

# Political Science (POLS)

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## Courses

### **POLS 122 Political Science (3 Hours) ▶**

This course provides students the opportunity to explore the discipline of political science and to discover how political scientists study politics in the contemporary world.

### **POLS 122H HON: Political Science (1 Hour)**

One-credit hour honors contract is available to qualified students who have an interest in a more thorough investigation of a topic related to this subject. An honors contract may incorporate research, a paper, or project and includes individual meetings with a faculty mentor. Student must be currently enrolled in the regular section of the courses or have completed it the previous semester. Contact the Honors Program Office, COM 201, for more information. Prerequisite: Honors department approval.

### **POLS 124 American National Government (3 Hours) ▶**

This course examines the components of the public policy-making process. Topics of study include American political culture, constitutional principles, intergovernmental relations, public opinion, political parties, interest groups, media, the influence of the constant campaign of candidate-centered politics, budget construction, bureaucracy, and decision-making institutions.

### **POLS 124H HON: American Nat. Government (1 Hour)**

One-credit hour honors contract is available to qualified students who have an interest in a more thorough investigation of a topic related to this subject. An honors contract may incorporate research, a paper, or project and includes individual meetings with a faculty mentor. Student must be currently enrolled in the regular section of the courses or have completed it the previous semester. Contact the Honors Program Office, COM 201, for more information. Prerequisite: Honors department approval.

### **POLS 126 State and Local Government (3 Hours)**

This course examines the executive, legislative, judicial and service functions of state and local government in the United States in general and in Kansas in particular. The course includes guest lectures by elected officials, government personnel and community activists.

### **POLS 132 Introduction to Comparative Government (3 Hours) ▶**

This course compares the different political structures of many of the world's most important countries, including economic development, patterns of government and administration, party structures and policy formation.

### **POLS 132H HON: Introduction to Comparative Government (1 Hour)**

One-credit hour honors contract is available to qualified students who have an interest in a more thorough investigation of a topic related to this subject. An honors contract may incorporate research, a paper, or project and includes individual meetings with a faculty mentor. Student must be currently enrolled in the regular section of the courses or have completed it the previous semester. Contact the Honors Program Office, COM 201, for more information. Prerequisite: Honors department approval.

### **POLS 135 International Relations (3 Hours) ▶**

This course analyzes the conflict and cooperation among nation-states. Students will study contemporary problems and how they relate to power, war, terrorism, diplomacy, international organizations and the future of the nation-state system.

### **POLS 135H HON: International Relations (1 Hour)**

One-credit hour honors contract is available to qualified students who have an interest in a more thorough investigation of a topic related to this subject. An honors contract may incorporate research, a paper, or project and includes individual meetings with a faculty mentor. Student must be currently enrolled in the regular section of the courses or have completed it the previous semester. Contact the Honors Program Office, COM 201, for more information. Prerequisite: Honors department approval.

### **POLS 175 Environmental Policy and Law (3 Hours)**

This is a survey course in environmental regulation and will provide an overview of key environmental laws and policies including major provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Clean Water Act (CWA), the Clean Air Act (CAA), the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) and The Endangered Species Act (ESA). 3 hrs. lecture/wk.

### **POLS 192 Political Theory (3 Hours)**

This course examines the relationship between citizens and government, and competing justifications for political authority. We will focus on the Western political tradition, in particular Plato, Locke, Mill and Marx. Most of class work consists of participation in historical simulations involving Ancient Athens and Revolutionary America, with some attention to other periods. 3 hrs. lecture/wk.

### **POLS 200 Model United Nations (3 Hours)**

This course is designed for students who are interested in learning and understanding international organizations and participating in competitive intercollegiate Model United Nations. This course orients students with the history, structure and function of the United Nations and those facets of an assigned country. This orientation will assist students in their preparation for the Model United Nations (MUN) conference during the spring semester.

**POLS 200H HON: Model United Nations (1 Hour)**

One-credit hour honors contract is available to qualified students who have an interest in a more thorough investigation of a topic related to this subject. An honors contract may incorporate research, a paper, or project and includes individual meetings with a faculty mentor. Student must be currently enrolled in the regular section of the courses or have completed it the previous semester. Contact the Honors Program Office, COM 201, for more information. Prerequisite: Honors department approval.

**POLS 220 Introduction to Public Policy (3 Hours)**

This course introduces the policymaking process. It provides an overview of key theories of public policymaking and of the actors involved in the policymaking process; it examines incentives, enhancements, and constraints that shape the policymaking process; and it equips students with the tools to analyze and evaluate of the impact of public policy. Several public policy areas are examined.

**POLS 245 Introduction to Public Administration (3 Hours)**

This course provides students the opportunity to explore public administration and public policy including institutional arrangements for the provision of public services and the study of those arrangements.

**POLS 270 Political Science Internship\* (3 Hours)**

**Prerequisites :** Department approval.

Students augment their academic course work with an internship in an appropriate setting under instructional supervision. Internship projects are cooperative efforts between appropriate supervisors in state, local or national government settings or not-for-profit organizations and college staff and students. Internships give students the opportunity to participate in the real-world application of their academic studies. In addition, this synthesis of classroom study with practical experience provides students with skills and insights useful in selecting a career or avocation in community service. The student spends the equivalent of 10 hours per week performing internship duties over the course of the semester or a total of 150 hours.

**POLS 291 Independent Study\* (1-7 Hour)**

**Prerequisites :** 2.0 GPA minimum and department approval.

Independent study is a directed, structured learning experience offered as an extension of the regular curriculum. It is intended to allow individual students to broaden their comprehension of the principles of and competencies associated with the discipline or program. Its purpose is to supplement existing courses with individualized, in-depth learning experiences. Such learning experiences may be undertaken independent of the traditional classroom setting, but will be appropriately directed and supervised by regular instructional staff. Total contact hours vary based on the learning experience.