DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

Office: Sturm Hall, Room 466
Mail Code: 2000 E. Asbury Ave. Denver, CO 80208
Phone: 303-871-2743
Email: polisci@du.edu
Web Site: http://www.du.edu/ahss/polisci/

The Department of Political Science offers a broad education focused on several enduring concerns in the study of political life: political theory, centering on the philosophical and moral foundation of political life; comparative and international politics, focusing on political developments and interactions around the world; American politics, concerning the study of American political institutions and processes; and law, studying legal institutions and practice in political and social life.

Teaching
In teaching, the Department of Political Science is dedicated to providing a rigorous liberal arts experience for undergraduates. Classes emphasize the development of critical reading, thinking, writing and speaking skills in addition to learning about politics. The department also encourages development of a commitment to public service, an understanding of active citizenship and the development of political organizational skills via internship programs and service learning. In addition, the department encourages students to participate in the Cherrington Global Scholars program, where students gain new perspectives at institutions abroad. For qualified students, a departmental honors program also allows students to engage in substantial research projects that are closely directed by department faculty members.

Research
Scholarly research—including publications in academic journals and books, as well as presentations at professional conferences—is an essential component of the mission of the department. The department views teaching and research as complementary activities, central to the undergraduate experience. Active research and engagement in the discipline encourage improvement in teaching methods and substance. Much of our research also provides an opportunity for advanced undergraduates to work with department faculty; faculty have sponsored many students through the Partners in Scholarship program. Faculty and student research has received support from the American Political Science Association, National Science Foundation, the Ford Foundation, the Social Science Research Council, the Fulbright Program and the European University Institute.

Political Science

Bachelor of Arts Major Requirements
(183 credits required for the degree (http://bulletin.du.edu/undergraduate/undergraduateprograms/traditionalbachelorsprogram/bachelorofarts))

40 credits in political science, with at least 28 credits at the 2000 or 3000 level.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introductory Courses</td>
<td></td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Complete two of four:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLSC 1000</td>
<td>Introduction to American Politics</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLSC 1110</td>
<td>Comparing Politics around the World</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLSC 1610</td>
<td>Introduction to Political Thought: Power, Liberty, and Justice</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLSC 1810</td>
<td>Introduction to Law and Society</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Upper Division Sub-field Requirements
Complete one course at the 2000 or 3000 level in each of the four departmental sub-fields: American Politics, Comparative and International Politics, Law, Political Theory.

Electives
Complete any two political science courses.

Required Courses
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PLSC 2901</td>
<td>Political Inquiry</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLSC 3290</td>
<td>Capstone Seminar in Politics</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Credits
40

SECONDARY MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

40 credits. Same requirements as for BA degree.
Minor Requirements
Minimum of 20 credits in political science, with at least 12 credits at the 2000 or 3000 level.

Departmental Internship Program
Internships for academic credit are offered in the concentrations of American politics and law; they require attendance in a seminar with other students completing an internship. Internships may be taken only after the completion of one course in the relevant concentration. No more than 4 credits earned in a departmental internship may be counted toward the 40 credits required of majors, though if a student earns more than four credits, those credits may be counted toward the maximum of 60 credits in political science.

Disciplinary Subfields
American Politics
This field contains courses that deal with the institutions, processes, concepts, and history of American politics.

Comparative and International Politics
This field contains courses dealing with the comparative study of politics around the world and during different historical periods.

Law
This field provides a strong foundation in the law, law’s relation to the state and to society, the judicial process and legal reasoning.

Political Theory
This field addresses fundamental concepts and issues that underlie the study of political life, both in the historical tradition and with regard to specific topics.

Distinction in the Political Science Major
This is open to students with a minimum 3.7 major GPA and a 3.5 cumulative GPA. It involves a yearlong thesis-writing project in the senior year for a maximum of 8 credits. Students electing to write an honors thesis must complete 48 credits in political science. See a political science adviser for details.