



CLARK ATLANTA UNIVERSITY
DR. MACK HENRY JONES
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

Department of Political Science
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PROGRAM OF STUDY

Program Description

The undergraduate program in political science is designed to help students understand how politics affect the lives of people at the local, national, and international levels. The curriculum requirements for the Bachelor of Arts degree place emphasis on the political experience of African Americans in the United States, as well as African and African diaspora communities. It also seeks to develop a universal understanding of political behavior. In discussing politics, we are engaged with a broad range of questions. Such questions include:

- Why are some people more politically involved than others?
- Why do some seek and obtain tangible benefits from the political process while others settle for symbolic reassurance?
- How and to what extent has politics been used as a tool for both domination and human freedom?
- How has politics hindered or facilitated the struggle for racial equality in the United States?

Student Learning Outcomes

Graduates with a Major in Political Science will be able to:

1. Discuss major theories, concepts and empirical regularities of political institutions and political behavior.
2. Critically analyze key issues of public policy and political problems and detect fallacies and martial evidence to formulate policy argument and options.
3. Demonstrate competency with basic tools underlying modern social science research to include statistical and qualitative analysis.
4. Write clearly and purposely on complex issues of international and domestic politics and public policy.
5. Use electronic and tradition library resources to research key local, state, national and international policy issues and present results in oral and written formats.
6. Utilize contemporary social science research methods to conduct research on political phenomena.

Admissions Requirements

Applicants must meet the General Admissions Requirements as published in this Catalog.

Degree Requirements: 122 Total Credit Hours

In addition to the General Degree Requirements as published in this Catalog, students pursuing the Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science must earn minimum final grades of "C" in all required and cognate courses and electives.

General Education Requirements: 30 Credit Hours

AREA A: Humanities/ Fine Arts: 9 credits

CPHI 105 Critical Thinking (3)

CHIS 211 History of the U.S. to 1865 (3)

CHIS 212 History of the U.S. since 1865 (3)

AREA B: Social/Behavioural Sciences: 3 Credits

CPSC 106 Politics & Global Issues (3)

AREA C: Natural Sciences/ Mathematics/ Statistics: 6 credits

CMAT 104 Finite Mathematics (3), or

CMAT 105 Pre-Calculus (3), and

CBIO 101 Biological Science (3), or

CPHY 102 Physical Science (3)

AREA D: Communications: 9 credits

CENG 105 College Composition I (3)

CENG 106 College Composition II (3)

CFLF 101 Elementary French I (3), or

CFLS 101 Elementary Spanish I (3)

AREA E: Financial/Technological: 3 Credits

CECO 251 Principles of Macroeconomics (3)

Other University Requirements: 2 Credit Hours

CGED 100 First-Year Seminar I (1)

CGED 101 First-Year Seminar II

Required Political Science Courses: 36 Credit Hours

CPSC 219 American Government and Politics (3)

CPSC 221 State and Local Government (3)

CPSC 313 Urban Politics and Policy (3)

CPSC 315 Comparative Politics (3)

CPSC 322 International Relations (3)

CPSC 337 Statistics I (3)

CPSC 337 Statistics I Laboratory (0)

CPSC 338 Statistics II (3)

CPSC 338 Statistics I Laboratory (0)

CPSC 361 Political Theory I (3)

CPSC 362 Political Theory II (3)

CPSC 387 Scope and Methods of Research (3)

CPSC 420 Politics of Africa (3)

CPSC 479 Senior Thesis (3)

Required Political Science Electives: 30 Credits (Majors must choose 10 courses).

CPSC 220 Introduction to Public Policy (3)

CPSC 309 Introduction to Urban Planning (3)

CPSC 319 Electoral Politics (3)

CPSC 336 Current World Problems (3)
CPSC 352 American Foreign Policy (3)
CPSC 371 Science and Public Policy (3)
CPSC 372 Comparative Public Policy (3)
CPSC 374 Constitutional Law (3)
CPSC 375 Political and Civil Rights (3)
CPSC 394 Politics in Contemporary Thought (3)
CPSC 480 Independent Study (3)
CPSC 483 Independent Study (3)
CPSC 484 Internship (3)
CPSC 486 Internship (3)
CPSC 487 Internship (3)
CPSC 490 Washington Internship in Public Policy (3)

Special Topics Courses:

The Department of Political Science periodically offers special topics courses. These courses may be used as Political Science Electives. Students must receive prior written approval from the Departmental Advisor. Current special topics options include the following:

CPSC XXX - Black Political Experience (3)
CPSC XXX - International Political Economy (3)
CPSC XXX - Law School Admissions (3)
CPSC XXX - Pre-Law Colloquium (3)

Cognate Courses: 6 Credit Hours

CENG 201 World Lit I (3), or CENG 202 World Lit II (3), and
CENG 311 Advanced Grammar & Composition

General Electives: 18 Credit Hours*

*Note: General Electives should be chosen in consultation with the Departmental Advisor and may be used for a minor or stackable credentials.

Internship Programs

The Department of Political Science encourages students who are interested in community service, job experience, and public service, to enroll in the Political Science internship program or the Washington Internship Program. The programs provide undergraduate majors with opportunities to work part-time or full-time and receive a minimum of three (3) and maximum of nine (9) credit hours toward their degree. Students interested in the programs should contact a political science faculty advisor for more information and approval.

Minor in Political Science (18 Credits)

The Minor in Political Science is designed to provide students in other disciplines with a broad knowledge of institutions, processes, and theories of politics in the U.S., in other nations, and internationally. The minor in Political Science requires eighteen (18) hours of Criminal Justice coursework. The minor provides students with a foundation in political science that will enhance careers in other fields of study.

Student Learning Outcomes

Graduates with a Minor in Political Science will be able to:

1. Discuss the values, beliefs, and institutions that constitute the political tradition of the American political system, other global political systems, and their patterns of interactions and sources of international conflict and cooperation between them.
2. Evaluate conflicting political arguments, assemble and present empirical evidence, and make reasoned conclusions from the evidence available.
3. Communicate the connection between political concepts, theories, methods, and political experience in oral and written forms.
4. Identify the interconnecting points that exist between political science and other disciplines in the social sciences such as but not limited to law/legal studies, history, sociology, and geography.
5. Understand the contemporaneous events and major transformations that shape politics on the local, nation, and international levels.

Required Minor Courses: 18 Credits (Course substitutions are not allowed)

CPSC 219 American Government and Politics (3)

CPSC 313 Urban Politics & Policy (3)

CPSC 315 Comparative Politics (3)

CPSC 322 International Relations (3)

CPSC 361 Political Theory I or CPSC 362, Political Theory II (3)

CPSC 420 Politics of Africa (3)