

## Political Science Major Advising Form

### Bachelor of Arts Degree Requirements

#### 2022-Current Catalog

#### Lower-Division Core (6 units):

Course No.	Name	Semester	Grade	Notes:
PLSI 1	Modern Politics ( <i>a prerequisite for PLSI 140</i> )			
PLSI 90	Methods of Analysis of Quantitative Political Data			

#### Upper-Division Core (12 units):

Course No.	Name	Semester	Grade	Notes:
PLSI 110 or 111	Political Thought to Machiavelli (PLSI 110) or Political Thought Since Machiavelli (PLSI 111)			
PLSI 120*	International Politics			
PLSI 140	Approaches to Comparative Politics			
PLSI 150	Public Policy Making			

#### Upper-Division Political Science Electives (18 units; typically, 6 courses):

All upper division (100-level) courses not part of the upper division core may be used towards the upper division electives requirement, including "T" (Topics) courses. However, PLSI 100W (3 units) and PLSI 102 (1 unit) are excluded from use.

Course No.	Name	Semester	Grade	Notes:

#### Capstone course\*\* (3 units): *Chose ONE*

Course No.	Name	Semester	Grade	Notes:
PLSI 158 <sup>#</sup>	Internship in Political Science*			
PLSI 192	Study Abroad			
PLSI 193	Research Capstone			
SSCI 102H	COSS Honors Research Seminar II			

<sup>#</sup>PLSI 158i Internship can be taken for more than once and count as a capstone and/or upper-division elective.

#### Advising Notes: *See the following page for recommended order of courses*

- PLSI 120 does NOT fulfill the Multicultural/International (MI) requirement for students in most earlier catalog years.
- Capstone course is required for students in catalog year 2019-2020 and later.
- CR/NC grading is not permitted in the political science major.

#### Additional Requirements:

- (1) General Education requirements (49 units); University requirements, including American Government (PLSI 2) and upper-division writing skills (UDWS) requirement (a W course); a total of 120 units, including 48 GE and 24 upper-division units.
- (2) General Education and university elective units may be used toward a double major or minor (in something other than political science; see Double Major or departmental minor). Consult the appropriate department chair, program coordinator, or faculty adviser for further information.
- (3) Grading Requirement. Students majoring in political science must earn a grade of C or better in each of the six core courses in the major: PLSI 1, 90 (lower-division) and PLSI 110 or 111, 120, 140, and 150 (upper-division) and capstone course.

## Recommended Order of Classes

### Lower-division major, GE courses, and lower-division university requirements:

- Lower-division major core should be taken before upper-division core.
- PLSI 1 should be taken before any upper-division major courses.
- Transfer students may take PLSI 90 in their first semester along with upper-division core. PLSI 90 is recommended before PLSI 150.
- PLSI 1 and 90 may be taken in either order.
- Take PLSI 2 (American Government) before PLSI 1 (Modern Politics) and after D1 (American History).
- Take PLSI 1, 2, and 90 during your sophomore year.

### Upper-division courses advice:

- Complete your upper division writing skills requirement as soon as possible after meeting the 60-unit requirement (i.e. usually in the first semester of your junior year). *PLSI 100W can be used for this requirement but does not count as a major elective.*
- Begin your upper-division major core courses after completing 60 units (i.e. in the first semester of your junior year).
- Upper-division core courses (110/111, 120, 140, 150) may be taken in any order. Take the 2 or 3 core courses in which you are most interested in the first semester of your junior year.
- PLSI 110 is offered only in fall, and PLSI 111 is only offered in spring. All other core courses are offered every semester.
- PLSI 120 and PLSI 140 should usually be taken before (or where necessary, concurrently with) other classes in the series (e.g. 120 before 121, 128T, etc. or concurrently; 140 before 148, 149T, etc., or concurrently).
- Most upper-level electives are offered only once every three or four semesters, some even less often, so start taking them in the first or second semester of your junior year. (Exceptions: PLSI 170 and 173 are typically offered every fall, and PLSI 171 and 172 are typically offered every spring.)
- The capstone internship course (if selected) should usually be taken in the year before graduation. Internship credit is repeatable, and students can use one semester for a capstone and one for an elective.
- The senior research capstone (if selected) should ideally be taken in your final semester (after completing the majority of Political Science course requirements). PLSI 193 is typically only offered in the spring.
- Consult the four optional Political Science tracks for course and career information and to help you choose your upper-level courses. Not all courses in the catalog or in each optional track will be offered during your time as an upper-division student. T (Topics) courses are electives that will vary in title.

Students should consult the [Department's Faculty Areas of Expertise](#) list for upper-level major and career advising in their area of interest.

Students can make an appointment with the Chair, Dr. Lisa Bryant, using this link: <https://calendly.com/lisabryantphd>.