POLITICAL SCIENCE, MINOR

Requirements for a minor may be completed at any campus location offering the specified courses for the minor. Students may not change from a campus that offers their major to a campus that does not offer their major for the purpose of completing a minor.

Program Description
The Political Science minor consists of 18 credits with at least one course in each of the following Political Science areas: American, theory/methodology, comparative, and international relations. Six (6) of these 18 credits must be at the 400 level.

When electing this minor, the student should have junior (fifth-semester) standing. Special attention should be given to the fact that courses used to satisfy general education, degree requirements, electives, and major requirements may also be used to satisfy minor requirements.

What is Political Science?
Political science is one of the social sciences. It is the study of systems of governance and governmental institutions, political activity, political thought, and political behavior. Political science draws from many other academic disciplines, including economics, law, sociology, history, philosophy, geography, psychology, and anthropology. There also are subfields of political science, such as comparative politics, political theory, international relations, international law, public administration, and public policy. Political science students study how American government works (and doesn't work) and what can be done to improve government at the federal, state, and local level. In comparative government and international relations coursework, students study the politics and policies of other countries. Political theory courses examine the ideas of famous political philosophers, while courses on law and the legal process provide knowledge about the criminal justice and civil litigation systems.

You Might Like This Program If...
You are in a major where your intended career is increasingly involved with governmental regulation or policy or if you want political or law background. It may lay the ground for better understanding your own field. It will also help you make sense of an increasingly complicated political world that confronts them in their own roles as citizens. A minor in political science is designed for students who want to improve their ability to deal intelligently and critically with issues and ideas about government and politics.

Program Requirements

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<th>Requirement</th>
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<td>Requirements for the Minor</td>
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Requirements for the Minor
A grade of C or better is required for all courses in the minor, as specified by Senate Policy 59-10 (http://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/59-00-minors-and-certificates/#59-10).

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<th>Code</th>
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<td>Additional Courses: Require a grade of C or better</td>
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analytical tools to complement what students are learning in their study of the humanities. If a student is interested in becoming a lawyer, studying political science is invaluable in providing a basic grounding for studies in the law.

**Careers**
The political science minor is excellent supplemental preparation, in addition to a student’s major, for a career in law, public service, Foreign Service, non-profit organizations, business and education.

**Contact**

**University Park**
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
202 Pond Lab
University Park, PA 16802
814-865-4597
http://www.polisci.la.psu.edu/undergraduate/advising

http://www.polisci.la.psu.edu/

**Altoona**
DIVISION OF ARTS AND HUMANITIES
Smith Building C129I
3000 Ivyside Park
Altoona, PA 16601
814-949-5782
mde15@psu.edu

http://altoona.psu.edu/academics/bachelors-degrees/political-science/request-information

**Harrisburg**
SCHOOL OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS
Olmsted Building, W160
Middletown, PA 17057
717-948-6648
jzr701@psu.edu

http://harrisburg.psu.edu/public-affairs/political-science-and-public-policy/minor-political-science

**World Campus**
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
220 Pond Lab
University Park, PA 16802
814-865-7515
ajh38@psu.edu

https://www.worldcampus.psu.edu/degrees-and-certificates/political-science-minor/overview