POLITICAL SCIENCE

Majors:

· Bachelor of Arts, Political Science (p. 1)

Minors:

· Political Science (p. 2)

The Department of Political Science offers a Bachelor of Arts with a major in Political Science. A minor in political science is also offered.

- A major in political science requires 36 semester hours of political science courses.
- A minor in political science consists of 15 semester hours. Courses selected by students should strengthen academic or career objectives.

Minors and Teacher Licensure

A student majoring in political science can acquire teacher licensure through the dual-degree B.A. and B.S.E. program conducted in conjunction with the Department of Teacher Education in the School of Education and Health Sciences, or minor in any related discipline within the College of Arts and Sciences. The student must consult with the department administering the discipline for the particular requirements of a minor.

FACULTY LISTING (https://udayton.edu/artssciences/academics/politicalscience/facstaff/)

Bachelor of Arts, Political Science (POL) minimum 120 hours

The Common Academic Program (CAP) is an innovative curriculum that is the foundation of a University of Dayton education. It is a learning experience that is shared in common among all undergraduate students, regardless of their major. Some CAP requirements must be fulfilled by courses taken at UD. Some major requirements must also be fulfilled by courses taken at UD. Students should consult with their advisor regarding applicability of transfer credit to fulfill CAP and major program requirements.

Common Academic Program (CAP) 1

First-Year Humanities Commons ²		6 cr. hrs.
HUM 101	Chaminade Seminar. Reading and Responding to the Signs of the Times	
HUM 102	Marie Thérèse Seminar. Human Dignity and the Common Good	
Second-Year Writing Seminar		3 cr. hrs.
Oral Communicat	tion	3 cr. hrs.

Mathematics	3
	cr.
	hrs.
Social Science	3
	cr.
	hrs.
Arts	3
	cr.
2	hrs.
Natural Science ³	4
	cr.
	hrs.
Crossing Boundaries	9
	cr. hrs.
Faith Traditions (2 or hrs.)	1115.
Faith Traditions (3 cr. hrs.)	
Practical Ethical Action (3 cr. hrs.)	
Interdisciplinary Investigations (3 cr. hrs.) 4	
Advanced Study	9
	cr.
Delinions Obsdies (O en hous)	hrs.
Religious Studies (3 cr. hrs.)	
Philosophical Studies (3 cr. hrs.)	
Historical Studies (3 cr. hrs.)	
Diversity and Social Justice ⁵	3
	cr.
6	hrs.
Major Capstone ⁶	0-6
	cr. hrs.
Experiential Learning 7	0-3
Experiential Learning ⁷	U-3 Cr.
	hrs.
	1113.

- The credit hours listed reflect what is needed to complete each CAP component. However, they should not be viewed as a cumulative addition to a student's degree requirements because many CAP courses are designed to satisfy more than one CAP component (e.g., Crossing Boundaries and Advanced Studies) and may also satisfy requirements in the student's major.
- May be completed with ASI 110 through the Core Program.
- Must include a lecture course and an accompanying lab.
- New Crossing Boundaries category effective with the 2025-26 Catalog, which incorporates all courses previously approved in the Crossing Boundaries Inquiry or Integrative categories. This new category does not include any restriction that students must take the course outside of their unit or division.
- May not double count with First-Year Humanities Commons, Second-Year Writing, Oral Communication, Social Science, or Natural Science CAP components, but may double count with courses taken to satisfy other CAP components and/or courses taken in the student's major.
- The course or experience is designed by faculty in each major; it may, or may not, be assigned credit hours.
- The course or experience will have variable credit, depending on the intensity and duration of the experience, or where it is housed in existing curricular and co-curricular spaces.

A liberal studies degree from the University of Dayton is grounded in the institution's Catholic and Marianist tradition, which emphasizes holistic education, community, service, and social justice. The program encourages students to explore a wide range of subjects, integrating knowledge from the humanities, social sciences, natural sciences, and fine arts. Overall, a liberal studies degree from the University of Dayton not only provides a comprehensive educational experience but also instills values that encourage students to contribute positively to society.

The Bachelor of Arts degree requires a minimum of 120 credit hours. All BA students will complete the Liberal Studies Curriculum as part of their degree plan. This Curriculum provides students with a breadth of study and experiences in the humanities, the creative and performing arts, the social sciences, and the natural sciences. It provides a distinct complement to the specialized study in a major and presupposes, builds upon and enhances the University's Common Academic Program (CAP). No credits may double-count toward CAP or the first major and also the Liberal Studies Curriculum requirements, including the language context course options.

Liberal Studies Curriculum

Language Proficiency ¹	0-9
Breadth and Depth Requirements ²	24
Breadth: Earn 3 credits in each of the five categories:	

Arts

Humanities

Social Sciences

Natural Sciences and Mathematics

CAS Interdisciplinary Programs (options include courses with HRS, WGS, MST, RCE, SEE, DST, and INS prefixes)

Depth: Take 9 additional credits of CAS courses from any combination of breadth categories

Total Hours 24-33

- Students demonstrate basic practical communication in a language other than English.
- No more than 12 of the 24 credit hours may come from 100- or 200-level courses. None of the 24 credit hours may also count toward CAP or the first major. If students take a 3-credit context course toward language proficiency, those credits may count here.

Major Requireme	nts	36
POL 200	Introduction to Political Science	3
POL 201	American Political System	3
or POL 203	Introduction to Public Policy	
POL 202	Introduction to Comparative Politics	3
or POL 214	Introduction to International Relations	
POL 207	Political Science Research Methods ¹	3
POL 316	American Political Thought	3
or POL 317	Development of Political Theory	
or POL 319	Twentieth-Century Political Thought	
POL 499	Political Science Capstone (Satisfies CAP Major Capstone) ³	3
or POL 496	Public Service Practicum	
or POL 498	Political Science and Vocation	
Select six POL co Components) ²	urses at the 300/400 level (May include CAP	18

Breadth

ASI 150	Introduction to the University Experience	1
Total Hours to tot	al at least	120

- POL majors are required to have completed POL 207 by their first semester with Jr. standing.
- Students earning the B.A. in Political Science may count no more than six semester hours earned on internships (POL 495) toward the fulfillment of the degree requirements in POL. Students may, however, take additional hours of internship credit (POL 495) and count them toward the necessary 120 hours needed for graduation.
- POL 496 and POL 498 are by permission only. POL 496 may only apply to the Capstone requirement if completed during the final two semesters before degree completion.

Minor in Political Science (POL)

Political Science

Total Hours	15
Select four POL courses (300/400 level)	
Select one POL introductory course (201, 202, 203, 214)	3

· Bachelor of Arts, Political Science (p. 2)

Bachelor of Arts, Political Science

	·	17	·	15
CAP Natural Science Course w/ Lab		4		
		Course		
Language 101		3 CAP Social Science		3
CMM 100 (CAP Oral Communication)		3 Language 141		3
POL 200		3 MTH 207 (Satisfies CAP Mathematics	·)	3
HUM 101 (CAP Humanities Commons)		3 POL 201 or 203		3
ASI 150		1 HUM 102 (CAP Humanities Commons)		3
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours	
First Year				

Second Year				
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours	
POL 202 or 214		3 ENG 200 (CAP Second- Year Writing)		3
POL 207		3 POL Elective (300/400 level)		3
CAP Arts Course		3 CAP Advanced Philosophical Studies Course		3
CAP Advanced Historical Studies Course		3 BA Math or Natural Science Course		3

Language 201 or Contextual Course		3 BA Interdisciplin Programs Course	ary	3
		15		15
Third Year				
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours	
POL 316, 317, or 319		3 POL Elective (300/400 level)		3
POL Elective (300/400 level)		3 POL Elective (300/400 level)		3
CAP Advanced Religious Studies Course		3 CAP Interdisciplin Investigation Course	-	3
CAP Practical Ethical Action Course		3 CAP Faith Traditions Course		3
BA Humanities Course		3 BA Social Science Course (othe than POL)	r	3
		15		15
Fourth Year				
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours	
POL Elective (300/400 level)		3 POL 499 (Satisfies CAP Major Capstone)		3
CAP Diversity and Social Justice Course		3 POL Elective (300/400 level)		3
BA Arts Course		3 BA Elective		3
BA Elective		3 General Elective		3
BA Elective		3 General Elective		3
		15		15

Total credit hours: 122

Courses

POL 200. Introduction to Political Science. 3 Hours

Study of the dominant theoretical approaches, central questions and concepts, and history of political science. Political Science majors only.

POL 201. The American Political System. 3 Hours

Study of the American political system, its attitudinal and constitutional base, its structure and processes.

POL 202. Introduction to Comparative Politics. 3 Hours

What makes a country a state? What is the difference between a nation and a state and what is a nation without a state? How can we tell democracy from other forms of government and why is it considered the "best" form government? Why are some governments continually overthrown while others stay in power for decades? The field of comparative politics considers all of these questions and many others. The field is vast, but it all boils down to one thing: the study of domestic political systems of individual states and how these different systems can produce different outcomes in terms of governance, prosperity, peace and conflict, and human development. Together we will take up these important questions looking at a variety of different political systems including in Europe, Africa, Asia, and South America. We will also reflect inward to look the United States to assess how our political institutions have developed over time in the context of developments around the world.

POL 203. Introduction to Public Policy. 3 Hours

Public policy touches all facets of our lives - from the time we get up in the morning to the time we go to bed – yet understanding how policy is formed, implemented, and evaluated is far from simple. This course will provide insight into the study of policymaking in the United States with a particular emphasis on public policy theory. We are typically taught that policy is made in a rational and linear manner, and if it is not, then it should be. However, rational processes rarely define policymaking – or other facets of American government for that matter – so while we will start with the rational approach to policymaking, we will move into other policy theories. In addition to this emphasis on understanding the policy process and related theories, we will also delve into various substantive areas of policy through a survey of key policy areas in an effort to both introduce learners to different dimensions of public policy, to help apply policy theory in a variety of contexts, and to make comparisons across policy areas.

POL 207. Political Science Research Methods. 3 Hours

Introduction to the basic concepts and processes of research in political science. Prerequisites: POL 200, 201, 202, 214 or HRS 200.

POL 214. Introduction to International Relations. 3 Hours

Analysis of the dynamic forces of conflict and cooperation in international relations. This can include issues of war and peace, democracy and human rights, climate change, and international institutions such as the European Union and the United Nations.

POL 300. Political Issues. 3 Hours

Introductory examination of contemporary political issues selected by the instructor, such topics as welfare, political morality, political campaigns, institutional reform, and political economy.

POL 301. The American Judicial Process. 3 Hours

Study of the judicial process as part of the political system. Focus on the participants (police, lawyers, judges, interest groups, litigants, jurors) and the process (criminal, civil, and appellate proceedings).

POL 303. State Politics and Policy. 3 Hours

Comparative study of governance in the fifty states with a focus on how socioeconomic, demographic and political differences account for variations in political institutions, processes, and public policies related to issues, such as health, education, voting rights, criminal justice and welfare. Prerequisites: SSC 200 or ANT 150 or CJS 101 or ECO 203 or ECO 204 or POL 201 or POL 202 or PSY 101 or SOC 101 or SOC 204 or SWK 201 (may be taken as a co-requisite).

POL 305. Introduction to Public Administration. 3 Hours

Basic principles of organization and management in executive departments of government at all levels; questions of planning, leadership, and control.

POL 306. Public Policy Analysis. 3 Hours

Introduction to public policy-making systems and the methodology of policy analysis; theories of policy formulation, the policy-making process, means for measuring policy effectiveness, analysis of proposals for policy change.

POL 307. Policy, Administration, & Regulation. 3 Hours

Examination of governmental responses to public problems through a study of public policy, government/public administration, and use of regulation. Prerequisites: SSC 200.

POL 309. Health Policy. 3 Hours

Introduction to the major policy issues impacting healthcare value today at the federal, state and local levels and the influential role of advocates in the process. Health policies are public policies or authoritative decisions that pertain to health or influence the pursuit of health, and affect or influence groups or classes of individuals or organizations. The course will focus on understanding the basics of health policy, health value, Medicaid, Medicare, Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), and will examine selected public health issues in greater depth along with the current policy and policy opportunities impacting those issues at the federal, the state and local levels.

POL 310. Political Parties, Campaigns & Elections. 3 Hours

Analysis of the history, nature, and function of political parties and their role in the political system in both a domestic and comparative context.

POL 311. Public Opinion & Political Behavior. 3 Hours

The formation, maintenance, change, and impact of public opinion on the American political system; the role of theory and analysis of data in understanding public and political behavior.

POL 313. The American Presidency. 3 Hours

Study of the American presidency, the development of presidential powers, and its leadership role in the political system.

POL 314. Interest Group Politics. 3 Hours

Exploration of the role of interest groups in the American political system through an examination of their internal organization and their roles in the electoral and policy making processes at the national, state and local levels. Prerequisite(s): POL 201.

POL 316. American Political Thought. 3 Hours

An exploration and critical investigation of selected actors, thinkers, texts, ideas and movements in American political thought and theory from the colonial period to the present. Topics may include the founding, the age of Jackson, the Civil War, Progressivism, Women's Suffrage, the New Deal, the Cold War, the Civil Rights Movement, the 1960s, and others.

POL 317. Development of Political Theory. 3 Hours

Analysis of selected theorists and political doctrines forming the tradition of Western thought on politics. Theorists including Plato, Aristotle, the Stoics, Augustine, Aquinas, Machiavelli, Hobbes, Locke, Rousseau, Mill, Marx, Spencer, Lenin, Gasset, and Camus presented in their historical and socio-political contexts.

POL 318. Public Integrity & Political Leadership. 3 Hours

Analysis of contemporary leadership issues related to integrity and values in political office-holding, public service, and global governance contexts. Prerequisite(s): CMM 201 or (POL 201 or POL 202 or POL 214) or permission of instructor.

POL 319. Twentieth-Century Political Thought. 3 Hours

Analysis of selected political theorists, concepts, and movements from the late nineteenth century to the present. Thinkers and concepts may include Marx, Nietzsche, Sarte, Camus, Freud, Arendt, Strauss, the Frankfurt School, Fanon, Foucault, Rawls, Rorty, existentialism, feminism, colonialism, post-modernity, liberalism, neo-conservatism among others.

POL 320. European Politics and Society. 3 Hours

Analysis of politics and society in Britain, France and Germany as well as the European Union.

POL 321. Russia, Ukraine, and Eurasia. 3 Hours

Analysis of politics and society in Russia, Ukraine, and Eurasia. This includes a focus on the Ukraine-Russia war and leaders such as Zelensky and Putin. Other key states will be profiled such as Belarus, Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Kazakhstan.

POL 323. Comparative Politics: Latin America. 3 Hours

Analysis of governmental institutions and political processes of Latin America.

POL 333. Politics of Human Rights. 3 Hours

Examines the evolution of international human rights norms and the creation of the institutions for the protection and promotion of human rights, and case material relating to each category of internationally recognized human rights.

POL 334. Politics of Human Rights II. 3 Hours

This research seminar examines select topics related to the protection and promotion of human rights. This course is required for all Human Rights Studies majors. The research seminar adopts a case-study approach that enables students to analyze the complex social, economic, cultural, and political factors that impede the full realization of internationally recognized human rights, and to critically evaluate the effectiveness of the advocacy strategies used by inter-governmental human rights bodies and non-governmental human rights organizations. Thus, this seminar is designed to enable students to connect human rights theory and practice. Part I (Overview) provides a more in-depth examination of the material covered in POL 333 (the Politics of Human Rights I). Part II (Case Studies) examines critical contemporary issues and covers the full range of civil, political, economic, social, and cultural rights. Students will collaborate on team research projects and produce a final Human Rights Report containing an analysis of a specific situation of the violation of human rights, findings of fact, and recommendations aimed at rectifying the situation. Students will present and defend their team reports and present in class at the end of the semester. Prerequisite(s): POL 333.

POL 335. United States National Security Policy. 3 Hours

Analysis of various political, economic, and military issues and problems relating to U.S. national security.

POL 336. United Nations System: Theory and Practice. 3 Hours Introduction to the United Nations system with detailed case studies of specific countries, issues, and policies. Course also serves to prepare students for participation in the National Model United Nations Conference. Prerequisite(s): SSC 200.

POL 340. Gender, Women's Rights and Global Politics. 3 Hours

Overview of the ways international relations scholars study gender and use gender as a lens on world politics. Course includes a foundation in feminist theory as it relates to other international relations theories as well as investigation of political topics such as war, labor, human rights, political participation, and violence. Course is intersectional in approach, examining how the power of gender operates to maintain interlocking inequalities based on gender, nationality, race, class, and sexuality and how these inequalities result in problematic gender equality policy-making. Prerequisites: POL 214, POL 202, HRS 200, WGS 150 or permission of instructor.

POL 341. Power, Gender & Performance. 3 Hours

Consideration of performances of identity and advocacy at the intersection of political power and gender as constructive responses to gender inequality. Performance protests for gender equality, and cultural performances of gender are examined in historical case studies and current events.

POL 350. Legislative Politics. 3 Hours

Study of the U.S. Congress, its organization and procedures, and its powers and influence in the political system.

POL 355. Media and Democracy. 3 Hours

Examination of the ways media influences politics and how politicians use media to get elected, stay in power, and achieve policy goals. In this course, students will investigate how political behavior and public opinion are shaped by media in a critical-analytic approach integrated across fields such as communications, economics, psychology, and sociology.

POL 360. Urban Politics & Policy. 3 Hours

Study of the nature of urban political systems in the U.S. with emphasis on explanation of differences in their policy responses.

POL 361. Leadership in Nongovernmental Organizations. 3 Hours
Examination of management skills required of professionals in various
types of nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) and how leaders
integrate agency values and management processes to promote rightsrelated missions. HRS and POL majors or minors only or permission of
the department chairperson.

POL 365. Disaster Policy & Administration. 3 Hours

Exploration of policy approaches and administrative response strategies related to various phases of disasters and security crises in the U.S. and international settings with attention to human rights issues. Prerequisite(s): POL 201 or permission of instructor.

POL 375. Moral Courage Project. 3 Hours

Preparation only for those students selected to engage in the Moral Courage Project, a cohorted program of the UD Human Rights Center. Selected through a competitive process, participating students develop skills and content knowledge in advance of the program's immersive fieldwork phase, following the semester. Areas of study include foundations of human rights, media studies and narrative storytelling, interviewing and audio production techniques, and subject matter knowledge of a particular human rights event that will be identified for each cycle.

POL 381. Film & Politics. 3 Hours

Exploration of film as a medium for both reflecting societal opinions and influencing those opinions. In this course, students will investigate various political topics and issues and explore how American narrative film has dealt with these topics integrated across fields such as history, economics, communications and sociology.

POL 391. The Politics of International Economic Relations. 3 Hours

Examination of the relationship among governments, non-state actors, and the global economy. Topics include trade, investment, and finance, highlighting the role of international organizations such as World Trade Organization, the International Monetary Fund, and the World Bank, as well as transnational corporations in shaping the international economy.

POL 392. Human Rights and Development in Africa. 3 Hours

Study of human rights and development in Africa. Topics may include racial and other inequalities, poverty, debt, foreign aid, food security, land reform, population, migration and displacement, environment, corruption, and illicit transfer of capital.

POL 404. United States - Latin American Relations. 3 Hours

This course examines the foreign relations of the United States with other countries of the Western hemisphere. Political, economic and security issues are examined from both theoretical and historical perspectives. Prerequisite(s): (POL 210 or POL 214) or permission of instructor.

POL 406. International Law & Organization. 3 Hours

Study of rules governing the community of nations; their nature, sources, and development; the international agencies responsible for their development, interpretation, and administration. Prerequisite(s): POL 214 or permission of instructor.

POL 408. American Foreign Policy. 3 Hours

Critical study of the American foreign policy process and evaluation of the sources of American foreign policy. Prerequisite(s): (POL 201, POL 214) or permission of instructor.

POL 411. Constitutional Law. 3 Hours

Analysis of the role of the U.S. Supreme Court in its interpretation of the Constitution. Emphasis on the various methods of judicial interpretation as they affect such provisions as the commerce clause, the taxing and spending powers, due process, the dimensions of presidential and congressional authority, and the doctrine of judicial review. Prerequisite(s): POL 301 or permission of instructor.

POL 412. Comparative Law. 3 Hours

Explores how foreign judicial systems protect and promote civil and political rights through different constitutional designs. Prerequisite(s): POL 301.

POL 413. The Politics of Bureaucracy & Regulation. 3 Hours

Examination of the nature and meaning of bureaucracy in contemporary American society and the devices for its evaluation and control.

POL 421. Seminar in Political Science. 3 Hours

Seminar on current problems and issues in political science. May be taken more than once when content changes. Prerequisite(s): Political Science major; completed POL core courses.

POL 424. Environmental Policy. 3 Hours

Examination of environmental public policymaking and implementation in the United States. Students will apply knowledge of government and policy processes to specific environmental issues, analyze governmental response, and consider how action on those issues may be pursued. Prerequisites: SSC 200 or ANT 150 or CJS 101 or ECO 203 or ECO 204 or POL 201 or POL 202 or POL 214 or PSY 101 or SOC 101 or SOC 204 or SWK 201

POL 426. Leadership in Building Communities. 3 Hours

Investigation of the processes by which urban neighborhoods develop themselves from the inside out. Students cultivate their own interdisciplinary appreciation of urban communities through extensive interaction with one neighborhood's visioning process. Topics include asset-based community development, social capital, citizenship, adaptive leadership, and community building strategies and tools.

POL 431. Independent Study & Research. 0-6 Hours

Individual reading and research on selected topics under faculty direction. Recommended for seniors only. Prerequisite(s): POL 207 and permission of instructor or department chairperson.

POL 450. Civil Liberties. 3 Hours

Analytical examination of civil liberties in the U.S. with emphasis on the Supreme Court as arbiter in the endless conflict between the demand for individual liberty and the needs of constitutional authority. Prerequisite(s): (POL 301 or POL 411) or permission of instructor.

POL 452. Political Violence. 3 Hours

Consideration of theoretical approaches to understanding violent change in political institutions; the continuum between violence and nonviolence; revolution, revolt, campus dissent, and political assassination. Prerequisite(s): (POL 202 or POL 333) or permission of instructor.

POL 477. Honors Thesis Project. 3 Hours

First of two courses leading to the selection, design, investigation, and completion of an independent, original Honors Thesis project under the guidance of a faculty research advisor. Restricted to students in the University Honors Program with permission of the program director and department chairperson. Students pursuing an interdisciplinary thesis topic may register for three semester hours each in two separate disciplines in consultation with the department chairpersons. Prerequisite(s): Approval of University Honors Program.

POL 478. Honors Thesis Project. 3 Hours

Second of two courses leading to the selection, design, investigation, and completion of an independent, original Honors Thesis project under the guidance of a faculty research advisor. Restricted to students in the University Honors Program with permission of the program director and department chairperson. Students pursuing an interdisciplinary thesis topic may register for three semester hours each in two separate disciplines in consultation with the department chairpersons. Prerequisite(s): Approved 477; approval of University Honors Program.

POL 479. Selected Topics in Public Policy. 3 Hours

Intensive examination of policy process, outcomes, and impact in an area or areas of American public policy selected by the instructor; such topics as transportation, education, welfare, national defense, urban and community development, civil rights, and science and technology. May be repeated once when topic changes.

POL 495. Internship. 1-9 Hours

Supervised experience in government agencies and programs. Prelaw students are assigned to law firms and judicial chambers. Prerequisite(s): Permission of supervising professor.

POL 496. Public Service Practicum. 1-6 Hours

Individualized mentorship course integrating professional development and a critical analysis of applied experience related to public service. Includes an integrative presentation which connects students' internship to political science theories and concepts presented in coursework. Prerequisite(s): Permission of instructor.

POL 497. Service Learning Experience. 1 Hour

Supervised community research or service experience that complements a specific upper division course in Political Science. Repeatable up to three semester hours. No more than three semester hours of Social Science 497 credits can count toward graduation. Prerequisite(s): Permission of instructor. Corequisite(s): A 300-400 Political Science course.

POL 498. Political Science and Vocation. 0 Hours

Political Science as Vocation reflects on the purposes of life and proposed work through the language of vocation. For those majors writing an honors thesis, independent study, or completing a capstone in a second major. All others must take POL 499. Prerequisites: Senior standing and permission of the department chair. Pre/Corequisites: POL 431 or POL 477 or POL 478.

POL 499. Political Science Capstone. 3 Hours

Project and presentation in the scholarship, activity and/or practice related to the major. Students will present their work in a forum appropriate to the major. Senior standing. Prerequisite(s): POL 207.