POLITICAL SCIENCE, BA

Political science is the study of governments, political processes, public policies and political behavior by groups or individuals and is an ideal major for students with a passion for current events.

At UWM, students take coursework from four broad areas of political science in order to obtain a well-rounded education in the field: American politics, international relations, comparative politics, and political theory. Along with exploring these substantive areas, students strengthen their research, writing, and critical thinking skills. With this background, students leave UWM ready to enter graduate school or the world of work in government, international organizations, campaigns, business, consulting, nonprofits, and many other industries. This broad major is available entirely online, or students can mix-and-match and take a some online and some traditional classes.

Many students find that a degree in Political Science aligns well with their interest in law and their plans to attend law school after college. We offer a large number of courses in constitutional law and legal practice in society, and students can focus their electives around these as part of the Law Studies option within the Political Science major. Students planning for law school also often participate in our law sports programs such as intercollegiate moot court and intercollegiate mock trial.

Internships are encouraged for all majors, and opportunities can be found locally as well in Washington DC.

Since 1966, students from all UW System campuses and other universities have participated in the United Nations Summer Seminar (http://uwm.edu/political-science/undergraduate/u-n-summer-seminar). This five-week, six-credit program is partially held at United Nations Headquarters in Manhattan. The four weeks in New York include special access to U.N. facilities and intensive interaction with over 40 experts representing governments and international organizations.

Requirements

Course of Study – Bachelor of Arts Degree

Complete 120 credits including 90 credits in the College of Letters & Science and with 36 of the 90 credits in L&S upper-level (numbered above 300) courses. The College requires that students must complete in residence at UWM at least 15 credits in upper-division (numbered 300 or above) courses in their major. Students are also required to complete University-wide General Education Requirements and the specific L&S requirements listed below.

To complete a major, students must satisfy all the requirements of the major as stated in this catalog. Students who declare their majors within five years of entering the UW System as a degree candidate may satisfy the requirements outlined in any catalog issued since the time they entered. Credits used to satisfy the major also may be used to satisfy other degree requirements.

University General Education Requirements (GER)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENGLISH 102</td>
<td>College Writing and Research (or equivalent)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Course designated as QL-B; may be completed through a major-specific course requirement

Quantitative Literacy

Part A

Select one of the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MATH 103</td>
<td>Contemporary Applications of Mathematics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH 105</td>
<td>Introduction to College Algebra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH 108</td>
<td>Algebraic Literacy II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH 111</td>
<td>Introduction to Logic - Critical Reasoning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or PHILOS 111</td>
<td>Introduction to Logic - Critical Reasoning</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Or equivalent course

Part B

Course designated as OWC-B; may be completed through a major-specific course requirement

Arts

Select 3 credits

Humanities

Select 6 credits

Social Sciences

Select 6 credits

Natural Sciences

Select 6 credits (at least two courses including one lab)

UWM Foreign Language Requirement

Complete Foreign Language Requirement through:

- Two years (high school) of a single foreign language
- Two semesters (college) of a single foreign language
- Or equivalent

UWM Cultural Diversity Requirement

One course from the Arts, Humanities, or Social Sciences must also satisfy UWM’s Cultural Diversity requirement

Math 111 and Philosophy 111 are jointly offered and count as repeats of one another. Students cannot receive credit for both courses.

College of Letters & Science Requirements

I. English Writing Requirement

Students must satisfy the English Writing Requirement by completing ENGLISH 102 with a grade of C or higher or by placing beyond ENGLISH 102 on the English Placement Test (EPT).

Note: This requirement is the same as the University General Education Requirement for Oral and Written Communication Part A. The College of Letters & Science does not have a specific requirement for a writing course beyond English 102, but students must complete the university-wide requirement for Oral and Written Communication Part B listed above.

II. Mathematics and Formal Reasoning

To satisfy the Mathematics and Formal Reasoning Requirement, students must satisfy the following two requirements:

1. Achieve a Math Placement score of at least 30 or earn at least 3 credits with a grade of C or higher in one of the following courses or an equivalent course:
Completion of the L&S Language Requirement also satisfies the university-wide Foreign Language GER, but not vice versa.

### III. Foreign Language Requirement

Placement testing may be used to satisfy all or part of this requirement. Language courses (including American Sign Language) other than English taken in high school may be used to satisfy all or part of this requirement. One year of high school language equates to one semester of college work.

Math 111 and Philosophy 111 are jointly offered and count as repeats of one another. Students cannot receive credit for both Math 111 and Philosophy 111.

Note: This requirement is the same as the University General Education Requirement for Quantitative Literacy Part A, listed above.

2. Complete one course (at least 3 credits) at the 200 level or above chosen from courses in Mathematics, PHILOS 211, or Letters and Science statistics courses:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MATH 102</td>
<td>Mathematical Literacy for College Students II</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH 103</td>
<td>Contemporary Applications of Mathematics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH 105</td>
<td>Introduction to College Algebra</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>or PHILOS 111</td>
<td>Introduction to Logic - Critical Reasoning</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH 175</td>
<td>Mathematical Explorations for Elementary Teachers I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: This requirement is NOT the same as the University General Education Requirement for Quantitative Literacy Part B. To complete the BA, students must take one of the L&S approved courses. The courses listed here will satisfy the QL-B requirement.

### IV. International Requirement

See Approved Courses for the L&S International Requirement (http://catalog.uwm.edu/letters-science/approved-courses-international-requirement) for course options.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<td>0-18</td>
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</table>

Successful completion of the 4th semester of college work or equivalent in one language other than English (including American Sign Language)

Successful completion of the 3rd semester of college work or equivalent in one language other than English (including American Sign Language) PLUS the 2nd semester of college work or equivalent in another language other than English (including American Sign Language)

### V. Breadth Requirement

Along with completing the University General Education Requirements of 3 credits in the Arts (A); 6 credits in the Humanities (HU), Social Sciences (SS), and Natural Sciences (NS/NS+); and a course with the Cultural Diversity (CD/+ designation, L&S students must complete the Breadth requirement.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<td></td>
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<td>9</td>
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</table>

Complete 3 courses (min. 9 cr) in a single foreign language (not including literature-in-translation or American Sign Language) at the 3rd semester level and above

Complete 3 non-language courses (min. 9 credits) with an international content chosen from at least 2 curricular areas.

Complete 9 credits in combination of the two options above.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
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</table>

**Note:** Students should check their course selections carefully with the list of approved L&S Breadth Courses (http://catalog.uwm.edu/letters-science/breadth-requirement-course-list). Students are advised to select at least 6 credits worth of courses in each of the Humanities, Social Science, and Natural Sciences areas that can satisfy both the campus-wide General Education Requirements and the L&S Breadth requirement.

### Arts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Complete 12 credits of L&S courses with Humanities Breadth designation; no more than 6 credits from a single subject area.

**Social Sciences**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Complete 12 credits of L&S Courses with Social Science Breadth designation; no more than 6 credits from a single curricular area.

**Natural Sciences**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>12</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Complete 12 credits of L&S Courses with Natural Sciences Breadth designation, including at least one laboratory or field course; no more than 6 credits from a single curricular area.

**Cultural Diversity**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Complete 3 credits in a course with Cultural Diversity (CD) designation.

* Students should check their course selections carefully with the list of approved L&S Breadth Courses (http://catalog.uwm.edu/letters-science/breadth-requirement-course-list). Students are advised to select at least 6 credits worth of courses in each of the Humanities, Social Science, and Natural Sciences areas that can satisfy both the campus-wide General Education Requirements and the L&S Breadth requirement.
**Students are advised to select a course that satisfies the Cultural Diversity requirement as well as a Humanities or Social Science breadth/GER requirement.

VI. The Major
The College of Letters and Science requires that students attain at least a 2.0 GPA in all credits in the major attempted at UWM. In addition, students must attain a 2.0 GPA on all major credits attempted, including any transfer work. Individual departments or programs may require higher GPAs for graduation. Some departmental majors require courses from other departments. Contact your major department for information on whether those credits will count as part of the major GPA. The College requires that students must complete in residence at UWM at least 15 credits in upper-division (numbered 300 or above) courses in their major.

Research Requirement
Within their majors, students must complete a research experience approved by the L&S faculty. A list of courses satisfying the research requirement in each major can be found here (http://catalog.uwm.edu/letters-science/approved-courses-research-requirement).

VII. The Minor
The College of Letters and Science requires that students attain at least a 2.0 GPA in all credits in the minor attempted at UWM. In addition, students must attain a 2.0 GPA on all minor credits attempted, including any transfer work.

Political Science Major Requirements
Majors must attain a 2.0 GPA in all political science courses, including any transfer work, and a 2.0 GPA in political science courses taken at UWM. Majors are required to complete a minimum of 30 credits in political science, of which at least 15 must be in upper-division courses (numbered 300 or above) taken in residence at UWM. The following courses must be included among those taken for major credit:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>POL SCI 103</td>
<td>Introduction to Political Science</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or POL SCI 104</td>
<td>Introduction to American Government and Politics</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Methods Requirement
Select one of the following: 3

- POL SCI 203 Introduction to Political Science Research
- POL SCI 390 Political Data Analysis
- POL SCI 392 Survey Research

Political Area Requirements
Select at least one course beyond the 100 level in each of the following four areas of political science: 12

American Politics
- POL SCI 150 Multicultural America: Minority Voting Rights and Representation
- POL SCI 210 American Public Policy
- POL SCI 213 Urban Government and Politics
- POL SCI 215 Ethnicity, Religion and Race in American Politics
- POL SCI 216 Environmental Politics
- POL SCI 250 Law and Society
- POL SCI 387 Topics in American Politics:

International Politics
- POL SCI 316 International Law
- POL SCI 330 The Politics of International Economic Relations
- POL SCI 337 International Organization and the United Nations
- POL SCI 338 Seminar in International Relations:
POL SCI 339  European Integration  
POL SCI 340  Politics of Nuclear Weapons  
POL SCI 343  Asian International Relations  
POL SCI 346  U.S.-Latin American Relations  
POL SCI 359  Problems of American Foreign Policy  
POL SCI 365  Theories and Methods in International Politics  
POL SCI 370  International Conflict  
POL SCI 423  Conduct of American Foreign Affairs  
Political Theory  
POL SCI 255  Great Issues of Politics  
POL SCI 281  Classics of Political Theory  
POL SCI 361  History of International Political Thought  
POL SCI 381  The Development of Western Political Thought  
POL SCI 382  Modern Political Thought  
POL SCI 384  The Philosophy of Law  
POL SCI 385  American Political Thought  
POL SCI 386  Contemporary Political Theory  
POL SCI 389  Politics and Philosophy:  
Research Experience  
Select one of the following:  

   POL SCI 312  The Politics of Authoritarian Regimes  
   POL SCI 314  Chinese Politics and Foreign Policy  
   POL SCI 325  Latin American Politics  
   POL SCI 326  Brazilian Politics and Society  
   POL SCI 338  Seminar in International Relations:  
   POL SCI 346  U.S.-Latin American Relations  
   POL SCI 361  History of International Political Thought  
   POL SCI 368  Gender and Politics in Developing Nations  
   POL SCI 370  International Conflict  
   POL SCI 408  The American Presidency  
   POL SCI 415  The Politics of Race, Ethnicity and Immigration  
   POL SCI 417  The Supreme Court  
   POL SCI 425  Women in Politics  
   POL SCI 464  Sex, Gender, and the Law  
   POL SCI 467  Elections and Voting Behavior  
Electives  
Select 9 credits  

Total Credits  

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1 Satisfies the L&S requirement for a research experience in the major, should be taken in the last year of study.

Course of Study: Law Studies Option

Students may emphasize the study of law within the major by completing, in conjunction with or in addition to all of the requirements outlined above, the courses listed below as part of the 30 credits required for the major.

Law Studies Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>POL SCI 250</td>
<td>Law and Society</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POL SCI 412</td>
<td>Constitutional Law: Civil Rights and Liberties</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Select two of the following:  

   POL SCI 316  International Law  
   POL SCI/PHILOS 384  The Philosophy of Law  
   POL SCI 416  Judicial Politics  
   POL SCI 417  The Supreme Court  
   POL SCI 419  Constitutional Interpretation  
   POL SCI 452  Administrative Law  
   POL SCI 464  Sex, Gender, and the Law  
   POL SCI 471  Problems in Law Studies:  

Total Credits  

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Political Areas

- The following meets the American politics requirement: POL SCI 250, POL SCI 411, POL SCI 412, POL SCI 419, POL SCI 452, or POL SCI 464  
- The following qualifies as political theory: POL SCI 384/PHILOS 384  
- The following is an international politics course: POL SCI 316  

Letters & Science Advising

The College of Letters and Science provides general academic advising for all students with a major in the College, particularly as it relates to campus’ general education requirements and the College’s degree requirements. We also provide specialized advising for pre-professional students (pre-med, pre-dental, pre-pharmacy, etc.) regardless if their major is in Letters and Science or not. Prospective students, including high school students and students seeking to transfer to a program in Letters and Science may also receive advising from our admissions counselors.

Upon admission, students are assigned an advisor in the College advising office. Academic advising is available Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. by appointment. Appointments outside of these times may be available and phone appointments are available for online students. The advising office (https://uwm.edu/letters-science/advising/contact-advising) is located on the first floor of Holton Hall. Current students should call (414) 229-4654 to schedule an appointment or use the Student Success Collaborative website (https://uwmilwaukee.campus.eab.com) to make an appointment with your assigned advisor; online scheduling is only available if you already have a Letters & Science advisor assigned to you. Prospective students should call (414) 229-7711 or email let-sci@uwm.edu.

When students declare a major, they will receive an additional faculty advisor located within the major department who will assist with requirements for that major. Students should read the "Declaration of Major" information on the website of the major that they are interested in. In some cases, the student will need to choose a faculty advisor as part of the declaration process.

All students are cautioned to consult their Letters & Science academic advisor AND their major advisor prior to each registration period to ensure they understand all requirements. Do not rely on pre-printed
sample plans, as they are intended to be samples only and may not be right for your particular situation.

**Honors and High Honors in the Major**

Departmental honors are awarded upon graduation to students who achieve a 3.500 GPA overall in all UWM courses attempted, in their political science major courses, and in upper-division political science courses. Students meeting these GPA requirements will be slated automatically for graduating with honors in the major.

Students who meet the GPA requirement and wish to be considered for departmental high honors should request that the faculty member supervising her/his substantial research paper nominate her/him for high honors. The supervising faculty member will decide if the student should be recommended to the high honors committee, which is composed of three political science faculty members. The committee will determine if the quality of the nominee’s paper is sufficient to earn the high honors designation and, if so, will bestow the high honors accordingly. Note that a student interested in receiving high honors must contact a Political Science faculty member to be considered; high honors are not bestowed automatically.

Questions about honors designations can be directed to any of the Political Science faculty advisors.

**Honors in the College of Letters and Science**

**Dean’s Honor List**

GPA of 3.750 or above, earned on a full-time student’s GPA on 12 or more graded credits in a given semester.

**Honors Degree and Honors Degree with Thesis**

Granted to graduating seniors who complete Honors College requirements, as listed in the Honors College (http://catalog.uwm.edu/opportunities-resources/honors-college) section of this site.

**Commencement Honors**

Students with a cumulative GPA of 3.500 or above, based on a minimum of 40 graded UWM credits earned prior to the final semester, will receive all-university commencement honors and be awarded the traditional gold cord at the December or May Honors Convocation. In schools and colleges in which fewer than 15% of the traditional students have a 3.500 GPA, all-university honors will be awarded to approximately the top 15% of graduating students. A criterion GPA (not lower than 3.200) for this 15% will be calculated based on statistics from the previous comparable semester. Please note that for honors calculation, the GPA is not rounded and is truncated at the third decimal (e.g., 3.499).

**Final Honors**

Earned on a minimum of 60 graded UWM credits: Cum Laude - 3.500 or above; Magna Cum Laude - 3.650 or above; Summa Cum Laude - 3.800 or above.

**Contact Information**

Current Students contact Associate Professor Ivan Ascher, ascher@uwm.edu

Prospective Students contact a Letters & Science Admissions Counselor at (414) 229-7711 or let-sci@uwm.edu