Department of Political Science & Public Affairs Research

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Political science is the study of politics, the process of gaining, maintaining, and exercising governmental power in the United States, in other countries, and internationally. The political science major at UI provides students with a wide selection of courses in American and comparative politics, international relations, public law, public administration, and political theory. Students may choose either a Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science degree program.

The department is committed to teaching excellence. Most of the introductory courses are taught by full-time faculty and all of the faculty are readily available in their offices for discussion and guidance. The department stresses the opportunity to take small classes and to interact with other students and faculty. The diversity of the faculty's intellectual pursuits and concern for students makes these courses interesting and ensures that, whatever the students' interests, from Middle Eastern politics to the American presidency, from the study of environmental politics to political violence and revolution, there is a scholar in the department who can teach the subject to them.

Students are encouraged to participate directly in the political process through internships in federal, state, and local government or on political campaigns. UI students have participated in internships with the Idaho state legislature, the Idaho Governor's office, and Idaho's U.S. senators and representatives in Washington, D.C. Other students have interned with local governments throughout the state and for federal agencies such as the State Department, and have worked on political campaigns for candidates for offices at all levels of government.

After graduation UI students find that their degree in political science opens the door to a wide variety of careers. Many students pursue careers in law. Others attend graduate school and prepare for careers in federal or state governments, as city managers or administrators, or as teachers. Some graduates choose to work with public interest groups, trade associations, and environmental groups; or eventually run for, and win, elective political office. Still other graduates find that their knowledge of politics and the skills they acquire to analyze complex institutions are excellent preparation for a career in journalism. Finally, business institutions are employing more and more political science graduates because of their ability to communicate with precision and vigor, their familiarity with large organizations and complex decision making processes, as well as their understanding of how foreign and domestic governmental institutions and U.S. multi-national corporations function in an interdependent world.

Courses

See Part 6 for courses in Political Science (PolS).

Undergraduate Curricular Requirements

POLITICAL SCIENCE (B.A.)

The B.A. degree emphasizes a traditional liberal arts education including a 16-credit foreign language requirement. The course work also includes the university requirements (see regulation J-3), the general requirements for the B.A. degree, and:

PolS 101 Intro to Political Science and American Government (3 cr)
PolS 235 Political Research Methods and Approaches (3 cr)
PolS 425 or 426 History of Political Philosophy I or II (3 cr)
Stat 251 Statistical Methods (3 cr)
Other courses in political science (including a minimum of 20 credits in upper-division courses and at least 6 credits in each of the following areas: (1) American government/public law/public administration and (2) comparative/international politics) (23 cr)
Courses in upper-division related fields (20 cr)

Note: A maximum of 6 credits of political science internship and/or directed study courses may be counted toward meeting the political science credit requirements.

POLITICAL SCIENCE (B.S.)

The B.S. degree emphasizes methodology and requires increased course work in behavioral research methods. Course work also includes the university requirements (see regulation J-3), the general requirements for the B.S. degree, and:

PolS 101 Intro to Political Science and American Government (3 cr)
PolS 235 Political Research Methods and Approaches (3 cr)
PolS 425 or 426 History of Political Philosophy I or II (3 cr)
Stat 251 Statistical Methods (3 cr)

Other courses in political science (including a minimum of 20 credits in upper-division courses and at least 6 credits in each of the following areas: (1) American government/public law/public administration and (2) comparative/international politics) (23 cr)
Research methods (may be counted as related field cr if upper-division) (6 cr)
Courses in upper-division related fields (20 cr)

Note: A maximum of 6 credits of political science internship and/or directed study courses may be counted toward meeting the political science credit requirements.

Academic Minor Requirements

AMERICAN GOVERNMENT/PUBLIC LAW MINOR

PolS 101 Intro to Political Science and American Government (3 cr)
Six courses from the following areas (at least 6 credits in each area) (18 cr):

American Government

PolS 275 American State and Local Government (3 cr)
PolS 331 American Political Parties and Elections (3 cr)
PolS 332 American Congress (3 cr)
PolS 333 American Political Culture (3 cr)
PolS 364 Politics of the Environment (3 cr)
PolS 428 American Political Thought (3 cr)
PolS 437 American Presidency (3 cr)
PolS 439 Public Policy (3 cr)
PolS 451 Public Administration (3 cr)
PolS 462 Natural Resource Policy (3 cr)
PolS 471 Intergovernmental Relations (3 cr)

Public Law

PolS 360 Law and Society (3 cr)
PolS 429 Contemporary Political Ethics (3 cr)
PolS 452 Administrative Law and Regulation (3 cr)
PolS 467 Constitutional Law (3 cr)
PolS 468 Civil Liberties (3 cr)
PolS 469 The Judicial Process (3 cr)

Note: Approved political science seminars may be substituted in this minor.

COMPARATIVE/INTERNATIONAL POLITICS MINOR

PolS 205 Introduction to Comparative Politics (3 cr)
PolS 237 International Politics (3 cr)
Five courses in the following areas (at least 3 credits in each area) (15 cr):

Comparative Politics

PolS 380 Canadian Political System (3 cr)
PolS 381 Western European Politics (3 cr)
PolS 383 Middle Eastern Politics (3 cr)
PolS 480 Politics of Development (3 cr)

International Politics

PolS 438 Conduct of American Foreign Policy (3 cr)
PolS 440 International Organizations and International Law (3 cr)
PolS 449 World Politics and War (3 cr)
PolS 487 Political Violence and Revolution (3 cr)

Note: Approved political science seminars may be substituted in this minor.

INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL ECONOMY MINOR

This academic minor is offered through the College of Business and Economics and the College of Letters, Arts, and Social Sciences.

Econ 446 International Economics (3 cr)
Econ 447 Economics of Developing Countries (3 cr)
PolS 237 International Politics (3 cr)
PolS 440 International Organizations and International Law (3 cr)
Nine credits selected from the following list, provided that no more than six credits are selected from a particular discipline (9 cr):

Bus 481 International Finance (3 cr)
Econ 385 Environmental Economics (3 cr)
Econ 407 Public Finance (3 cr)
Econ 415 Market Structure and Governmental Policy (3 cr)
Econ 430 Regional/Urban Economics (3 cr)
Geog 360 Population Dynamics and Distribution (3-4 cr)
IS 400 International Studies Seminar
PolS 364 Politics of the Environment (3 cr)
PolS 404 ST: Foreign Policy of the Pacific Rim
PolS 404 ST: Investigating International Relations
PolS 449 World Politics and War (3 cr)
PolS 452 Administrative Law and Regulation (3 cr)
PolS 487 Political Violence and Revolution (3 cr)

POLITICAL SCIENCE MINOR

PolS 101 Intro to Political Science and American Government (3 cr)
PolS 425 History of Political Philosophy I or 426 History of Political Philosophy II or 428 American Political Thought (3 cr)
Three courses in American government/public law/public administration (only one course may be lower division) (9 cr)
Two courses in comparative/international politics (only one course may be lower div) (6 cr)

Note: Approved political science seminars may be substituted in this minor.

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND POLICY MINOR

PolS 101 Intro to Political Science and American Government (3 cr)
PolS 275 American State and Local Government (3 cr)
PolS 451 Public Administration (3 cr)
Four courses from the following (12 cr):
PolS 364 Politics of the Environment (3 cr)
PolS 439 Public Policy (3 cr)
PolS 452 Administrative Law and Regulation (3 cr)
PolS 454 Public Organization Theory (3 cr)
PolS 462 Natural Resource Policy (3 cr)
PolS 471 Intergovernmental Relations (3 cr)
PolS 472 Local Government Politics and Administration (3 cr)

Note: Approved political science seminars may be substituted in this minor.

Graduate Degree Programs

Candidates must fulfill the requirements of the College of Graduate Studies and of the Department of Political Science and Public Affairs Research. See the College of Graduate Studies section of Part 4 for the general requirements applicable to each degree.

Master of Arts. General College of Graduate Studies M.A. requirements for application must be followed. Applicants must also submit three letters of recommendation and a 300-500 word statement of purpose directly to the Department of Political Science.

Master of Public Administration. Although no specific undergraduate preparation is required for the M.P.A., all applicants must have a 3.0 GPA and submit GRE General Test scores that are no more than five years old. Three letters of recommendations are also required. Students with a lower GPA may, on occasion, be admitted provisionally. Students must have an appropriate background in American National Government and have taken Statistics 251 or its equivalent.

The MPA degree requires a minimum of 30 course credits. In addition a 3 credit public service internship is required for students without appropriate work experience in the public or nonprofit sectors. Students may use credits earned in approved courses taken at any of the cooperating universities (University of Idaho, Idaho State University, and Boise State University).

At least 18 credits must be taken from the Political Science Department with 15 credits required from core areas. (See Political Science & Public Affairs Home Page for list of core classes). At least 12 credits are required in an area of emphasis. (Currently, the approved fields are: general public administration; community, state, and regional planning; criminal justice administration; environmental and natural resources administration; local government administration; public finance, budgeting, and administrative management; and public works engineering.)

Students may select a thesis or non-thesis option. The preparation and oral defense of the thesis count as six credits in the area of emphasis. Students selecting a non-thesis option must take comprehensive examinations.

Doctor of Philosophy. General College of Graduate Studies requirements for application must be followed. Applicants to the Ph.D. program must also submit Graduate Record Examination scores, three letters of recommendation, and a 300-500 word statement of purpose directly to the Department of Political Science.

Department of Psychology and Communication Studies

Richard Reardon, Dept. Chair (206 Student Health Ctr. 83844-3043; phone 208/885-6324). ***Faculty:*** **Stephen P. Banks, Curt C. Braun, Brian P. Dyre, Annette Folwell, Kenneth D. Locke, Steven E. Meier, Jamie C. Nekich, Richard Reardon, Todd J. Thorsteinson, Steffen Werner, Charla Windley, Mark F. Yama.** ***Adjunct Faculty:*** **W. Harold Godwin, Martha A. Kitzrow, Charles R. Morrison, Diane L. Phillips-Miller, Joan Pulakos, Steve Saladin.** ***Affiliate Faculty:*** **Jerry L. Harbour, Susan G. Hill, Justin G. Hollands, Margaret Jelinek Lewis , Mark L. McMulkin, Gregory L. Wilson, Brenda K. Wood.**

Psychology is the scientific study of thinking, emotion, and behavior. It is a diverse field, and can be applied to almost all aspects of everyday life: interpersonal relationships, school and lifelong learning, family, and the work environment. Psychology uses scientific research methods to develop and test theories, and to explain or predict behavior. Undergraduate study in psychology provides a broad coverage of the field; whereas graduate study focuses more narrowly on a particular discipline, preparing students for professional work as researchers and/or practitioners.

Communication Studies is a social science discipline that considers how people verbally and nonverbally communicate at the individual, societal, and cultural levels. It can be seen as the discipline that links other disciplines, a discipline that is vital if people, organizations, and governments are to cope with today's complex world. Students with degrees in Communication Studies pursue careers as communication specialists in the fields of communication education, business, government and politics, high technology industries, health, and social and human services. Graduates may also pursue advanced degrees in communication and other fields.

The Department of Psychology and Communication Studies offers a B.S. or B.A. in Psychology or Communications Studies. The psychology degree requires students to take a wide variety of courses in areas such as developmental processes, social psychology, learning and memory, personality, clinical psychology, biological processes, and sensation/perception. Depending on their interests, students also select from more specialized subjects such as human factors, industrial/organizational psychology, aging, and the psychology of emotion. The Communication Studies degree requires students to take courses in the fields of speech, interpersonal and organizational communication as well as research methods and statistics. Students choose additional coursework from the areas of conflict management, intercultural communication, persuasion, gender, and aging.

Currently, graduate training in the Department is available only in Psychology. The masters degree in psychology prepares students for careers in government and industry, teaching at the junior college level, or for continued study elsewhere at the doctoral level. The department offers an M.S. in psychology with an emphasis in either human factors psychology or industrial/organizational psychology. The intent of both emphases is to develop knowledge and skills germane to a professional position, and to provide appropriate preparation for those interested in further graduate study. Both human factors and industrial/organizational psychology emphases can be taken as thesis or non-thesis options. Occasionally, the department will accept applicants for the general experimental psychology M.S. Students interested in this option should contact the department for more information.

An applicant to the graduate program must possess an undergraduate degree in psychology or a related field, such as engineering, computer science, or business. In addition, applicants are required to have completed a course in introductory statistics, a course in experimental psychology or research methods, and a course in computer programming. Students wishing to emphasize human factors are encouraged to take upper-level courses in cognitive psychology and sensation/perception; students wishing to emphasize industrial/organizational psychology are encouraged to take upper-level courses in social psychology, I/O psychology, and tests and measurement. All applicants will be considered even if recommended coursework has not been taken.

Courses

See Part 6 for courses in Psychology (Psyc) and Communication Studies (Comm).

Undergraduate Curricular Requirements

COMMUNICATION STUDIES (B.A. or B.S.)

Communication studies majors are required to take a sequence of courses that is intended to provide them with a comprehensive background in communication concepts, history, theory, and practice. A minimum 2.50 gpa is required to graduate with a degree in Communication Studies. Majors are required to take:
Comm 101 Fundamentals of Speech (2 cr)
Comm 111 Introduction to Communication Studies (3 cr)
Comm 233 Interpersonal Communication (3 cr)
Comm 235 Organizational Communication (3 cr)
Comm 455 Communication Research Methods (3 cr)
Stat 251 Statistical Methods (3 cr)
Twenty-four (24) credits selected, with faculty advisor's guidance, the following upper division courses are recommended to fulfill these requirements:

Comm 331 Conflict Management (3 cr)
Comm 332 Small Group Communication (3 cr)
Comm 335 Intercultural Communication (3 cr)
Comm 347 Persuasion (3 cr)
Comm 403 Workshop (cr arr)
Comm 404 Special Topics (cr arr)
Comm 431 Professional Presentation Techniques (3 cr)
Comm 432 Gender and Communication (3 cr)
Comm 433 Advanced Organizational Communication (3 cr)
Comm 446 History of Communication Studies (3 cr)
Comm 491 Communication and Aging (3 cr)
Comm 498 (s) Internship (1-3 cr, max 3)
Comm 499 (s) Directed Study (cr arr)
Psyc 310 Psychology of Personality (3 cr)
Psyc 320 Social Psychology (3 cr)
Psyc 416 Industrial/Organizational Psychology (3 cr)

PSYCHOLOGY (B.A. or B.S.)

Note: Psyc 101 and Psyc 218 must be completed with a grade of C or better and a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.50 must be attained for students seeking upper-division standing in the department. In order to graduate with a degree in psychology, a 2.50 GPA must be attained.

Required course work includes the university requirements (see regulation J-3), the general requirements for either the B.A. or B.S. degree, and:

Biol 102 Biology and Society or Biol 115 Cells and the Evolution of Life (4 cr)
Psyc 101 Introduction to Psychology (3 cr)
Psyc 218 Introduction to Research in the Behavioral Sciences (4 cr)
Stat 251 Statistical Methods (3 cr)
One of the following (3 cr):
CS 101 Intro to Computer Science (3 cr)
CS 112 Intro to Problem Solving and Programming (3 cr)
Phil 202 Introduction to Symbolic Logic (3 cr)

A grade of C or above in at least three courses from each of the following groups (18 cr):

Personal/Social Bases of Behavior
Psyc 305 Developmental Psychology (3 cr)
Psyc 310 Psychology of Personality (3 cr)
Psyc 311 Abnormal Psychology (3 cr)
Psyc 320 Introduction to Social Psychology (3 cr)

Biological/Experimental Bases of Behavior
Psyc 325 Cognitive Psychology (3 cr)
Psyc 372 Physiological Psychology (3 cr)
Psyc 390 Psychology of Learning (3 cr)
Psyc 430 Tests and Measurements (3 cr)
Psyc 444 Sensation and Perception (3 cr)
Psyc 456 Psychology of Emotion (3 cr)

At least 12 additional upper-division psychology credits. Up to 6 of these credits may be earned by taking Comm 331, 347, 432, or 433. Only 3 of these credits may come from Psyc 400, 497, 498, and/or 499. A grade of C or better must be earned in each course taken to complete this category.

Academic Minor Requirements

ADDICTIONS MINOR

A grade of C or above is required for each class.

Psyc 470 Introduction to Chemical Addictions (3 cr)
Psyc 472 Introduction to the Pharmacology of Psychoactive Drugs (3 cr)
Psyc 477 Chemical Dependency and the Family (3 cr)

And one of the following emphasis areas:

Treatment Emphasis

Psyc 473 Blood and Airborne Pathogens: HIV/STDs/Hepatitis/TB (3 cr)
Psyc 474 Record Keeping and Case Management in Chemical Addictions Counseling (3 cr)
Psyc 475 Professional Ethics in Addictions Counseling (3 cr)
Psyc 476 Relapse Prevention in Chemical Addictions Counseling (3 cr)
Psyc 478 Individual Therapy Techniques in Chemical Addictions Counseling (3 cr)
Psyc 479 Group Therapy Techniques in Chemical Addictions Counseling (3 cr)
Psyc 482 Addictions Screening and Assessment (3 cr)

Prevention Emphasis
Psyc 305 Developmental Psychology (3 cr)
Psyc 483 Substance Abuse Prevention Theory and Applications I (3 cr)
Psyc 484 Facilitation Skills and Group Management for Prevention Providers (3 cr)
Psyc 485 Presentation - Instruction Skills for Helping Professionals (3 cr)
Psyc 486 Community Coalition Development (3 cr)
Psyc 487 Substance Abuse Program Planning and Evaluation (3 cr)
Psyc 488 Ethics in Substance Abuse Prevention (1 cr)
Psyc 489 Substance Abuse Prevention Theory and Applications II (4 cr)

COMMUNICATION STUDIES MINOR

Comm 111 Introduction to Communication Studies (3 cr)
Comm 233 Interpersonal Communication (3 cr)
Comm 235 Organizational Communication (3 cr)
At least three of the following (9 cr):
- Comm 331 Conflict Management (3 cr)
- Comm 332 Communication and the Small Group (3 cr)
- Comm 335 Intercultural Communication (3 cr)
- Comm 347 Persuasion (3 cr)
- Comm 431 Professional Presentation Techniques (3 cr)
- Comm 432 Gender and Communication (3 cr)
- Comm 433 Organizational Communication Theory and Research (3 cr)
- Comm 446 History of Communication Studies (3 cr)
- Comm 449 Theory in Communication (3 cr)
- Comm 491 Communication and Aging (3 cr)

PSYCHOLOGY MINOR

Note: Psyc 101 and Psyc 218 must be completed with a grade of C or better.

Psyc 101 Introduction to Psychology (3 cr)
Psyc 218 Introduction to Research in the Behavioral Sciences (4 cr)
A grade of C or above in at least two courses from each of the following groups (12 cr):
Personal/Social Bases of Behavior
- Psyc 305 Developmental Psychology (3 cr)
- Psyc 310 Psychology of Personality (3 cr)
- Psyc 311 Abnormal Psychology (3 cr)
- Psyc 320 Introduction to Social Psychology (3 cr)

Biological/Experimental Bases of Behavior
- Psyc 325 Cognitive Psychology (3 cr)
- Psyc 372 Physiological Psychology (3 cr)
- Psyc 390 Psychology of Learning (3 cr)
- Psyc 430 Tests and Measurements (3 cr)
- Psyc 444 Sensation and Perception (3 cr)
- Psyc 456 Psychology of Emotion (3 cr)

And a grade of C or better in at least one additional upper-division psychology course (not including Psyc 400, 403, 497, or 499).

Graduate Degree Program

In addition to the admission requirements of the Graduate College, the department requires Graduate Record Examination scores, letters of recommendation, and a brief essay regarding plans for graduate study and professional career. The undergraduate degree need not be in psychology, although at least a minor in psychology is desirable. In the event the student has a minimal background in psychology, this deficiency may be remedied by enrolling in certain undergraduate courses that would not necessarily be included in the graduate study plan.

The study program for each student is prepared with his or her future plans as a point of departure. Some students seek the master's degree as a terminal degree and assume positions in community mental health organizations, school systems, or industry, while others continue in doctoral studies.

Research opportunities in the department are many. Students are encouraged to begin research early in their graduate study under the direction of a major professor of mutual choice.

Students admitted to this program must fulfill the requirements of the College of Graduate Studies and of the Department of Psychology and Communication Studies. See the College of Graduate Studies section of Part 4 for the general requirements applicable to all M.S. degrees.