minor, students must complete one of the following options.

General Political Science Required courses: six hours from POLS 102, 210, 220, 230 or 240, 250, 260. Any three additional courses from POLS 310–379. POLS 493 and 494 may be counted toward the minor with departmental approval.

American Politics and Policy Required courses: six hours from POLS 102, 210, 220, 230 or 240. Any three additional courses from 310–349. POLS 493 and 494 may be counted toward the minor with departmental approval.

International and Comparative Politics Required courses: POLS 250, 260. Any three additional courses from 350–369. POLS 493 and 494 may be counted toward the minor with departmental approval.

Law and Legal Studies Required courses: POLS 102, 210. Any three additional courses from 312, 313, 314, 331, 335, 363. POLS 493 and 494 may be counted toward the minor with departmental approval.

Political Theory Required courses: POLS 270, 271. Any three additional courses from 370–379. POLS 493 and 494 may be counted toward the minor with departmental approval.

Students must achieve at least a 2.0 in the 15 hours taken in political science. Courses graded P/F may not be applied toward the minor.

Honors Program

The Department of Political Science, in cooperation with the University Honors Program, offers courses that are open exclusively to honors students. These courses are listed in the University's *Schedule of Courses* each semester. Students who meet the standards of the University Honors Program may enroll in these courses.

Psychology

Michael Perone, Chair

Degrees Offered

Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science

Admission Requirements

Requirements for admission to the degree programs in psychology include completion of PSYC 101, PSYC 201, and STAT 211, with a minimum grade of C in each, a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0, a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0 in all attempted psychology courses; and completion of 58 credit hours.

Degree Requirements

Required Courses PSYC 101, 201, 202, 301, 302; STAT 211; either PSYC 241 or 251; one course from PSYC 423, 424, 425, 426; and other selected courses; three additional courses, with no more than one at the 200 level, from PSYC 231, 232, 241, 251, 281, 293, 331, 342, 343, 345, 351, 362, 363, 364, 379, 382, 423, 424, 425, 426, 474, 493. Completion of the psychology capstone course (PSYC 401) and a three-credit capstone experience are required within the 12 months prior to graduation.

An overall 2.0 average in all psychology courses attempted is required for graduation. In addition, a minimum grade of C is required in the following courses: PSYC 101, 201, 202, 241 or 251, 301, and 302, and STAT 211.

Students seeking the B.S. degree in psychology must also complete the college B.S. degree requirements. One elective course from PSYC 423, 424, 425, or 426.

Recommended courses for students primarily interested in graduate work in psychology, are: PSYC 331, 491, 495; additional courses from 423, 424, 425, 426, and 498.

For students primarily interested in a career in mental health or applied psychology requiring a B.A., the following courses are recommended: PSYC 241, 251, 362, 474, 491, and appropriate courses from among 231, 281, 363, 364, 379, and 382. For students majoring in psychology as a liberal arts field, including students who plan to attend graduate or professional school in a field other than psychology and students planning to work in a field not directly related to psychology but who wish a broad exposure to the field of psychology, the following courses are recommended: PSYC 241, 251, 331, and at least one course from among PSYC 281, 363, 364, 379, 382, and 474.

All psychology majors are encouraged to take upper-division courses that provide them an opportunity to apply basic principles of psychology. For this purpose, PSYC 490, 491, and 495 are recommended. Students must have instructor consent before enrolling in these courses.

Common electives for psychology majors include biology, child development and family relations, computer science, mathematics, philosophy, political science, social work, sociology and anthropology, and statistics courses.

For additional information: <http://www.wvu.edu/~psychology/>.

Applied Psychology Emphasis

Psychology majors interested in a career working in applied mental health or organizational settings following completion of their bachelor's degree may select the elective courses listed below. Students who complete these courses with a minimum grade of B in each may request a departmental certificate of completion and cover letter detailing the applicability of these courses to work in applied settings, which the student may then provide to potential employers. Students wishing to complete this emphasis should plan their curriculum carefully, and need to be aware that they will not be given special priority for