The BA Degree in Political Science

Department of Political Science
California State University, Chico
Chico, California 95929-0455
www.csuchico.edu/pols

Dr. Diana Dwyre, Coordinator
Political Science Undergraduate Program
Department of Political Science
(530) 898-5734
ddwyre@csuchico.edu

Revised 6/14
The Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science

1. Total Course Requirements for the Bachelor’s Degree: 120 units

See “Requirements for the Bachelor’s Degree” in the University Catalog for complete details on general degree requirements. A minimum of 40 units, including those required for the major, must be upper division.

A suggested Major Academic Plan (MAP) has been prepared to help students meet all graduation requirements within four years. Please request a plan from your major adviser or view it and other current advising information on the CSU Website.

2. General Education requirements: 48 units

See “General Education Requirements” in the University Catalog and the Class Schedule for the most current information on General Education Requirements and course offerings. The course requirements marked below with an asterisk (*) may also be applied toward General Education.

3. Cultural Diversity Course Requirements: 6 units

See “Cultural Diversity” in the University Catalog. Most Courses used to satisfy these requirements may also apply to General Education.

4. United States History, Constitution and American Ideals Requirements: 6 units

See “United States History, Constitution, and American Ideals Requirements” in the University Catalog. Courses used to satisfy this requirement do not apply to General Education.

5. Literacy Requirements: 6 units

See “Mathematics and Writing Requirements” in the University Catalog. Writing Proficiency in the major is a graduation requirement and may be demonstrated through satisfactory completion of a course in your major which has been designated as the Writing Proficiency (WP) course for the semester in which you take the course. Students who earn below a “C-” are required to repeat the course and earn a “C-” or better to receive Writing Proficiency credit. (See “The Class Schedule” for the designated Writing Proficiency courses for each semester. You must pass ENGL 341, Reading Literature, formerly ENGL 101 (or its equivalent) with a “C-” or better before you may register for a WP course.
COURSE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE POLITICAL SCIENCE MAJOR: 36 – 46 units

Degree Core Requirements: 10 units

FOUNDATION: 4 units

2 courses required:

POLS 331  Intro to Political Inquiry 3.0
Prerequisite: Successful completion of ENGL 001 (or its equivalent)
POLS 331X  Techniques in Political Science Res. 1.0

POLITICAL THEORY: 3 units

1 course selected:

POLS 431  American Political Thought 3.0
POLS 432  Recent American Political Thought 3.0
POLS 434  Origin West Political Thought 3.0
This course is the same as PHIL 234, which may be substituted.
POLS 436  Liberal/Conservative Traditions 3.0
This course is the same as PHIL 236, which may be substituted.
POLS 437  Contemporary Political Thought 3.0
This course is the same as PHIL 237, which may be substituted.
POLS 438  Jurisprudence/Philosophy of Law 3.0
This course is the same as PHIL 238, which may be substituted.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS: 3 units

POLS 341  International Relations 3.0

Option in General Political Science: 26 units

American Government and Politics: 6 units

2 courses selected from:

POLS 324  Women and Politics 3.0
This course is the same as WMST 324, which may be substituted.
POLS 327  Politics of Race/Ethnicity in the U.S. 3.0
POLS 402  State and Local Government 3.0
POLS 404  Interests Groups and Lobbying 3.0
Prerequisites: POLS 402 and POLS 473 are recommended.
POLS 422  Political Socialization/Behavior 3.0
POLS 423  Political Parties 3.0
POLS 424  Public Opinion & Propaganda 3.0
This course is the same as CMST 424 & JOUR 424, which may be substituted.
POLS 427  US Campaigns and Elections 3.0
POLS 428  Politics and the Media 3.0
This course is the same as CMST 428 & JOUR 428, which may be substituted.
POLS 471A  Public Policy Formation 3.0
POLS 472  The Presidency 3.0
POLS 473  Congress 3.0
CONSTITUTIONAL LAW: 3 units
1 course selected from:

- POLS 451A Foundation of American Constitutional Law 3.0
- POLS 451B Civil Rights and Civil Liberties 3.0
  *This course is the same as MCGS 251B, which may be substituted.*
- POLS 453 Legal Process and Behavior 3.0

COMMUNITY SERVICE INTERNSHIP: 3 units
1 course selected from:

- POLS 489A Intern Public Administration 3.0
  *Prerequisites: 3.0 cumulative GPA; faculty permission*
- POLS 489B Intern Public Administration 3.0
  *Prerequisites: 3.0 cumulative GPA; faculty permission*
- POLS 489C Internship in Political Science 3.0
  *Prerequisites: 3.0 cumulative GPA; faculty permission*
- POLS 489D Internship in Political Science 3.0
  *Prerequisites: 3.0 cumulative GPA; faculty permission*
- POLS 489K Internship in Public Law 3.0
  *Prerequisites: 3.0 cumulative GPA; faculty permission*
- POLS 489L Internship in Public Law 3.0
  *Prerequisites: 3.0 cumulative GPA; faculty permission*
- POLS 489P Work Experience Public Agencies 3.0
  *Prerequisites: Senior standing; faculty permission*

SENIOR CAPSTONE: 5 units
3 courses required:

- POLS 397A Tutorial in Political Science 1.0
  *Prerequisite: faculty permission*
- POLS 399 Special Problems 1.0
  *Prerequisite: faculty permission*
- POLS 429 Capstone in American Politics 3.0

UPPER DIVISION ELECTIVE REQUIREMENT: 9 units
9 units selected from:

Any upper-division Political Science (POLS) courses (with no more than 6 units from internships and 3 units of independent research or study counting toward the major).
**Electives Requirement:**

To complete the total units required for the bachelor’s degree, select additional elective courses from the total University offerings. You should consult with an adviser regarding the selection of courses which will provide breadth to your University experience and possibly apply to a supportive second major or minor.

**Grading requirement:**

All courses taken to fulfill major course requirements must be taken for a letter grade, except those courses specified by the department as Credit/No Credit grading only.

**Advising requirement:**

Advising is mandatory for all majors in this degree program. Consult your undergraduate adviser for specific information.

---

**THE MINOR IN POLITICAL SCIENCE**

The minor in Political Science offers students a rich curriculum in the study of public power: Who has it? Who influences it? How does it work? Political Science focuses on the outworking of public power on local, state, national and international levels. Its lessons also apply to family and job relationships. Courses cover such fields as American government and politics, international relations, public administration, and public law. Please note that the Department of Political Science offers a wide range of outstanding internship opportunities in local, state, and national positions, as well as those which are law-related.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MINOR: 20 UNITS**

The following courses, or their approved transfer equivalents, are required of all candidates for this minor.

20 units selected from: Any upper-division courses in Political Science (not including POLS 355). The courses selected must include at least one course in four of the eight major areas of Political Science: State and Local Government; Comparative Government; American Politics; Political Theory and Methodology; International Relations; Public Law; Public Administration/Criminal Justice; and American National Government.

Students must meet with the Coordinator of Political Science in order to declare a minor in Political Science.

---

**FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT:**

**Dr. Diana Dwyre, Coordinator**
Undergraduate Political Science Program
**Butte 715 - Phone (530) 898-5734**
E-mail: ddwyre@csuchico.edu
California State University, Chico

**MAJOR ACADEMIC PLAN (MAP)**

**Major:** The Bachelor of Arts in Political Science

**Option:** Political Science (General Political Science)

**Degree Units:** 120

**Major Units:** 36

**Elective Units:** 36

---

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First Semester</th>
<th>Second Semester</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GE Area A [*C-]</td>
<td>GE Area A [*C-]</td>
<td>[*C-] C- or Better is required.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GE Area A [*C-]</td>
<td>GE Area A [*C-]</td>
<td>[*MINOR] Students are encouraged to use their Electives to complete a minor.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GE Area C</td>
<td>GE Area D</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 130 or POLS 155</td>
<td>HIST 130 or POLS 155</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elective or Minor [*MINOR]</td>
<td>Elective or Minor [*MINOR]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Units:</strong> 15</td>
<td><strong>Total Units:</strong> 15</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Third Semester</th>
<th>Fourth Semester</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GE Area B</td>
<td>POLS 331 (WP) [*C-]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GE Area C</td>
<td>POLS 331X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GE Area D</td>
<td>POLS 341</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GE Area E</td>
<td>GE Area B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elective or Minor [*MINOR]</td>
<td>Elective or Minor [*MINOR]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Units:</strong> 15</td>
<td><strong>Total Units:</strong> 15-16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fifth Semester</th>
<th>Sixth Semester</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Political Theory Selection</td>
<td>American Govt and Politics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Political Science UD Elective</td>
<td>Constitutional Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GE UD Pathway</td>
<td>GE UD Pathway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elective or Minor [*MINOR]</td>
<td>Elective or Minor [*MINOR]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Units:</strong> 15</td>
<td><strong>Total Units:</strong> 15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Seventh Semester</th>
<th>Eighth Semester</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>American Govt and Politics</td>
<td>POLS 397</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Political Science UD Elective</td>
<td>POLS 399</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GE UD Pathway</td>
<td>POLS 429 (SP) (Capstone)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elective or Minor [*MINOR]</td>
<td>Elective or Minor [*MINOR]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elective or Minor [*MINOR]</td>
<td>Elective (0-1 units as needed)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Units:</strong> 15</td>
<td><strong>Total Units:</strong> 14-15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

*Transfer Students: Review your Degree Progress Report (DPR) in your Student Center, meet with your Major Department Advisor for major coursework, and meet with an Academic Advisor in SSC 220 to review General Education (including Writing Intensive "WI" and Capstone "C") and Graduation requirements.*

*It is recommended that you meet with your major advisor early in your academic career and every semester.*

*Consider meeting the United States Diversity and Global Cultures requirements within GE courses.*

*Complete a minimum of 4 Writing Intensive (WI) courses—one will be met by your Written Communication Course and one by your Capstone Course; select 2 additional WI courses.*

*Select a GE Capstone Course in your Upper-Division Pathway, or substitute an approved Major Capstone course from the GE Capstone Requirement.*

*Apply to graduate one year before anticipated graduation date.*

---

Consult the 2014-2015 University Catalog for official degree program

Approved: 05/31/2014

POLSonBay:Office:Program Handouts 14-15 :POLS Handout 14-15