

BA with a Major in Political Science, Concentration in International Politics

Degree Requirements

To earn a Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts and Sciences degree from UIC, students must complete university, college, and department degree requirements. The Department of Political Science degree requirements are outlined below. Students should consult the [College of Liberal Arts and Sciences](#) section for additional degree requirements and college academic policies.

Code	Title	Hours
Summary of Requirements		
Major Requirements		33
General Education and Electives to Reach Minimum Total Hours		87
Total Hours		120

General Education

See [General Education and Writing-in-the-Discipline](#) in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences section for information on meeting these requirements.

Major Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
Required Courses		
POLS 101	Introduction to American Government and Politics ^{a,b}	3
POLS 130	Introduction to Comparative Politics ^a	3
POLS 184	Introduction to International Relations ^{a,c}	3
POLS 200	Methods of Political Science	3
Select one of the following: ^d		3
POLS 349	Topics in Comparative Politics	
POLS 389	Seminar: Topics in International Relations	
Six additional POLS courses at the 200 level or above, two of which must be at the 300 level or 400 level. For students in the concentration, three of these six POLS courses must be from the following list: ^e		18
POLS 204	Democracy and Its Discontents	
POLS 226	Political Parties in Modern Democracies	
POLS 231	Politics and Society of China	
POLS 232	Politics and Government of Korea	
POLS 234	Politics and Government of Western Europe	
POLS 236	Politics and Government of Eastern Europe	
POLS 242	Government and Politics of Latin America	

POLS 243	Politics and Government of the Middle East
POLS 274	The Politics of Blackness in Latin America
POLS 275	Gender in Latin America
POLS 281	United States Foreign Policy
POLS 283	International Political Economy
POLS 284	International Security
POLS 286	The United Nations and Other International Organizations
POLS 287	International Law
POLS 296	Fascism and Dictatorship in Southern Europe and the Mediterranean
POLS 342	European Union: Politics and Institutions
POLS 348	Seminar: Political Problems of Developing Societies
POLS 384	International Relations Theory
Total Hours	33

- a *This course is approved for the Understanding the Individual and Society General Education category.*
- b *This course is approved for the Understanding U.S. Society General Education category.*
- c *This course is approved for the Exploring World Cultures General Education category.*
- d *Either POLS 349 or POLS 389 may be used to fulfill the Writing-in-the-Discipline requirement.*
- e *Another course related to international politics may count toward this requirement with the approval of the director of undergraduate studies. Examples may include a course offered by another department or taken in a study abroad program, or a related guided internship.*

Recommended Plan of Study

Course	Title	Hours
First Year		
Fall Semester		
ENGL 160	Academic Writing I: Writing in Academic and Public Contexts	3
Select one of the following:		3
POLS 130	Introduction to Comparative Politics ^a	
POLS 184	Introduction to International Relations ^{a,b}	
Foreign Language		4
General Education Core course		3-5
Hours		13-15
Spring Semester		
ENGL 161	Academic Writing II: Writing for Inquiry and Research	3
Select one of the following:		3
POLS 130	Introduction to Comparative Politics ^a	
POLS 184	Introduction to International Relations ^{a,b}	
Foreign Language		4
General Education Core course		3
General Education Core course		3-5
Hours		16-18
Second Year		
Fall Semester		
POLS 101	Introduction to American Government and Politics ^{a,c}	3
Foreign Language		4

General Education Core course		3
General Education Core course		3
General Education Core course		3
Hours		16
Spring Semester		
POLS 200	Methods of Political Science	3
POLS 2xx, POLS 3xx, or POLS 4xx		3
Foreign Language		4
General Education Core course		3-5
Elective		3
Hours		16-18
Third Year		
Fall Semester		
POLS 201	Political Data Analysis ^d	3
POLS 2xx, POLS 3xx, or POLS 4xx		3
POLS 204	Democracy and Its Discontents	3
or POLS 226	or Political Parties in Modern Democracies	
or POLS 231	or Politics and Society of China	
or POLS 232	or Politics and Government of Korea	
or POLS 234	or Politics and Government of Western Europe	
or POLS 236	or Politics and Government of Eastern Europe	
or POLS 242	or Government and Politics of Latin America	
or POLS 243	or Politics and Government of the Middle East	
or POLS 274	or The Politics of Blackness in Latin America	
or POLS 275	or Gender in Latin America	
or POLS 281	or United States Foreign Policy	
or POLS 283	or International Political Economy	
or POLS 284	or International Security	
or POLS 286	or The United Nations and Other International Organizations	
or POLS 287	or International Law	
or POLS 296	or Fascism and Dictatorship in Southern Europe and the Mediterranean	
or POLS 342	or European Union: Politics and Institutions	
or POLS 348	or Seminar: Political Problems of Developing Societies	
or POLS 384	or International Relations Theory	
Electives		6
Hours		15
Spring Semester		
POLS 2xx, POLS 3xx, or POLS 4xx		3
POLS 204	Democracy and Its Discontents	3
or POLS 226	or Political Parties in Modern Democracies	
or POLS 231	or Politics and Society of China	
or POLS 232	or Politics and Government of Korea	
or POLS 234	or Politics and Government of Western Europe	
or POLS 236	or Politics and Government of Eastern Europe	
or POLS 242	or Government and Politics of Latin America	
or POLS 243	or Politics and Government of the Middle East	
or POLS 274	or The Politics of Blackness in Latin America	
or POLS 275	or Gender in Latin America	
or POLS 281	or United States Foreign Policy	
or POLS 283	or International Political Economy	
or POLS 284	or International Security	
or POLS 286	or The United Nations and Other International Organizations	
or POLS 287	or International Law	
or POLS 296	or Fascism and Dictatorship in Southern Europe and the Mediterranean	
or POLS 342	or European Union: Politics and Institutions	
or POLS 348	or Seminar: Political Problems of Developing Societies	
or POLS 384	or International Relations Theory	
Electives		8-9
Hours		14-15

Fourth Year		
Fall Semester		
POLS 204	Democracy and Its Discontents	3
or POLS 226	or Political Parties in Modern Democracies	
or POLS 231	or Politics and Society of China	
or POLS 232	or Politics and Government of Korea	
or POLS 234	or Politics and Government of Western Europe	
or POLS 236	or Politics and Government of Eastern Europe	
or POLS 242	or Government and Politics of Latin America	
or POLS 243	or Politics and Government of the Middle East	
or POLS 274	or The Politics of Blackness in Latin America	
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or POLS 286	or The United Nations and Other International Organizations	
or POLS 287	or International Law	
or POLS 296	or Fascism and Dictatorship in Southern Europe and the Mediterranean	
or POLS 342	or European Union: Politics and Institutions	
or POLS 348	or Seminar: Political Problems of Developing Societies	
or POLS 384	or International Relations Theory	
Electives		12
Hours		15
Spring Semester		
POLS 349	Topics in Comparative Politics ^e	3
or POLS 389	or Seminar: Topics in International Relations	
Electives		12
Hours		15
Total Hours		120

- a *This course is approved for the Understanding the Individual and Society General Education category.*
- b *This course is approved for the World Cultures General Education category.*
- c *This course is approved for the Understanding U.S. Society General Education category.*
- d *Satisfies Quantitative Reasoning requirement (with a grade of C or better) but is not required for the major. To be eligible, students must first satisfy the math prerequisite.*
- e *Either POLS 349 or POLS 389 may be used to fulfill the Writing-in-the-Discipline requirement.*