

Department of Political Science



Undergraduate Handbook

Michigan State University

2013 – 2014

* This handbook outlines the degree requirements for students who declared their major Fall 2013, Spring 2014, and Summer 2014.

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Undergraduate Academic Advising

Welcome to The Department of Political Science At Michigan State University!

Political Science is a social science concerned with the description and analysis of political, and especially governmental, institutions and processes. Increasingly, the emphasis is being placed on how governments deal with specific policy problems, such as war and peace, poverty, crime, education, energy, pollution, or inter-group relations, and on the factors that affect these problems. The study of political science provides one with the concepts, theories and methods necessary to analyze these policy problems scientifically. Because of the complexities of modern legislation and current political changes, political science is considered an essential component of a broad education for today's world.

The Department of Political Science at MSU offers three majors: General Political Science, Political Science Prelaw, and Public Administration and Public Policy. Each of these majors is designed to offer a well-rounded liberal education for our students. Our academic program was created with the flexibility for students to pursue academic specializations and/or additional majors, with little or no extra time required to complete their college degree.

GENERAL POLITICAL SCIENCE

Students wanting to enter politics, journalism, business or teaching, and students wanting to pursue graduate studies in political science or who want to prepare for employment in international agencies concerned with foreign affairs normally choose the General Political Science program. The flexibility of this program makes it a logical choice for those who wish to sample a wide variety of courses within the political science discipline.

POLITICAL SCIENCE PRE-LAW

This program is highly recommended for political science students who want to enter law school or to prepare for paralegal careers. It is designed to introduce students to the study of law and judicial process and also provides a general orientation for law school. This program is also ideal for those seeking careers in intelligence or law enforcement.

PUBLIC POLICY

For students interested in administrative positions with local, state or federal governments or with public agencies, universities or volunteer organizations, such as labor unions, farm organizations, chambers of commerce and civil rights groups, this program provides an excellent background.

WORLD POLITICS

This program is designed to educate students about governments and political systems of many different nations and the interactions among them. It will prepare students for careers in international affairs in the public, private, and non-profit spheres. The program allows students to study the regions of the world that most interest them but also provides broad coverage of international relations and comparative politics



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Web Resource

www.polisci.msu.edu - We highly recommend that you bookmark this page and visit often. Hopefully, answers to many of your questions can be found here!

When to See an Advisor

Your advisor is here to help answer questions – although the primary focus is on departmental academics, your advisor can field almost any question you have about MSU. Some common reasons students make appointments are:

- Enrollment – including drops, adds, and scheduling concerns
- Additional Majors/Second Degrees or Major Changes
- Career and Internship questions
- Graduate School/Law School Information
- Graduation Requirements

Appointments

All appointments are scheduled through MSU's online advising appointment system. Please log-in at www.polisci.msu.edu/under/advising.htm to schedule an appointment. Appointment times are generally posted 1-2 weeks in advance, so if there aren't any compatible appointment times, please check back in a few days.

Expectations

It is your responsibility to become familiar with your graduation requirements; your advisor is here to provide information and insight, to answer questions and give guidance – but **your degree is ultimately your responsibility**. Please make use of the many resources available to you to ensure that you get the most out of your time at MSU!

POLITICAL SCIENCE – GENERAL PROGRAM

The requirements for the General Political Science program include:

Department Requirements:

1. A minimum of 33 PLS credits.
2. 2.0 GPA or higher in PLS coursework.
3. Two of the following courses: PLS 100, 140, 160, 170.
4. PLS 200 and PLS 201.
5. Five additional PLS courses at the 300 or 400 level (but no more than one course equivalent of either PLS 494 Internship or PLS 495 Independent Study). Note: the Tier II Writing course, required in #8 below, does not count as one of these 5 courses.
6. Distribution requirement: of the above courses, at least two must be in American Politics, two in Political Science Methods, two in Political Philosophy, and two in International/Comparative Politics.*
7. One Tier II Writing course within the department.**
8. One History or Philosophy course at the 300 or 400 level.

- * American Government & Politics: PLS 100 and PLS 301-334
Methods of Political Analysis: PLS 200 and 201
Political Theory & Philosophy: PLS 170 and 370-377
International/Comparative Politics: PLS 140, 160, 342-358, and 361-364
- ** Tier II Writing (W): PLS 420, 421, 422, 440, 441, 460, 461, or 470

College Requirements:

9. Complete coursework in Social Science, Arts and Letters, and Natural Sciences.
 - a. In Social Science, students must complete 15 credits, including: EC 201 and EC 202; and nine more credits from any of the following departments: ANP, CJ, EC, HDFS, GEO, HST, PSY, SOC, SW, or UP.
 - b. In Arts & Letters, students must complete 9 credits from any of the following departments or courses: AMS, CLA, ENG, HA, LIN, LL, MUS, PHL, REL, ROM, STA, THR, WRA 200+, WS, foreign languages, CEP 341, 441 A + B, or 442 A + B.
 - c. In Natural Science students must complete 6 credits from any of the following departments or courses: AST, BCH, BS, CEM, ENT, GLG, MMG, MTH, PHY, PLB, PLP, PSL, STT, ZOL, ANP 202, CSE 101, GEO 203, GEO 206, HNF 150, or HST 250.

**If you have additional questions or concerns about the program,
please contact your academic advisor for support.**

POLITICAL SCIENCE – GENERAL PROGRAM

UNIVERSITY REQUIREMENTS:

Integrative Studies:

Each student must complete a minimum of 24 Integrative Studies credits, including 8 credits in each of the following three areas: Arts and Humanities (IAH); Biological and Physical Sciences (ISB, ISP) including 2 credits of lab; and Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences (ISS).

Tier I Writing:

Each student must either:

- a. Secure a waiver by receiving a 3 on the Advanced Placement Exam in English or earn course credit by receiving a 4 on the exam, or
- b. complete one 4-credit Tier I writing course (WRA 1xx). In some cases, based on the English placement exam, a student may be required to complete developmental writing courses (WRA 0102 and 1004) prior to enrolling in a Tier I writing course.

University Math:

A student may meet the mathematics requirement by:

- a. Obtaining a Mathematics Placement Service Exam score of at least 19 on a proctored exam, or
- b. completing one of the following at MSU:
 1. one course from MTH 110, 112, 116, 124, 132, 152H, and 201, or
 2. both MTH 103 and MTH 114, or
 3. either STT 200 or STT 201.

Additional:

Students must also:

- a. complete a minimum of 120 credits (123 if MTH 1825 is required);
- b. earn a minimum 2.0 cumulative and major GPA;
- c. not exceed 20 repeat credits;
- d. earn at least 30 credits from MSU;
- e. earn 27 credits on the East Lansing campus after junior status; and
- f. transfer only 10 of last 30 credits earned.

**If you have additional questions or concerns about the program,
please contact your academic advisor for support.**



Political Science Degree Requirements Checksheet

Student:

Term Start:

PID:

Integrative Studies and University Requirements

Biological/Physical Science: ISB 2____ ISP 2____ ISB or ISP Lab 2____
 Arts & Humanities: IAH 2____ IAH 2____ (211+)
 Social Science: ISS 2____ ISS 3____
 Tier I Writing: WRA 1____ (110-150)
 Math: MTH ____ (MTH 110, 112, 116, 120, 124, 132, 152H, 201, or STT 200 or 201)

College and Department Requirements

College of Social Science (15 credits– ANP, CJ, EC, HDFS, GEO, HST, PSY, SOC, SW, UP)

EC 201 () EC 202 () _____ () _____ () _____ ()

College of Arts & Letters (9 credits– AMS, CLA, ENG, HA, LIN, LL, MUS, PHL, REL, ROM, STA, THR, WRA 200+, WS, foreign languages)

_____ () _____ () _____ ()

College of Natural Science (6 credits– AST, BMB, BS, CEM, ENT, GLG, MMG, MTH, PHY, PLB, PLP, PSL, STT, ZOL, ANP 202, CSE 101, GEO 203, GEO 206, HNF 150, HST 250)

_____ () _____ ()

Political Science Requirements

Course	Grade	ID
PLS 1____	_____	___
PLS 1____	_____	___
PLS 200	_____	<u>M</u>
PLS 201	_____	<u>M</u>
PLS 3____	_____	___
PLS 3____	_____	___
PLS 3____	_____	___
PLS 3____	_____	___
PLS 4____ W	_____	<u>W</u>

Students are required to complete 33 credits of PLS coursework; at least two courses each in A, M, P, I categories.

American Politics (A): PLS 100, PLS 301-334
 Political Methods (M): PLS 200, 201
 Political Philosophy (P): PLS 170, PLS 370-377
 International/Comparative Politics (I): PLS 140, 160, 342-358, 361-364
 Tier II Writing (W): PLS 422, 441

Note: Most 400-level PLS courses may substitute for 300-level coursework, but only one course equivalent of PLS 494 (internship) or PLS 495 (independent study) can count toward the major requirements.

Electives

_____ () _____ () _____ () _____ () _____ () _____ ()
 _____ () _____ () _____ () _____ () _____ () _____ ()

Other Graduation Requirements

- One HST/PHL @ 300/400 level
- Maximum 20 repeat credits
- 120 total credits (123– if MTH 1825 is required)
- Transfer only 10 of last 30 credits
- Minimum 2.0 GPA (cumulative and major)
- Minimum 30 credits taken at MSU
- Minimum 30 credits @ 300/400 level
- 27 cr. on EL campus after junior status

POLITICAL SCIENCE - PRELAW

The requirements for the Prelaw program include:

DEPARTMENT REQUIREMENTS:

1. A minimum of 33 PLS credits.
2. 2.0 GPA or higher in PLS coursework.
3. PLS 100 and one of the following courses: 140, 160, 170.
4. PLS 200 and PLS 201.
5. PLS 320 or PLS 321.
6. Four additional PLS courses at the 300 or 400 level (but no more than one course equivalent of either PLS 494 Internship or PLS 495 Independent Study). Note: the Tier II Writing course, required in #8 below, does not count as one of these 4 courses.
7. Distribution requirement: of the above courses, at least two must be in American Politics, two in Political Science Methods, two in Political Philosophy, and two in International/Comparative Politics.* (One course taken to satisfy the International/Comparative Politics requirement may be selected from an approved list of courses outside of the PLS Department [see reverse of checksheet for approved list].)
8. One Tier II Writing course within the department.**
9. Two History or Philosophy courses from an approved list of courses (see reverse of checksheet for approved list).

- * American Government & Politics: PLS 100 and PLS 301-334
Methods of Political Analysis: PLS 200 and 201
Political Theory & Philosophy: PLS 170 and 370-377
International/Comparative Politics: PLS 140, 160, 342-358, and 361-364
- ** Tier II Writing (W): PLS 420, 421, 422, 440, 441, 460, 461, or 470

College Requirements:

10. Complete coursework in Social Science, Arts and Letters, and Natural Sciences.
 - a. In Social Science, students must complete 15 credits, including: EC 201 and EC 202; and nine more credits from any of the following departments: ANP, CJ, EC, HDFS, GEO, HST, PSY, SOC, SW, or UP.
 - b. In Arts & Letters, students must complete 9 credits from any of the following departments and courses: AMS, CLA, ENG, HA, LIN, LL, MUS, PHL, REL, ROM, STA, THR, WRA 200+, WS, foreign languages.
 - c. In Natural Science students must complete 6 credits from any of the following departments and courses: AST, BMB, BS, CEM, ENT, GLG, MMG, MTH, PHY, PLB, PLP, PSL, STT, ZOL, ANP 202, CSE 101, GEO 203, GEO 206, HNF 150, or HST 250.

**If you have additional questions or concerns,
please contact your academic advisor for support.**

POLITICAL SCIENCE - PRELAW

UNIVERSITY REQUIREMENTS:

Integrative Studies:

Each student must complete a minimum of 24 Integrative Studies credits, including 8 credits in each of the following three areas: Arts and Humanities (IAH); Biological and Physical Sciences (ISB, ISP) including 2 credits of lab; and Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences (ISS).

Tier I Writing:

Each student must either:

- a. Secure a waiver by receiving a 3 on the Advanced Placement Exam in English or earn course credit by receiving a 4 on the exam, or
- b. complete one 4-credit Tier I writing course (WRA 1xx). In some cases, based on the English placement exam, a student may be required to complete developmental writing courses (WRA 0102 and 1004) prior to enrolling in a Tier I writing course.

University Math:

A student may meet the mathematics requirement by:

- a. Obtaining a Mathematics Placement Service Exam score of at least 19 on a proctored exam, or
- b. completing one of the following at MSU:
 - i. one course from among MTH 110, 112, 116, 124, 132, 152H, and 201, or
 - ii. both MTH 103 and MTH 114, or
 - iii. either STT 200 or STT 201.

Additional:

Students must also:

- a. complete a minimum of 120 credits (123 if MTH 1825 is required);
- b. earn a minimum 2.0 cumulative and major GPA;
- c. not exceed 20 repeat credits;
- d. earn at least 30 credits from MSU;
- e. earn 27 credits on the East Lansing campus after junior status; and
- f. transfer only 10 of last 30 credits earned.

**If you have additional questions or concerns,
please contact your academic advisor for support.**



Political Science-Pre Law Degree Requirements Checksheet

Student:

Term Start:

PID:

Integrative Studies and University Requirements

Biological/Physical Science: ISB 2____ ISP 2____ ISB or ISP Lab 2____
 Arts & Humanities: IAH 2____ IAH 2____ (211+)
 Social Science: ISS 2____ ISS 3____
 Tier I Writing: WRA 1____ (110-150)
 Math: MTH ____ (MTH 110, 112, 116, 120, 124, 132, 152H, 201, or STT 200 or 201)

College and Department Requirements

College of Social Science (15 credits– ANP, CJ, EC, HDFS, GEO, HST, PSY, SOC, SW, UP)

EC 201 () EC 202 () _____ () _____ () _____ ()

College of Arts & Letters (9 credits– AMS, CLA, ENG, HA, LIN, LL, MUS, PHL, REL, ROM, STA, THR, WRA 200+, WS, foreign languages)

_____ () _____ () _____ ()

College of Natural Science (6 credits– AST, BMB, BS, CEM, ENT, GLG, MMG, MTH, PHY, PLB, PLP, PSL, STT, ZOL and ANP 202, CSE 101, GEO 203, GEO 206, HNF 150, HST 250)

_____ () _____ ()

Political Science Requirements

Course	Grade	ID
PLS 100	_____	<u>A</u>
PLS 1____	_____	—
PLS 200	_____	<u>M</u>
PLS 201	_____	<u>M</u>
PLS 320 or 321	_____	<u>A</u>
PLS 3____	_____	—
PLS 3____	_____	—
PLS 3____	_____	—
PLS 3____*	_____	—
PLS 4____W	_____	<u>W</u>

Students are required to complete 33 credits of PLS coursework; at least two courses each in A, M, P, I categories.

American Politics (A): PLS 100, PLS 301-334
 Political Methods (M): PLS 200, 201
 Political Philosophy (P): PLS 170, PLS 370-377
 International/Comparative Politics (I): PLS 140, 160, 342-358, 361-364
 Tier II Writing (W): PLS 422, 441

Note: Most 400-level PLS courses may substitute for 300-level coursework, but only one course equivalent of PLS 494(internship) or PLS 495 (independent study) can count toward the major requirements.

*One course taken to satisfy the International/Comparative Politics (I) requirement may also be selected from an approved list of courses (see reverse) outside of the PLS Dept.

Electives

_____ () _____ () _____ () _____ () _____ () _____ ()
 _____ () _____ () _____ () _____ () _____ () _____ ()

Other Graduation Requirements

- Two HST/PHL from approved list (see reverse)
- Maximum 20 repeat credits
- 120 total credits (123– if MTH 1825 is required)
- Transfer only 10 of last 30 credits
- Minimum 2.0 GPA (cumulative and major)
- Minimum 30 credits taken at MSU
- Minimum 30 credits @ 300/400 level
- 27 cr. on EL campus after junior status



Comparative and International Politics Options outside the PLS Department

*One of the courses taken to satisfy International & Comparative Politics (I) requirement may also be selected from an approved list of courses outside of the PLS Department. Some courses have prerequisites, please confirm your eligibility.

	EC 340	Survey of International Economics
	HST 390	History of International Relations (cannot be used for both Int'l & Comparative and HST/PHL req.)
	ANP 410	Revolution and Social Change in Latin America
	ANP 436	Globalization and Justice: Issues in Political and Legal Anthropology (I)
	ANP 439	Human Rights: Anthropological Perspectives (D)
	EC 440	International Trade
	EC 441	International Finance
	MC 241	Politics and Markets
	MC 320	Politics, Society and Economy in the Third World (request approval from James Madison College)
	MC 324A	Regional Politics, Cooperation, and Conflict in the Middle East
	MC 324B	Regional Politics, Cooperation, and Conflict in Sub-Saharan Africa
	MC 324C	Regional Politics, Cooperation, and Conflict in Latin America and the
Caribbean	MC 324D	Regional Politics, Cooperation, and Conflict in Asia
	MC 324E	Regional Politics, Cooperation, and Conflict in Europe
	MC 324F	Regional Politics, Cooperation and Conflict in North America
	MC 325	State and Society in Comparative Perspective
	MC 349	Economics of Legal Relationships in Comparative Perspective
	MC 362	Public International Law (request approval from James Madison College)
	MC 363	Global Governance (request approval from James Madison College)
	MC 421	Advanced International Political Economy (request approval from James Madison College)

Approved History and Philosophy list for Prelaw Majors

HISTORY

301	Colonial America: Three Worlds Meet
302	Revolutionary America
303	Union to Disunion
304	The American Civil War
305	The Making of the Modern United States
306	Modern United States
315	American Intellectual History to 1860
316	United States Intellectual History since 1860
318 A	United States Constitutional History I
318 B	United States Constitutional History II
320	History of Michigan
325	US Foreign Relations to 1914
326	US Foreign Relations since 1914
337	European Intellectual History: Natural Philosophy through Romanticism
338	European Intellectual History: Modernism and Post-Modernism
350	Constitutional and Legal History of Medieval England
351	Constitutional and Legal History of England since 1400
390	History of International Relations (cannot be used for both International & Comparative and HST/PHL req.)

Any 400 level History course

PHILOSOPHY

330	Formal Reasoning
340	Ethics
345	Business Ethics
350	Social and Political Philosophy
354	Philosophy of Law
355	Philosophy of Technology
356	Philosophical Aspects of Feminism
380	Nature of Science

Any 400 level Philosophy course



POLITICAL SCIENCE - PUBLIC POLICY

The requirements for the Political Science - Public Policy program include:

Department Requirements:

1. A minimum of 33 PLS credits.
2. 2.0 GPA or higher in PLS coursework.
3. PLS 100, 200, 201, 494.
4. PLS 310 or 313.
5. Select one Comparative/International*: PLS 140, 160, 342, 362, or 364.
6. Select three*: PLS 301, 302, 310, 313, 324, 325, 331, 342, 362, 364, PPL 807, or PPL 891.
7. Select one non-PLS course related to policy: (ABM 400, AEE 220, CE 846, CJ 421, CJ 474, EAD 361, EC 335, EC 360, EC 380, EGR 300, ESA 440, FCE 448, FOR 466, FW 181, FW 445, GBL 395, GBL 495H, LB 334, MC 221, MC 295, MC 326, MC 348, MC 351, MC 361, MC 364, MC 380, MC 450, MC 459, MC 469, MGT 409, SW 320, TC 210, ZOL 446).
8. One Tier II Writing course within the department (PLS 420 or 422).
9. EC 201 and one EC other course from this list: EC 202, 333, 335, 380, 435, or 436.

*Some versions of PLS 392, 422, and 495 may satisfy these requirements. Instructor approval is required for PPL courses.

College Requirements:

10. Complete coursework in Social Science, Arts and Letters, and Natural Sciences.
 - a. In Social Science, students must complete 15 credits, including: EC 201 and one additional EC course from approved list (see reverse of checksheet for approved list); and three more courses from any of the following departments: ANP, CJ, EC, HDFs, GEO, HST, PSY, SOC, SW, or UP.
 - b. In Arts & Letters, students must complete 9 credits from any of the following departments or courses: AMS, CLA, ENG, HA, LIN, LL, MUS, PHL, REL, ROM, STA, THR, WRA 200+, WS, foreign languages.
 - c. In Natural Science students must complete 6 credits from any of the following departments or courses: AST, BMB, BS, CEM, ENT, GLG, MMG, MTH, PHY, PLB, PLP, PSL, STT, ZOL, ANP 202, CSE 101, GEO 203, GEO 206, HNF 150, or HST 250.

**If you have additional questions or concerns,
please contact your academic advisor for support.**



POLITICAL SCIENCE - PUBLIC POLICY

UNIVERSITY REQUIREMENTS:

Integrative Studies:

Each student must complete a minimum of 24 Integrative Studies credits, including 8 credits in each of the following three areas: Arts and Humanities (IAH); Biological and Physical Sciences (ISB, ISP) including 2 credits of lab; and Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences (ISS).

Tier I Writing:

Each student must either:

- a. Secure a waiver by receiving a 3 on the Advanced Placement Exam in English or earn course credit by receiving a 4 on the exam, or
- b. complete one 4-credit Tier I writing course (WRA 1xx). In some cases, based on the English placement exam, a student may be required to complete developmental writing courses (WRA 0102 and 1004) prior to enrolling in a Tier I writing course.

University Math:

A student may meet the mathematics requirement by:

- a. Obtaining a Mathematics Placement Service Exam score of at least 19 on a proctored exam, or
- b. completing one of the following at MSU:
 1. one course from among MTH 110, 112, 116, 124, 132, 152H, and 201, or
 2. both MTH 103 and MTH 114, or
 3. either STT 200 or STT 201.

Additional:

Students must also:

- a. complete a minimum of 120 credits (123 if MTH 1825 is required);
- b. earn a minimum 2.0 cumulative and major GPA;
- c. not exceed 20 repeat credits;
- d. earn at least 30 credits from MSU;
- e. earn 27 credits on the East Lansing campus after junior status; and
- f. transfer only 10 of last 30 credits earned.

**If you have additional questions or concerns,
please contact your academic advisor for support.**



Political Science - Public Policy Degree Requirements Checksheet

Student:

Term Start:

PID:

Integrative Studies and University Requirements

Biological/Physical Science: ISB 2____ ISP 2____ ISB or ISP Lab 2____
 Arts & Humanities: IAH 2____ IAH 2____ (211+)
 Social Science: ISS 2____ ISS 3____
 Tier I Writing: WRA 1____ (110-150)
 Math: MTH ____ (MTH 110, 112, 116, 120, 124, 132, 152H, 201, or STT 200 or 201)

College and Department Requirements

College of Social Science (15 credits– ANP, CJ, EC, HDFS, GEO, HST, PSY, SOC, SW, UP) *See reverse for approved EC courses.

EC 201 () EC* ____ () ____ () ____ () ____ ()

College of Arts & Letters (9 credits– AMS, CLA, ENG, HA, LIN, LL, MUS, PHL, REL, ROM, STA, THR, WRA 200+, WS, foreign languages)

____ () ____ () ____ ()

College of Natural Science (6 credits– AST, BMB, BS, CEM, ENT, GLG, MMG, MTH, PHY, PLB, PLP, PSL, STT, ZOL and ANP 202, CSE 101, GEO 203, GEO 206, HNF 150, HST 250)

____ () ____ ()

Political Science Requirements

Course	Grade
PLS 100	_____
PLS 200	_____
PLS 201	_____
PLS 310 or 313	_____
PLS _____	_____
PLS _____	_____
PLS _____	_____
PLS _____	_____
PLS 494	_____
PLS 420 or 422	_____

Select one Comparative/International: PLS 140, 160, 342, 362, 364

Select three: PLS 301, 302, 310, 313, 324, 325, 331, 342, 362, 364, PPL 807, PPL 891

Select one: Non-PLS course related to policy (see reverse for approved courses).

*Some versions of PLS 392, 422, and 495 may satisfy these requirements. Instructor approval is required for PPL courses.

Electives

____ () ____ () ____ () ____ () ____ () ____ ()
 ____ () ____ () ____ () ____ () ____ () ____ ()

Other Graduation Requirements

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 120 total credits (123– if MTH 1825 is required) • Minimum 2.0 GPA (cumulative and major) • Minimum 30 credits @ 300/400 level • One non-PLS course from list (see reverse) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximum 20 repeat credits • Transfer only 10 of last 30 credits • Minimum 30 credits taken at MSU • 27 cr. on EL campus after junior status |
|--|--|



***Approved Economics list for Public Policy Majors**

EC 333	Government and Markets
EC 335	Taxes, Government, Spending and Public Policy
EC 435	Public Expenditures
EC 436	Public Revenues

Non-PLS Policy Options

ABM 400	Public Policy Issues in the Agri-Food System
AEE 220	Agriculture and Natural Resources Policy
CE 846	Transportation Policies and Decision-Making
CJ 421	Minorities, Crime, and Social Policy
CJ 474	Law and Criminal Justice Policy
EAD 361	Education Reform and Policy
EC 360	Private Enterprise and Public Policy
EC 380	Labor Relations and Labor Market Policy
EGR 300	Technology, Society and Public Policy
ESA 440	Environmental and Natural Resource Policy in Michigan
FCE 448	Child and Family Policy
FOR 466	Natural Resource Policy
FW 181	Introduction to Science, Technology, the Environment and Public Policy
FW 445	Socio-economics and Policy of Conservation Biology
GBL 395	Law, Public Policy, and Business
GBL 395H	Law, Public Policy, and Business-Honors
LB 334	Science, Technology, and Public Policy
MC 221	International Relations II: The Politics of International Economic Relations
MC 295	Research Design and Quantitative Analysis in Public Policy
MC 326	U.S. Foreign Policy
MC 348	Educational Policy
MC 351	Science and Social Policy
MC 361	Political Economy and Comparative Public Policymaking
MC 364	Policy Evaluation
MC 380	Social Policy
MC 450	International Environmental Law and Policy
MC 459	Science, Technology, Environment and Public Policy Capstone
MC 469	Applied Public Policy Research Seminar
MGT 409	Business Policy and Strategic Management
SW 320	Social Work and Social Policy I
TC 210	Media and Communication Policy
ZOL 446	Environmental Issues and Public Policy



POLITICAL SCIENCE – World Politics

The requirements for the Political Science World Politics program include:

Department Requirements:

10. A minimum of 33 PLS credits.
11. 2.0 GPA or higher in PLS coursework.
12. PLS 140 and PLS 160
13. PLS 200 and PLS 201
14. Five additional PLS courses at the 300 level.
 - a. International Relations: PLS 342, 362, 363, 364
 - b. Comparative Politics: PLS 344, 351, 352, 353, 354, 356, 357, 358
15. Distribution requirement of 300-level Political Science courses: at least two courses from International Relations and Comparative Politics.*
16. One Tier II Writing course within the department.**
17. One History and one Geography course at the 300 or 400 level.
 - a. Geography (choose 1): GEO 335 (Latin America), GEO 336 (Europe), GEO 337 (East Asia), GEO 338 (Africa)
 - b. History (choose 1): HST 336 (Contemporary Europe), HST 344 (Russia), HST 361 (Africa), HST 370 (Japan), HST 373 (Middle East), HST 381 (Latin America), HST 390 (History of International Relations).

- * American Government & Politics: PLS 100 and PLS 301-334
Methods of Political Analysis: PLS 200 and 201
Political Theory & Philosophy: PLS 170 and 370-377
International/Comparative Politics: PLS 140, 160, 342-358, and 361-364
- ** Tier II Writing (W): PLS 420, 421, 422, 440, 441, 460, 461, or 470

College Requirements:

18. Complete coursework in Social Science, Arts and Letters, and Natural Sciences.
 - a. In Social Science, students must complete 15 credits, including: EC 202, one of the following Geography courses: GEO 335, 336, 337, 338), one of the following History courses: HST 336, 344, 361, 370, 373, 381, 390, and six more credits from any of the following departments: ANP, CJ, EC, FCE, GEO, HST, PSY, SOC, SW, or UP.
 - b. In Arts & Letters, students must complete 9 credits from any of the following departments or courses: AMS, CLA, ENG, HA, LIN, LL, MUS, PHL, REL, ROM, STA, THR, WRA 200+, WS, foreign languages
 - c. In Natural Science students must complete 6 credits from any of the following departments or courses: AST, BMB, BS, CEM, ENT, GLG, MMG, MTH, PHY, PLB, PLP, PSL, STT, ZOL, ANP 202, CSE 101, GEO 203, GEO 206, or HNF 150.



UNIVERSITY REQUIREMENTS:

Integrative Studies:

Each student must complete a minimum of 24 Integrative Studies credits, including 8 credits in each of the following three areas: Arts and Humanities (IAH); Biological and Physical Sciences (ISB, ISP) including 2 credits of lab; and Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences (ISS).

Tier I Writing:

Each student must either:

- c. Secure a waiver by receiving a 3 on the Advanced Placement Exam in English or earn course credit by receiving a 4 on the exam, or
- d. complete one 4-credit Tier I writing course (WRA 1xx). In some cases, based on the English placement exam, a student may be required to complete developmental writing courses (WRA 0102 and 1004) prior to enrolling in a Tier I writing course.

University Math:

A student may meet the mathematics requirement by:

- c. Obtaining a Mathematics Placement Service Exam score of at least 19 on a proctored exam, or
- d. completing of one of the following options at MSU:
 - 1. one course from MTH 110, 112, 116, 124, 132, 152H, and 201, or
 - 2. both MTH 103 and MTH 114, or
 - 3. either STT 200 or STT 201.

Additional:

Students must also:

- g. complete a minimum of 120 credits (123 if MTH 1825 is required);
- h. earn a minimum 2.0 cumulative and major GPA;
- i. not exceed 20 repeat credits;
- j. earn at least 30 credits from MSU;
- k. earn 27 credits on the East Lansing campus after junior status; and
- l. transfer only 10 of last 30 credits earned.

**If you have additional questions or concerns about the program,
please contact your academic advisor for support.**

Political Science World Politics

Degree Requirements Checksheet

Student:

Term Start:

PID:

Integrative Studies and University Requirements

Biological/Physical Science: ISB 2____ ISP 2____ ISB or ISP Lab 2____
 Arts & Humanities: IAH 2____ IAH 2____ (211+)
 Social Science: ISS 2____ ISS 3____
 Tier I Writing: WRA 1____ (110-150)
 Math: MTH ____ (MTH 110, 112, 116, 120, 124, 132, 152H, 201, or STT 200 or 201)

College and Department Requirements

College of Social Science (15 credits– ANP, CJ, EC, FCE, GEO, HST, PSY, SOC, SW, UP) *See reverse for approved list of HST and GEO courses.

EC 202 () HST* () GEO* () () ()

College of Arts & Letters (9 credits– AMS, CLA, ENG, HA, LIN, LL, MUS, PHL, REL, ROM, STA, THR, WRA 200+, WS, foreign languages)

() () ()

College of Natural Science (6 credits– AST, BMB, BS, CEM, ENT, GLG, MMG, MTH, PHY, PLB, PLP, PSL, STT, ZOL, ANP 202, CSE 101, GEO 203, GEO 206, HNF 150, HST 250)

() ()

Course	Grade	ID
PLS 140	_____	I
PLS 160	_____	I
PLS 200	_____	M
PLS 201	_____	M
PLS 3____	_____	I
PLS 3____	_____	I
PLS 3____	_____	I
PLS 3____	_____	I
PLS 3____	_____	I
PLS 4____W	_____	W

Political Science Requirements

Students are required to complete 33 credits of PLS coursework; at least five courses in the International Relations/Comparative Politics category.

International Relations/Comparative Politics (I): PLS 140, 160, and
 Int'l Relations: PLS 342, 362, 363, 364
 Comparative Politics: PLS 344, 351, 352, 353, 354, 356, 357, 358
 Tier II Writing (W): PLS 422, 441

Electives

() () () () () ()
 () () () () () ()

Other Graduation Requirements

- 120 total credits (123– if MTH 1825 is required)
- Minimum 2.0 GPA (cumulative and major)
- Minimum 30 credits @ 300/400 level
- One HST **and** One GEO from approved list(see reverse)
- Maximum 20 repeat credits
- Transfer only 10 of last 30 credits
- Minimum 30 credits taken at MSU
- 27 cr. on EL campus after junior status



Approved History and Geography course list for World Politics majors (take one of each) *

History

HST 336 Contemporary Europe
HST 344 Russia
HST 361 Africa
HST 370 Japan
HST 368 China Since 1900
HST 373 Middle East
HST 381 Latin America
HST 390 History of International Relations

Geography

GEO 335 Latin America
GEO 336 Europe
GEO 337 East Asia
GEO 338 Africa
GEO 339 Geography of the Middle East



POLITICAL SCIENCE COURSES BY SUBJECT

American Politics (A)

PLS	100	Introduction to American National Government
	301	American State Government
	302	Urban Politics
	304	Minority Politics
	310	Public Bureaucracy in the Policy Process
	313	Public Policy Analysis
	320	American Judicial Process
	321	American Constitutional Law
	322	Comparative Legal Systems
	323	Religion and Politics
	324	American Legislative Process
	325	American Executive Process
	331	Political Parties and Interest Groups
	333	Political Socialization and Public Opinion
	334	Campaigns and Elections

Methods (M)

PLS	200	Introduction to Political Science
	201	Introduction to Methods of Political Analysis

International Relations/Comparative Politics (I)

PLS	140	Government and Politics of the World
	160	Introduction to International Relations
	342	Comparative Political Economy
	344	Politics of the Third World
	351	African Politics
	352	Latin American Politics
	353	Politics of Japan
	354	Politics of Asia
	356	West European Politics
	357	Politics of English Speaking Democracies
	358	Politics of the USSR and Its Successor States
	362	Foreign Policy
	363	International Political Conflict
	364	International Organization and Cooperation

Political Philosophy (P)

PLS	170	Introduction to Political Philosophy
	371	Classical Political Philosophy
	372	Modern Political Philosophy
	377	American Political Thought

Tier II Writing Requirement (W)

PLS	422	Seminar in Political Science Topics include: American Politics, Comparative Politics, International Relations, and Political Philosophy. Please check the online Schedule of Courses (www.schedule.msu.edu) to identify the most current topic in your seminar section.
PLS	441	Islam and World Politics. Interdepartmental with James Madison College.



PLS HONORS PROGRAM

The Department of Political Science offers an enriched program to members of the Honors College who are majoring in Political Science.

Honors College students must meet the following additional requirements:

1. At least two honors courses in Political Science (not including the Honors Seminar in Research Design and the Senior Honors Thesis). Honors courses include honors sections, honors options, and graduate seminars.
2. Honors Seminar in Research Design (PLS 481H). (Usually in spring semester of junior year.)
3. Senior Honors Thesis (PLS 491H). (Usually fall of senior year)
 - a. The Senior Honors Thesis satisfies the Tier II Writing requirement, with the approval of the Department.
 - b. The Senior Honors Thesis must be supervised by a faculty member in the Department of Political Science.

Honors College students are encouraged to take at least one graduate course in Political Science. Approval of the faculty instructor in the course is required.

Honors College students will be permitted to waive any of these additional requirements, including the senior honors thesis requirement, or to complete approved substitutes, if the waiver or substitution contributes to an enhancement of the student's undergraduate program. Alternative capstone experiences may be substituted for the Senior Honors Thesis. Approval of the Department's Honors Adviser is required for such waivers and substitutions.

All Political Science Honors College majors are required to complete the Senior Honors Thesis (or a comparable capstone) in order to graduate as a member in good standing of the Honors College.

The Department offers honors sections of PLS 100, 140, 160, 200, and 201 on a regular basis. Honors sections of 300-level courses are also offered occasionally. The Department also offers honors option opportunities in many courses; honors options must be arranged by agreement with the faculty instructor in the course early in the semester. If a student seeks to complete an honors option in a course taught by a graduate student instructor, approval of the Department's honors adviser is required, by both university and department policy. In order to achieve an honors option in any Political Science course, a grade of at least 3.0 in the course is required. Graduate courses also count as honors courses; honors students are encouraged to consider graduate course opportunities.

(See reverse for additional information)



PLS HONORS PROGRAM

The Honors Thesis

The honors program in the Department of Political Science provides opportunities for honors students to engage in original research under the close supervision of a faculty member in the Department. By writing an Honors Thesis, students have the chance to put their accumulated study of political science to use in a major, year-long project of independent research and scholarship. Typically, the honors thesis will be 25-50 pages. Additional research opportunities may be available, by arrangement with a faculty member in the Department, and may earn credit through PLS 490H, Honors Internship.

The Honors Seminar in Research Design (PLS 481H, usually taken in Spring of junior year) is designed to assist students in the preparation of a research design for the honors thesis. The honors thesis is a substantial work of independent research or scholarship, to be supervised by a faculty member in the Department and evaluated by an Honors Thesis Committee of three readers selected by the student in consultation with the Department. The Chair of the Honors Thesis Committee must (except in unusual circumstances and with the approval of the Department) be a faculty member in the Department. (If a faculty member from outside the Department is selected, a faculty supervisor from the Department will be designated as faculty of record for PLS 491H.) Graduate students in the Department of Political Science may serve on an Honors Thesis Committee with the approval of the Department. Faculty and academic staff at MSU from outside the Department may serve on an Honors Thesis Committee with the approval of the Department.

After completion of the Honors Thesis, the Department will arrange for an oral presentation of the thesis. The defense will be open to Department faculty and students. The Committee will confer honors as follows:

HONORS: completion of a substantial work of independent research or scholarship that would earn at least a 3.0 on a final paper in one of the Department's Tier II Writing courses.

HIGH HONORS: completion of a substantial work of independent research or scholarship that would earn a 4.0 on a final paper in one of the Department's Tier II Writing courses.

HIGHEST HONORS: completion of a substantial work of independent research or scholarship that would, with modest revisions, be of a quality sufficient for presentation at a professional conference, or that would meet a comparable standard appropriate to the project.

Students may enroll for 3-6 credits of PLS 491H, Senior Honors Thesis.

Honors students are encouraged to present honors thesis work at the University Undergraduate Research and Arts Forum (usually in April).



PLS TEACHING MINOR

Students who are majoring in Education may earn a teaching minor in Political Science. Students should complete the following requirements to achieve the teaching minor and prepare for the state's competency exam:

Three of the following: PLS 100, 140, 160, 170

Three of the following: PLS 201, 301, 302,304,310,313, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325,
331,333,334 (American Politics)
PLS 342,344,351,352,354,356,357,358,362, (Comparative Politics)
363, 364 (International Relations)
PLS 371, 372, 377 (Political Theory)



DEGREE ENHANCEMENTS

MSU offers a number of degree enhancements that may be used to complement or extend academic interest. Students should contact the department or office that sponsors the degree enhancement to inquire about specific requirements or formally add it to their primary degree.

Second Degree

Second degrees require ~150 total credits. With this option, students earn a second diploma.

Primary Major

The PLS primary majors require 33-48 degree-specific courses. Student must graduate with ~120 total credits.

Additional Major

Generally, additional majors require 30-45 additional credits. Students must complete a minimum of ~120 total credits. This major is transcriptable and does not result in a second diploma.

Minor

Minors were first introduced to MSU in the late summer months of 2006. Slowly, departments have begun to offer minor programs. Currently, the only minor the PLS Department offers is the Teaching Minor. Most minors require at least 20 credits.

Specialization

Most specializations comprise sets of courses that may be linked thematically. While most specializations are available to all undergraduates, others may be limited to students in designated majors or programs. Most specializations range from 14 - 28 credits. For more information please visit:

<http://www.reg.msu.edu/ucc/specializations.asp>

*The Undergraduate
Degree Ladder*

Second Degree

Primary Major

Additional Major

Minor

Specialization



AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

The Department of Political Science receives information each semester about awards and scholarships that are available either to College of Social Science students exclusively or to all Michigan State students. As this information becomes available, the advisors will circulate the information to all political science majors. Many of these awards have specific criteria that students must meet in order to be eligible and materials must be submitted by the designated deadline. For additional information, students should contact the respective department or college that coordinates the scholarship.

Two scholarships that are coordinated by the Department of Political Science include:

Burton L. and Rosalie P. Gerber Scholarship

Established to provide assistance to a student who has shown through academic excellence and diverse activities that he or she has a commitment to public service and a goal of joining one of the foreign affairs agencies in the United States. Criteria include: 3.5GPA, PLS or IDS major with an emphasis in International Studies with at least 3 upper-division PLS courses, participation in extra-curricular activities while at MSU, and undergraduate senior (at the time the award is dispersed- usually in the Fall term). Preference to students funding a major share of own college expenses. Deadline: Mid-February. In late fall, look for email announcements inviting you to apply from the PLS Department.

Richard B. Gerisch Scholarship

Established to provide assistance to students who evidence determination and dedication to public administration. This scholarship also honors students who show personal responsibility and efficiency in their public service ethics. Criteria include: Public Administration and Public Policy majors or IDS major of Public Policy Studies; must be juniors in Spring Semester of award year who will be seniors in college the following year and completed at least one semester of course work at MSU; must be preparing for careers in public policy or public administration in government, non-profit sector public interest association, or private sector organizations that deal with the interrelationship between private enterprise and public policy; must show evidence of intellectual maturity and a well-rounded undergraduate education (academic and career related development). Deadline: Late January. Please consult SSC link for application (<http://socialscience.msu.edu/current/scholarships.html>).

Other popular scholarships that are pursued by PLS majors include:

College of Social Science Distinguished Scholarships

Ernest G. & Phyllis C. Green Black Alumni Scholarship

Charles Hayden Kelly Scholarship

Dr. Charles A. & Marjorie A. Gliozzo Endowed Scholarship for Domestic/International Internships

To search for other scholarships within the College of Social Science, please visit:

<http://socialscience.msu.edu/current/scholarships.html>



STUDY ABROAD / STUDY AWAY

Michigan State University encourages students to take advantage of the opportunities available for overseas study. As technology and politics contribute to a global society, international experience facilitates an understanding of other peoples and societies and the ability to function as an informed citizen in the 21st century. Many of the programs offered by MSU fulfill graduation requirements. The Department of Political Science promotes three programs of study in particular: Washington, D.C., United Kingdom, and Australia. Courses are taught by political science faculty from MSU and by guest lecturers. Ask an advisor to help you determine how overseas study will work in your degree program.

Washington, D.C.

Program offered Fall and Spring terms. Apply in early spring. This program provides an exceptional opportunity for qualified students to live and work in our nation's capital while maintaining a full program of academic study. The twelve-week program offers a full range of courses, including a work assignment in one of Washington's wide range of government agencies, not-for-profit organizations, or corporations. Student participants have the opportunity to interact with Washington professionals and to enjoy the city's vast cultural and educational resources while earning 12 academic credits.

http://www.socialscience.msu.edu/current/study_away.html#Washington

United Kingdom

Program offered Summer term only. Apply in early. Earn a minimum of 7 credits to a maximum of 12 credits. During this five-week program, earn Social Science (ISS) and/or Political Science credit while studying British politics, society, and culture in two of the great cities of the United Kingdom. London is one of the world's great political centers, the birthplace of representative democracy and the busy heart of a major European parliamentary system. It is also a lively center of Western culture and entertainment. Students will have access to some of the world's greatest museums and historic sites, as well as to the theatre and rock concerts and much more. Edinburgh is the historic capital of Scotland. It is a beautiful city (sometimes called the "Athens of the North"), located in a splendid natural setting, and it is the political and cultural heart of Scotland. <http://studyabroad.msu.edu/programs/ukpolisci.html>

Australia

Program offered Spring term only. Apply early! This six-week interdisciplinary program is open to all majors and offers a unique opportunity to study firsthand the people, government, justice system and public policies of Australia. You'll have ample time to travel independently after the program in Australia, New Zealand, the Pacific Islands or Asia. As a means of broadly exploring specific points of contrast, this study abroad program gives an overview of the contemporary government, political, and justice systems of Australia. It also examines traditional and emerging public policy in several areas of importance to contemporary Australia (i.e. the environment, immigration, aboriginal affairs, equal opportunity, multiculturalism, social welfare, health, and international relations). Where appropriate, comparisons are drawn to the United States. <http://studyabroad.msu.edu/programs/austpeople.html>.

If you are interested in another area of the world or topics of particular interest, please explore the large variety of programs available @ <http://studyabroad.msu.edu>.



INTERNSHIPS: PLS 494

While field experience is required only for Public Policy majors, Prelaw, General Political Science, and World Politics majors should consider gaining practical experience during their undergraduate studies. Students can learn valuable job search and career exploration techniques, develop job-related skills, and frequently make contacts that will be useful in their careers after graduation.

If you would like to earn academic credit for your field experience, the Political Science Department offers a course for which you can apply. The application is available online @ <http://polisci.msu.edu/index.php/undergraduate-program/internship-program>. The program has a limited number of spaces per semester so students should make plans and prepare their applications prior to the semester in which they would like to participate, and have it preapproved by the PLS Internship Coordinator. PLS 494 may be used as one substitution for one 300-level PLS course.

Program requirements

Interns must:

- ✓ Be a PLS undergraduate student at Michigan State University
- ✓ Have a minimum GPA of 2.50 at the time of application
- ✓ Have completed 60 credits by the start of their internship
- ✓ Agree to work 3 hours per week for each credit hour they are seeking
- ✓ Attend the mandatory course orientation and the subsequent roundtable course sessions
- ✓ Complete the Agreement and Requirement & Responsibilities Forms
- ✓ Complete all reading and writing assignments for the course.
- ✓ Complete the midterm examination.
- ✓ Adhere to all posted dates and deadlines

Program Details

Students are responsible for securing their placement. Generally, this placement can be in a variety of areas within the following guidelines:

- ✓ Internships must be related to government, politics, or public service
- ✓ Students may not serve as intern in an office where they have previously worked
- ✓ Internship credit will not be given for page positions
- ✓ Only one MSU Political Science student per semester may serve in any office
- ✓ Students can only receive a total of 6 credits for a PLS internship; minimum number of credits a student can receive is 3 credits
- ✓ Students may not serve in internships on campus
- ✓ Full or part time jobs will not be eligible for internship credit
- ✓ All internships must be approved by the coordinator



INDEPENDENT STUDY: PLS 495

The purpose of an independent study is to pursue a subject that is not covered in a scheduled class. This may be further research on a topic raised in class or something that is not available in the University catalog. A student must have a topic of interest or a research plan and then approach a faculty member in the appropriate field. In general, faculty members will not agree to supervise independent study unless the student has done course work with them previously and has sufficient background to undertake the project. Remember, students who enroll in PLS independent studies receive a numerical grade, not a pass/no pass grade.

Once a project has been approved, the student must file an independent study application with the department.

NOTE: Only 3 credits of PLS 494 (internship) or 495 (independent study) may count toward the Political Science requirement. There is an overall limit of 20 combined credits allowed in internship/fieldwork and independent study.



INVESTIGATE YOUR CAREER OPTIONS

How do I know which career is right for me?

The best way to learn about a career is to talk to individuals who have held similar positions. Find professionals in your area who are willing to share their experiences. If you are unsure of where to begin, the Internship Coordinator for your major may be able to give you names and/or contact information of local professionals. You can also visit the College of Social Science Career Services website (http://socialscience.msu.edu/career_services/) identify career options, design personal career plans, develop job/internship search strategies, plan for graduate school and much more.

Job shadowing is a fantastic way to understand everyday tasks and get a sense of the day-to-day work of different professions. Spend a couple of hours, or even a few days, with a lawyer, a campaign manager, or a government official to better understand what their job really entails.

Another way to gain insight is to conduct an *informational interview*. Meet with a professional who is currently working in the field that interests you and ask them about their work. Why did they choose their position? What do they like/dislike about their career? Do they have recommendations for a student or new professional who wants to get into the field?

There are also a number of online resources that provide information on various careers. This is an opportunity to put your newly learned research skills to the test. You can start your search by visiting these websites:

www.myspartancareer.com (MSU's career resource for students)

http://www.educationindex.com/poli_sci/ (Government and Political Science Resources)

www.ourpublicservice.org (Government Jobs)

www.usajobs.opm.gov (Government Jobs)

www.studentjobs.gov (Government Jobs for Students)

www.mnaonline.org (Michigan Nonprofit Association)

Everyone wants me to have experience. How do I get it?

Complete some field experience through an internship class. Not all programs of study require internships to graduate, but this can be an invaluable opportunity to network, gain experience, and explore different career paths. Internship credits can also be used to meet other requirements within your major (i.e. one 300-level PLS requirement will be waived upon completion of a PLS 494 Political Science Internship).

In the past, what careers have political science graduates selected?

Recent MSU Political Science graduates are enrolled in a variety of graduate programs, including law, public administration, political science, business administration, labor and industrial relations, history, and psychology. Others are employed by businesses, industry, and several branches of government.

What are some of the traditional career suggestions for political science graduates?

Lawyer, paralegal, Campaign worker, journalist, events planner, researcher, editor, executive search consultant, political correspondent, human resources specialist, foreign service worker, policy analyst, public opinion analyst, education, consulting, public relations advisor, urban policy planner, labor relations specialist, congressional researcher, historical archivist, lobbyist, parole/probation officer, social worker, consumer advocate, etc.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

When should I meet with an adviser?

You should meet with an adviser at least **once a year** to plan your schedule for the following academic year. Enrollment usually begins in early April, so it is recommended that you schedule an appointment **early** in Spring semester (February). It is often a good idea to meet with an adviser to discuss dropping or adding classes, study abroad programs, graduate school or law school, internships and career options. You are required to meet with your adviser in the semester prior to graduation to ensure that you have met all the necessary requirements.

How do I make an appointment? Log onto the online advising appointment system.

(<https://ntweb11.ais.msu.edu/AAS/AppLogin.Asp?Unit=PoliticalScience>) You'll need your MSUNetID and password to log in. Be sure to write down the time and date for which you've scheduled your appointment. If you know in advance you will be unable to make it to an appointment you've scheduled, please log back into the system and cancel it, or call 353-7225 to cancel. This allows us to give all of our students the best possible service.

How do I drop a course?

Anytime prior to the start of classes, through the middle of the semester **you can drop your own classes** on the **Student Enrollment System** (<http://webenroll.msu.edu/>). After the middle of the semester you need to pick up a late drop form in 201 Berkey Hall, complete it, and schedule an appointment with the Director or Assistant Director of Student Affairs – call 355-6676.

How do I get an override?

Sometimes, courses you want to add to your schedule are full or restricted for other reasons. In this case, you might try to obtain an override. **Overrides are granted at the discretion of the instructor or department offering the specific course.** For Political Science classes, you must contact the instructor directly and ask if they are willing to grant the override. Once you have instructor approval, students can forward the email from the instructor granting you permission to join the class to Sarah Krause (skrause@msu.edu), PLS Department secretary. For other subjects, you may want to contact the department directly (www.msu.edu/academics/areas.html) to inquire about their override policy.

What is a late add and how do I get one?

The term “late add” applies to adding any course after 5pm on the last day of the “Open Add” period. For **Political Science** courses, you need a form filled out by the instructor giving you permission to add the class. You take this form to the Department Office that teaches the course and they will add you to the class. For **other subjects**, you may want to contact the department directly to inquire about their late add policy.

What are the prerequisites for a class?

Check out the **Schedule of Courses** (www.schedule.msu.edu) or the **Description of Courses** (<http://www.reg.msu.edu/Courses/Search.asp>) for information on classes, including prerequisites, restrictions, descriptions, and semester offerings.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How do I apply to the College of Social Science?

You don't need to apply to the College of Social Science. Once you have declared a major within the college, you will be automatically considered for acceptance upon reaching junior status (56 credits). Everyone currently in good academic standing is normally admitted to the College of Social Science.

How can I tell who is teaching a specific course?

Use the **Schedule of Courses** (www.schedule.msu.edu) to find the professor for a class. If no professor is shown, you can contact the department to see if more information is available. The department location and phone number is indicated in the top right corner.

Can I get a minor?

Few departments offer minors. You will have to ask your advisor or call the department in which you are interested. Currently, you can earn a teaching minor in Political Science only if you are a student within the College of Education; however, MSU does offer a number of ways to enhance your academic experience. You can add an **academic specialization** (<http://www.reg.msu.edu/academicprograms/Programs.asp?PType=SPCU>) or Academic Minor (<http://www.reg.msu.edu/academicprograms/Programs.asp?PType=MNUN>) to your major. You can also complete an **additional major** (in most cases, you will still only need 120/123 credits to graduate) or a second degree (150/153 credits to graduate in most cases). It is a good idea to visit an academic adviser in the major you are considering to determine what courses you would need to complete a specialization, additional major, or second degree.

How do I change my major?

If you are a freshman or sophomore (0-55 credits), you need to go to a Undergraduate University Division (UUD) office (<http://www.msu.edu/dept/uud/main.html>) to change your major. Students are designated to UUD offices based on where they live. If you are a junior or senior (56 credits or more), the major change can be requested with the College of Social Science Student Affairs Office in 201 Berkey Hall or with your advisor.

Should I complete an internship?

Absolutely! Now, not all programs of study require internship experience to graduate, but this can be an invaluable opportunity to network, gain experience, and check out different career paths. Internship credits can also sometimes be used to meet other requirements within your major (like a 300-level PLS course, for example!).

How and when do I apply for graduation?

There is an online graduation application on the **Registrar's website** (www.reg.msu.edu). Fall Semester graduates need to apply to graduate by the end of the first week of Fall Semester, and Spring and Summer graduates need to apply to graduate by the end of the first week of Spring Semester.

Can I take classes at another school to meet my MSU requirements?

Yes! Check out the **Transfer Credit Equivalency System** (www.transfer.msu.edu) to see how courses from different schools transfer back to Michigan State. Be careful though— **once you have earned 56 credits (at MSU or anywhere else) you can no longer transfer credit from community college**— it must come from an accredited, 4-year institution!



FACULTY IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

- Abramson, Paul**, Professor; Ph.D., University of California at Berkley. American Politics, Comparative Politics (Western Europe).
- Appel, Benjamin**, Professor; Ph.D., University of Maryland, College Park. International Relations.
- Ayoob, Mohammed**, University Distinguished Professor of International Relations, Coordinator of the Muslim Studies Program. Comparative Politics.
- Bali, Valentina**, Associate Professor; Ph.D., California Institute of Technology. Public Policy, Methodology, State Politics.
- Black, Ryan**, Assistant Professor; Ph.D., Washington University in St. Louis. American Politics, Judicial Process.
- Bodea, Cristina**, Assistant Professor; Ph.D., University of Rochester. Comparative Politics.
- Bratton, Michael**, Professor; Ph.D., Brandeis University. Comparative Politics, African Politics, Development Administration.
- Chang, Eric C.C.**, Associate Professor; Ph.D., UCLA. Comparative Politics, Methodology.
- Colaresi, Michael**, Assistant Professor; Ph.D., Indiana University. International Relations, Comparative Politics, Methodology.
- Conroy-Krutz, Jeffrey**, Assistant Professor; Ph.D., Columbia University. Comparative Politics, African Politics.
- Grossmann, Matthew**, Assistant Professor; Ph.D., University of California at Berkley. American Politics, Political Behavior, Research Methods.
- Hall, Melinda**, Professor; Ph.D. University of New Orleans. Judicial Policy-Making and Behavior.
- Hammond, Thomas**, Professor; Ph.D., University of California at Berkley. Public Administration, Formal Theory, American Government, Comparative Institutions.
- Hula, Richard**, Professor and Chairperson of the Political Science Department; Ph.D., Northwestern University. Urban Politics, Methodology.
- Jacoby, William G.**, Professor; Ph.D., University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Political Behavior, Methodology, American Politics.
- Juenke, Eric J.**, Assistant Professor; Ph.D., University of Colorado at Boulder. Chicano/Latino Studies.
- Kautz, Steven**, Associate Professor, Director of Graduate Studies; Ph.D., University of Chicago. American Political Thought, Modern Political Philosophy
- Lee, Daniel**, Assistant Professor; Ph.D., Duke University. American Politics and Political Institutions.
- Logan, Carolyn**, Assistant Professor and Associate Director of the Afrobarometer; Ph.D., Fletcher School at Tufts University. Democratization, International Relations, Political Development in Africa.
- Melzer, Arthur**, Professor; Ph.D., Harvard University. Political Thought, Ethics in Administration, Policy-Making.



FACULTY IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

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Reese, Laura, Professor and Director of the Global and Urban Studies Program (GUSP); Ph.D., Wayne State University. Urban Politics and Public Policy, Economic Development, Local Governance in Canada and the United States.

Sapotichne, Joshua, Ph.D., University of Washington. Public Policy, American Politics, Political Methodology.

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Smidt, Corwin, Assistant Professor; Ph.D., Ohio State University. American Politics and Research Methods.

Sheehan, Reginald, Professor; Ph.D., University of South Carolina. Judicial Policy-Making and Behavior.

Silver, Brian, Professor; Ph.D., University of Wisconsin. Comparative Politics, Soviet Politics, Survey Research.

Stein, Barry, Professor; Ph.D., New York University. Refugees, International Relations, International Law.

Thomas, Jakana; Professor; Ph.D., Pennsylvania State University. International Relations.

Weinberger, Jerry, Professor; Ph.D., Harvard University. Political Philosophy.

Williams, Kenneth, Professor; Ph.D., University of Texas. American Institutions, Voting Behavior, Formal Theory, Methodology.



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