

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

POLITICAL SCIENCE PROGRAM

OVERVIEW

PROSPECTUS

The Field: Political science provides knowledge of the theory and practice of political power, authority, and justice. As a discipline, political scientists are primarily concerned with the role of power in the process of making or influencing decisions, from the international system to governments and non-state actors. Howard Laswell defined politics as “who gets what, when, and how.” Political science analyzes and investigates these power processes and addresses issues like the distribution of public goods and services, military posturing in the region, and the impact of climate change on food security and economic problems.

Why UOG?: The Political Science Program at UOG makes understanding political processes and institutions in the United States and the Micronesian and Asia Pacific regions the focus of student learning, discovery, research, service, and extra-institutional collaboration. The program centers Guam as the focal point of our analyses in order to help students understand politics from a multiscalar perspective. The program shares a commitment to critiquing dominant centers and processes of power affecting our island and region, such as colonization, economic development, and militarization as well as providing a basic overview of the scope of political science in general.

The program includes a variety of courses that comprise three main subfields of political science:

- comparative politics
- international relations, and
- American and regional government

It also emphasizes reasoned evaluation of societal principles, analysis of political behavior, and the logical expression of thought.

Career Possibilities: A Political Science degree prepares students for careers in government and politics, law, teaching, and business or for graduate studies in a wide range of professional areas.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon completion of a major or double major in political science, students will have demonstrated achievement of the following program learning objectives:

1. Explain the American political system and its relationship to the Micronesian region.
2. Apply theories to the study of domestic and international conflict.
3. Compare political systems of Asia Pacific with each other and with those of other regions.
4. Design a political research project that incorporates principles of social science inquiry.
5. Evaluate political speech and acts for their embedded values.

TRACKS

POLITICAL SCIENCE TRACKS

All Political Science majors must meet the requirements of one of the following tracks and should seek [faculty advisement](#) within their respective track:

Political Science

The Political Science track provides students with a range of courses in three major subfields of political science:

- American and regional government
- comparative politics, and
- international relations.

Students acquire theoretical knowledge and develop a set of critical and analytical skills about institutions of government and politics.

Government for Education

The Government for Education track focuses on providing students with the knowledge needed to meet the national content standards for social studies in secondary education. Students will complete coursework in the fields of political science, history, and geography with a focus on government and politics. Students who choose this track should double major in [Secondary Education](#), complete the BA+ program, or obtain a Master of Arts in Teaching after graduation.

POLITICAL SCIENCE MINOR

The minor in Political Science requires 21 credit hours. It is particularly suited for students who need a strong background in government and politics for their professional work or graduate studies.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

Students must receive a grade of “C” or better in any Political Science course to be credited toward completion of the major. This requirement applies to the 37 credits in Political Science counted specifically toward completion of major requirements: the eight required Political Science courses, plus four elective courses. It does not apply to General Education courses or to generic electives.

POLITICAL SCIENCE TRACK REQUIREMENTS (50 CREDIT HOURS)

General Education (Recommended Courses)

Political Science track majors should complete the following courses in partial fulfillment of the General Education Diversity Foundation and Direction Building requirements on the [Student Advisement Sheet](#).

Tier II: Diversity Foundation

Science & Math

Course	Course Title	Credits	Term Offered
MA151	INTRODUCTORY STATISTICS	3	FALL/SPRING/ ALL YEARS

Human Sciences

Course	Course Title	Credits	Term Offered
PS215	INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS	4	SPRING ONLY/ ALL YEARS

Creative & Expressive Arts

Course	Credit Hours
Any course in this category	3

Human Systems & Organizations

Course	Course Title	Credits	Term Offered
PS101	INTRODUCTION TO GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS	3	FALL/SPRING/ ALL YEARS

Cultural Perspectives

Course	Course Title	Credits	Term Offered
PS202	GOVERNMENT IN THE UNITED STATES	3	FALL/SPRING/ ALL YEARS

Uniquely UOG

Course	Course Title	Credits	Term Offered
PS225	STATE AND TERRITORIAL GOVERNMENT	3	FALL/SPRING/ ALL YEARS

Course	Credit Hours
Any 101 or 102 language	4

Tier II: Diversity Building

After declaring as a Political Science – Political Science track major, students will take the following to complete this General Education requirement:

1) CD, DF, or UU as a prerequisite:

Choice of:

Course	Course Title	Credits	Term Offered
PS300	RESEARCH METHODOLOGY IN POLITICAL SCIENCE	3	SPRING ONLY/ ALL YEARS
PS302	COMPARATIVE POLITICS	3	FALL ONLY/ ALL YEARS

2) DF or major exploration:

Course	Course Title	Credits	Term Offered
PS482	SPECIAL TOPICS IN POLITICAL SCIENCE	3	FALL/SPRING/ ALL YEARS

3) DF or UU exploration outside major requirements:

Course	Credit Hours
Any course in this category	3

Tier III: Capstone Experience

Course	Course Title	Credits	Term Offered
PS492	CAPSTONE IN POLITICAL SCIENCE	1	FALL/SPRING/ ALL YEARS

Required Courses (38 credit hours)

Course	Course Title	Credits	Term Offered
PS101	INTRODUCTION TO GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS	3	FALL/SPRING/ ALL YEARS
PS202	GOVERNMENT IN THE UNITED STATES	3	FALL/SPRING/ ALL YEARS
PS215	INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS	4	SPRING ONLY/ ALL YEARS
PS225	STATE AND TERRITORIAL GOVERNMENT	3	FALL/SPRING/ ALL YEARS
PS300	RESEARCH METHODOLOGY IN POLITICAL SCIENCE	3	SPRING ONLY/ ALL YEARS
PS302	COMPARATIVE POLITICS	3	FALL ONLY/ ALL YEARS
PS326	POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY	3	FALL ONLY/ ALL YEARS
PS398	INTERNSHIP	3	FALL ONLY/ ALL YEARS
PS492	CAPSTONE IN POLITICAL SCIENCE	1	FALL/SPRING/ ALL YEARS
BA110	PRINCIPLES OF ECONOMICS	3	FALL/SPRING/ ALL YEARS
MA151	INTRODUCTORY STATISTICS	3	FALL/SPRING/ ALL YEARS

Choice of:

Course	Course Title	Credits	Term Offered
PS304	POLITICS OF ASIA	3	FALL ONLY/ EVEN YEARS
PS306	POLITICS OF DEVELOPING NATIONS	3	FALL ONLY/ ODD YEARS
PS307	POLITICS OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	3	SPRING ONLY/ ALL YEARS

Choice of:

Course	Course Title	Credits	Term Offered
PS412	POLITICS OF MICRONESIA	3	SPRING ONLY/ ALL YEARS
PS440	INDIGENOUS POLITICS	3	FALL ONLY/ EVEN YEARS

Elective Courses (12 credit hours)

Any combination of upper division (300- and 400-level) **Political Science (PS) courses**. At least one must be a 400-level course or MA-385 Applied Statistics.

CREDIT FOR AP EXAMINATION

Students who report a score of 3 on the Advanced Placement U.S. Government examination will:

1. fulfill prerequisite requirements of other Political Science courses for PS-202 Government in the United States and
2. fulfill the Political Science major/minor requirement for PS-202.

Students who report scores of 4 or 5 on this exam will additionally receive three hours of academic credit equivalent to one semester in PS-202. Students who report a score of 4 or 5 on the AP Comparative



Government examination will be considered to have met the PS-101 course requirement for the Political Science major; however, no academic credit will be awarded.

GOVERNMENT FOR EDUCATION TRACK REQUIREMENTS (50 CREDIT HOURS)

General Education (Recommended Courses)

Political Science – Government for Education track majors should complete the following courses in partial fulfillment of the General Education Diversity Foundation and Direction Building requirements on the [Student Advisement Sheet](#).

Tier II: Diversity Foundation

Science & Math

Course	Course Title	Credits	Term Offered
GE203	PRINCIPLES OF PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY	4	SPRING ONLY/ ALL YEARS

Political Science

Course	Course Title	Credits	Term Offered
PS101	INTRODUCTION TO GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS	3	FALL/SPRING/ ALL YEARS
PS202	GOVERNMENT IN THE UNITED STATES	3	FALL/SPRING/ ALL YEARS
PS215	INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS	4	SPRING ONLY/ ALL YEARS

Human Sciences

Choice of:

Course	Course Title	Credits	Term Offered
GE101	INTRODUCTION TO GEOGRAPHY	3	FALL/SPRING/ ALL YEARS

Creative & Expressive Arts

Course	Credit Hours
Any course in this category	3

Human Systems & Organizations

Choice of:

Course	Course Title	Credits	Term Offered
GE201	WORLD REGIONAL GEOGRAPHY	3	FALL/SPRING/ ALL YEARS
HI121	WORLD HISTORY I	3	FALL/SPRING/ ALL YEARS
HI122	WORLD HISTORY II	3	FALL/SPRING/ ALL YEARS

Cultural Perspectives

Choice of:

Course	Course Title	Credits	Term Offered
HI211	HISTORY OF GUAM	3	FALL/SPRING/ ALL YEARS

Uniquely UOG

Course	Course Title	Credits	Term Offered
HI211	HISTORY OF GUAM	3	FALL/SPRING/ ALL YEARS
PS225	STATE AND TERRITORIAL GOVERNMENT	3	FALL/SPRING/ ALL YEARS

Course	Credit Hours
Any 101 or 102 language	3

Tier II: Diversity Building

After declaring as a Political Science – Political Science track major, students will take the following to complete this General Education requirement:

1) CD, DF, or UU as a prerequisite:

Choice of:

Course	Course Title	Credits	Term Offered
PS302	COMPARATIVE POLITICS	3	FALL ONLY/ ALL YEARS

2) DF or major exploration

Course	Course Title	Credits	Term Offered
PS402	AMERICAN CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT/ LAW	3	FALL ONLY/ ODD YEARS

3) DF or UU exploration outside major requirements:

Course	Credit Hours
Any course in this category	3

Tier III: Capstone Experience

Course	Course Title	Credits	Term Offered
PS492	CAPSTONE IN POLITICAL SCIENCE	1	FALL/SPRING/ ALL YEARS

Required Courses (41 credit hours)

Course	Course Title	Credits	Term Offered
PS101	INTRODUCTION TO GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS	3	FALL/SPRING/ ALL YEARS
PS202	GOVERNMENT IN THE UNITED STATES	3	FALL/SPRING/ ALL YEARS
PS215	INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS	4	SPRING ONLY/ ALL YEARS
PS225	STATE AND TERRITORIAL GOVERNMENT	3	FALL/SPRING/ ALL YEARS
PS307	POLITICS OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	3	SPRING ONLY/ ALL YEARS
PS402	AMERICAN CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT/ LAW	3	FALL ONLY/ ODD YEARS
PS426	AMERICAN POLITICAL THOUGHT	3	SPRING ONLY/ ALL YEARS
PS492	CAPSTONE IN POLITICAL SCIENCE	1	FALL/SPRING/ ALL YEARS
BA110	PRINCIPLES OF ECONOMICS	3	FALL/SPRING/ ALL YEARS

Choice of:

Course	Course Title	Credits	Term Offered
GE101	INTRODUCTION TO GEOGRAPHY	3	FALL/SPRING/ ALL YEARS
GE201	WORLD REGIONAL GEOGRAPHY	3	FALL/SPRING/ ALL YEARS

Choice of:

Course	Course Title	Credits	Term Offered
HI121	WORLD HISTORY I	3	FALL/SPRING/ ALL YEARS
HI122	WORLD HISTORY II	3	FALL/SPRING/ ALL YEARS

Choice of:

Course	Course Title	Credits	Term Offered
HI201	EARLY AMERICA	3	FALL/SPRING/ ALL YEARS
HI202	MODERN AMERICA	3	FALL/SPRING/ ALL YEARS

Choice of:

Course	Course Title	Credits	Term Offered
PS304	POLITICS OF ASIA	3	FALL ONLY/ EVEN YEARS
PS412	POLITICS OF MICRONESIA	3	SPRING ONLY/ ALL YEARS

Elective Courses (9 credit hours)

Any combination of upper division (300- and 400-level) **Political Science (PS) courses** (at least one course must be a 400-level course).

MINOR REQUIREMENTS

**POLITICAL SCIENCE MINOR REQUIREMENTS
(22 CREDIT HOURS)**

Required Courses (12 credit hours)

Course	Course Title	Credits	Term Offered
PS101	INTRODUCTION TO GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS	3	FALL/SPRING/ ALL YEARS
PS202	GOVERNMENT IN THE UNITED STATES	3	FALL/SPRING/ ALL YEARS
PS215	INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS	4	SPRING ONLY/ ALL YEARS
PS225	STATE AND TERRITORIAL GOVERNMENT	3	FALL/SPRING/ ALL YEARS

Elective Courses (9 credit hours)

Any upper division (300- or 400-level) **Political Science (PS) courses**.

FACULTY

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