

POLITICAL SCIENCE, BA

Political Science is the study of government and political thought, and how the formal and informal institutions of power shape our lives. As a field of study, Political Science has a rich history, and thinkers in the field have influenced our understanding of critical questions about human societies, including: What is the best form of government? How can societies rebuild themselves after violent conflict? What causes war and what kinds of institutions can prevent it? Modern Political Scientists grapple with an exceptional range of problems facing governments and citizens, including how to increase turnout in elections, how to foster cooperation between governments to fight climate change, and how to safeguard the rights of minorities and marginalized groups.

A major in Political Science is appropriate for students considering careers in law, political campaigns and elections, public policy, social advocacy, foreign service and diplomacy, non-governmental organizations, intelligence work, civil service and many more. Because politics is the key to understanding how American democracy functions, as well as how power is contested in other societies and in the global arena, many global leaders in the United States and around the world majored in political science, including several members of the U.S. Supreme Court, President Barack Obama, Secretaries of State John Kerry and Hillary Clinton, former Danish Prime Minister Helle Thorning-Schmidt and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Roosevelt's faculty in Political Science teach and research about a broad array of topics, including the role of race in American politics, global economic development, human rights, terrorism, Chicago politics and constitutional law. What unites the faculty in the department is a commitment to the intellectual and social development of our students, as well as a shared belief that social justice can only be achieved with a robust understanding of the political world and the challenges awaiting the next generation of socially conscious leaders.

Political Science majors are encouraged to pursue a minor in related and complementary fields, particularly Journalism and History (<http://catalog.roosevelt.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/history-ba>). Students who anticipate applying to law school should strongly consider a minor in Legal Studies (<http://catalog.roosevelt.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/legal-studies-minor>).

Requirements

- Students must complete 11 courses in the major, with at least five courses at the 300 level.
- All courses in the major must be completed with a grade of C or higher.
- Transfer students must take at least six Political Science courses at Roosevelt University.
- Majors are encouraged to take ECON 101 PRINCIPLES OF ECONOMICS I and ECON 102 PRINCIPLES OF ECONOMICS II.
- Students planning to attend law school are strongly encouraged to pursue a minor in Legal Studies (<http://catalog.roosevelt.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/legal-studies-minor>).
- Students planning to pursue graduate study in political science should discuss with their advisors appropriate courses of study in languages and statistics.

Introductory courses

Select three of the following:

POS 101	UNITED STATES POLITICS	
POS 102	INTRODUCTION TO COMPARATIVE POLITICS	
POS 103	INTRODUCTION TO INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS	
POS 104	INTRODUCTION TO POLITICAL THEORY	
POS 2XX	One additional 200-level course in Political Science	3
POS 290	RESEARCH IN POLITICAL SCIENCE	3
Six electives in political science, five at the 300 level		18
General Education, University Writing Requirement, and Electives		
Courses to total 120		87
Total Credit Hours		120

General Education Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Academic Communities of Practice		
ACP 101	FIRST YEAR SEMINAR ¹	3
ACP 110	PRIMARY TEXTS	3
ACP 250	FOUNDATIONS FOR CHANGE	3
English Composition ²		
ENG 101	COMPOSITION I: CRITICAL READING & WRITING	3
ENG 102	COMPOSITION II: INTRODUCTION TO ACADEMIC RESEARCH	3
Humanities		
Select 9 credits from the following subject areas: African-American Studies, Art History, English (excluding ENG 101 and ENG 102), History, Languages, Music, Philosophy, Theatre, Speech and Women's and Gender Studies		9
Mathematics		
MATH 110	QUANTITATIVE LITERACY (or above) ³	3
Non-Western requirement		
Non-Western course (can be used for Humanities or Social Sciences general education requirements)		3
RU mission-related course ²		
LIBS 201	WRITING SOCIAL JUSTICE	3
Science		
One biological science and one physical science required (at least one must be a four-hour lab (not applicable for science majors)		7-8
Social Sciences		
Select 9 credits from the following subject areas: African-American Studies, Anthropology, Economics, History, Journalism, Philosophy, Political Science, Psychology, Sociology and Women's and Gender Studies		9
Total Credit Hours		49-50

¹ Required for students who enter RU with fewer than 12 credit hours

² Minimum grade of C- required

³ Math, Computer Science & Technology, and Science majors have different requirements—see advisor

These quantitative requirements also apply to degrees in the College of Arts and Sciences:

- Students may apply no more than 60 credit hours of 100-level courses toward the degree.
- Students must apply no fewer than 60 credit hours of 200- and 300-level courses toward the degree.
- Students must have at least 18 credit hours (of the 60 credit hours above) at the 300 level.
- Students may transfer in no more than 66 credit hours from community colleges.
- Students must take their final 30 hours at Roosevelt University. Note that some majors have additional requirements for RU hours.
- Students must have a grade point average of 2.0 or higher to graduate. Note that some majors have additional GPA requirements.
- Students must have a minimum of 90 hours in Arts and Sciences.
- Students may apply no more than 51 hours in the major (BA) or 57 hours in the major (BS)

Your degree map is a general guide suggesting courses to complete each term on the academic pathway to your degree. It is based on the most current scheduling information from your academic program. Your program's degree map is reviewed annually and updated as schedules change (although you retain the same course requirements as long as you are continuously enrolled in your degree program).

Always work closely with your academic advisor to understand curriculum requirements and scheduling, as each student's academic plan can look slightly different.

Year 1

Fall	Credit Hours Spring	Credit Hours
ACP 101	3 ACP 110	3
ENG 101	3 ENG 102	3
POS 101	3 Humanities #1	3
MATH 110	3 POS 103	3
BIOL 111 or 112 ⁵	4 Physical Science ₅	3
	16	15

Year 2

Fall	Credit Hours Spring	Credit Hours
LIBS 201, ACP 250, or POS 250	3 ACP 250, LIBS 201, or POS 250	3
Humanities #2	3 POS 2XX	3
POS 102 or 104	3 Social Science #3	3
Social Science #1	3 Humanities #3	3
Social Science #2	3 General Elective ¹	3
	15	15

Year 3

Fall	Credit Hours Spring	Credit Hours
POS 2XX or POS 3XX ^{2,3}	3 POS 3XX ³	3
POS 290	3 POS 3XX ³	3
General Elective ¹	3 General Elective ¹	3
General Elective ¹	3 General Elective ¹	3
General Elective ¹	3 General Elective ¹	3
	15	15

Year 4

Fall	Credit Hours Spring	Credit Hours
POS 3XX ³	3 POS 3XX ³	3
POS 3XX	3 POS Any Level	3
General Elective ¹	3 General Elective ¹	3
General Elective ¹	3 General Elective ¹	3
General Elective ¹	3 General Elective ¹	3
	15	15

Total Credit Hours 121

- ¹ Or course towards an optional Minor.
- ² Any course at the 200 level within the discipline.
- ³ Any course at the 300 level within the discipline.
- ⁴ This requirement can be fulfilled by other requirements.
- ⁵ One Natural Science course must have a lab.