

# POLITICAL SCIENCE, BA

Political Science prepares students to critically analyze the collective problems of society on the local, national, and international levels. Through study of the major fields of the discipline—international relations, comparative politics, American government and political theory—the student develops an understanding of contemporary issues while developing a skill set necessary to live in a complex political society. The political science major also provides the opportunity to study various areas of public policy, including foreign policy, economic policy and health care policy.

Political Science graduates pursue a variety of careers in both the public and private sectors such as teaching, business, government, and public administration. While law schools do not require a specific major, Political Science is a natural pre-law major because of its emphasis on the study of law and institutions. The department offers courses in law, the judicial system, constitutional law, and various other areas that are directly related to legal practice. Additionally, the variety of courses in international politics and politics of different regions help students to develop global competence and prepares them for internationally oriented career choices. Successful completion of a senior thesis is a requirement for graduation.

## Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
<b>General Education Program</b>		
Understanding College (FS) 1		
Writing and Presentation (WR11 & OC1) 6		
Mathematics (QR1) 3-4		
Information Literacy, Media, and Research (ITML) 3		
IT-1001	Computer Tools	
Creative Voices across Cultures (HCE) 6		
Science at Work (NPW) 6-10		
Ethics, Reality and Logic (PEM) 6		
Individual and Societies (SEH) 6		
ECO-1201	Principles of Macroeconomics	
ECO-2202	Principles of Microeconomics	
Our World, Past and Present (WHG) 6		
HIS-1201	US History 1896 to Present	
Personal Wellness (FH) 2-3		
Religion and Culture (RS) 3		
<b>Political Science Major</b>		
Select 1: Foreign Language, IT, or Quantitative Skill Set 3		
One 1000-Level Foreign Language Course		
One 1000-Level Information Technology Course		
One 1000-level data/quantitative MAT Course (MAT 1101, 1103, 1104 or 1105)		
Select 1: History Elective Group 3		
HIS-1101	Survey of Western Civilization to 1500	
HIS-1302	Survey of World History Since 1500	
HIS-1200	Understanding the Human Rights or PSC-1200 Understanding the Human Rights	
Select 1: Social Sciences Elective Group 3		
CJ-1020	Introduction to Criminal Justice	

PSY-1000	Foundation in Information Literacy & Research	
SOC-1000	Principles of Sociology	
PSC-1000	Introduction to Political Science	3
PSC-1100	American National Government	3
PSC-2000	Comparative Government	3
PSC-2100	International Relations	3
PSC-2200	Public Policy	3
Select 1: American Institutions Elective Group		3
PSC-2407	United States Congress	
PSC-2405	Law and the American Judicial Process	
PSC-2409	The American Presidency	
Select 1: Regional/ Global Elective Group		3
PSC-3003	Politics of Asia	
PSC-3005	The United Nations	
PSC-3305	Politics and Administration in Latin America	
PSC-3317	Africa Government and Politics	
PSC-3500	Political Theory	3
PSC-3997	Political Science Research Methods	3
PSC-4998	Political Science Seminar	3
Select 7 PSC Electives		21
General Electives		15
<b>Total Hours</b>		<b>123-129</b>

<sup>1</sup> The successful completion of PSC-4998 Political Science Seminar satisfies the College's Comprehensive Examination/Thesis requirement

<sup>2</sup> Students pursuing a Bachelor of Arts degree must complete 2/3 of their degree credits (i.e. minimum 90 credits) from courses in the Liberal Arts category. See specific academic subjects (<https://catalog.sfc.edu/catalogue/general-information/academic-life/>).

## Political Science Concentrations

Students majoring in Political Science may choose to concentrate in American Government or Comparative Politics. To do so, students must select their Political Science elective courses to include the following:

### American Government

Code	Title	Hours
Select four of the following:		12
PSC-2304	State and Local Government	
PSC-2402	Metropolitan Government and Politics	
PSC-2501	Women and Politics	
PSC-2407	United States Congress	
PSC-2409	The American Presidency	
PSC-3402	Constitutional Law II: Civil Liberties	
PSC-3410	Constitutional Law I: Government Structures	
<b>Total Hours</b>		<b>12</b>

### World Politics

Code	Title	Hours
Select four of the following:		12
PSC-3305	Politics and Administration in Latin America	
PSC-3317	Africa Government and Politics	
PSC-3003	Politics of Asia	

In keeping with our mission at St. Francis College, the courses you take across the liberal arts ensure that you are well-rounded, able to engage in meaningful thought and conversation both within and outside of your area of expertise, and building a foundation for future success by deepening and broadening your knowledge. Building on First Year Foundations and augmenting your major field of study, the combination of courses in the Bodies of Knowledge prepares you to meet the challenges the world presents to you with intelligence, clarity, and empathy. They will equip you to solve complex problems, contribute to your community, and improve the world you inhabit.

## **Institutional Learning Outcomes:**

1. Demonstrate sensitivity to creative expression
2. Communicate ideas and information through written, oral, visual and digital media
3. Employ critical and analytical skills
4. Value diverse perspectives of the human experience
5. Implement information, technology and media literacy
6. Demonstrate quantitative literacy

## **Foundation Courses- First Year College (13-14 credits)**

St. Francis College's mission, emphasizing Franciscan education, highlights access and opportunities for all students. In your first year at SFC, you will combine key skill development with courses in the liberal arts and in your areas of interest. Each of these courses and categories is essential to your success in college and beyond. Our First Year Foundations program ensures that all students will be equitably prepared to excel and achieve their goals.

## **Bodies of Knowledge (35 credits)**

At St. Francis College, our Franciscan mission states that we "educate the whole person for a full, relational life." This means that we strive, by making certain you take courses across the liberal arts, to ensure that you are well-rounded, able to engage in meaningful thought and conversation both within and outside of your area of expertise, and create success by deepening and broadening your knowledge. Building on First Year Foundations and augmenting your major field of study, the combination of courses in the Bodies of Knowledge prepare you to meet the challenges the world presents to you with intelligence, clarity, and empathy. They will equip you to solve complex problems, contribute to your community, and improve the world you inhabit.