

POLITICAL SCIENCE, BA

Political Science (<https://www.roosevelt.edu/academics/programs/bachelors-in-political-science-ba/>) is the study of government and political thought, and how the formal and informal institutions of power shape our lives. Modern Political Scientists grapple with a range of problems facing governments and citizens: how to best implement democratic institutions; how to increase turnout in elections; how to foster cooperation between governments to address global crises such as climate change and inequality; how to hold the powerful accountable; and how to safeguard the rights of oppressed and marginalized groups.

A major in Political Science is appropriate for students considering careers in law, political campaigns and elections, public policy, social justice advocacy, foreign service and diplomacy, non-governmental organizations, intelligence work, civil service, and many more. Understanding politics is the key to understanding how American democracy functions, as well as how power is contested within societies across the globe. For this reason, many global leaders as well as grassroots activists have majored in political science.

Roosevelt's faculty in Political Science teach and research about a broad array of topics, including the role of race in U.S. politics, political polarization, human rights, environmental justice, terrorism, American electoral politics, social movements, and theories of democracy. What unites the faculty in the department is a commitment to the intellectual and civic 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, such as Journalism (<http://catalog.roosevelt.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/minor/journalism-minor/>), International Studies (<http://catalog.roosevelt.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/minor/international-studies-minor/>), Sustainability Studies (<http://catalog.roosevelt.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/minor/sustainability-studies-minor/>), and History (<http://catalog.roosevelt.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/minor/history-minor/>). Students who anticipate applying to law school should strongly consider a minor in Legal Studies (<http://catalog.roosevelt.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/minor/legal-studies-minor/>). Students interested in political theory may want to consider a concentration in Political Philosophy (<http://catalog.roosevelt.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/political-philosophy-conc/>).

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.
- Students planning to attend law school are strongly encouraged to pursue a minor in Legal Studies (<http://catalog.roosevelt.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/minor/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.

- The major offers upper-level credit for internships. Please see your advisor for details.

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Introductory courses		
Select three of the following:		9
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
Major Electives		21
Seven electives in political science, five at the 300 level		
General Education, University Writing Requirement, and Electives		
Courses to total 120		87
Total Credit Hours		120

CORE Requirements (General Education)

Code	Title	Credit Hours
First Year Success Course or Transfer Success Course		
FYS 101	FIRST YEAR SUCCESS COURSE	1
or TRS 101	TRANSFER SUCCESS 101	
Communication Requirement		
ENG 101	COMPOSITION I: CRITICAL READING & WRITING	3
ENG 102	COMPOSITION II: INTRODUCTION TO ACADEMIC RESEARCH	3
COMM 101	PUBLIC SPEAKING (or program specific CORE communications course)	3
Ideas of Social Justice		
3 credits in coursework categorized as Ideas.		3
Humanities and Fine and Performing Arts		
9 credits from the following subject areas: African-American Studies, Art History, English (excluding ENG 101 and ENG 102), History, Languages, Music, Philosophy, Theatre, Communication and Women's and Gender Studies		9
Mathematics		
MATH 110	QUANTITATIVE LITERACY (or above) ¹	3
Science		
One biological science and one physical science required (one must include a one credit lab).		7-8
Social Sciences		
9 credits from the following subject areas: African-American Studies, Anthropology, Criminal Justice, Economics, History, Journalism, Philosophy, Political Science, Psychology, Sociology and Women's and Gender Studies		9
Experiential Learning		

6 credits from coursework categorized as Experiential Learning.	6
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Total Credit Hours 47-48

1

Higher level of Math may be required by major

These quantitative requirements also apply to degrees.

- Students must earn a minimum of 120 semester hours.
- 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 70 credit hours from community colleges.
- Students earning less than 60 total hours in residence 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 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
FYS 101		1 ENG 102	3
ENG 101		3 Ideas of Social Justice	3
POS 101, 102, 103, or 104		3 POS 101, 102, 103, or 104	3
MATH 110		3 Humanities #1	3
BIOL 111 or 112 ⁵		4 Physical Science ⁵	3
	14		15

Year 2

Fall	Credit Hours	Spring	Credit Hours
COMM 101		3 POS 2XX ²	3
POS 101, 102, 103, or 104		3 Experiential Learning Class #1 ⁴	3
Humanities #2		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 Any Level		3 POS 3XX ³	3
Experiential Course #2 ⁴		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
General Elective ¹		3	
	18		15

Year 4

Fall	Credit Hours	Spring	Credit Hours
POS 3XX ³		3 POS 3XX ³	3
POS 3XX ³		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	1
	15		13

Total Credit Hours 120

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

Experiential Learning class must be 200/300 level. Satisfies CORE Experiential Learning requirement. EXL courses can satisfy major requirements/electives or CORE requirement.

5

One Natural Science course must have a lab.