Political Science

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Program of Study

Political science contributes to a liberal education by introducing students to concepts, methods, and knowledge that help them understand and judge politics within and among nations. A BA degree in political science can lead to a career in business, government, journalism, education, or nonprofit organizations; or it can lead to a Ph.D. program in the social sciences or to professional school in law, business, public policy, or international relations. These are only some recent examples of options that have been chosen by our graduates.

Program Requirements

Course Requirements. The department requires twelve political science courses. Students who write a thesis must take ten courses, plus two required courses: PLSC 29800 (BA Colloquium) and PLSC 29900 (BA Thesis Supervision). Students not writing a thesis must take twelve courses.

Up to four courses from outside the department may count toward these requirements. A list of pre-approved outside courses is maintained by the department. To count other courses, students must submit a petition to the program chair, which will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. (See the section below for more information on submitting a petition.)

Subfield Distribution Requirement. To gain a broad understanding of political science, the department believes that students should take a wide range of courses. To ensure that breadth, students must take at least one course in three of the following four subfields: Political Theory, American Politics, Comparative Politics, or International Relations. A course on Aristotle, for instance, would be classified as Political Theory (which is called subfield “A”). To identify the subfields, refer to the boldface letter at the end of each course description. When students submit a petition asking that a course outside the department be used to meet political science requirements, they may also ask that the course count toward a specific subfield. For example, a petition might ask that a course from the Department of Philosophy be used to meet our subfield requirement in Political Theory.
The four subfields are:

A. **Political Theory**: the history of ancient and modern political philosophy, the history of American political thought, and several varieties of contemporary political theory

B. **American Politics and Public Policy**: American political institutions, behavior, opinions, development, and public policy

C. **Comparative Politics**: the politics of particular foreign countries and regions and the comparative study of particular political phenomena such as leadership or state formation

D. **International Relations**: theoretical approaches to the study of politics among nations, the international relations of particular regions, the foreign policies of particular countries, and such topics as international political economy and military security

**Writing Requirement.** Students who are majoring in political science must write one long paper. There are two paths to meeting this requirement: the Long Paper Path and the BA Thesis Path. NOTE: Students may decide in their fourth year to pursue the Long Paper Path instead of the BA Thesis Path; however, those students are reminded that they are required to complete twelve courses (excluding PLSC 29800 or PLSC 29900).

**The Long Paper Path.** Students who do not wish to write a BA thesis must submit a form to the departmental office signed by an instructor who verifies that their paper meets the following guidelines.

(1) The paper must receive a grade of $B$ or better; a grade of $B-$ or below does not meet the requirement.

(2) The paper must be twenty pages or longer, double spaced. If the course requires a shorter paper, students may ask the instructor for permission to write an extended version. The departmental requirement will be met whether the long paper is written for the course itself or is written as an extra assignment. Another option is for a student to ask an instructor to read and grade a long paper after a course is completed.

(3) Students may write a long paper for any course that is used to meet requirements for the political science major (whether it is a political science course or it is, for example, a history or sociology course; and whether it is taught by a professor or by an advanced graduate student).

(4) Students are responsible for obtaining an approval form to verify the successful completion of this requirement from the departmental office and giving it to the relevant instructor. Please ask the instructor to sign the approval form and return it along with the paper itself to the departmental office. The deadline for submitting the approval form and the paper is 4 p.m. on Friday of the second
week of the quarter in which the student expects to graduate. NOTE: Most students complete their paper before their final quarter; the approval form and paper should be submitted to the departmental office as soon as the writing requirement is completed.

The BA Thesis Path. Writing a BA thesis will meet the writing requirement in political science and may also qualify a student for consideration for honors; see sections below, for more information. In either case, the paper is typically from thirty-five to fifty pages in length and must receive a grade of grade of $B$ or better. Students choose a suitable faculty member to supervise the writing and research process. The deadline for submitting two copies of a BA thesis to the departmental office is 4 p.m. on Friday of the sixth week of the quarter in which the student expects to graduate. If a student wishes to submit the BA thesis for consideration for honors, the deadline for submitting two copies of the thesis to the departmental office is 4 p.m. on Friday of the fourth week of the quarter in which the student expects to graduate.

Summary of Requirements: The Long Paper Path

\[
\begin{align*}
12 & \quad \text{political science courses}^* \\
- & \quad \text{fulfillment of the writing requirement} \\
12 & 
\end{align*}
\]

*At least one each of these courses must be in three of four subfields. PLSC 29800 (BA Colloquium) and PLSC 29900 (BA Thesis Supervision) may not be used to meet this requirement.*

Summary of Requirements: The BA Thesis Path

\[
\begin{align*}
10 & \quad \text{political science courses}^* \\
1 & \quad \text{PLSC 29800 (BA Colloquium)} \\
1 & \quad \text{PLSC 29900 (BA Thesis Supervision)} \\
12 & 
\end{align*}
\]

*At least one each of these courses must be in three of four subfields.*

Independent Study. It is possible for students with extensive course work in political science to pursue more specialized topics that are not covered by regular courses. They have the option of registering for Independent Study (PLSC 29700), to be taken individually and supervised by a member of the political science faculty. Students must obtain prior consent of the program chair and the instructor, as well as submit the College Reading and Research Course Form that is available from their College adviser. The substance of the Independent Study may not be related to the BA thesis or BA research, which is covered by BA Thesis Supervision (PLSC 29900). NOTE: Only one PLSC 29700 course may count toward requirements for the major and may be used to meet the subfield distribution requirement.
Third Year. During Autumn or Winter Quarter of their third year, students considering a major in political science are required to attend a meeting with the program chair that will introduce the political science program, provide information about requirements, and answer questions. The time and place of the meeting will be announced via e-mail. To receive this announcement and other information about the Department of Political Science, students should sign up for the undergraduate email list either in the departmental office or at listhost.uchicago.edu/mailman/listinfo/ugpolsall.

Students who plan to write a BA thesis must attend a second meeting with the program chair in Spring Quarter of their third year. This second meeting will answer questions and provide information on methods for doing research in political science, how to find an appropriate topic for a thesis, and how to choose a suitable faculty adviser. By the end of eighth week of Spring Quarter, students who intend to write a BA thesis must have completed a brief (one or two page) proposal describing their topic, chosen a faculty adviser, and received a written agreement from the faculty adviser that he or she will supervise the project. A signed copy of the approved proposal must be filed in the departmental office. Students studying abroad in Spring Quarter of their third year should correspond with the program chair about their plans for the BA thesis before the end of Spring Quarter. Out-of-residence students should proceed to write their proposal and should conduct the process of choosing a faculty adviser via telephone or email.

The BA Colloquium (PLSC 29800). Students who choose to write a BA thesis, whether or not they intend to submit their thesis for consideration for honors, are required to participate in the BA Colloquium in Autumn and Winter Quarters of their fourth year. The colloquium is designed to help students carry out their BA thesis research and to offer feedback on their progress. It meets weekly in Autumn Quarter and biweekly in Winter Quarter. Although the course meets over two quarters, it counts as a single course and has a single grade. The final grade for the colloquium is based on the student’s contribution to the colloquium during both quarters. NOTE: Registration for PLSC 29800 is limited to either Autumn or Winter Quarter of their fourth year, but attendance is required in both quarters. Students who plan to study abroad during Autumn or Winter Quarter of their fourth year must contact the program chair in advance to make arrangements to meet the BA Colloquium requirement.

BA Thesis Supervision (PLSC 29900). During their fourth year, students who choose to write a BA thesis (and students applying for honors) must register with their BA thesis faculty adviser for one (and only one) quarter of PLSC 29900. NOTE: Students are required to submit the College Course Reading and Research Form, which is available from the College advisers. The final grade for the course will be based on the grade given the BA thesis by the faculty adviser.

Double Majors. Students who plan to double major may complete the political science requirements by either the BA Thesis Path or the Long Paper Path. Students who write the BA thesis must attend the political science BA Colloquium even if the other major requires attendance at its colloquium.
A request to use a single BA thesis for two majors requires the approval of both program chairs on a form available from the student’s College adviser. Students should consult with the departments by the earliest BA proposal deadline (or by the end of their third year, if neither program publishes a deadline). A consent form, to be signed by both departments, is available from College advisers or at www.college.uchicago.edu/academics/pdf/bsa-double_major-single.pdf. It must be completed and returned to the College adviser by the end of Autumn Quarter of the student’s year of graduation. To be considered for honors in political science, however, the thesis must be evaluated by the faculty adviser and preceptor using the criteria specified in the section below. Students can meet the writing requirement in the Long Paper Path with a paper written for another department, but they must also meet the requirement that they complete twelve courses in political science.

**Grading.** Courses that meet requirements for the major are typically taken for quality grades. However, students may take up to two courses on a P/F basis if they receive prior consent from the instructor.

**Honors.** Students who have done exceptionally well in their course work and who write an outstanding BA thesis are recommended for honors. A student is eligible for honors if the GPA in the major is 3.6 or higher and the overall GPA is 3.0 or higher at the beginning of the quarter in which the student intends to graduate. Students who wish to be considered for honors are required to register for PLSC 29800 (BA Colloquium) and PLSC 29900 (BA Thesis Supervision) and to submit an honors thesis.

**Courses Taken on Campus in Other Departments.** Students may count up to four courses outside the Department of Political Science toward political science courses required for the major.

Students may choose from the list of pre-approved courses at the end of this section without submitting a petition. For updates to this list, visit the departmental office or website. The department also maintains a list of courses that students routinely ask about that it has denied.

Other courses that are offered by other departments at the University of Chicago and by other institutions in the United States and abroad will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Such courses must have political science content and must deploy methodology relevant to the study of political science. Students must submit a formal petition to the program chair that presents a clear, complete statement of the student’s request and the student’s reasons for the request. The petition must include the name of the course instructor, the course title, and the course number; and, if possible, a course syllabus should be attached to the petition. Students may submit petitions soon after completing a course, but, because not all petitions are approved, it is preferable to obtain prior consent. The department will not consider petitions submitted after the second week of the quarter in which the student intends to graduate. For more information, visit www.college.uchicago.edu/academics/pdf/general_petition.pdf.
Transfer Credit. Students transferring from other institutions who wish to apply credit to their political science major for course work taken at another institution should petition the program chair shortly after matriculation. The petition should include a complete description of the course and professor; and, if possible, a course syllabus should be attached to the petition. If the petition is approved, up to four courses outside the department may be counted toward a political science major. The department will not consider petitions submitted after the second week of the quarter in which the student intends to graduate. NOTE: A one-semester course at another institution equals one course at the University of Chicago; a two-semester course equals three courses here (since both last a full academic year).

Courses Taken Elsewhere. Students registered at the University of Chicago who wish to receive credit for courses taken at other institutions must receive approval. Students may submit petitions soon after completing a course, but, because not all petitions are approved, it is preferable to obtain prior consent. The department will not consider petitions submitted after the second week of the quarter in which the student intends to graduate. Credit will be granted only for courses that meet departmental standards, whether they are taken at institutions within the United States or abroad.

University students who wish to receive credit for courses taken abroad should petition the program chair within one quarter of their return. NOTE: The Office of the Dean of Students in the College must also approve the transfer of all courses taken at institutions other than those in which students are enrolled as part of a study abroad program that is sponsored by the University of Chicago. For more information, visit www.college.uchicago.edu/academics/transfer_credit.shtml.

Faculty

Courses: Political Science (plsc)

Boldface letters in parentheses refer to the course distribution areas noted in the preceding Program Requirements section.

21600/32600. World Politics in the Twentieth Century, 1945 to 1991: The Cold War: A History. PQ: Advanced standing. This course focuses on the Cold War and the development of an integrated world economy under U.S. leadership. It deals with key elements of international history needed for further study of international politics and IR theory, including long-term trends in diplomacy, economic development, and military force. It uses extensive multimedia presentations to show maps, historical events, and national leaders, as well as outlines of the subject matter. This course is intended to provide students in
the social sciences, particularly those working on international relations, with historical grounding for further study of international relations. *C. Lipson. Autumn. (D)*

**21810/39000. Global Justice. PQ: Consent of instructor. Class limited to fifteen students.** What duties do states and societies have beyond their borders? Are obligations of justice global in scope? What is the moral standing of states? This course examines theories of global distributive and political justice, controversies over cosmopolitan democracy, and theories of human rights in light of global social structures and international inequalities. We consider contemporary arguments in political philosophy, sometimes in conversation with texts in the history of political thought. Authors include Immanuel Kant, John Rawls, Thomas Pogge, Amartya Sen, Thomas Nagel, and Iris Marion Young. *J. Pitts. Winter. (A)*

**220020/42020. Chinese Foreign Policy. PQ: Consent of instructor.** This course examines the rise of China and its global implications from both historical and theoretical perspectives. It reviews China’s interactions with the world in the past century and places China’s rise in its global context. It engages contending theories about whether China will become a responsible stakeholder or challenge the existing global order. Special attention is given to the relationship between the United States and China. *D. Yang. Spring. (D)*

**22100. African American Politics. (=CRPC 22200)** This course explores both the historical and contemporary political behavior of African Americans, examining the multitude of ways in which African Americans have engaged in politics and political struggle in the United States. To understand different approaches to the liberation of black people, we pay special attention to the attitudes, world views, and ideologies that structure and influence African American political behavior. An analysis of difference and stratification in black communities and its resulting impact on political ideologies and mobilization is a crucial component of this course. We consistently seek to situate the politics of African Americans in the larger design we call American politics. *C. Cohen. Spring. (B)*

**22200. Introduction to Political Economy of Development. PQ: Advanced standing.** This course introduces the political economy of development. Our key question is: Why is life in some countries and regions “better” than in others? We explore different approaches to this question, using theories from economics and politics. Along the way, we examine a selection of topics of substantive interest that may include poverty, inequality, corruption, gender and development, health, the rule of law, microcredit, and remittances. *A. Simpser. Autumn. (C)*

**22400. Public Opinion. (=LLSO 26802)** What is the relationship between the mass citizenry and government in the United States? Does the public meet the conditions for a functioning democratic polity? This course considers the origins of mass opinion about politics and public policy, including the role of core values and beliefs, information, expectations about political actors, the mass media, economic self-interest, and racial attitudes. We also examine problems of political
representation, from the level of political elites communicating with constituents and from the possibility of aggregate representation. J. Brehm. Spring. (B)

22820/32820. Political Economy of Elections. This course investigates how the economy and elections interact with each other in theory and practice. The course begins by asking two central questions—how elections affect the economy and how the economy affects election outcomes—in light of a political economy perspective. Students learn how economic conditions affect voters’ choices in elections and how the expectations of these effects lead politicians to certain policy choices. We further explore how different electoral institutions shape different economic outcomes by looking at their differential effects on the choices of voters, politicians, and economic actors. J. Park. Spring. (D)

22900. The Theory and Practice of International Cooperation. Cooperation is often difficult, but it is nevertheless a central element of international politics. This course develops the theory of international cooperation, moving from basic assumptions about international politics through the role of international institutions and the limitations of the analysis. Students are required to apply the theory by analyzing the development (or failure) of international cooperation in some international issue area. D. Snidal. Spring. (D)

23800/48300. Plato’s Laws. (=FNDL 23400, LLSO 28500, SCTH 39120) Prior knowledge of Plato’s Republic helpful. Enrollment limited. This course is a reading of Plato’s Laws, with attention to the following themes: war and peace; courage and moderation; reason and law; music, poetry, drinking, and education; sex, marriage, and gender; property and class structure; crime and punishment; religion and theology; and the relation between philosophy and politics. N. Tarcov. Autumn. (A)

23801/33801. The Political Thought of Martin Delany. R. Gooding-Williams. Winter. (A)

24501/34501. The Political Thought of Jürgen Habermas. (=FNDL 21407) This seminar is devoted to the political thought of Jürgen Habermas, centered on a reading of his book Between Facts and Norms. We also read selections from some of Habermas’s other works, as well as from the political, social, and legal theorists with whom he is in conversation. P. Markell. Autumn. (A)

24901/40710. Punishment and Social Theory. Since the modern period, the discourse on punishment has cycled through three sets of questions. The first, born of the Enlightenment itself, inquired into the foundations of the sovereign’s right to punish. With the birth of social sciences and critical theory, a second set of questions arose exploring the function of punishment: What is it that we do when we punish? A series of further critiques of meta-narratives, of functionalism, and of scientific objectivity softened this line of inquiry and helped shape a third question: What is the cultural meaning of our punishment practices? Through readings in social and political theory (e.g., Durkheim, Foucault, the Frankfurt
School; more contemporary writings on punishment), we explore these modern debates over punishment practices and institutions. B. Harcourt. Autumn. (A)

24902/40702. Theories of Criminalization: Vice, Harm, and Morality. This course focuses on the history and policy shifts in six areas usually regarded as “vice crimes”: drugs, disapproved sexual behavior, gambling, pornography, prostitution, and alcohol. Over the past half century, huge changes in law and law enforcement practices have been common in this area, and not all in the same direction. Decriminalization is common for gambling and pornography, but a huge war on drugs increased the prison population from drug crime ten-fold in the United States during the last generation. Why? What is likely to happen next? Are there differences of principle or only of politics informing radically different recent events and transnational variations? B. Harcourt. Winter. (B)

25300. American Political Parties. This course introduces the nature and function of American political parties. We concentrate on two main themes. First, we explore the origins of the American party system. Topics include the origin of America’s ambivalence toward political parties, the emergence of parties in the United States, and the institutional foundations of America’s two-party system. Second, we investigate the role that political parties play as intermediary institutions between the public and their elected officials. Our studies focus on the role of political parties in the organization of elections and the government. More advanced topics include political realignments, divided government, and the decline of parties hypothesis. J. Grynaviski. Spring. (B)

25610. Authority, Obligation, and Dissent. What is the basis of political authority? What, if anything, makes it legitimate? Under what conditions are we obliged to follow the laws and orders of government authorities? Under what conditions can we legitimately disobey such laws or orders, or even engage in violent rebellion? How have some of the most influential political thinkers answered such questions historically, and which of their theories are most helpful for illuminating these issues for us today? Authors considered include Plato, Hobbes, Locke, Burke, Paine, Kant, Thoreau, Gandhi, Fanon, and Martin Luther King Jr. S. Muthu. Spring. (A)

26000. Race and Politics. (=AFAM 26000, CRPC 26000) This course explores how race, both historically and currently, influences politics in the United States. For example, is there something unique about the politics of African Americans? Does the idea and lived experience of whiteness shape one’s political behavior? Throughout the quarter, students interrogate the way scholars, primarily in the field of American politics, have ignored, conceptualized, measured, modeled, and sometimes fully engaged the concept of race. We examine the multiple manifestations of race in the political domain, both as it functions alone and as it intersects with other identities (e.g., gender, class, sexuality). M. Dawson. Winter. (B)

26100. To Hell with the Enlightenment: The Rise of the Aesthetic State. This course’s aims are twofold: (1) to introduce the student to some of the writings
attacking the Enlightenment in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries; and (2) to show how these writings created a concept of political modernism and a theory of the aesthetic state. Among others, we read Schiller, Schopenhauer, Kierkegaard, Croce, Mead, Mussolini, and A. Rosenberg. B. Silberman. Winter. (A)

26109/36109. Core Values of the West. PQ: HIST 13100-13200-13300. This course examines the fundamental values of liberal Western democracies, including freedom of speech and religion, equality under law, individual autonomy, religious toleration, and property rights. We consider what these values mean, their historical origins and development, and debates about them in theory and in practice. This course is divided between lectures, which present each topic, and discussions. C. Lipson. Winter. (A)

26610. Political Communication Networks. (=LLSO 20911) The focus of this course is to examine empirical evidence to determine if an individual’s social context has the ability to impact her political behavior. We examine two major questions: to what extent do we observe correlation between individuals’ actions and those within a social framework and to what extent may we identify a causal relationship between the political behavior of the social group and the individual. Specific readings are drawn from collective action problems, information flow within networks, network formation, and the extent to which we can observe respondents’ voting behaviors that are consistent with their discussants’ surveys or field experiments. B. Sinclair. Spring. (B)

26710. Ethnic Conflict. What is ethnic conflict and how can it be moderated? This course draws on readings from many social science disciplines—as well as case studies of conflicts from Africa, the Americas, Europe and Asia—to introduce students to theories of ethnic identity and change and ethnic conflict. We also explore the main institutional, economic, and social-psychological approaches used to moderate conflicts. Students are asked to “solve” an ethnic conflict by using an approach discussed in class. S. Wilkinson. Winter. (C)

27015/37015. Colonialism, Democracy, and Conflict. PQ: Consent of instructor. This course looks at the impact of the colonial experience on post-independence levels of democracy and conflict, both directly and through the long-term colonial era legacies on other factors (e.g., economic growth; or ethnic imbalances in the economy, administration, and military). We cover a wide range of disciplinary approaches, from history and sociology to anthropology and economics. The common methodological theme is understanding how we might measure the impact of the past, and the benefits and limits of various quantitative approaches to doing so. S. Wilkinson. Winter. (C)

27301/37301. Weimar Political Theology: Schmitt and Strauss. PQ: Prior reading of Schmitt’s Political Theology and consent of instructor. This course is devoted to the idea of “political theology” during the interwar period in twentieth-century Central Europe. We focus specifically on the writings of and the intellectual exchange between Carl Schmitt and Leo Strauss, two authors who considered the extent to which both serious intellectual endeavors and political
authority require extra-rational and transcendent foundations. J. McCormick. Winter. (A)

27500/37500. Organizational Decision Making. This course examines the process of decision making in modern, complex organizations (e.g., universities, schools, hospitals, business firms, public bureaucracies). We also consider the impact of information, power, resources, organizational structure, and the environment, as well as alternative models of choice. J. Padgett. Winter. (B)

27600/37600. War and the Nation-State. (=LLSO 26500) This course examines the phenomenon of war in its broader socioeconomic context during the years between the emergence of the modern nation-state in the late 1700s and the end of World War II. J. Mearsheimer. Winter. (D)

27815. Politics and Public Policy in China. This course offers a historical and thematic survey of Chinese politics in the twentieth century. Particular attention is given to the formation of the party-state, the imposition of central planning, the Great Leap forward, the Cultural Revolution, reform and liberalization, and China's role in the world in the post--cold war era. The discussion is framed in terms that allow comparison with other countries. D. Yang. Winter. (C)

28000/38000. Organization, Ideology, and Political Change. This course centers on the comparative analysis of the emergence and institutionalization of public bureaucracies in the United States, Great Britain, France, Germany, Japan, and the former Soviet Union. The aim is to see whether there are distinctly different patterns of organizational rationality or whether bureaucracies are all culturally unique. B. Silberman. Autumn. (C)

28100. Russian Politics. This course introduces Russian politics. After a brief review of the milestones in Soviet history, the focus is on the developments since the fall of the “evil empire.” Topics include domestic politics, political economy, and foreign policy. We also put the Russian developments in context by looking at other post-communist countries. S. Markus. Winter. (C)

28109/38100. Burke’s Political Thought. J. Pitts. Spring. (A)

28300. Seminar on Realism. This course introduces the realist paradigm of international relations. J. Mearsheimer. Spring. (D)

28615. Politics and Human Nature. PQ: Third- or fourth-year standing. Class limited to fifteen students. This course explores commonalities among psychoanalytic theory, Buddhism, and studies of emotions and brain physiology, particularly as they relate to questions of the self and political life. In addition to exploring each of these theories, we investigate particular questions (e.g., inevitability of conflict, dynamics of obedience and authority, emotional power of ideology, and non-Western understandings of human consciousness). E. Oliver. Winter. (A)

28800/48800. Introduction to Constitutional Law. (=LLSO 23900) This course introduces the constitutional doctrines and political role of the U.S.
Supreme Court, focusing on its evolving constitutional priorities and its response to basic governmental and political problems (e.g., maintenance of the federal system, promotion of economic welfare, protection of individual and minority rights). G. Rosenberg. Winter. (B)

28900/39900. Strategy. This course covers American national security policy in the post–cold war world, especially the principal issues of military strategy that are likely to face the United States in the next decade. This course is structured in five parts: (1) examining the key changes in strategic environment since 1990, (2) looking at the effects of multipolarity on American grand strategy and basic national goals, (3) focusing on nuclear strategy, (4) examining conventional strategy, and (5) discussing the future of war and peace in the Pacific Rim. R. Pape. Spring. (D)

29000/39800. Introduction to International Relations. This course introduces main themes in international relations that include the problems of war and peace, conflict and cooperation. We begin by considering some basic theoretical tools used to study international politics. We then focus on several prominent security issues in modern international relations, such as the cold war and post–cold war world, nuclear weapons, nationalism, and terrorism. We also deal with economic aspects of international relations, such as globalization, world trade, environmental pollution, and European unification. C. Lipson. Autumn. (D)

29200. Civil Rights/Civil Liberties. (=LLSO 24000) PQ: PLSC 28800 or equivalent, and consent of instructor. This course examines selected civil rights and civil liberties decisions of U.S. courts, with emphasis on the political context. Topics include speech, race, and gender. G. Rosenberg. Spring. (B)

29700. Independent Study. PQ: Consent of faculty supervisor and program chair. Students are required to submit the College Reading and Research Course Form. This is a general reading and research course for independent study not related to the BA thesis or BA research. Summer, Autumn, Winter, Spring.

29800. BA Colloquium. PQ: Required of fourth-year students who are majoring in political science majors and plan to write a BA thesis. Students participate in both Autumn and Winter Quarters but register only once (in either Autumn or Winter Quarter). PLSC 29800 counts as a single course and a single grade is reported in Winter Quarter. The colloquium is designed to help students carry out their BA thesis research and offer feedback on their progress. The class meets weekly in Autumn Quarter and every other week in Winter Quarter. Autumn, Winter.

29900. BA Thesis Supervision. PQ: Required of fourth-year students who are majoring in political science majors and plan to write a BA thesis. Students are required to submit the College Reading and Research Course Form. This is a reading and research course for independent study related to BA research and BA thesis preparation. Summer, Autumn, Winter, Spring.
Courses Outside Political Science That Will Be Approved

Students may draw on the following courses to count toward political science courses required for the program. Some courses may not be offered every year, and other courses will be considered on a case-by-case basis. For updates, visit political-science.uchicago.edu or the departmental office. Please note that students may choose from this pre-approved list without submitting a petition; any of these courses will automatically count as one of the four courses outside the Department of Political Science that may be used for the major.

ANTH 22205. Slavery and Unfree Labor. (C)
ANTH 29715. The Politics of Ethnicity in Burma. (C)
ECON 26010. Introduction to Public Finance. (B)
ECON 28600. Introduction to the Economic Analysis of Law. (B)
EEUR 24500. Cult of Personality: Hitler, Stalin, and Mao. (C)
ENST 21800. Economics and Environmental Policy. (B)
ENST 23100. Environmental Law. (B)
ENST 24101. U.S. Environmental Politics. (B)
ENST 24400. Is Development Sustainable? (B)
ENST 24700. Environmental Policy. (B)
ENST 24900. Global Environmental Politics. (C)
FNDL 22301. The Ethics of Albert Camus. (A)
FNDL 24401. American Originals: Franklin and Lincoln. (A)
GNDR 27700. Pragmatism, Feminism, and Democracy. (A)
HIST 13801. Post Soviet Union, 1945 to 1953. (C)
HIST 18000. War in Modern American Society. (B)
HIST 18500. Politics of Film in Twentieth-Century American History. (B)
HIST 21500. John Locke in Historical Context. (A)
HIST 22800. Machiavelli and Renaissance Italy. (A)
HIST 23401. Genocide of European Jews, 1933 to 1945. (C)
HIST 24702. Globalization and Asia. (C)
HIST 25600. Contemporary Central Asia. (C)
HIST 25902. History of Israel-Arab Conflict. (C)
HIST 26601. Postcolonial Theory. (A)
HIST 27301. War, Gender, and Sexuality in Twentieth-Century America. (B)
HIST 27400. Race and Racism in American History. (B)
HIST 27900. Asian Wars of the Twentieth Century. (C)
HIST 27901. Asian American History. (B)
HIST 29500. Law and Social Theory. (A)
HMRT 20100. Human Rights I: Philosophical Foundations of Human Rights. (A)
HMRT 20200. Human Rights II: Historical Underpinnings of Human Rights. (A)
HMRT 20500. Human Rights and International Relations. (D)
HMRT 21200. Armed Conflict and Politics of Humanitarian Action. (D)
HMRT 24701. Human Rights: Alien and Citizen. (D)
INST 23101. Contemporary Global Issues I. (D)
INST 23102. Contemporary Global Issues II. (D)
Courses Outside Political Science That Will Not Be Approved

Many students ask about the following courses. Petitions will be denied to use courses on this list for political science credit.

ECON 19800. Introduction to Microeconomics.
ECON 19900. Introduction to Macroeconomics.
ECON 20000. Elements of Economic Analysis I.
ECON 20100. Elements of Economic Analysis II.
ECON 22200. Topics in American Economic History.
ECON 26600. Economics of Urban Policies.
Any introductory civilization studies courses.